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current

February 5th - February 19th Volume 12, Issue 2

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Grown Up
Movie Star
Shines at Sundance**

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Brenda McClellan's Night Lights

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Dark Horses at
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TUESDAYS**

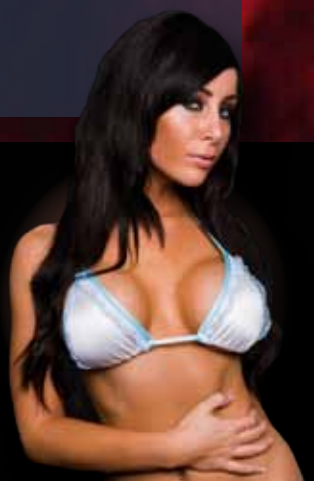
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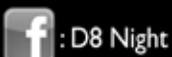
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EDITORIAL

THE OPPOSITION

BY KEVIN WOOLRIDGE

REJECTED TITLES FOR REPUBLIC OF DOYLE



- INDEPENDENT CITY-STATE OF DOYLE
- COMMONWEALTH OF DOYLE
- BIOREGIONAL DEMOCRACY OF DOYLE
- SULTANATE OF DOYLE
- JAMAHIRIYA OF DOYLE
- COLUMBO

kw10

ACTIVISM

NL YOUTH CHOSEN FOR ACTIVE-8

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT WEEK FOCUSING ON YOUTH

BY DEBBY WINTERS

Danai Kusikwenyu of St. John's has been chosen as one of the Atlantic region's youth that will participate in this year's International Development Week activities. Kusikwenyu was chosen amongst other youth in Atlantic Canada between the ages of 15-30 who have had an impact on both the local and global level. As one of eight individuals selected from the region she will be profiled nationally with other youth leaders across Canada in recognition of her efforts to build a better future.

The other finalists are: Jill McPherson (Port Morien, NS), Adam MacIsaac (St. Peter's Bay, PEI), Sam Littlefair-Wallace (Halifax, NS), Saa Andrew Gbongbhor (Fredericton, NB), Amber Valencia (Belle Cote, NS), Ayush Ray (Halifax, NS) and Li Song (Saint John, NB).

Held annually, the first full week of February, International Development Week highlights and illustrates the work of Canada's development community. It provides a great opportunity for Canadians to increase the awareness of the role many Canadians play in international development as well as learn more about life in developing countries, find out how they can become global citizens,

and how to get actively involved in international development. The week is sponsored by The Atlantic Council for International Cooperation, a coalition of more than 70 organizations, institutions and individuals working in the Atlantic region committed to achieving global sustainability in a peaceful and healthy environment, with social justice, human dignity and participation for all.

This year's focus for International Development Week is on youth with their project "Active 8." Kusikwenyu along with the other seven youth chosen for the project will each head up teams of ten who will then compete to bring in the most pledges for global action and awareness. Pledges can be made from now until February 13. The Active-8! Team obtaining the most pledges will win a prize of \$10009 hours .

"Taking part in initiatives is important because it develops character and is vital in this ever-changing and rapidly globalizing world. Leading by example has always been an excellent, if not, guaranteed way of inaugurating community change," said Danai, who is from Zimbabwe and attends Memorial University, where she was an 'Amazing Student of Memorial' in 2009. One of her most outstanding achievements



Danai Kusikwenyu

has been to revive the once defunct International Student Resource Centre, which has brought students from different countries together and has helped to build a line of communication between foreign and Canadian students.

"As the president of the largest and most diverse student group on campus, the International Student Center Kusikwenyu has worked tirelessly to promote the very Canadian concept of multiculturalism," said nominator Sonja Knutson.

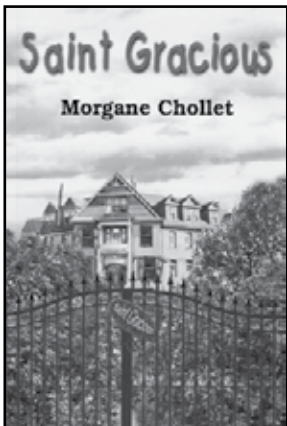
The Active-8! Team will be encouraging as many individuals as possible to pledge an action towards creating a better world leading up to and during the week of February 7-13 by visiting www.active8campaign.com.

WORD UP

GOODNESS GRACIOUS

MORGANE CHOLLET IS A GREAT NEW TALENT

BY GINA GILL



Saint Gracious by Morgane Chollet is not just a book about the closing of a hospital and the mysteries that revolve around its current administrator, but also offers an inside look at the workings and drama stored within the health care system.

Although it is believed that the health care

system is public, the inner workings prove to be more private and driven by less important things than health and safety.

Seriousness aside, Chollet makes this tale a fun one that is enjoyable and highly entertaining. There is a difficulty in finding humour and farce, amongst mystery and mischievousness, but Chollet pulls it off brilliantly.

Readers may find themselves off kilter, if they are not interested in the subjects of health care and politics. However, the focus of the storyline can be tolerated through the hilarity and an almost child like approach to politics. The conversations between coworkers, reminds readers that a huge part of people's everyday lives are at a stand still while they are at their jobs.

Chollet manages to produce real Newfoundland dialect in an unforced manner. The communication between characters plays out like a movie. Chollet's description is so precise and to the point that everything is very easily created and pictured within the reader's mind.

The accessibility to characters and setting, makes it more relatable and allows the reader to laugh out loud without control. So be prepared in public, when reading Saint Gracious because it liberates your laughter, comparable to alcohol.

But seriously, pick it up, check it out and if you are one of those millions of people working or concerned about the health care, be prepared to laugh harder and see the true side of the system. Chollet may take a happy approach to hospital care, while at the same time she exposes its truth and manages to throw in a decent plot amongst all these elements.

Chollet is a rarity and will be a household name within Newfoundland living rooms instantly.

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STAGE

THE WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ

O'DONEL HIGH SCHOOL'S 2010 PRESENTATION

BY JOHSUA JAMIESON

With an established track record of well executed and popular productions in the past, the offering of O'Donel High School for 2010 will have to live up to those high expectations. The staff involved with this year's theatrical production, not to mention the more than one hundred students who provide their talents are ready for that challenge.

This year they have been diligently working on bringing the wonderful world of Oz to the stage at the Arts and Culture Centre in St. John's. The three day run of the classic The Wizard of Oz joins the long list of shows that have been brought to the public by the O'Donel High School community. Some of the most memorable include Little Shop of Horrors, Oklahoma, Grease, Aida and Fame - just to name a few.

The Wizard of Oz is co-produced by Larry O'Brien and Jill Kennedy under the Artistic Direction of Nicole Pitcher and Musical Direction from Sean Carroll. These individuals, as well as choreographer Katy Nofall have their work cut out for them as they have a robust cast of students that include a crowd of 34 munchkins, 29 citizens of Oz, jitterbugs, flying monkeys and of course everyone's favourite cast of characters - Dorothy (Laura Osmond), Lion (Paul Fitzgerald), Tinman (Jesse Boland) and Scarecrow (Mike Simms). Many of the students, who are volunteering their time after school for the production as well, have taken on more than just the one role.

The very family friendly production is sure to please audiences, who can expect to watch the familiar story of Dorothy's journey to find the Wizard in the City of Oz play out - complete with its treasured soundtrack. Songs in the show, that have become indispensable to film and theatre, will include Ding Dong The Witch Is Dead, Follow The Yellow Brick Road and the optimistically hopeful Somewhere Over The Rainbow.

Everyone involved with the production has enjoyed the excitement of getting lost in the fantastical world throughout the weeks and months of rehearsals. They are hoping that the unforgettable classic will lovingly dance its way back in to the audience's memories and hearts, just in time for Valentine's Day.

If you're looking for something a little different to give your loved one this Valentines, why not consider a pair of tickets to The Wizard of Oz. It hits the stage at the St. John's Arts and Culture Centre from February 18 to 20 - so the timing won't even ruin the surprise! Of course the production also offers a great alternative to taking the family to the cinema as well!

