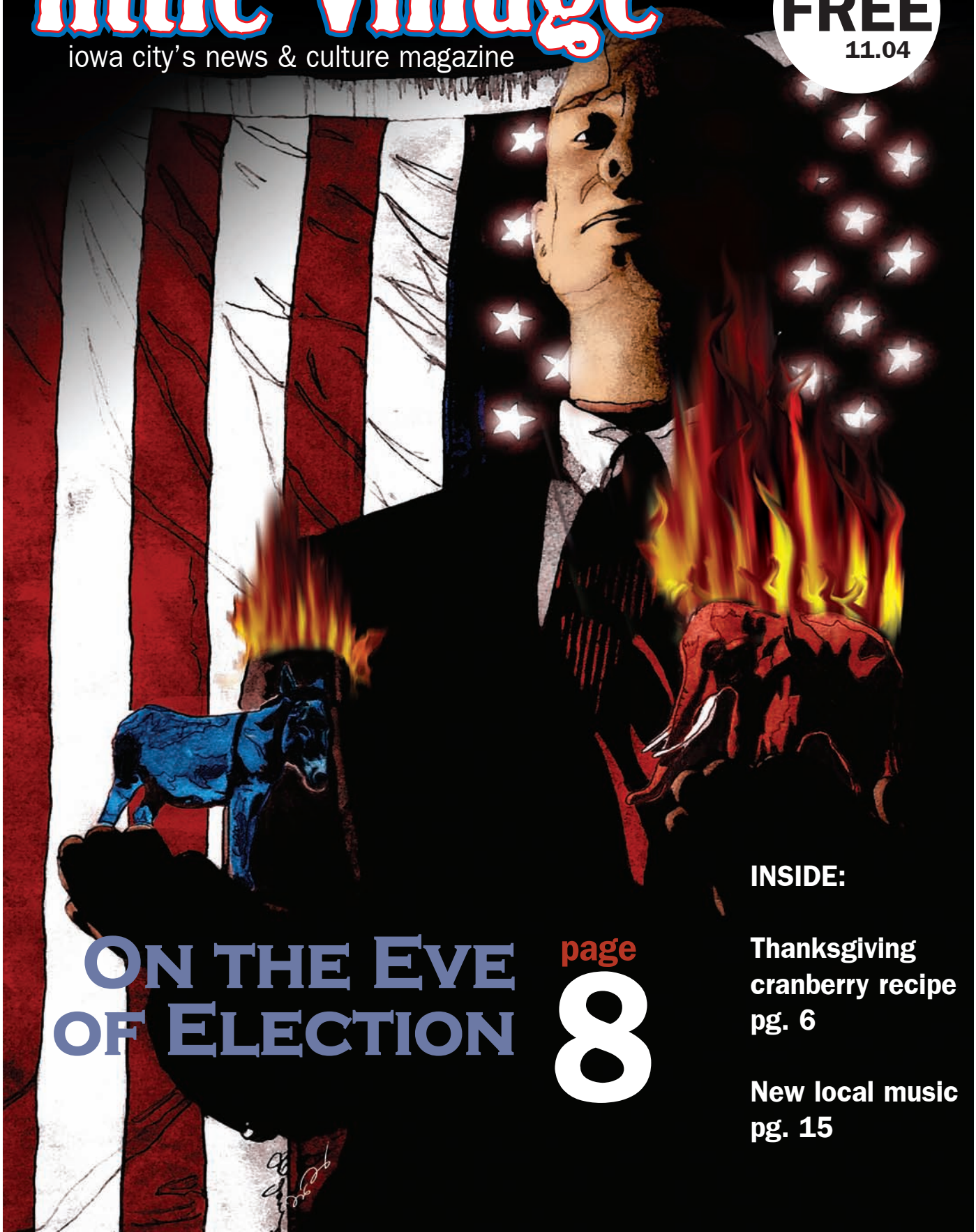


little village

iowa city's news & culture magazine

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ON THE EYE OF ELECTION

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letters

Our 'New Pearl Harbor'

GW Bush exposed his real motives in the blueprint of this Bush administration, the once-covert 2000 Project for a New American Century (PNAC) that claimed in September, 2000, a year before 9/11, that we needed a "new Pearl Harbor" for global military "supremacy" (PNAC, 2000). "New Pearl Harbor"? "Supremacy"? For profit? At all costs? For "unending war" for profit?

