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Artistic Fraud Returns with Afterimage

this issue

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EDITORIAL THE OPPOSITION

BY KEVIN WOOLRIDGE



SOUNDS

PATRICK MOLLOY & THE MANIFEST

MARCHING TOWARDS THEIR MUSICAL DESTINY

BY JONNY HODDER



Two things become instantly clear when you begin to pick the brain of Patrick Molloy:

First, he's an enthusiastic dude who believes in his music; Second, he wants you

to believe in his music as much as he does, no matter what the cost.

A Staffing Specialist with the Public Service Commission by day, Molloy moonlights as an up-and-coming juggernaut on the St. John's music scene.

However, Molloy's musical journey is anything but typical. At 20 years old, Molloy moved to Iqaluit, Nunavut, where his social life consisted primarily of "potlucks, parties and campfires [where] jam sessions were a major part of the get togethers ... I started to play three to four hours a day for a full year, I couldn't help it."

He also couldn't help bouncing ideas off the other musicians around him, thankful for the "constant constructive criticism to fix what I was doing wrong."

Shortly after returning to Newfoundland, he entered an open mic contest at O'Reilly's Pub and wound up winning 52 dozen beer – not too shabby for third prize. "That," according to Molloy, "is when I knew it was going to be more than a hobby. Not just because I could win free beer... but because I actually gained some recognition for what I was doing. I used that competition to get some gigs around town and I haven't stopped since."

After graduating from MUN with a Business degree, Molloy began exploiting his networking talents to spread the word about his music, bringing together a company of like-minded musical soldiers to help manifest his destiny deep within the St. John's music scene.

He harnessed the omnipotent power of Facebook to track down drummer Mark Cumby, marking the first

machinations of Patrick Molloy and the Manifest. Next, the stars aligned so that Mike Kirby (PARC, Saint Street), who had been taking a "musical hiatus" and was "itching to get back to playing" took over bass duty. Cumby and Kirby formed an "amazing dynamic, which is fundamental to a band that focuses on groove."

Josh Noble (Mojo Pin) arrived on the scene to replace keyboardist Tom Davis prior to the album's release. An accomplished guitarist, Noble was faced with the daunting task of recreating Davis' melodies in a live setting.

Molloy, however, wasn't concerned: "The Manifest always had a respect for Josh's playing. We encouraged him to think outside the box and not to worry about mimicking what was already recorded."

Patrick Molloy and the Manifest recently released *Who Will Listen?*, an eclectic mix of 1960's grooves, psychedelic prog-rock, atmospheric ballads and homages to the early 1990's alternative scene.

Produced by famed Canadian recording guru Krisjan Leslie (Billy Talent, Our Lady Peace, Duran Duran), the diversity of sound threatens to spin out of control, but is ultimately held together thematically by Molloy's lyrics which lash out against the political unrest of today and offer a glimmer of hope somewhere just around the corner.

With the CD release party already in the books, Molloy and Co., now have to continue to build on their momentum.

The businessman hiding behind Molloy's enthusiasm doesn't hesitate to spill the beans on his master plan: "The internet is a powerful tool. Head to www.patrickmolloy.ca and listen to the album. Join the mailing list while your there to stay up-to-date with the bands' ongoings. Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter and MySpace. We were also featured on Reverb Nation (www.reverbnation.com), gained a bunch of contacts, and hit number one on the Rock Charts in St. John's."



Patrick Molloy and the Manifest (submitted photo)

In addition to all of this, *Who Will Listen?* is also being shopped around with some Canadian publishing companies for use in television and film, Molloy attended the ECMA's and entered the songwriter's competition at Canadian Music Week in Toronto. Oh, and did we mention that he also has a full-time job with the government?

While some might lose their mind in the eye of this chaotic musical storm, Patrick Molloy seems to thrive on it. He admits that any remnants of a normal life "have not existed in the last year and a half" but he hopes it will pay off: "Hopefully at some point in this catastrophic life I can strike it big, then travel the world with my family and play gigs when and where I want to. It's OK to dream, right?"

"If something big happens, awesome! If not, awesome! Either way, I'm going to to write and record for the rest of my life."

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5 FAVES

MEGHAN WARREN OF REPARTEE

LOCAL BAND RELEASES NEW EP WITH A LITTLE HELP FROM MUSICNL

BY ALISON MURRAY



While its always boasted a rich musical culture, Newfoundland's music scene has evolved and developed into having a vast array of musical sounds and styles.

On any particular night of the week, a person can venture into the city and find themselves in one of the numerous venues hosting one of the many diverse Newfoundland or out of province musical talents.

During the summer of 2009, Meg Warren, Chad Murphy, Paddy Byrne and Andrew McCarthy came together and formed a new band which has exploded onto the scene under the name of Repartee.

Through playing shows in a variety of venues around St. John's and with a completely unique pop sound incorporating elements of rock, electronica and funk, the band has quickly developed a fan base, that continues to grow. Recognizing their growing popularity, they received a MusicNL professional demo grant and began recording what is now their recently released EP *Lost Like We All Are*.

Following the release of *Lost Like We All Are*, the opportunity came for *Current* to ask lead vocalist, keyboardist and songwriter for the band, Meg Warren,

what are Repartee's five favourite (musical) influences that helped in the creation of their EP *Lost Like We All Are*?

Warren started off Repartee's five fave list with another successful local band, Hey Rosetta! whose music has won them awards and national recognition.

Secondly, with Repartee's music incorporating aspects of electronic/rock, Warren acknowledges the collective music of MGMT as being an inspiration in the forming of their own musical styling.

Next, Warren says, "Weezer's *Blue* album (1994) and *Pinkerton* (1996) album" made an impact while

creating the music that would culminate into *Lost Like We All Are*.

Following the alternative rock stylings of Weezer's early albums, Warren continues Repartee's five favourite influences in creating their EP *Lost Like We All Are*, by mentioning the works of the punk, new wave band, Vampire Weekend.

And lastly, Repartee's Warren states "straight up pop" with examples including, "Lady Gaga, Timbaland, and Dragonette" as having played a prominent role in helping to inspire the sounds of their new EP.

Within a year of being formed, Repartee has established themselves in the Newfoundland music scene, created a devoted, and continuously growing fan base.

With such broad musical influences ranging from indie/rock, pop to punk/new wave and rock/electronic/soul having helped shape their own melodies and lyrics, Repartee's musical stylings found on that brand new recently released EP *Lost Like We All Are*, is an entirely unique sound that will have you absorbed in their music and humming for days. If you would like to learn more about the band and their happenings check out their MySpace page at <http://www.myspace.com/reparteemusic>. And, if you would like to check out their new EP, it is currently available for purchase at Fred's Records on Water Street.



TV

911 CALLING ALL FEATHERY, FURRY AND SCALY FRIENDS

BEST BOY PRODUCTION VENTURING INTO THE ER

BY DEBBY WINTERS



Has your pet ever had a brush with death? Best Boy Productions is seeking pet lovers willing to share their stories about their pet's medical crisis that required an emergency treatment.