For more information, visit www.artsandculturecentre.com or call the box office at 729-3900. Tickets are just \$22 for Adults and \$20 for students or seniors.



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SNAPS

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Marina



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REVIEW

DANIEL MACIVER'S A BEAUTIFUL VIEW

DIRECTED BY CHARLIE TOMLINSON, C2C THEATRE

BY STEPHANIE ABBOTT



Charlie Tomlinson of c2c Theatre

C2C theatre's newest offering aims to provide a view, and indeed a beautiful one, into a complex on-again, off-again relationship between two women.

It all starts with a chance encounter at a sporting goods store. Both women are compelled to exaggerate their

circumstances. A hostess claims to be a bartender, while the other woman brags about a band she has yet to get off the ground.

Through a series of accidental and not so accidental meetings the two become friends and lovers. Fate and circumstance conspire to bring them together. The play traces their 20 years as they continuously find and lose each other. Their story is told through flashbacks to significant episodes and memorable moments in their relationship. Past becomes layered over present.

The characters often interrupt the action and speak directly to the audience. The personal asides from the women prove to be a technique that works well for this show and enhances the intimacy of the experience.

Daniel MacIver's dialogue is both witty and moving in its simplicity. While the clever writing and quirky music in the show make it fun to watch, there are also some beautiful tender moments which reveal the play's compassion. The situations are relatable to anyone who has ever been in any kind of a relationship.

Lines like "there's a lot of truth in the stuff that just comes out" or "sometimes you say stuff just for something to say" have a simple truth that most will find appealing. The line "nothing is enough" occurs repeatedly throughout the play and those in the audience are left to deduce the meaning. Is it that nothing is sufficient? Or could it mean that even if you have everything will it still be enough?

The audience is able to see two people make a connection and are witness to its awkward beginnings and progression into the type of comfortable companionship in which one person is able to finish the other's sentences. It's interesting to witness the two often different viewpoints on specific events that the both experience together.

The characters are fun and likeable and Alison Woolridge and Petrina Bromley worked beautifully together. Their performances were seamless and complimented each other extremely well. Their work together provided a memorable and enjoyable



Daniel MacIver, author of "A Beautiful View"

experience. The script depends often on lengthy silences to create tension.

Unfortunately, on opening night music from an adjacent theatre was a little distracting and intrusive. Both actresses handled the interruption professionally without losing focus for an instant.

Minimal sets designed by George Robertson allow the two characters to be the focal point and gives them a blank canvas to tell their story. With a lighting design by Brian Bishop as well as support from Stage Manager Crystal Parsons, c2c's presentation of A Beautiful View provided an audience with a story that is more about connections and the progression of relationships than it is about labels.

For more information about c2c Theatre and what they have coming up next, visit www.c2ctheatre.com.

EVENT

LUST FOR LOVE & MARBLE MOUNTAIN

FEBRUARY'S A HOT MONTH FOR LOFT 709

BY GARY MOORE

Loft 709 is a classy spot, located at the foot of George Street and 371 Duckworth Street. The layout combines a one floor Martini Bar, often referred to as the Chill/Lounge room, and the upper floor Dance Club. A combination of the bar owners favorite elements from bars and night clubs mashed into one.

Lust For Love is the name of the event that will have the dance floor stomped on to the sounds and scratches of Deko-Ze, deemed the best house DJ in Canada, on February 13. Deko-Ze, from Toronto, is known for his high-energy sets and mesmerizing stage presence. Even though categorized as a House DJ, he is recognized for his ability to fuse music of multiple genres (deep, funky and hard house; tribal; progressive; electro; tech-trance; techno).

The excitement doesn't stop there. The night will mark a reunion amongst local DJ's; m0xY, Mike The Taylor and Leo Van Ulden; former residents of the 'original' Liquid Ice. Another alumni is also making a big return to the island for this event - DJ Batty is coming back with beats from the west. Van Ulden and Mike The Taylor are still playing regularly at Loft 709 and Spin, respectively, but big occasions, such as Lust For Love, bring them back together under one roof.

The event will utilize both floors of Loft 709. If you're looking for a high-energy flavor, Deko-ze and special guests DJ Batty, m0xY & Mike the Tailor will fill the taste upstairs. On the other side of the emotional scale - that maybe distraught from the pressures of Valentines - your

mood maybe screaming chill mode, well that's taken care of downstairs by DJ Batty, Leo Van Ulden and Kid Cue. So now that you have your Valentines plans, how about the next weekend - for February break?

Loft 709 is inviting you on a road trip across the island to the beautiful, scenic West Coast. A weekend of skiing at Marble Mountain and partying, beginning Friday, February 19 when the comfy bus leaves from St. John's. A couple of options include transportation and ski passes with accommodations for groups of 2 or 4. The price ranges from \$195 - \$295, depending what you choose. Every member of the trip will get free cover to an exclusive party in Corner Brook on Saturday, February 20 featuring DJ Sina and DJ Mayehem. There are only 50 spots available, so make sure you book early. The bus returns to St. John's on Monday, February 22nd. For more information on either of the events check out Loft 709 on Facebook.



Michael a.k.a. Deko-ze will be at Loft 709 February 13

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SOUNDS

HAWKSLEY WORKMAN - MEAT

A MUSICAL BUFFET (ISADORA RECORDS, 2010)

BY JONNY HODDER

The one universal truth about Hawksley Workman albums is they're never quite what you expect. If you're thinking anthem rock, he's writing solemn piano pieces; when expecting piano pop, he delivers rolling bass lines and shredded guitars; if all roads lead to Texas, Hawksley is flying a hot-air balloon over the Grand Canyon.

The same is true for Meat, Hawksley's eleventh release in just over a decade. Thematically, much of Meat's primary focus is the raw wounds left open to the elements in the wake of a failed romance – the minimalist piano-driven track "Song for Sarah Jane" - a lamentable swan-song for a doomed long-term relationship - makes this obvious. Heartbreak is standard fodder for 86% of most music in any genre, but the poetry of Hawksley's lyrics ("When lovers ache together over many passing years, something deep and knowing is borne in all their tears") shows new ground in the well-trodden subject matter. Similarly, "The Ground

That We Stand On" has an ambience to it that Brian Eno would be proud of; the production is as beautiful as the lyrics are heartbreaking.

Other stand-out's include "You Don't Just Want to Break Me (You Want to Tear Me Apart)" which could be considered two tracks: the first 4 minutes has a mellow R&B-influence and then a monstrous rock-revival in which Hawksley repeatedly wails the titular chorus over an all-female choir; "(The Happiest Day I Know is a) Tokyo Bicycle" has an infectious upbeat tone making you want to bounce around like the first time you heard R.E.M.'s "Shiny Happy People"; and closing track "We'll Make Time (Even When There Ain't No Time)" opens with either a series of lyrical loops cleverly spliced together, or a single, minute-and-a-half freestyle displaying Hawksley's Olympic lung capacity, leading into an amped-up retake of mid-90s rock (listen to the guitars and think about which Weezer album it could be).



Hawksley continues to grow and evolve as an artist. He takes chances with his music and seems to have no fear of failure (even with a song like "French Girl in L.A." which is mildly catchy, but easily forgotten). Much like any affluent diner, Meat may not be your favourite dish, but certain choice cuts are definitely worth a taste.

ART

NIGHT LIGHTS

BRENDA MCCLELLAN RETURNS TO RED OCHRE UNDER NIGHT SKIES

BY CHARISSA REEVES

Brenda McClellan, artist and owner of the Red Ochre Gallery is revisiting a theme she's explored once before with her newest exhibit that opens at the gallery, Friday February 5. McClellan enjoyed creating the pieces for the Night Lights show. Speaking to the use of colour and the lighting of St. John's after the sun has set she says, "it's a different approach from daylight." Continuing that "[the night] covers a million imperfections."

McClellan said the first show, two years ago, was entitled After Dark and also featured images of St. John's at night. "I really didn't exhaust myself, I still felt like I could do another ten or more."