GW Bush's Paul Wolfowitz wrote the 2000 PNAC, Dick Cheney and Donald Rumsfeld signed it, exposing their real motives for profit, to use 9/11 as an excuse to invade Afghanistan, Iraq and other nations in "unending wars" for profit, to crush other nations with negative force that challenge the stated goal of the 2000 PNAC, global military "supremacy" of the United States (PNAC, 2000). For oil? Ripping apart the fragile web for all life for cash?

Urgent Alert: Will this secretive Bush administration try to cause another "terrorist attack" to a) blame the Democrats, to b) cancel the election of November, 2004, to c) cause martial law to nullify the US Constitution and to d) cause a "new Pearl Harbor" to cause war for private profit of some secretive few?

Does private profit justify all? No.

Stand up, speak out. Dig beyond the obvious. Vote, if it's not too late.

— Holly M. Berkowitz
Iowa City

I have a confession...

It's time I confess to my sins during the Vietnam war. It's time because Sinclair is showing its attack on John Kerry for supposedly betraying our soldiers during the Vietnam war.

My confession? That I was not as brave as John Kerry. In 1967, I was supporting my small family in Heidelberg, Germany working for a contractor to the US Army in Europe. When soldiers who had served in Viet Nam started telling me about what they had done to the Vietnamese, I was slow to react, very afraid for my job. Not until a soldier finally showed me the ring he wore, made from the skull of a Viet Cong, and told me detailed stories of our soldiers wearing necklaces of ears, did I finally act.

What did I do? I began to join demonstrations against the war, against my employer, against my country, in a foreign nation while we were at war. I felt scared, miserable, yes, treasonous. But unlike John Kerry, I did not go public, did not reveal my name, and in fact donned a disguise during the protests. I have always been ashamed of my own behavior, both for demonstrating and for doing it in such a cowardly way. I have chosen not to judge the behavior of the soldiers who confided in me. Will they start to come forward now and confess? I doubt that. I wouldn't if I were they. But then again, I'm not as brave as John Kerry.

— Roberta Till-Retz
Iowa City

PS. I have a photo of me in my "disguise." Funny, I'm still scared of repercussions from telling this!

little village

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EDITOR | Todd Kimm

PRODUCTION MANAGER | Andrew Sherburne

BILLING/OFFICE ADMINISTRATION | Diane Wass

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS | Steve Horowitz

Suke Cody

CONTRIBUTORS | E.C. Fish, Thomas Dean

Kurt Michael Friese,

Kent Williams,

Ruby's Ladies, Dr. Star

PHOTOS | Jay Diers

P.O. Box 736

Iowa City | Iowa | 52244

319 | 325 | 1238

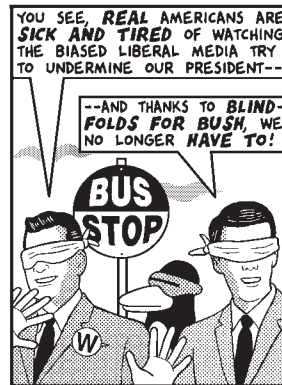
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



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Better luck next time...

Due to an unfortunate accident of deadline timing, the column you are reading is a pre-election artifact, written in the cold final days of October in the face of a dead heat presidential race by a commentator whose crystal ball lies cracked and broken at the bottom of his waste basket. As such, the headline refers not to the outcome of that election, but to the campaign that preceded it. The race for the presidency in 2004 has been the longest, most expensive, most contentious campaign in our country's history.



**GO
FISH**

E.C. FISH

It has also been one long, extended slap in the face to the ideals of representative democracy. Regardless of result, any honest analysis of the campaign itself leads inevitably to the conclusion that ours is a broken political culture, and that the concept of informed consent of the governed that underlies our system has been systematically trivialized to the point of irrelevance.

If there is one cultural keynote moment on the subject of informed consent—one universally recognized statement on the subject—that moment comes during the climactic scene of the '90s military courtroom drama *A Few Good Men*, wherein the military commander played by Jack Nicholson responds to the demand of earnest young JAG Tom Cruise for “the truth” by bellowing, “You can’t handle the truth!” While the power of Nicholson’s performance (especially as compared to the bare adequacy of Cruise’s) has etched this line into the national consciousness, it should be remembered that, strictly speaking, Nicholson was the villain of the piece. Nonetheless, it would appear that in contemporary political culture the emphasis has been placed not on our abil-

ity to handle the truth, but on the powers-that-be handling our perception of it.