Their stories will be retold in a new TV series

called *Pet ER*, a new 13-part docudrama series ordered by The Pet Network.

"With the family and the pet always the focus, we will recount the horror of the pet injury or crises, the anxiety-ridden race to the pet emergency room, the doctor's diagnosis, the surgery, the post-op and, if all goes well, the recovery," says Executive Producer Ed Martin. "But sometimes, despite the heroic efforts of our pet medical team, we will recount the tragic loss of a beloved pet as well."

Best Boy is looking for stories involving the full spectrum of pets, from dogs and cats to the more exotic variety from mini-goats to iguanas.

Based in Newfoundland and Labrador, Best Boy Productions is a full service production company that produces a wide array of television content including factual entertainment, documentaries series and children's programming for interested national and international broadcasters.

Best Boy Productions develops and produces a wide-range of programs for Canadian broadcasters. From lively, colourful children's shows, to adventure-packed travel shows, to engaging HD documentary series. Best Boy is on a mission to provide the world with high-quality, unique programming marked by strong international appeal.

Their full-time production team, consisting of 16 individuals, does not stop there. With two feature films in development; *Gamblers Never Die* and *A Little*

Problem With Murder, Best Boy is set to expand into the motion picture industry.

The company is not a stranger to animal stories or to The Pet Network.

"Best Boy Productions has a terrific relationship with The Pet Network. We have produced two series for them including 26 episodes, 15 minutes each, of *Mickey*, a live action/animation pre-school children's show - currently in production for another 39 episodes - and 6 one hour episodes of *The Horse*, a documentary series exploring 6,000 years of equine company," explained Mark Hoffe one of Best Boy Production's staff writers.

If you have a story to share about how your furry, feathered or scaly friend got him or herself into trouble and hopefully managed to survive thanks to a pet emergency room, send your story and a picture of your pet to PetER@bestboy.ca.

EVENT

MORE THEN JUST A FUNDRAISER

RELAY FOR LIFE RAISING MONEY AND MAKING CONNECTIONS

BY DEBBY WINTERS



Cancer, the word itself conjures up horrible pictures and pain in just about everybody's mind. Cancer is a

disease that touches everybody. You may not have had to fight the battle yourself but chances are that you know somebody who is fighting or has fought Cancer.

Cancer brings more than devastation and fear into people's lives; it also brings courage, hope and camaraderie. That is one of the main goals of the 9th Annual St. John's Relay For Life.

It is more than just a fundraiser. It is an opportunity to get together with family and friends and celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost to cancer, and fight back in the hope of finding a cure for this indiscriminate disease. For 12 hours a group of caring people gather and they walk and they talk, they join hands and hearts all for one cause - to raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society and the fight against cancer.

Gather a group of people together, it can be a group of friends, workmates, classmates or even your Friday night happy hour group! Get them together for a cause and show how half a day can make a timeless difference in your lives and the lives of many other people.

A relay is most often thought of as a race in which teams are responsible for a certain section of the route, it is also be defined as passing something on. In Relay for Life, the race is against cancer and what is passed on is hope; the one thing that grows faster than cancer.

The St. John's Metro Relay for Life is a celebration of survival and a tribute to the lives of loved ones who have been touched by cancer. Come and have 12 hours of fun, friendship and fundraising. St. John's is just one of many communities from coast to coast, taking up the fight. Be a part of the team and help contribute to making cancer history.

Last year's relay consisted of 35 teams including 60 survivors and more than 50 volunteers, they came together and raised \$50,000.00 for cancer support



A Relay for Life 2009 Team, The Cancer Crusaders

in Newfoundland and Labrador. Each of the people involved gave so much; they also walked away with so much – love, understanding and pride in knowing they were part of something very special.

This year's event is promising to be even bigger, with some of those faces returning and new ones joining the fight. The St. John's Metro Relay for Life is Saturday, June 12 from 7pm to 7am at the MUN Field House. People who are interested can drop by Daffodil Place on 70 Ropewalk Lane to pick up a team captain kit or email: relay@nl.cancer.ca.

Celebrate, remember and fight back; Walk together in this inspirational overnight event, as people come together and fight to make cancer history.

WINE

WINES OF BORDEAUX

THE FIRST IN A TWO PART SPOTLIGHT

BY JENNIFER MURRAY

Following up on the last article in which the differences between Burgundy and Bordeaux were discussed, it's a good time to have a look at Bordeaux in a little more detail. Bordeaux is quite a bit more than just a famous wine growing area – it has been - and still is - the model for the world of wine, and traveling around the area while visiting some of the great chateaux is an experience not to be missed.

Once Bordeaux ends up in your shopping basket, you will usually have passed through many of the other "easy drinking" wines. Bordeaux wines take some time to truly appreciate and in some cases some patience need to be utilized to let the bottles achieve their greatest potential over the years - not easy when they are lying temptingly in your cellar! Once you are hooked on Bordeaux though, you are unlikely to ever abandon them.

Bordeaux is generally divided in three main parts, of which two are reserved for, predominantly, red wines. So without getting too deeply into geography the main areas are as follows:

- The so-called "Left Bank" on the left bank of the Garonne and Gironde rivers.
- The Entre-Deux-Mers district, between the Garonne and the Dordogne rivers, and mainly a white wine area.
- The so-called "Right Bank" on the right bank of the Dordogne river.

The main city on the Left Bank is Bordeaux and on the Right Bank they are Libourne and Saint Emilion; a Unesco World Heritage site with impressive wine cellars built into the limestone and is a great base to explore the Bordeaux region from.

Left Bank

Let's travel the left bank from the sea land inwards. First is the Médoc (consisting, confusingly, of the Médoc proper and Haut Médoc) before reaching the city of Bordeaux; after that you continue on to the Graves. The Left Bank is home to the original classification of 1855, where the wines were ranked according to a chateau's reputation and trading price. This has continued until the present time with only one upgrade in the First Growths – Chateau Mouton Rothschild, which was reclassified from a second to a first growth in 1973.

The original classification of First Growths are: Ch. Lafite Rothschild, Ch. Latour, Ch. Margaux, Ch. Haut Brion and the aforementioned Ch. Mouton Rothschild. The Haut Médoc houses most of the prestigious communal appellations like St. Estèphe, Pauillac, Saint-Julien, Moulis, Llistrac and Margaux and in these areas you'll find the famous wines of Lafite-Rothschild, Mouton-Rothschild, Latour, Cos d'Estournel, Margaux etc.

Lamb raised on the salty meadows of the Médoc goes particularly well with the wines from this region - remember, when it grows together, it goes together!

The Médoc proper has no cru classé, but makes up a large portion of the general Médoc production.