And she did, there are 30 pieces to be featured in the show. "We've covered all weathers," she revealed, speaking of the pieces to be exhibited, "and this time we've added inside scenes."

These oil paintings, while obviously night images, are filled with brilliant colours and her use of light in the pieces is captivating. McClellan worked from photos for the series, carrying her camera with her all the time, everywhere she went, including driving around on various errands. "I'm always looking for something that might catch my eye."

Rainy and stormy nights always make it more interesting, she added, because there are more reflections and she says she pushes herself to go out when it's really stormy to search for those reflections. "I've been out with the rain teeming down just to get good reflections."

Varying weather conditions such as rain, sleet and snow all create different types of reflections. A good example of this is the difference in light-play between her pieces Silver Thaw and West End View.

In her own explanation of the show's subject matter she explains how the city wears a different mantle at night. "Night lights are magical as they transform a city, highlighting the streets and structures, showing them with fewer imperfections and a mysterious ambience."

The style observed for this showing differs quite a bit from what McClellan has been painting lately.

While her other recent work are still scenes of St. John's she has been trying to develop her impressionist pieces.

The impressionist pieces are "a bit of this and a bit of that," and try to create a feelings she explained. "You get the



"Evening on George Street" By Brenda McClellan

feeling of St. John's and a lot of small detail, but not as you'd expect it."

The Night Light pieces are actual places, she said. "It's the subject matter and the lighting; and that was what was at the key or core of these scenes."

Though she may not know the end result when she approaches the canvass, McClellan said she knows in her head she is approaching either an impressionist piece or a more realistic scene such as the Night Lights.

The opening reception for the Night Lights show will be from 5pm to 8pm on Friday February 5 at the Red Ochre Gallery and the exhibit runs until February 27th.



"Water Street Summer Friday Night" By Brenda McClellan

COVER

GROWN UP MOVIE STAR AT SUNDANCE

TATIANA MASLANY WINS FOR BREAKOUT PERFORMANCE

BY DEBBY WINTERS



Adrianna Maggs wrote a short story about the struggles of a single father raising two daughters in out port Newfoundland which has become the first feature film from this province to be shown at the world renowned Sundance Film Festival.

Grown Up Movie Star, Maggs' directorial debut, was nominated for Sundance Jury prize for a Dramatic Film in World Cinema. It became one of the most popular movies with audiences at the film festival garnering wide attention and great reviews.

Jill Knox-Gosse, the film's producer explains how the project came to fruition; "Maggs came to me with this idea that she had, she had written it as a short story at first, talking about growing up, a father raising his daughters on his own without any female influences. That was one of the big things that we wanted [to discuss] and it all took off really fast; we were right into production, Shawn Doyle was available and here we go!"

Grown Up Movie Star is a story about a family in crisis, set in a Newfoundland town, the film stars acclaimed actor Shawn Doyle (TV's Big Love) alongside rising star Tatiana Maslany.

Ruggedly handsome Ray (Doyle) is a former NHL star whose life gets turned upside down when his wife, leaves him for ill-gotten dreams of stardom in Hollywood, leaving behind their two precocious daughters to look after – teenager Ruby (Maslany) and younger sister (Julia Kennedy).

Doyle reflects of the script, "I think it was absolutely brilliant and reflects my experience not only growing up in Labrador but also spending my summers in Newfoundland on the Port aux Port Peninsula. I

understood the script, I understood the detail, the specifics of the characters and even though I've never met a Stuart in a wheel chair or a Ruby that dresses all skimpy and goes to parties - I've met all these characters before."

With his wife gone, Ray flails from woman to woman, struggling with a growing awareness of his homosexuality. Meanwhile, the two girls tramp around town in their mother's glamorous hand-me-downs. Ruby is also discovering her own sexuality and putting herself increasingly at risk. When she starts spending more time with Ray's best friend Stuart (Jonny Harris), who is confined to a wheelchair, the situation leads to a devastating conclusion.

The great casting also includes Andy Jones as Ray's father who has his own idea of raising kids, Steve Cochrane as the hockey coach attracted to Ray, Mark O'Brien as the student attracted to Ruby, and Mary Walsh in a cameo.

Brian Johnson from Macleans wrote in his review, "Grown Up Movie Star was rejected by the Toronto International Film Festival . . . I guess it lurches perilously close to the kitchen sink to fit received notions of what Canadian cinema should be, and lacks the formal veneer of arty detachment. But with this (NOT) Goin' Down the Road vision of small-town oblivion, director Adriana Maggs captures the ragged desolation and dark humour of Newfoundland's down-and-out extremes with an evocative drama that bubbles along a tide of dark comedy. a cast of strong actors defy remarkable odds and keep their characters from sliding into stereotype. The dialogue is credible and it crackles along with an underhanded oh-so-Newfoundland wit. But the reason to see this movie is Tatiana Maslany. She's 24, and doesn't just do a plausible job of shaving 10 years off her age. With a knockout performance, she brings home the ultimate irony: the star of Grown Up Movie Star may fulfill the destiny in the title that her character can only dream of."



Grown Up Movie Star Director, Adriana Maggs [courtesy of Mongrel Media]

Maslany, has become the star of the show. Her portrayal of 14 year old Ruby - as she struggles with the abandonment of her mother, the realization of her Dad's own sexuality struggle as she is going through her own identity crisis - has been recognized with the presentation of a Special Sundance Jury Award for breakout performance.

Maslany spoke of her role, "Ruby's character plays a lot of games, because I don't think she trusts anybody and so if anybody gets too close she'll push them away then she'll pull them back and push them away again. You know what I mean, and so a lot of that relationship happens with her Dad and with Stuart with Will and with Rose [respectively]. She sort of has this push-pull thing that she does with everybody in her life."

Doyle complements his co-star; "It was very clear right away, her ability as an actor, it didn't matter about the age, if she looked the part or not or if she could make the kind of choices that a 14 year old would make. I think she is such an extraordinarily talented actor that you knew right away that she would be compelling enough to carry a movie like this."

Grown Up Movie Star opened in Toronto theatres on January 29 and will open in Newfoundland on February 19.

When asked about what he hoped audiences would get from the movie, Doyle said, "the message that I hope most people take away is the notion that judgement is a lost cause. There is no need to judge anybody; we all have our own demons. We all have our own struggles in life. There is no such thing as good or evil and everybody makes moves in a desperate act of self-preservation 'cause sometimes that's what life's about."



Ruby (Tatiana Maslany) and Stuart (Jonny Harris) [courtesy of Mongrel Media]

MY STYLE

MEAGHAN WHELAN

WARMING UP WITH BOLD KNITS
BY STEPHANIE ABBOTT

The Outfit

Meaghan's outfit is both office appropriate and warm enough for chilly February weather. "I'm always cold so I live in sweaters this time of year." Today's boat neck style is an eye-catching raspberry colour which she was drawn to because of its rich, warm shade. The top is from RW and Co. which is a "good place to shop for work clothes."

Her brown pants were purchased at a Mexx store in Aub Dhabi. Meaghan made the journey there last year as part of an outreach program with the Memorial University's Faculty of Business. "I made it but my suitcase didn't," she shares. This prompted a frantic early morning shopping trip. Meaghan discovered the affects of globalization firsthand as most of the stores at the mall were familiar to her already. She scored her kitten heels from Aldo at the same time.

A Tiffany and Co. necklace is a special purchase from another trip. The necklace was a birthday gift from her boyfriend on a voyage they took together to New York City. "It's nice to get something special on a trip."

The Style

Professional would be the best way to describe Meaghan's personal style but since she's currently taking classes at MUN as well as working full time,

she needs to be comfortable as well. "Days tend to be long," she expresses. Meaghan has a tendency to buy classic pieces for the most part - things she can wear for years. Friends provide many of her style inspirations but she also likes to browse stores and "see what's out there."