One big reason for the marginalizing of informed consent in the 2004 campaign might be the fact that the campaign follows directly the campaign of 2000, the inevitable lesson of which was that, under our electoral college system, consent, informed or otherwise, is not strictly necessary for a candidate to rise to power. The historical fact of the 2000 election was

As damaging as 2000 was to the concept of consent, the way the topic has been handled in the course of this election provides an excellent example of the state of the notion that consent be informed.

that the “winner” (as determined by the courts) was consented to by half a million fewer voters than the “loser,” a result that was in all likelihood determined by the active suppression of minority voters by the Florida state government. As a result, the right to vote, and the right to have that vote count for something, were shown to be niceties rather than necessities, secondary to the exercise of power.

As damaging as 2000 was to the concept of consent, the way the topic has been handled in the course of this election provides an excellent example of the state of the notion that consent be informed. Despite what the record shows, and what we all know about the 2000 result, newspaper commentators, television talking heads and campaign representatives have “handled the truth” of 2000 largely by ignoring it, presenting instead a narrative wherein George W. Bush ran a “winning campaign” in 2000 and Florida constituted a “battleground state” because the results (ignoring completely the aforementioned evidence of manipulation) were “so close” last time.

Indeed, whatever the topic, the people that we count on to relay the information we need to cast an informed ballot have, in the course of this campaign season, proven themselves to be woefully inadequate to the function, due largely to their commitment to other agendas. This

complaint extends not only to the media (who seem to have defined the fatuous repetition of whatever charges are made by those in power with no reference to the veracity of those charges as “reporting the news”) and the Republicans (who have refined the exploitation of that tendency within the media to a fine science), but also to the Democrats (who have all but conceded the defining of the American agenda to their opponents). Despite the

fact that they were campaigning against an administration that gave them ample factual ammunition, the Democrats in 2004 instead embarked on the fool’s errand of attempting to beat the Republicans at the perception game, allowing the preset Republican agenda to determine the content of the campaign, from the embarrassing militarism of the Democratic national convention on out.

Certainly, the complaint that political campaigns fail to focus on the issues is an old and oft repeated one. That our entire political culture, from the candidates to the commentators to the people in the streets, could conduct themselves as if the campaign were occurring in a mythical never land where perception trumps reality every time, however, is relatively new, a triumph of a kind of professional, consultant-driven political postmodernism that views issues of informed consent, political legitimacy and public accountability as mere stumbling blocks to the exercise of government power. Whatever the result of this election, its legacy is this: For all intents and purposes, the role of the American people in the political process has been downgraded from active citizens to passive consumers. The next four years should offer us some valuable lessons on the subject of what we’re buying, provided anyone’s willing to tell us about it. **IV**

November opening

It's November. The crops are in, lawns are dormant. The storm windows are up, the screens down. Gloomy gray clouds slow us down, hold us down. It's time to hunker down and wait it out until spring. Things are closing in and closing down.

Although this may be a typical vision of November, *my* eyes are seeing something different. While November is in many ways a time of closing, it is also a wondrous time of opening.

The green beauty of summer leaves and the multihued splendor of autumn leaves have fallen away. But the trees have opened to us the vision of their intricate maze of branches and twigs, strong and sturdy as well as fragile and delicate. The Byzantine geography of limbs and fingers cohere to a lovely whole. These branches and twigs, in November, are now open to receive the snow that will limn their wandering patterns in stark gray, brown and white.

As bare trees open their branches to our sight, they also open to us larger vistas beyond and through them. The fingers of creeks scored through the gentle hills and swales of Iowa come into relief after being hidden by foliage for months. The bare brown earth of harvested fields lies still to the horizon, dried tan detritus of cornstalks scattered across their surfaces. The lost

foliage of November also opens to us, as we drive north on Prairie du Chien Road or North Dubuque Road, for example, the vistas of sprawl, the mad unribboning of development, the endless growth of cul de sacs, three-car garages and trophy homes. November opens to us the realities behind threatened farmland, the water table and wild places.

November opens the flyways, the migratory climax. Winged visitors from faraway places, going to faraway places, connect us here in the middle land to the strands of the earth web north and south of us. A sight that thrills me almost more than any other is the undulating V-formation of Canada geese languidly crossing a gray sky above the rolling brown plain below, a distant honking cutting through sharp, cold air.

Here in town, in our central city, the festivals have packed it in, the restaurant owners have secreted away their sidewalk café tables, the municipal workers have turned off the fountain, the lunch crowd has abandoned the pedestrian mall benches. But

In our homes, November opens the hearth. At my house, we have made sure the chimney is clear, a clean throat to carry the smoke of fireplace blazes upward. Soon special evenings at home will be warmed by the elemental crackling of yellow and orange, my son and daughter peering with fascination into the hissing flames as warmth gradually surrounds us.