Graves

The Graves region houses the oldest vineyards in the Bordeaux area and is planted with about two thirds red and one third white. The famous Haut Brion wines come from here. Graves (which means gravel) is the only region that can boast outstanding reds, superb whites and the magnificent sweet wines of Barsac and Sauternes.

Entre-Deux-Mers

Leaving the left bank now and on to the right bank, you must first pass through Entre-Deux-Mers.

A bit confusing, as the name implies it lies between two seas, in reality the region lies between the Garonne and Dordogne rivers and is home to mainly white varieties (Sauvignon Blanc and Semillon), which go well with all kinds of seafood.

In the next issue, the journey will continue, travelling on into the Right Bank to explore further, including some rotten grapes!



MY STYLE LIAN MORRISON

STYLE EVOLUTION
BY GAIA REZORI

The Outfit

While finishing her bachelors degree in English and German, Lian uses fashion as a creative outlet. For her, it's a way to help develop a sense of self, and to physically express a certain mood or emotion. Today, her outfit is a mix of edgy and feminine. Her American Apparel crop top, which Lian claims to be a new favorite item, has the perfect balance of casual yet creative. It's soft tri-blend fabric, in cranberry, makes it a great piece to throw on. She's paired it with a tulip skirt in a navy poplin, finished with brass buttons, purchased on a recent trip to Norway. Adding a bit of edge are floral black tights and black ankle boots with hardware detailing, which are staples in Lian's wardrobe.

Finishing off her look, Lian has added an oversize gold wrist cuff with a filigree detail that she scored in a Norwegian store. "I always incorporate elaborate jewelry," she admits and loves to make an outfit stand out through statement necklaces. A gold chain, given to Lian after her grandmother passed away, adds a finishing touch and pulls the outfit together. She explains that this outfit is completely unique and that contributes to how good she feels in it.

Style Influences

For Lian, the great thing about style is that it is constantly evolving. She claims that, "fashion and style are two different things," and for her it's not just about

getting dressed in the morning. Citing the Olsen twins and the late Casey Johnson as style icons, she loves the that they are almost like "girls playing dress up in their mothers clothing. The fact that people don't quite understand their style is what draws me to them," she adds. Music videos and fashion website Lookbook are great sources of inspiration, as they're constantly cutting edge and fashion forward. A great way to ensure originality is online shopping, as 90% of Lian's wardrobe consists of pieces purchased that way. Websites such as asos, modcloth, pixie market, and etsy are some of her favorites.

Hidden Treasures

There are certain pieces in Lian's wardrobe which hold special meaning. Her Grandmothers jewelry collection, which she inherited is particularly treasured. As well, Lian says that occasion pieces that she has worn very rarely, such a dress for New Years or a certain necklace, allow her to look back and cherish the memory attached. "It's not just about the clothes, but the meaning behind them, and the way they make you feel".

Style Advice

An appropriately themed fortune cookie proclaims: "Dress as you feel, and you'll never be out of fashion." This couldn't be more true of Lian's style philosophy. She has recently started buying less items, focusing on pieces that really inspire her. She also advises to take body shape into consideration when shopping. "There's no need to limit yourself to certain brands or stores," she says, stressing the importance of simply feeling confident in yourself. "Looking good will follow."



COVER

AFTERIMAGE

ARTISTIC FRAUD BRINGS A TON OF TALENT TOGETHER

BY JOSHUA JAMIESON

Jillian Keiley is the director of *Afterimage*, based on a short story by Michael Crummey, playwright Robert Chafe adapted it for the stage. This marks the second Crummey-Artistic Fraud pairing, "I'm a big fan of Michael's writing, and when I read this story it broke me in two. We had done an adaptation several years ago [with Michael] resulting in *Hard Light* then *Salvage: The Story of a House*," Keiley explains. "Michael's writing is so very true - even when it's a fantastical story like *Galore* - it's still so honest and true."

Afterimage is set in a small town and brings two disconnected events together to tell a mysterious and moving story of connectivity and belonging. Chafe elaborates: "There's Lise, the mother, a witchy fortune teller people are simultaneously drawn to and repulsed by. Winston, her husband, a victim of a severe electrical burn who now bears the scars to prove it. Theresa and Jerome, their children, picked on in school for their unusual and unsettling appearance and habits. And Leo, the middle child, who by all appearances is perfectly normal, which in this family of rejects, makes him the reject. The story's about fitting in, belonging and the lengths we can go to, to do just that." Of his experience working with Crummey, Chafe admires, "every time we've worked with him he's been generous, trusting and enthusiastic. Michael was a great support all the way, trusting us with our new directions and twists and turns with his characters."

Crummey was first approached in 2005 and from there Artistic Fraud worked to build sponsorship, funding and resources to make it possible. Sometimes wondering if the project was just too big, "it opened in Toronto a year ago - and it was so wonderful to see this 'optimistic' idea bloom into something like that wonderful run at the Harbourfront Centre," she says of the outcome. The original cast will be involved in the upcoming May 26 to June 5 run coming up at the LSPU Hall, with only one

change. Berni Stapleton will replace Mary Colin Chisholm before heading to Grand Bank for the summer. *Afterimage* is packed with the talents of Petrina Bromley, Melanie Brooks, Phil Churchill, Melanie Caines, Colin Furlong, Christian Murray and Kevin Woolridge.

Keiley adds the additional talents involved, "The copper set was designed by Shawn Kerwin, with live electricity worked out by electricians Tom Voisey and Derm Power and Jamie Skidmore built the set. Costumes and their electrical wiring is by Marie Sharpe. Lighting is by Renate Pohl, with fire effects by Flora Planchat. Jonathan Monro designed the harps that are integrated into the set, and he wrote the music specifically for these unique (and incredible) instruments. Don Ellis engineered the sound." Additionally Kai Yueh Chen and Mark Denine are stage managing with Lynanne Sparrow as producer. Keiley added, "the original production had two assistant directors, Mike Worthman and Anita Rochon."

Artistic Fraud is hoping *Afterimage* will join the ranks of its other signature shows following its glowing debut in Toronto. *Fear of Flight* is now in its third year of touring and *Emile's Dream* is just coming off a provincial tour of its own, "with some more touring dates a definite



possibility," Chafe adds. "Right now we're focusing on this upcoming run. This was the first time we premiered our work outside the province, so we're stoked to be bringing the new and improved version of *Afterimage* back home."

Afterimage is amongst the first to stage in the recently renovated LSPU Hall and Chafe is thrilled; "The Hall is gorgeous. Every time Artistic Fraud builds a show, we do it with that theatre in mind. We find ourselves feeling most comfortable in theatre's that look and feel like the Hall, with that big steep audience seating. Such was the experience last year when we were at the Harbourfront Centre in Toronto with the premiere of *Afterimage*. We loved that theatre. It's just like the hall, we'd say, except they've got nice dressing rooms. And now the Hall has those too! So to be among the first new shows to find itself in the brand new hall, we couldn't be more happy."