As the bulk of Meaghan's wardrobe needs to be suitable for work, RW and Co. and Jacob are favourites for quality and stylish office wear. She relies on Lulu Lemon for the bulk of her weekend styles. Purple has long been a favourite colour choice, "every since I got a purple bike when I was seven," she laughs.

Hidden Treasure

One of Meaghan's favourite pieces of clothing is a hand-knit cardigan which was "made with love by Grandma." She recalls that it was a Christmas gift three or four years ago, prompted by complaints of being too cold at work. "I keep it at work all the time to throw on if I get chilly."

Style Advice

"Be comfortable with who you are", Meaghan emphasizes. There's no need to freeze during winter in a misguided attempt to look fashionable. "Be warm; it's cold out there!"



Meaghan Whelan

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The 100% Alicante Bouschet grapes for this wine are harvested during the lunar phase, which dictates the increased flow of sap to the grapes, according to biodynamic wine making. Deep concentrated ruby colour with complex aromas of mature fruit (succulent black cherry and plum) and subtle oak nuances from the 12 months in French oak. Full flavoured with silky, round and mature tannins. This single variety wine is a perfect accompaniment to rich meat dishes and an excellent example of modern Portuguese winemaking. \$49.23 - SKU 8459

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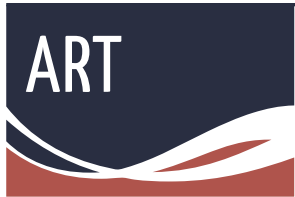
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ICE FLOWS AND DARK HORSES

JAN KABATOFF & GREG BENNETT AT THE ROOMS

BY JOSHUA JAMIESON



Dark Horse piece by Greg Bennett

The complementary overture of The Rooms every Wednesday night (and the first Saturday of every month in low season) is truly something to look forward to. It goes without saying that ever since The Rooms opened up, the general public probably has a more frequent interaction with the provincial art gallery than ever before. That is certainly the case personally, and no trip to the gallery once housed in the Arts and Culture Centre really comes to mind - it always seemed like it was tucked off to the side upon visits to the building that were overshadowed by a mission to the library.

Now it's become a real treat to drop by the gallery now housed at The Rooms to see what's traveling through. A recent trip unveiled some pretty breathtaking works, which really should be visited before they both move on after March 21. Ice Flows and Sound Retreats presents the work of an eco-minded Jan Kabatoff while a neighbouring installation called Dark Horse presents a new body of work from a Sir Wilfred Grenfell graduate named Greg Bennett

Ice Flows by Jan Kabatoff

This diverse installation, curated by Bruce Johnson, presents work that Canadian artist Jan Kabatoff has been developing since 2005. Through travels around the world to seven different glaciers, Kabatoff has endeavoured to bring little pieces or representations of them into the gallery with her art.

The exhibit includes a mammoth chandelier comprised of dozens of small plastic water sample bottles each with water from different flows, lit from the centre. In using digital photos, Kabatoff created a long visual piece commemorating her visit to the Perito Moreno Glacier. Using layers of wax and other materials, Kabatoff created a series of pieces that include ones called Falling Water and Bergy Bits.

The most favourite of the wax pieces though was a presentation overtaking an entire wall. Comprised of oval shaped pieces of beeswax that looked almost like bars of soap, they were arranged to resemble a field of iceberg bits. What was most notable however is that each of

them had been shaped by Kabatoff impressing them upon various real-life icebergs from around the world that she had visited.

Dark Horse by Greg Bennett

Working as the latest, and fifth artist-in-residence, Greg Bennett is the latest to join The Rooms' Space-Based program to support emerging and mid-career artists. Of his installation, Bennett says, "a horse is a fantastic thing to paint. The inherent sense of power/peacefulness in their nature can both enthrall and frighten."

Bennett then has achieved his goal, the artwork conjures up both a calming peace in some cases or an uncomfortable eeriness in others. The way each piece is lit is a partial contributor to that effect and many within the installation have a counterpart.




Above: Perito Moreno Glacier (2009) Digital Photomerge

Below: Falling Water #5 (2009) Wax




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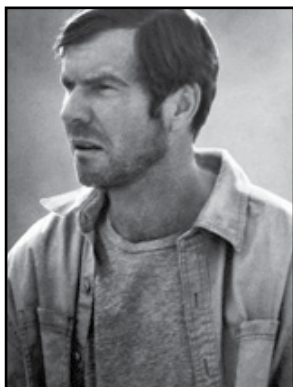
LOCAL BEER LOCAL COMPANY

FILM

LEGION

PAUL BETTANY, DENNIS QUAID, LUCAS BLACK, & ADRIANNE PALICKI

BY TIM CONWAY



Runtime 100 minutes
★ ½

For Bob Hanson, it was a sure thing. He gathered his financial eggs and set up a diner/garage along a stretch of road in New Mexico that was to become the hub of new development. When the big project was re-located to another area far away,

Bob was stuck trying to make ends meet. His wife wasn't - she left. Since then, Bob and his son Jeep have provided a home for Charlie, the waitress at the diner, and presumably Percy, the cook, lives there as well.

This ragtag quartet are hosting an upper middle class family, waylaid with car trouble. This pales in comparison to the persistent problems presented by Daddy's Little Girl, who seems to thrive on her mother's disapproval. Soon, they are joined by a young man in need of directions and a

telephone. In a story where symbolism's laid on thickly, he's literally lost, but just like his present company at Paradise Falls, he's also figuratively lost. This place in the middle of nowhere becomes "somewhere" - more specifically, the focal point of a battle that could determine the future of all humanity. It appears that the Almighty has had enough and is orchestrating a more unusual plan of eradication than the simple flood of Noah's day. This time, angels are inhabiting the bodies of the weak-willed, wreaking havoc upon everyone else. Fortunately, the archangel Michael disobeys direct orders, making his way to Paradise Falls, intent on preventing the complete destruction of human beings.

By any standard, Legion is a bad movie. A buffet to anyone who delights in railing against the shortcomings of Hollywood's commercial offerings, there are a few commendable elements to the production that beg forgiveness, and a more gentle evaluation of the proceedings. Given the choice of a second viewing, this would be preferable to Evan Almighty, or Michael.

Co-writer/director Scott Stewart's career, thus far, seems to have been in the realm of visual effects, and this film

suffers from his inexperience in guiding real actors. Especially given the cliché lines which this fairly seasoned, ensemble cast has to deliver, it would take someone with rare natural talent to sit in the director's chair for the first time and produce anything above melodrama. Unfortunately, the film leans heavily on character interaction, so much of this soap opera prevails. A little more roatin'-tootin'-shootin' might have alleviated this a bit, but chances are, Legion is a low-budget film straining to do more than its finances would allow.

Inspired moments occur between Michael and the archangel Gabriel, and the attitude of Charlie provides an interesting take on the character's role in the story. On the whole, however, the film demonstrates more potential than it realizes, an exercise in ambition and good intentions that could have enjoyed the benefit of a greater commitment from the studio in finances and behind-the-scenes talent. Rather than looking towards the possibility of a sequel, perhaps all hands should take a few years to review and consider a re-make.

SOUNDS

THE DOGBERRIES SOOTHE THE SOUL

WITH THEIR SOUNDS OF SALTWATER JAZZ

BY DEBBY WINTERS



Charlie Barfoot and Jack Daw of The Dogberries

The Dogberries' third album, Salt Water Jazz creates a relaxing and enjoyable ambiance with their unique approach to the genre of jazz.

This is a jazz album that could be for people who think they don't necessarily like jazz. You can hear the improvisational aspects and wonderful layering of music but there is something extra there that is both exciting and interesting. Charlie Barfoot and Jack Dawe bring a touch of the Newfoundland culture to their music.

The layering of the music creates an enjoyment factor that releases the imagination. Closing your eyes while listening to the title track, which is dedicated to Dawe's daughter Eve, you can almost hear the waves lapping at the shore and you just expect to hear seagulls calling.

The track features Daw on acoustic guitar and Fretless Bass, Barfoot on electric guitars accompanied by Graig Follett on tenor saxophone, Patrick Moran on fiddle, Don Boland on piano and synths with Rob Lee on percussion.

There is also a track called Adventures, which happens to be dedicated to Daw's son Michael.

The whole disc would lead some to the argument as to what jazz actually is and if this complies directly or indirectly with that definition.

Dictionary defined, jazz is a kind of music, originally improvised but now also arranged, characterized by syncopation, rubato, usually heavily accented rhythms, dissonances, individualized melodic variations, and unusual tonal effects on the trumpet,

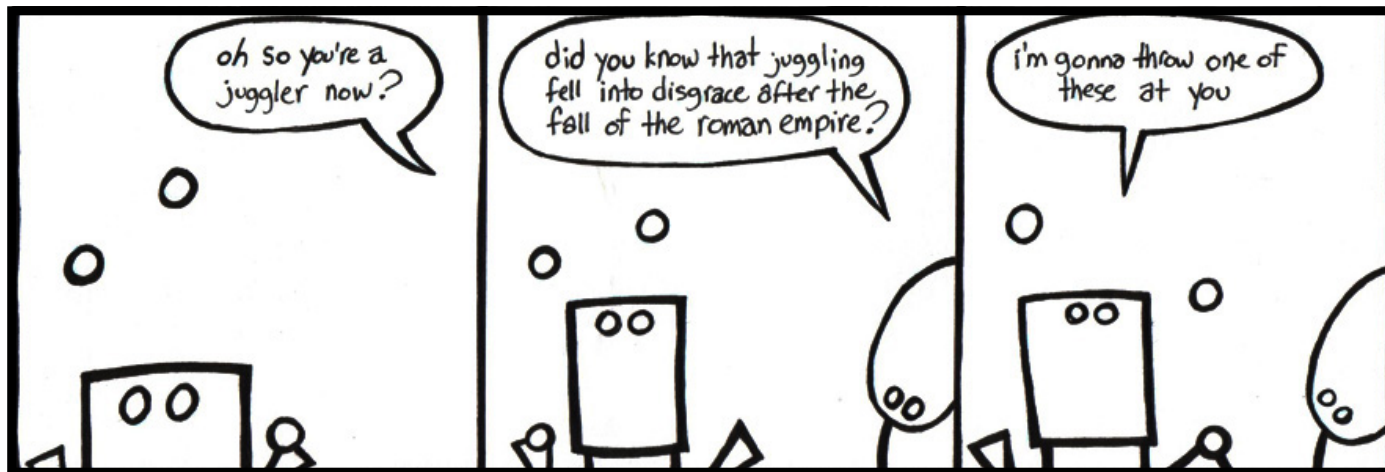
trombone, clarinet, saxophone, etc. The Dogberries music can fit that definition but Barfoot and Daw take jazz a step further with non-traditional instruments and local influences.

Saltwater Jazz is a relaxing and enjoyable listen that shouldn't be overlooked.

The album is available at select music stores in the province including Fred's Records.

COMICS

the little world
by Kevin Woolidge



www.thelittleworld.net/blog

PREVIEW

THE MONK

WRITTEN BY AIDEN FLYNN AND DIRECTED BY BRAD HODDER
BY GARY MOORE



Director Brad Hodder

The result was a Friday night full of laughter, Vikings, and a stuffed belly thanks to an appropriately themed three course meal, or perhaps Aftens is a better term to use.

“The play is about a young monk who has been tasked with bringing Christianity into the world of the Norse on the Northern Peninsula of Newfoundland - the clash of old and new, tradition and change and Vikings. A Viking family drama. Which, as you can imagine, is full of threats of violence and comedy,” explains director, Brad Hodder.

The Monk received great reviews during the Norstead Theatre Festival in L’Anse Aux Meadows last June and floored audience members. Running with that momentum, the team is now looking to bring the full production to St. John’s, this spring.

Leading to a full production in the spring, a staged reading of The Monk took place Friday January 29, 2010 at the Rabbittown Theatre.

The Monk was written by Aiden Flynn and first produced last summer as part of the Norstead Theatre Festival in L’Anse Aux Meadows.

After the reading took place, the audience was treated to a themed three course Norwegian ‘aftens’ which translates to ‘evening meal’ in Norwegian.

First it was Norsk Fiskesuppe (Fish Soup), followed by Sildesalat (Herring Salad) and topped with a crowd pleaser, a dish of Vaffles (Waffles with Troll Cream).

Geoff Adams, one of the Artistic Producers at Rabbittown, was the cook behind these delicious treats. Pairing the meals with an appropriate match for each play is something Geoff looks forward too. With his enthusiasm and effort, it’s no wonder this is becoming a favorite additional feature to the productions taking place at the Rabbittown Theatre.

During the meal, the floor was open for discussion and feedback from those in attendance; Brad elaborates, “We are never satisfied. There is no such thing as a ‘finished product’ so we are always trying to fix something or add something or do something a little different with every play we take on.”

In asking Brad what he thought was the significance of theatre in and around St. John’s he replied, “live theatre is an important part of a vibrant community. It brings people together and it tells our stories. It is essential, it is necessary and it is unique. We are very lucky to have such a strong and varied theatre community in St. John’s.”



Rabbittown Theatre’s Aiden Flynn, author of “The Monk”

Considering that the night’s reading of The Monk was a glimpse of what’s to come for the spring of this year, it was clear that it already had people talking about the full production. It was a great and memorable way to spend a Friday night for those in the audience, who got to enjoy the exclusive preview of the production not to mention fill their stomachs.

For those involved on the production side of the project, it was also a constructive night with an opportunity to measure reaction and gauge the future success for The Monk that is sure to come. After the test run and hearing from the audience, Rabbittown Theatre can be certain the full production will be a hit.

DATING

CINDERELLA AND YOU

BACK POCKET TIPS FOR FINDING THE RIGHT FIT
BY TARA LEHMAN



Going through relationships is sort of like being Cinderella. You’ve gone through pairs and pairs of shoes, some harder to wear than others. One pair itched after a while, another was ‘Made In China’ which is why it fell apart, there’s the pair your friend stole and the painful pair of stilettos

you even wore, simply because they looked sexy. Or maybe you were eyeing the girl in those stilettos? Whatever the case, where is the good looking, quality pair of shoes you’ve been hunting for? Well, this may depend on where it is that you’re shopping. In other words, are you looking for the right relationships in the right places? Here are a few thoughts to keep in your back pocket:

Three Minutes: Research shows this is a reasonable amount of time to determine if people are attracted to one another. So, next time someone catches your attention, don’t over think. Just go with the flow and trust intuition. In a first meeting, there’s a built-in radar that makes it hard to resist sizing someone up as a potential partner, and this is one of the reasons speed dating has become popular.

Your Type: What kind of people are you attracted to? If you’re falling for the same type of people, yet your relationships aren’t working, perhaps it’s time to adjust your thoughts as to what kind of person you would truly like to spend time with. Learn from past relationships and take only the best forward with you.

Mars Vs. Venus: Women sometimes have a secret language where they tend to throw hints out rather than tell men what they would really like. It isn’t always intentional, just a common trait, so it’s valuable for men to learn to listen so they can try to pick up on what she’s truly asking for. And, women shouldn’t be afraid of being direct since this will save guess work for the men. It makes the path that takes people from dating to love much easier.

It takes a while to truly get to know someone – just like it takes time to break in the perfect pair of shoes. Yet hopefully the day will come where everything fits just right and you never want to give them up. Even if there are a few scuff marks the right fit will always suit you and will never go out of style!

Tara runs D8 Night, a company specializing in Speed Dating events, Online Dating courses and more. Dial 740-3733, email tara@eventivenewfoundland.ca, or go to Facebook Group: D8 Night.

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LISTINGS

WHAT'S ON!