Up next is a project called *Oil and Water*, about the Truxton disaster of 1942 in St. Lawrence and survivor Lanier Phillips. Chafe lures, "If you don't know this story, I'd encourage you to Google it. Or better yet, wait for the play. Lanier's story is incredible, and true. It's one we've wanted to tell for a long time. In June we head to Toronto to meet our composer, Andrew Craig. I will say the score will be an a capella blend of traditional Newfoundland ballads and African American gospel." *Afterimage* plays May 26 - 5 at 8pm with pay what you can matinee's on May 30 and June 6. Assigned seating ticket sale by calling 753-4531 or online at <http://www.rca.nf.ca>.



SOUNDS

JEFF BECK'S EMOTION & COMMOTION

ROCK LEGEND RETURNS WITH MOST SUCCESSFUL SOLO RECORD EVER

BY JOSHUA JAMIESON



There is a lot for Jeff Beck to be celebrating right now, as if his legendary career wasn't enough after 45 years. He's released *Emotion & Commotion*, his first recording in seven years - and if sales since release are any indication people think it was worth the wait.

Emotion & Commotion gives Beck his highest debut of his career, entering the Billboard

200 at number 11, with fans in Canada treating him to a number 9 debut.

The album is a ten track suite of sounds from Beck, half instrumental recordings of some familiar and some new songs. Beck explains what attracts him to each in the liner notes of the album which makes for an interesting read. His soft recording of *Somewhere Over The Rainbow* renews a classic. The first single from the record is *I Put A Spell On You* featuring Joss Stone, one of half the tracks on the album with vocals, is easily one of the best.

Imelda May is another guest on the album for a version of *Lilac Wine* that is particularly memorable. The two were also paired together for a Les Paul tribute at the most recent Grammy's.

Another favourite track is the second that Joss Stone lends her voice to called *There's No Other Me* which almost faces her signature voice off against Beck's electric guitar.



According to Rolling Stone, a 64 piece orchestra is utilized on a number of the tracks, though Beck will only take a 22 piece orchestra on the *Emotion & Commotion* tour. The cross-US tour will have Beck on the road until June 22, including stops at the New Orleans Jazz Festival, Bonnaroo Festival with Eric Clapton's Crossroads Festival in waiting for the grand finale.

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ART

DARK NIGHT OF THE UGLY STICK

ARTIST JONATHAN WATTON AND THE "SHED COLLECTIVE" EXPLORE A SHED AND A SPECIAL STICK
BY CHARISSA REEVES



"Man Lights Stove"

Dark Night of the Ugly Stick is an installation on display at Eastern Edge Gallery until June 12 featuring a scale replica of a typical rural Newfoundland shed filled with a number of tools, odds and ends and unfinished projects.

Keating, Kevin Keating, April Norman and John Puddicombe make up the "Shed Collective," the group of artists who contributed to the installation.

Watton said Scott, Dave, and he bugged their friends and family promising them untold riches and fame to come on board for the project. "There are so many talented people in this city and so often people are willing to just jump in and get involved in something interesting. Making a project like this happen relies on

the collaboration of a group of people. We have been really blessed with the talents of those who have helped out on this."

Though shooting is done, sound design and score are still being worked on, Watton said. From here the next goal for Dark Night of the Ugly Stick is festivals, he said. "First goal would be the Atlantic film festival this fall, fingers crossed."

A short film accompanies the shed with the central character being an old man living alone in a now abandoned community, perhaps resembling one of Newfoundland's resettled out port communities.

Jonathan Watton, producer and cinematographer for The Shed Collective said for him the project is about a diminishing way of life for individuals and communities who survived largely on their own. "For me it is my grandfather's generation. Both my grandfather's built many of the things they needed by hand and with the ingenuity and creativity born of generations who simply had to rely on their own to skill to fashion many of life's necessities. From their homes, their boats, to the cribs their children slept in."

The film invokes deep feelings of loneliness, sadness and loss. The old man, a puppet designed by Scott Keating, built and controlled by puppeteer Darka Erdilji, is incredibly compelling and human. The puppet is also on display within the shed.

The animated scenes outside of the shed at the beginning and end of the film are slightly eerie with the abandonment of the community the puppet lives in and has an almost otherworldly feel to it. Watton said Scott Keating, director and visual artist, created those scenes using Houdini software, from a 3D software company Keating currently works for in Toronto. "We shot the puppet on a green screen, Scott is both 'painting' and compositing him into the world he is creating. It is incredibly time consuming work, but it is starting to really take shape."

So far the project has been underway for about a year and a half. At the end of the film, after playing on his completed ugly stick, and looking around his lonely shed the main character collapses onto the floor along with the stick. As the audience realizes that the old man has expired the stick starts to beat again and he rises and walks out into a scene of the community which seems to be filled with new light and life. "It marks his moving on to the next world - whatever that may be, prompted by the song that his last creation (the ugly stick) and all his tools are making in the shed. They are sort of singing him to the next world. Letting him go too, I think. Allowing this man, the last remaining soul in this community, to move on. It is an elegy to a fading way of life, perhaps," Watton said.

Scott Keating and Dave Keating, writer, approached Watton and asked him to come on board for the project. These three, along with Erdilji, Peter Drysdale, Monique Maynard, Derrick Holmes, Gina Rae Hoyles, Blanche



"Man Looking At Bench"

David Bolduc (1945-2010)



Hill Station, oil on board, 32x24, 2009

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FILM

GUNLESS

STARRING PAUL GROSS, SIENNA GUILLORY AND TYLER MANE

BY TIM CONWAY

Runtime: 88 minutes
★ ★ 1/2

For some people, trouble follows them wherever they go, and for others, they bring it with them. In the latter category, meet the Montana Kid, one of the most sought-after outlaws in America.

When he flees his home country and crosses the border into Canada, he finds himself in the charming little frontier town of Barclay's Brush. He's hardly had a chance to sample the hospitality when the local blacksmith, Jack, runs afoul of him, prompting his natural reaction, the challenge of a gunfight.

In your typical romanticized tale of the Old West, the next event would play out in minutes, with the two men standing in the street, facing one another, ready to "slap leather." In this case, however, the matter is complicated by the fact that only one of them has a gun.

He's a dangerous criminal, but he's a man of honour who lives by a code, so he's willing to wait for Jack to procure a weapon. He figures that he'll have to wait until sundown, but is surprised to discover that scrounging up a sidearm in Barclay's Brush is next to impossible.

Fortune smiles on the Montana Kid, however, when a widow from a nearby farm offers to exchange her revolver for his assistance in erecting a windmill on her property. This small blessing is short-lived, however, when he finds that the pistol in question requires a fair amount of overdue maintenance.

All he wants is his crack at frontier justice, but the harder he tries to get it over with and move on, the more difficult it all becomes. It looks like he's trapped in Barclay's Brush.