CHECK OUR LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, Feb 5

Arts and Culture Centre: Buddy Wasiname and the Other Fellers
 Bridie Molloy's: Acura
 Distortion: Juicer w/Dig Up The Dead and Icebreaker
 Dusk: Wrecking Ball
 Erin's Pub: Traditional Sessions w/ Graham Wells
 Greensleeves: Des Gambin & Barry Davis
 Konfusion: DJ Sina
 Loft 709: DJ Mayehem
 O'Reilly's: The Irish Descendants
 Spin: Funktastic Friday w/Leo van Ulden & Kid Cue
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 The Breezeway: Belly, Ill Kidz, Muggs, DJ Sina, Large 'n Live Direct
 The Fat Cat: Kujo
 The Martini Bar: Alex Finn Band
 The Ship: Quiet Elephant, Pathological Lovers, Les Domestics
 Tol's: First Choice
 Turkey Joe's: Filthy Fridays w/ DJ Lex
 West Side Charlies (Torbay Rd.): Gregg Bolger
 Whalen's Pub: Danica Drover

SATURDAY, Feb 6

Arts and Culture Centre: Buddy Wasiname and the Other Fellers
 Club One: The Insiders
 Distortion: Selena Boland
 Dusk: Wrecking Ball
 Greensleeves: Des Gambin & Barry Davis
 Lottie's Place: Jeff Lewis
 Liquid: Mikey B, Steve Murray, Electro
 O'Reilly's: The Irish Descendants
 Spin: Seamless Saturday w/Mike the Tailor
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 The Martini Bar: Alex Dinn Band
 The Rock House: Mark Bragg and the Butchers
 Tol's: First Choice
 Turkey Joe's: Sexual Saturdays w/DJ Jaycee
 Whelan's Pub: Military Road

SUNDAY, Feb 7

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson
 O'Reilly's: Traditional Open Session w/ Alan Byrne
 The Fat Cat: Open Mic w/Shawn Beresford
 The Rock House: NL United Way Fundraiser w/Jenny Gear, Sandy Morris, Denis Parker, Scott Goudie, The Navigators and The Panting Brothers
 Turkey Joe's: Retro Sunday (Ladies Night) w/DJ Lex

MONDAY, Feb 8

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 Grumpy Stump: Open Mic
 Loft 709: Martini Monday's w/DJ Diamond
 O'Reilly's: Larry Foley and Patrick Moran
 The Fat Cat: Open Mic w/Shawn Beresford
 Turkey Joe's: Manic Mondays: Happy Hour All Night

TUESDAY, Feb 9

Auntie Crae's: (Noon, free) Auntie Crae's Band
 Arts and Culture Centre: Wonderbolt's Tricksters
 Bella Vista: (8:30PM, \$5) Sizzlin Salsa Tuesdays
 Greensleeves: Damian Follett & Gary Gambin
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Loft 709: Hip Hop Tuesday w/Paddy Greene & Shawn Goldz
 The Fat Cat: Andrew Piercey (acoustic)
 Turkey Joe's: Two for Tuesdays w/Carl Peters & Dave White

WEDNESDAY, Feb 10

Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Greensleeves: Kronik
 Junctions: Wild Wednesdays w/Dr Drake, DJ Fox
 Loft 709: Retro Wednesday with DJ Sina
 O'Reilly's: Keith's Collectable Cash Night w/Chris Hennessey and Best Kind
 The Fat Cat: Chris Kriby (acoustic)
 The Rock House: (8:30PM, \$5) Salsa On the Rock weekly salsa dancing
 The Ship: Folk Night w/Jeff Pittman
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 Turkey Joe's: Wacky Wednesday's w/ Dave White
 Yuk Yuk's: New Talent Night

THURSDAY, Feb 11

Greensleeves: Unlisted
 Liquid: Open Decks
 Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson & Arthur O'Brien
 O'Reilly's: Acoustic Punters
 The Dock: Stixx and Stones
 The Fat Cat: Craig Young (acoustic)
 The Martini Bar: DJ Mark Power
 The Ship: Night Music w/McKudo
 Tol's: Mainline
 Turkey Joe's: Tropical Thrus w/DJ Chamba

FRIDAY, Feb 12

Greensleeves: Chris Ryan & Chad Murphy
 Loft 709: DJ Mayehem
 Stanley's: Karaoke

The Fat Cat: Ron Hynes Band
 The Rock House: The Novacks
 Turkey Joe's: Filthy Fridays with DJ Lex

SATURDAY, Feb 13

Greensleeves: Chris Ryan & Chad Murphy
 Loft 709: Dance League Saturday w/ Paddy Greene
 Spin: Seamless Saturday w/Mike the Tailor
 Stanley's: (10PM) Karaoke
 The Fat Cat: Ron Hynes Band
 Tol's: Mainline
 Turkey Joe's: Sexual Saturdays w/ DJ Lex

SUNDAY, Feb 14

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson
 O'Reilly's: Traditional Open Session w/ Alan Byrne
 The Fat Cat: Ron Hynes Band
 Turkey Joe's: Retro Sunday (Ladies Night) with DJ Lex

MONDAY, Feb 15

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 Grumpy Stump: Open Mic
 O'Reilly's: Larry Foley & Patrick Moran
 Turkey Joe's: Manic Mondays - Happy Hour All Night

TUESDAY, Feb 16

Auntie Crae's: (Noon, free) Auntie Crae's Band
 Bella Vista: (8:30PM, \$5) Sizzlin Salsa Tuesdays
 Greensleeves: Damian Follett & Gary Gambin
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 The Fat Cat: Andrew Piercey (acoustic)
 Turkey Joe's: Two for Tuesdays - "2 for 1" w/Carl Peters & Dave White

WEDNESDAY, Feb 17

Greensleeves: Kronik
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Junctions: Wild Wednesdays w/Dr Drake, DJ Fox
 The Rock House: (8:30PM, \$5) Salsa On the Rock weekly salsa dancing
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 The Fat Cat: Andrew Pike (acoustic)
 Turkey Joe's: (10PM) Wacky Wednesdays w/ Dave White
 Yuk Yuk's: New Talent Night

THURSDAY, Feb 18

Greensleeves: Unlisted
 Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson & Arthur O'Brien
 Liquid: Open Decks

The Dock: Stixx and Stones
 The Fat Cat: Craig Young (acoustic)
 The Martini Bar: Mark Power
 Tol's: Redline
 Turkey Joe's: Tropical Thursdays w/ DJ Chamba

What To Do? (For Artists)

Anna Templeton Centre (Duckworth) contact for info re: adult and youth classes, workshops
 Clay Cafe (39 Commonwealth Ave, Mount Pearl 745-2345): open til 9PM
 Devon House Clay Studio - open studio times, contact for info
 10th Annual Nickel Film Festival
 Submission Deadline: February 8, send in 2 DVDs. More info at www.nickelfestival.com or call 576-FEST
 Neighbourhood Dance Works Auditions on Feb 1-14 via YouTube or in person on Feb 21 for dancers and choreographers to be in Do You Think You Can Dance? fundraiser. Call 722-3663 for info or go to www.dytycd.com
 For The Love of Learning Call for Submissions for its 4th anthology of fiction and art. Emerging artists between 15-35 can submit poetry, stories and visual art. Call 722-8848 or visit www.fortheloveoflearning.org
 Words Words Words: The Annual SBTS Sonnet Contest Deadline: March 15, open to grade 3 to 12 students. Email sbts@nfld.com for info. Winners announced April 23.

GALLERY LISTINGS

The Craft Council Gallery (Devon House, Duckworth Street; www.craftcouncil.nl.ca)
 Leyton Gallery Summer Exhibit (www.theleytongallery.com)
 The Rooms (www.therooms.ca)
 The Inner Rooms: The Peoples' Collection; Ice Flows & Sound Retreats: Jan Kabatoff, Dark Horse: Greg Bennett
 Irish Connections (Peter Lewis Gallery, ongoing) 15 new oil paintings done in Northern Ireland 722-6009
 A1C Gallery (Ben Rigby) For more info: www.a1cgallery.ca

SPECIAL EVENTS LISTINGS

Book Launch and Birthday for Ron Pumphrey (Chapters, Feb 6, 2pm) Celebrating 79 and releasing The Events Leading Up To My Death, call 739-4477 for info.
 Coffee & Culture: Celtic Tales of Love (The Rooms, Feb 10, 2:30pm) Visiting BC-based storyteller Mary Gavan shares stories of love for Valentine's Day.
 Haiti Response Supper (George St. United Church, Feb 10, 6pm) Serving Ham, Scallop Potato and Beans for \$15. Call 726-8775
 Water Street Book Club (Gallery Space, Heritage Shop of Newfoundland at 309 Water St., March 4, 7pm) with special guest

Lisa Moore to celebrate the release of February in paperback. Email director@historicsites.ca or call 739-7994 for info.