To its credit, *Gunless* makes no effort to hide its Canadian heritage, and boldly puts itself out there at a time when multiplexes are gearing up for an onslaught of Hollywood "event" films.

Within a few weeks, cinemas with a dozen screens will probably be showing around six or seven titles, as these high-end features take up two or three theatres at a time. It doesn't look promising for a little Canadian production, made for less than a third of the marketing budget enjoyed by any of these behemoths, but you've gotta admire their moxie. Unfortunately, this brand of gutsiness isn't characteristic of the film itself.

Although a Canadian comic western offers the opportunity for an unsavoury pastime, criticizing the neighbours to the south, *Gunless* is a kinder, more gentle take on different, and partially overlapping sensibilities. Almost from the beginning, the audience knows where it's going and how it's getting there. There are few, if any, manoeuvres that could be interpreted as risky, or daring on the part of the film-makers, but there are a number of original touches throughout that freshen up what is primarily familiar material.

You can sense that there are intelligent folk behind the scenes, and perhaps the Montana's Kid's altercation with a group of Northwest Mounted Police officers is meant to reference current events, but the story never veers into territory that could compromise its efforts to appeal to as broad an audience as possible.

Generally solid performances bring the usual population of quirky townsfolk to life, in a motion picture that often feels like the pilot for a television series, and it wouldn't be surprising to discover one sprouting out of this in a year or two.

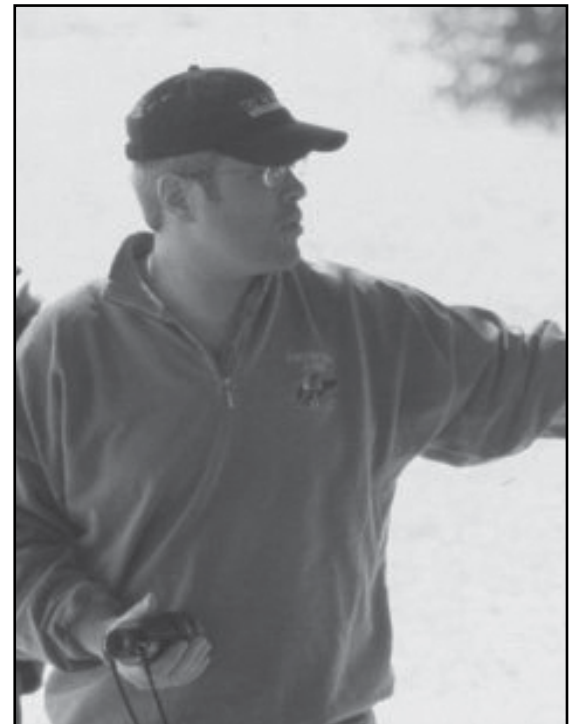


Paul Gross in *Gunless*

If nothing else, *Gunless* offers the reminder that for many, a trip to the movies isn't always a response to the hype of some overblown effort to exploit demographics. Sometimes, people are just looking to get out of the house for an hour and a half or so of entertainment, showing up at the multiplex with no agenda in mind beyond procuring a yaffle of popcorn. A textbook matinee movie, *Gunless* might not lure you to there, but if you wind up in the audience, you'll have a good time.



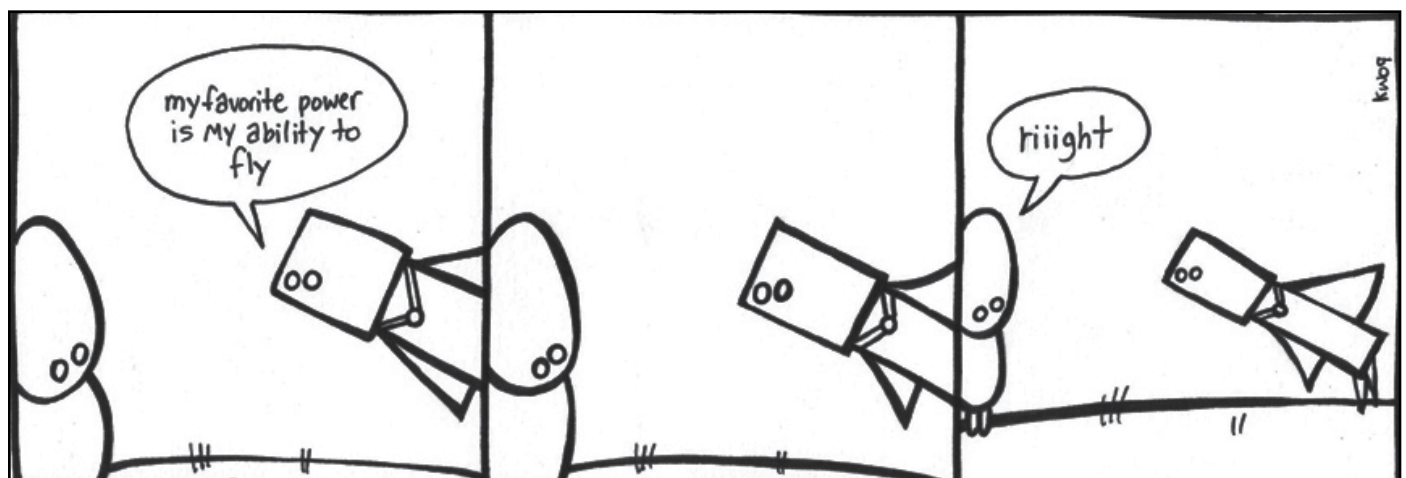
Sienna Guillory



Gunless Director, William Phillips

COMICS

the little world
by Kevin Woolidge



www.thelittleworld.net/blog

DATING

IT FINALLY HAPPENED...

TAKING A DOSE OF HER OWN MEDICINE, LOVE DIVA DOES A DATE!

BY TARA LEHMAN



You know how they say the plumber never takes care of his own plumbing or that the shoemakers children never have shoes? The same tends to apply to this Love Diva. It's so easy to get busy playing matchmaker and sometimes the Love Diva doesn't always pay the closest attention to her

own love life. When you're the one arranging blind dates, there's no one to ever arrange them for me!

Admittedly there's been a feeling of ripped off because blind dates are an adventure no matter how they turn out, so why should this single gal miss out? It finally happened though, and it was not at all what could have been expected.

When one envisions a blind date it's typically going for a cup of coffee or a drink, right? Since nothing seems

to go the 'normal' way in life, destiny had my blind date flying in from another province. Yes, serious.

Wait, it gets better. Not only did he pay for the flight and two day hotel tab, he agreed to come without knowing my appearance. Even stranger - we first spoke, agreed to meet each other and organized all of this via text message - within 30 minutes.

Texting is never advisable as a way to communicate when asking someone on a date, however nothing about this situation was usual and as it turns out, the text messaging is part of what was so fabulous about how this whole thing played out. We hinged everything on the faith we had in our mutual 'matchmaker' friend - as you should if someone is going out of their way to play cupid for you.

Normally my life wouldn't be laid out for all to see in the column. However, this seamlessly plays into one of the purposes for this column which is to encourage people to take chances, so there's no harm in telling my tale.



Plus, everyone asks why the Love Diva of all people is single, but I'm no different than anyone - you simply need to shed your qualms for things like blind dates because you are missing out on some fun. Embrace an adventure and, if anything, you'll have a good story to tell. That being said, this is where the story of my blind date must end, where my single status will surely now be up for debate - signing off by saying dates arranged by yours truly will not typically involve flying you to different destinations!

Tara runs D8 Night, arranging speed dating events, blind dates, online dating consultations and more. Dial 740-3733, Facebook Group: D8 Night or www.lovediva.ca

ART

EASTERN EDGE AND ST. JOHN'S PLAY HOST FOR ARTISTS

WIDE ARRAY OF ARTISTS AND DISCIPLINES CONVERGE TO PROMOTE EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS

BY DEBBY WINTERS



Are you an artist? Or perhaps you are more of an art aficionado? Do you enjoy viewing different mediums and how they're used to express and idea

or thought? Then you may just want to spend some of your time taking in the upcoming Atlantic Provinces Art Gallery Association (APAGA) Conference.

From May 12 to 14 the city of St. John's will become home to numerous APAGA delegates from the Atlantic provinces who will meet, discuss and take part in workshops that highlight current challenges to artists, galleries and artist-run centres in Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

APAGA is an alliance of public and university art galleries as well as artist-run centres whose members work together to further communication between each other and advance the presence of Atlantic art on the national scene.

APAGA is made up of gallery directors, curators and arts administrators (often artists themselves) from the region, who come together once a year to share ideas. This year The Rooms Provincial Art Gallery and Eastern Edge Artist Run Centre will host the conference events.

APAGA was originally incorporated as a non-profit society in 1975 by its five founding members: Mary Sparling, Mount Saint Vincent University Art Gallery; Bernard Riordon, Nova Scotia Museum of Fine Arts

(now the Art Gallery of Nova Scotia); Bruce Ferguson, Dalhousie University Art Gallery; Allan Harding MacKay, Anna Leonowens Gallery, Nova Scotia College of Art and Design; and Robert Dietz, Saint Mary's University Art Gallery.

APAGA is an alliance of art galleries and artist-run centres whose members have worked together for over 33 years to promote high standards of excellence as well as uniform methods in the care and presentation of works of art.

The association encourages the closest possible cooperation among art galleries, museums and artists to assist in the development of visual art centres throughout the Atlantic provinces. APAGA works in close cooperation between itself and other art galleries and museums not only in Canada but also elsewhere. The association serves as an advisory body in matters of professional interest.

The upcoming APAGA conference will be a great opportunity to meet people from the Atlantic region's art galleries and artist-run centres, and to share our province's rich culture with them.

The public, local artists and art enthusiasts are invited to join APAGA delegates at some of the

conferences events. On Wednesday May 12 from 5 to 7pm you can meet and greet with local artists, cultural workers and friends of the gallery during the Reception for APAGA 2010 hosted at the Eastern Edge Gallery located at 72 Harbour Drive.

Take part in an Open Tour of St. John's downtown visual arts hotspots, at your own pace during the May Fly Around Gallery Tour on Tuesday, May 13 from 2 to 5pm. Those who wish to have company can begin by meeting together at 2pm at Eastern Edge.

On Friday, May 14 at 7:30pm you can attend the Opening Reception of Edward Burtynsky's Oil at The Rooms, Provincial Art Gallery, which is located at 9 Bonaventure Avenue.

More information can be found online at the following links: APAGA - <http://www.apaga.ca>; The Rooms Provincial Art Gallery - <http://www.therooms.ca>; Eastern Edge Gallery - <http://www.easternedge.ca>; and Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Gallery - <http://www2.swgc.mun.ca/artgallery>.



LISTINGS

WHAT'S ON!

CHECK OUR LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, May 14

CBTGs: Mark Bragg & The Butchers
 Greensleeves: Damian Follett, Chris Ryan & Chad Murphy
 Junctions: MetalFest
 Liquid: Dr. Drake
 MUN Reid Theatre: Alice in Wonderland
 O'Reilly's: Greeley's Reel
 The Fat Cat: Quiet Elephant, The Mudflowers, The Subtitles
 The Martini Bar: Bump
 The Rose and Thistle: Ron Hynes Band
 Spin: Funktastic Friday w/Leo van Ulden & Kid Cue
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 Turkey Joe's: Filthy Fridays with DJ JayCee
 Yuk Yuk's: Paul Haywood

SATURDAY, May 15

Greensleeves: Chris Ryan & Chad Murphy
 Lottie's Place: Jeff Lewis
 MUN Reid Theatre: Alice in Wonderland
 Shamrock City Pub: Connemara
 Spin: Mike the Tailor
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 The Rose and Thistle: Ron Hynes Band
 Turkey Joe's: Sexual Saturdays with DJ JayCee
 Yuk Yuk's: Paul Haywood

SUNDAY, May 16

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson
 Mile One: Home Show 2010
 O'Reilly's: Traditional Open Session w/ Alan Byrne
 Shamrock City Pub: Arthur & Con O'Brien
 Turkey Joe's: Old School Sunday Ladies Night with DJ Lex

MONDAY, May 17

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 Grumpy Stump: Open Mic
 Loft 709: Martini Monday's w/DJ Diamond
 O'Reilly's: Larry Foley and Patrick Moran
 Shamrock City Pub: Anthony MacDonald & Ronnie Power
 Turkey Joe's: Manic Mondays: Happy Hour All Night

TUESDAY, May 18

Auntie Crae's: (Noon, free) Auntie Crae's Band
 Bella Vista: (8:30PM, \$5) Sizzlin Salsa Tuesdays
 Greensleeves: Damian Follett

Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 The Martini Bar: The Gambin Brothers
 Shamrock City Pub: Connemara
 Turkey Joe's: Two for Tuesdays w/Carl Peters & Dave White

WEDNESDAY, May 19

Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Greensleeves: Kronik
 Junctions: Wild Wednesdays w/Dr Drake, DJ Fox
 The Fat Cat: Chris Kriby (acoustic)
 The Rock House: (8:30PM, \$5) Salsa On the Rock weekly salsa dancing
 The Ship: Folk Night
 Shamrock City Pub: The Navigators
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 Turkey Joe's: Wacky Wednesday's w/ Dave White

THURSDAY, May 20

Greensleeves: Unlisted
 Liquid: Open Decks
 Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson & Arthur O'Brien
 O'Reilly's: Acoustic Punters
 The Dock: Stixx and Stones
 The Martini Bar: DJ Mark Power
 Shamrock City Pub: Middle Tickle
 Turkey Joe's: Thirsty Thursdays with DJ JayCee
 Yuk Yuk's: Pro/Am Comedy Slam