Comic Jam (Hava Java, last Monday of every month, 7PM, free)

St. John's Farmers' Market (Saturdays, 10AM-2PM), Lion's Club Chalet, Mayor Avenue

Hurling Training on-going weekly. Indoors. Contact Brendan Toland at: Cabot_Hill_Hurling_Club@yahoo.ca

Free Internet: Love of Learning offers free internet and computer use for resilient youth between 15 and 35 years old, noon to 6pm, weekdays in the basement of the Gower Street United Church. For more info, visit www.fortheloveoflearning.org or call Darcy at 722-8848.

For The Love of Learning (weekdays, 12pm-6pm, Free to youth 15-35): 99 Gower Street. Classes in world religion, philosophy, folklore, art, theatre, resume-building. Free lunch at 1PM (722-4846)

Mall Walkers' Club: (Avalon Mall, Thursdays, 8:45am) (737-2333)

The Pottle Centre: (323 Hamilton Avenue, social and recreational programs for users of mental health services) 753-2143

The Rooms: (Wednesdays 6pm-9pm / First Saturday/month, Nov-May Free admission, 9 Bonaventure Ave. 757-8000)

Seniors Bridging Culture: (Seniors Resource Centre, Thursdays, 2pm) Tea, guest speakers, and conversation (737-2333)

Seniors Friendship Club: (Seniors Resource Centre, Fridays, 2pm 737-2333)

Shambhala Meditation Group: (Billy Rahal Fieldhouse, rear Elizabeth Towers) Free meditation practice. Call 576-4727 or visit <http://stjohns.shambhala.org>

Traditional Latin Mass: (Our Lady of Mercy Convent, Sundays, 9am) Use side door facing the Basilica, Latin/English resources supplied. For information call 726-6727 or 722-4842, or email unavoce.sopc@gmail.com

St. John's City Council Meeting: (City Council Chambers, 4th Floor, Mondays, 4:30pm) Public welcome, see agenda www.stjohns.ca, posted Friday afternoons

Overeaters Anonymous: If your eating habits are making you unhappy and putting you at risk for serious health problems, you can do something about it. Call 738-1742 or www.oa.org

Tango On The Edge - Argentine Tango: (Thursdays 8:30-10:30, RCA Club, 10 Bennett Ave) All welcome.

It's never too late to Quit Smoking Are you planning to reduce or quit smoking? You only have to be thinking about it. Ask about a personal or group presentation. All participants receive a Coping Kit. Phone Paula at the Seniors Resource Centre NL at 737-2333 or 1-800-563-5599

MY MESSY BEDROOM

PUMP UP THE VOLUME

MAKING NOISE IN BED CAN BE HOT AS LONG AS IT'S NOT FAKE

BY JOSEY VOGLES

British woman Catherine Cartwright will not have to face jail time for having loud sex as a result of 100s of complaints from neighbours about her noisy romps. Which begs the question: how loud is too loud when it comes to sex? "I was with this woman who made so much noise during sex that at one point, I playfully flipped her over so her face would be in the pillow to try and muffle the sounds." Safe to say you're not so into loud sex then, the guy telling this story is asked. "I don't mind some appreciative moaning and groaning but this was embarrassing," he answers. "I was constantly worried the neighbours would come over and wonder if we were sacrificing small animals."

There is nothing quite as fabulous as having someone completely let go with you in the sack. But, it seems, when it comes to noisy sex, some people would rather not hear about it. Maybe it's because women tend to be more expressive in other areas, and it does seem that women are generally more expressive in bed. "I find men need to be encouraged to be more vocal, especially WASP men. They're really quiet and subsequently not as good a lay," says one very expressive female friend. Not all boys keep quiet, however. "I was with one guy who was screaming so loud it was scary," laughs one woman.

Maybe it's because growing up in a house full of noisy people, leads to liking a little racket in bed. There's nothing

like a little vocal encouragement to acknowledge a job well done. Good for the ego. It's also helpful in getting what you want. Just crank up the volume a notch when he gets something right and he'll get the message. Our anti-WASP friend agrees. "I like noisy sex. For me it's an indication of what I'm doing right."

Besides its practical value, noisy nookie can be a turn on. "I have been told that I am quite vocal in bed," a presumably unsterotypical WASP ex-boyfriend of mine recently told me. "One girlfriend told me that she orgasmed after hearing me have a very vocal orgasm." Sometimes just knowing people can hear you can be pretty sexy. "One night, my girlfriend and I were going at it quite wild and loud," continues my ex. "We really got into it when we started hearing my neighbour banging on the wall yelling at us to keep it down. We laughed it off but also found it quite exciting that someone heard us making love." And the fun goes both ways. One woman I know found out her neighbour had been inviting his friends over to listen to her and her boy have loud sex.

Not all noise is welcome. You have to admit, sometimes it's hard not to wonder if maybe your partner has seen *When Harry Met Sally* one too many times. "There is no bigger turn off than a rehearsed performance," exclaims one noise-sensitive friend. "Slow moans, kitten-like purrs and

growls are all good. But too much, 'Oooo, yeah, baby' stuff is a turn off. I hate guys who do the grunt stroke, you know, with every thrust they grunt like a wart hog. Very unsexy." Some of us are less discriminating. "I'm a pretty visceral person and not embarrassed by much," says a less critical female friend. "Farts and sudden weird noises, like when you want to be sexy and you end up sounding like a rutting animal are okay with me. What I hate are predictable reactions like, 'You're so good, you're so tight.' Ugh!"

Sex noises need not be elaborate, just sincere. Whatever gets you through the night and lets the other person know things are good pretty much works. Though insults, jokes and maybe armpit farts are probably best avoided. Unless, of course, that's what you're into.

It might also make things easier if the other person understands whatever comes out. "I was seeing a woman who kept screeching in Spanish. My Spanish isn't that good but it sounded something like, 'Lick the sheet!'"

But let's face it, as one woman said, if you're thinking about what you're saying or noise you're making, you're doing something wrong. "The best kind of sex, for me, is when you are so wildly passionate that you don't know if you were loud or not."

\$3 BILL

FAG HAG

TAYLOR: THE LAST GREAT MOVIE STAR?

BY RICHARD BURNETT

Back in the 1960s Montreal was a glamorous city that celebrities and regular folks the world over came to, to let the good times roll. During this era, this columnist's parents had a wedding contract drawn up by the renowned Montreal notary Lionel Segal, who a couple years later notarized the wedding contract of a Brit and a glamour girl; Welshman Richard Burton and Hollywood superstar Elizabeth Taylor. The Burton-Taylor wedding was held March 15, 1964 at Montreal's Ritz-Carlton Hotel, in suite 810, and was "the climax of a red-hot, two-year romance that had left two continents scorched in its wake," writes author William Mann in his just-published biography of Taylor, *How To Be A Movie Star: Elizabeth Taylor in Hollywood*. "The beaming bride, her hair braided with white Roman hyacinths, wore a gown of yellow chiffon designed by Irene Sharaff, who'd done her costumes for Cleopatra."

Like my mom, whose best childhood friend Jackie committed suicide because he could no longer bear living as an out gay man in Africa, Taylor's best friends were also gay men – iconic actors Montgomery Clift, Rock Hudson and Roddy McDowall.