FRIDAY, May 21

Greensleeves: Des Gambin, Justin Fancy, Leanne Kean & Steve Oakley
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 Turkey Joe's: Filthy Fridays with DJ JayCee
 Yuk Yuk's: John Sheehan

SATURDAY, May 22

Greensleeves: Justin Fancy, Leanne Kean & Steve Oakley
 Loft 709: Dance League Saturday w/ DJ NuRock
 Spin: Seamless Saturday w/Mike the Tailor
 Stanley's: (10PM) Karaoke
 Turkey Joe's: Sexual Saturdays with DJ JayCee
 Yuk Yuk's: John Sheehan

SUNDAY, May 23

Greensleeves: Greg Bolger
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson
 O'Reilly's: Traditional Open Session w/ Alan Byrne
 Shamrock City Pub: Arthur & Con O'Brien
 Turkey Joe's: Old School Sunday Ladies Night with DJ Lex

MONDAY, May 24

Grumpy Stump: Open Mic
 Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 O'Reilly's: Larry Foley & Patrick Moran
 Shamrock City Pub: Anthony MacDonald & Ronnie Power
 Turkey Joe's: Manic Mondays - Happy Hour All Night

TUESDAY, May 25

Auntie Crae's: (Noon, free) Auntie Crae's Band
 Bella Vista: (8:30PM, \$5) Sizzlin Salsa Tuesdays
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Greensleeves: Damian Follett
 The Martini Bar: The Gambin Brothers
 Shamrock City Pub: Connemara
 Turkey Joe's: Two for Tuesdays - "2 for 1" w/Carl Peters & Dave White

WEDNESDAY, May 26

Greensleeves: Kronik
 Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
 Junctions: Wild Wednesdays w/Dr Drake, DJ Fox
 O'Reilly's: The Bishops
 The Martini Bar: Acoustic Trio Wednesday with Stixx and Stones
 The Ship: Folk Night
 Shamrock City Pub: The Navigators
 Stanley's: Karaoke
 Turkey Joe's: (10PM) Wacky Wednesdays w/ Dave White

THURSDAY, May 27

Liquid: Open Decks
 Greensleeves: Unlisted
 O'Reilly's: Acoustic Punters
 The Dock: Stixx and Stones
 The Martini Bar: DJ Mark Power
 Shamrock City Pub: Middle Tickle
 Turkey Joe's: Thirsty Thursdays with DJ JayCee
 Yuk Yuk's: Pro/Am Comedy Slam

What To Do? (For Artists)

Short Sighted - Call for Submissions: The Rooms, 1 min. video shorts, deadline: Aug 6, 4pm
 Female accompanist/singer wanted for writing/performing project gtr. &/or piano abilities, good pitch, harmony sense a must lyric writing also an asset. Email aewpike@hotmail.com
 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

GALLERY LISTINGS

The Craft Council Gallery (Devon House, Duckworth Street; www.craftcouncil.nl.ca)
 Dust by Jonathan O'Dea (Leyton Gallery, Clift-Baird's Lane, May 1-23) Call 722-7177 or www.theleytongallery.com for info.
 The Rooms: (www.therooms.ca Wednesdays 6pm-9pm & first Saturday/month, Nov-May are Free, 9 Bonaventure Ave. 757-8000)

SPECIAL EVENTS LISTINGS

Catherine Safer reads from *Bishop's Road* (AC Hunter Library, May 19, 7pm) Sponsored by the St. John's Library Board.
 Heritage Fair Exhibit (Railway Coastal Museum, May 15-16, 2-5pm) Email info@railwaycoastalmuseum.ca or call 724-5929 for info.
 Workshop: Newfoundland Conifers (MUN Botanical Garden, May 15, 9:30am) Instructor: Dr. Wilf Nicholls, Garden Director - With all due respect to our anthem, our hills are actually spruce and fir-clad. But, can you tell the difference between a spruce and a fir? What about the difference between a black or white spruce? Dress for both classroom and the trails. If you have a small hand lens, then bring that too. Space is limited. For info call 737-8590.
 Artistic Fraud presents: AfterImage (LSPU Hall, May 26 - 30 / June 1 - 5, 8pm. Pay what you can matinees on Sunday May 30 and June 6 at 2pm.) Assigned seating ticket sales on now! Tickets are \$27. For tickets call 753-4531 or book online at www.rca.nf.ca For information check out www.artisticfraud.com.
 10th East Coast Trail Tely Hike (Justina Centre, June 6, 8am) International Trails Day. Enjoy refreshments, music and a choice of 3 great hikes led by our volunteers. Check www.eastcoasttrail.com or call 738 4453 for details.
 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: Yellowbellys_SJ_GAA_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

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: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin) is celebrated on Sundays, 5:15 PM at St. Pius X Church, Smithville Cres. Latin-English Missals and resources provided. For info or a free Visitor's Guide to the Latin Mass call Una Voce 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 800-563-5599

ThyCa Newfoundland and Labrador's first Thyroid Cancer Information Day for survivors, family members and friends is scheduled for May 29, 2010. Monthly meetings 4th Sat. every month, 10:30 - noon, Conference Room "C" Eastern Health Administrative Offices 306 Waterford Bridge Rd. Go to: http://www.thyca.org/sg/nf-lab.htm for info.



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MY MESSY BEDROOM

BUMMER

ONE SERIOUS BUTT PLUG, TALK ABOUT CEMENTING YOUR RELATIONSHIP

BY JOSEY VOGLES

When administering a concrete enema, at what point does it dawn on you and your boyfriend that concrete hardens. Obviously, the 20-year-old guy who showed up in the emergency room with a concrete cast of the inside of his rectum back in 1987 was a little slow in realizing this. According to Dr. Peter J. Stephens and Dr. Mark L. Taff, who documented this case in the *American Journal of Forensic Medicine and Pathology* [8(2):179-182, 1987], this patient “had used an enema containing a concrete mix which became impacted and required surgical removal.” The Drs. reported that “upon further questioning, the patient said that approximately 4 hours earlier he and his boyfriend had been ‘fooling around.’ After stirring a batch of concrete mix, the patient laid on his back with his feet against the wall at a 45-degree angle while his boyfriend poured the mixture through a funnel into his rectum. After the concrete mass hardened, it became so painful that he sought medical care.”

Luckily it was nothing that some anesthesia, anal dilation and, insertion of a couple of catheters and some suction couldn't fix. The surgery resulted in the birth of a half-pound hunk of concrete in the shape of the inside of this guy's rectum. Let's just say I'm glad I wasn't eating when I discovered the TheWell.com's butt page <http://www.well.com/user/cynsa/newbutt.html>.

Now, being open to a lot of things there is little that can shock me after years of writing about everything from people who like animals to dildos that allow me to watch on TV, but admittedly, there is still a few surprises from the

things people are willing to shove inside themselves in the name of sexual adventure. Though I'm not sure if it's shock or sheer incredulity at the inventiveness of some people.