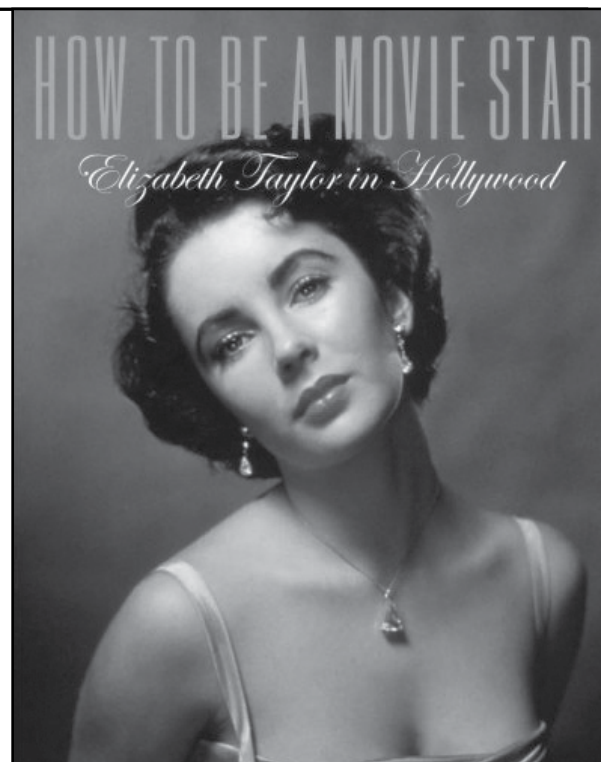
"Elizabeth Taylor wasn't a fag hag, but in a beautiful way she was," Mann told me this week as his book shot up the New York Times bestseller list. "She loves camp and bigger-than-life personalities. She's always been ahead of her times – at 18 she told Monty Clift, 'You WILL find a man to love someday.' That was in 1951!" Five years later, Taylor cradled Clift's bloodied and broken body after he smashed his car into a telephone pole after leaving her Beverly Hills home during the filming of *Raintree County*. "History has always tried to imply they were secret lovers but that's bullshit," says Mann, who also wrote the 2004 must-read book *Behind the Screen: How Gays and Lesbians Shaped*

Hollywood. "From the start they were close friends. Remember she was 14 when they met and he was this hero to her. He was a rebel. He taught her you didn't have to be a slave to the Hollywood studios."

About Taylor's relationship with her gay Giant co-stars James Dean and Rock Hudson, Old Hollywood starlet Noreen Nash recently claimed Taylor and Hudson had a bet on who could seduce Dean first. "I don't know if it's true," says Mann, who for this book got access to the private letters of famed gossip columnist Hedda Hopper, the personal papers of director George Stevens, Mike Todd's FBI files, as well as the ear of Taylor's inner circle. "At first Elizabeth didn't like Dean at all because he was a method actor. She thought he was ruining her takes and was full of himself. And there was a rivalry between Dean and Rock Hudson. But by the end they had become friends."

When Taylor filmed *Cat On a Hot Tin Roof* with Paul Newman, she understood the gay subtext because, Mann says, "her second husband Michael Wilding was gay. So she knew exactly what Maggie was dealing with." Of Taylor and Roddy McDowall, Mann says, "They were girlfriends."

How much did Liz love Rock Hudson? Well, when Rock died of AIDS in 1985, at the peak of AIDS-fuelled homophobia, Taylor threw caution to the wind and "became the single greatest force in the fight against AIDS... Unlike so many celebrities today – today every celebrity has to have a cause – Elizabeth stood up because someone had to." Taylor has since been dubbed the "Joan of Arc of AIDS" and she pulled it all off – the Oscar-winning career, tabloid scandals, eight weddings and her controversial AIDS activism – because she has been more famous than any other human being, ever, alive or dead. "In 1961 Elizabeth



A Classic Elizabeth Taylor

Taylor was bigger than Princess Diana," Mann says. The Burton-Taylor wedding in Montreal made the front page of newspapers around the world. "Nobody was bigger," Mann says. But in Hollywood, another town where drag queens have venerated Marlene Dietrich, Mae West, Judy Garland, Bette Davis, Joan Crawford, Barbra Streisand, Cher and Bette Midler for decades, Taylor asks, "Why don't the drag queens do me?"

"More than any other star Elizabeth Taylor is immersed in the gay culture," Mann says. So much so that today, when Taylor – now 77 – goes out, it's to Mann's favourite gay watering hole in West Hollywood, The Abbey, where Taylor enjoys a reportedly "sizeable" martini. "Friends send me text pictures whenever she's there," Mann says. "And at The Abbey she's treated like a queen by all the queens."

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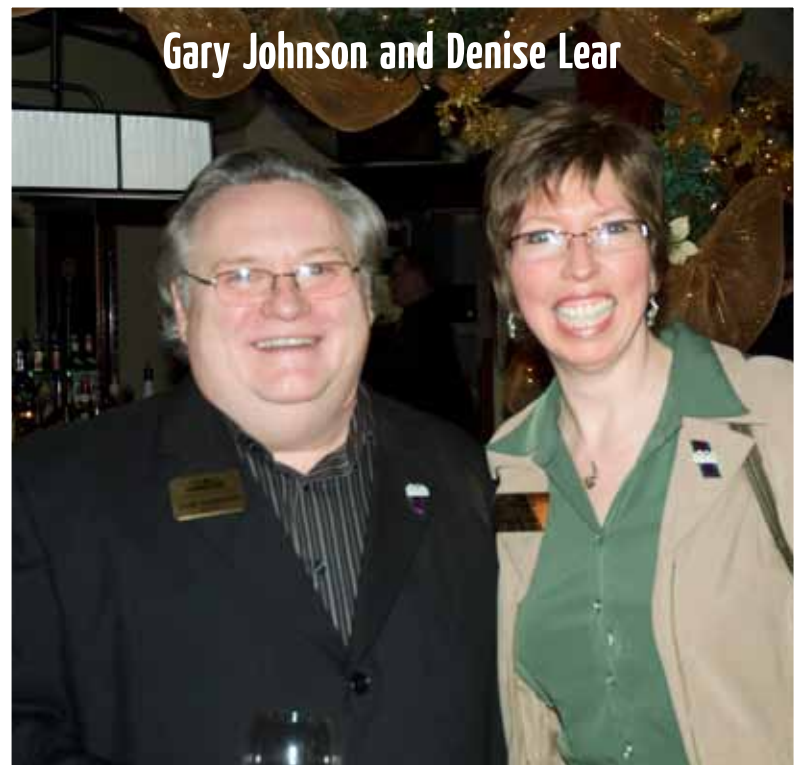
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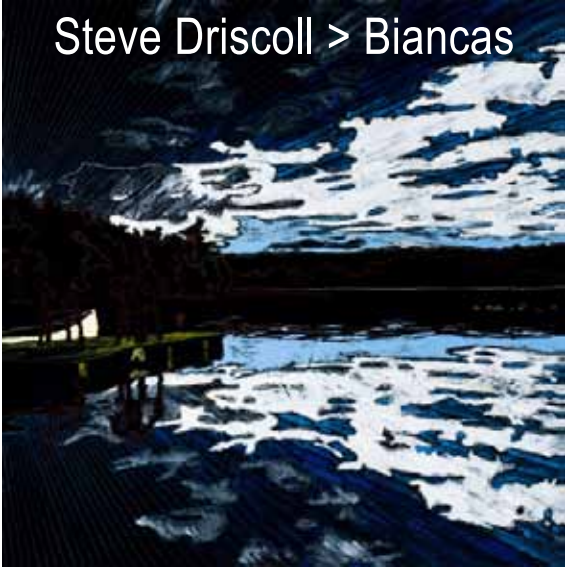


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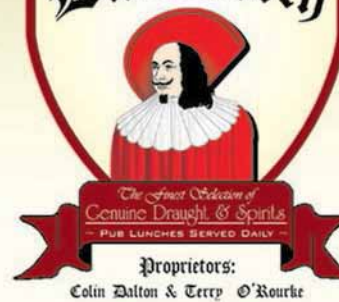
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