Bottles and jars top the list with 32 cases of bottle butt recorded. Getting food items like bananas, cucumbers, carrots and zucchinis stuck up your butt makes some sense supposedly, but an apple? Or an onion? Shoving a light bulb up your bum just seems like asking for trouble as does a glass rod, a beer glass or any of the other generally highly breakable glass items people have apparently tried.

Not surprisingly, the second most popular items on the things-lost-up-people's bums list are dildos and vibrators but what do you do if you don't have a dildo handy? Why use a curling iron of course. According to Dr. Michael Leviton, the doctor who provided the x-ray of this case, the patient said he picked up a woman in a bar and they were going at it when she reached over to her nightstand, picked up something, and inserted it. He apparently had no idea what it was. The problem with the guy's story, says the good doctor, is that it was one in the afternoon on a weekday when he came in. “No one can pick up a girl that fast. And he sure wasn't walking around with that thing from the night before,” said Leviton.

Same goes for the guy who claimed he “slipped in the shower” and ended up with a shampoo bottle lodged in his butt or the guy who was trying to get a good look up his bum with a flashlight except that the flashlight had no batteries in it and was facing the wrong way.



What kind of story do you come up with to explain why you ended up with a tobacco pouch or a magazine in your bum? Or a frozen fish? You could just tell the truth, as the frozen fish man did. According to the San Francisco paramedic who answered the call, the guy admitted he'd done something really stupid. It seems unimaginable to begin to think about how you fit a whole toolbox in your bum. Okay, it's a clever way to smuggle in saws and other tools to help you escape if you're a convict, as was the guy documented in this particular case, but really...those sharp metal corners. Ow!

On the other hand, a peanut just seems silly: All the embarrassment without any of the bum stretching pleasure. And you might want to think twice next time you flip your eggs. You don't know where that spatula's been, or that spoon, tin cup, ice pick, knife sharpener, mortar pestle or any other number of kitchen utensils people have apparently given a shot.

Balls are popular bum insertion items it seems, be it a baseball, a tennis ball or a pool cue ball. In fact, apparently the cemented boy was a ball player too. When they chipped a layer of concrete off the upper part of the ass stone they found a plastic ping-pong ball.

Hopefully it would be painfully obvious but please, promise you won't try any of this at home.

\$3 BILL

YOU AND I

KAISER: I USE WORDS TO TRY TO INFLUENCE OPINIONS OF OTHERS

BY RICHARD BURNETT

Celebrated American author Charles Kaiser is a kindred spirit, while others believe Charles and those like myself are just two loudmouth sonabitches. “A person who is HIV-positive has no more right to unprotected intercourse than he has the right to put a bullet through another person's head,” Charles was quoted in an August 2005 POZ magazine cover story about “anti-PWA rhetoric spewed from HIV-negative gay journalists.” They quoted me too, from a colourful tirade in this column. Predictably, POZ vilified us. “Hearing hate speech from so close to home stunned many HIVers,” POZ fumed. In a letter to POZ, Kaiser noted, “The fact that I have publicly opposed unsafe sex for 20 years does not make me an opponent of people with HIV. It makes me an opponent of spreading this disease.” In fact, because he lost so many close friends to AIDS, Kaiser wrote his Lambda Award-winning *New York Times* bestselling book *The Gay Metropolis*, which explores gay life in America since 1940 and is now available with a new afterword in a new Grove Press paperback edition. “I had to do something,” says Charles. “I had to bear witness.”

Kaiser – former media editor for *Newsweek*; member of the *The New York Times* metro staff for a decade; reporter for *The Wall Street Journal*; and one-time journalism prof at Columbia and Princeton – was 18 when he read about Stonewall in 1969. “I had no idea it'd happened,” he recalls. “It was a non-event, seven paragraphs in *The Times*!” That “non-event” changed the world that Kaiser, now 58, so eloquently writes up in *Gay Metropolis*, featuring historical notes, stories and anecdotes about everybody from Judy Garland and Alec Baldwin (a flirtatious waiter at Studio 54)

to *Will & Grace* and Frank Kameny – now 82 and the man Kaiser calls “the most important person in the history of the [U.S.] gay civil rights movement. Without any question the most pivotal person,” Charles insists. “He's responsible for the rebirth of the Mattachine Society in 1962-63, and with others created the strategy that in 1973 got the American Psychiatric Association to remove homosexuality from its list of psychiatric disorders.”

Inviting Kameny to the Whitehouse on Stonewall's 40th anniversary was a symbolic move by Barack Obama. \$3 Bill has long chastised Obama for being all-talk, little-action on gay civil rights. On Facebook, Kaiser quotes Michelle Obama saying last year, “We are only here because of those who marched and bled and died, from Selma to Stonewall, in the pursuit of a more perfect union.” So why doesn't Obama pull an LBJ and – knowing he's also on the right side of history – come to the defense of gay civil rights? “Obama says, ‘By the end of my first term I will have done everything you want me to,’” explains Kaiser, who now analyzes the media in his Full Court Press column at www.hillmanfoundation.org. “If that's true, he's holding off so he doesn't jeopardize healthcare. We'll see.”

Kaiser also predicts the death of most American newspapers within the next decade. “It's very depressing because this is the world I grew up in and newspapers [remain] pertinent to the functioning of our democracy,” Charles says. “Without reporters covering them, corruption at every level of government will explode.” Kaiser continues, “I [also] think the blogosphere is incredibly



important but they [too] are incredibly dependent on newspapers. The blogosphere is no replacement for newspapers, not yet.”

Kaiser believes mainstream media is, despite the explosion of gay-themed news stories, doing a terrible job covering gay issues. That's why he was a founder and former president of the New York chapter of the Washington, DC-based National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association. Though the NLGJA can sometimes be as dull as a fruitless Carmen Miranda, the organization still has a role. “Just look at [the U.S. military's] Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy,” Kaiser says. “The gay intelligentsia figured out in April [2009] that Obama could rescind DADT by executive order and that story was not reported anywhere by the mainstream press!”

But French-speaking Kaiser also has stories of his years growing up in Washington, DC, then Dakar and London as the son of a US diplomat. “I had my first gay experience in Avignon at the age 19,” Charles says. “I don't remember his name but it was a fantastic experience! Still, I was struggling afterwards. I remember thinking as I was walking out of his place, ‘I got that out of my system, now I can go back to girls!’” That he didn't, and for holding a mirror up at our own lives instead, we thank you, Charles.

SNAPS!

SNAPPED AROUND ST. JOHN'S

CAUGHT AT MILE ONE AND "215"

PHOTOGRAPHER: DARRYL COUCH



Ladies night!



Coupla bros!



Cute Smile



Out for a night to remember!

Name: Heather Evans

Diagnosis: Psoriasis

Best Days: Worries that the boys will stare

Worst Days: Worries that they never will

Days left to wait for
a specialist appointment...

210



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