Throughout the country, November opens to us the promises of democracy and the possibilities for change. As I write this, the election has not yet occurred. As you read this, I hope that our nation has found and secured the wisdom to lead ourselves out of the darkness of recent years. No matter what has happened, November will come again. The ongoing renewal of democratic choice will continue to open to us opportunities for reform, justice and new vision in all the halls of leadership, from our own Washington Street to Washington, D.C.

If we remain open—open in our minds, our hearts, our visions, our perspectives—the world is a constant unfolding of beauty

While November is in many ways a time of closing, it is also a wondrous time of opening.

November opens to us the quiet geometry of our community plaza. The straight sight lines from the jazz sculpture down to the gleaming architecture of the new public library let us take in the symbolic wholeness of our community's cultural riches. The improvisational dance of dry leaves being blown across the brick by sharp winds speaks its own special, lonely beauty we can never get in the heat of summer.

and possibility. If November is a time of closing, it is only because we make it so. If November is a time of opening, it is because we are people who greet the world with open arms. November reveals our failures and possibilities as a people, exposes splendor in washes of gray and brown, and encourages us to find within ourselves warmth and light in a time of cold and dark. Welcome, November. **lv**



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it's about the
FOOD

Chef Kurt
Michael
Friese

November is the time for my favorite holiday. It's a time for families to bring in the harvest of another hard year and count the blessings of the bounty. Thanksgiving is a day set aside for gathering around the table with wonderful, seasonal food and the people we love.

We Americans are fond of designating such days.

We have one to honor our fallen veterans, one during which we acknowledge that we are (or wish we were) in love with someone, another to note the fact that the labor movement invented the weekend, and still another to jog our memories that there was once an active civil rights movement in this country. In and of themselves, these are all noble pursuits, worthy memorials to important people and moments in our national narrative. Sadly, the law of unintended consequences dictates that we will then find ourselves ignoring these important aspects of our culture and history during the other 364 days of the year.

Happily though, Thanksgiving hasn't fallen victim to the same degree of crass

commercialization that has mangled the modern idea of Christmas since the first "bah humbug" was uttered. There is some of that, no doubt. Witness the Butterball hotline, the Detroit Lions game, the Macy's parade and the so-called biggest shopping day of the year to announce, "Gentlemen, start your wallets!" Still in all, the day continues to be about family and food, the two most important things in life.

This has been an especially tough year in my family. I have witnessed too many of my friends and family suffer rejection, illness and loss. My country, which I also love dearly, has squandered the good will of the world and seems bent on fighting symptoms rather than causes. Still in all, as this year's day of thanks approaches and I begin my plans for the feast, I cannot help but dwell on all the marvelous things in my life for which I am so grateful.

First and foremost, I am blessed with a lovely wife and two brilliant children, each of whom is far more than I could ever deserve. I have broken the stereotype and love my mother-in-law dearly as well. I have a successful career (thanks in part to you, dear reader), and my little corner of the world, at least, is at peace. This is why I say that the most important ingredient in any dish is love. If I had none of these blessings, my food would lack life and be of use to no one. The freshest meat and the finest spices will not avail the passionless cook.

Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "To laugh often and much, to win the respect of in-

telligent people and the affection of children, to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends, to appreciate beauty, to find the best in others, to leave the world a little bit better, whether by a healthy child or a garden patch, to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived. This is to have succeeded!"

As you prepare your Thanksgiving table, cook with the love that is rekindled when you realize just how grateful you truly are to have accomplished even one of the things Emerson listed as the ingredients for success.

To help you along, here is my grandmother's recipe for cranberry sauce (no, it does not slide out of a can). Grandma was famous in our family for writing out recipes that began with things like, "Take a bottle of cream..." without any indication, for those of us who grew up in the post-milkman era, what the size of a "bottle" might be. And so here, in her own words, is my Grandma Friese's recipe for "Whole Cranberries":

1 cup water, 1 cup Port wine, 1 cup sugar, 2 cinnamon sticks, lemon rind, all together to a boil for about 10 minutes.

Then add 1 lb. whole cranberries. Cook slowly so berries do not burst too much. After mixture looks about right, add one more cup of wine and let cool.

That's the whole thing. She used to make it way ahead of time and let it ferment; it had quite a kick. **lv**

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— Phil Hey, English Professor, Briar Cliff University, talking about the novel "The Truth"

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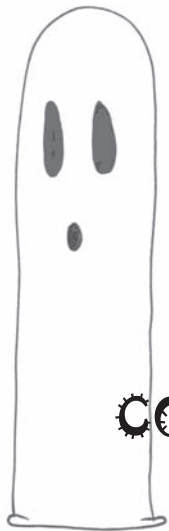
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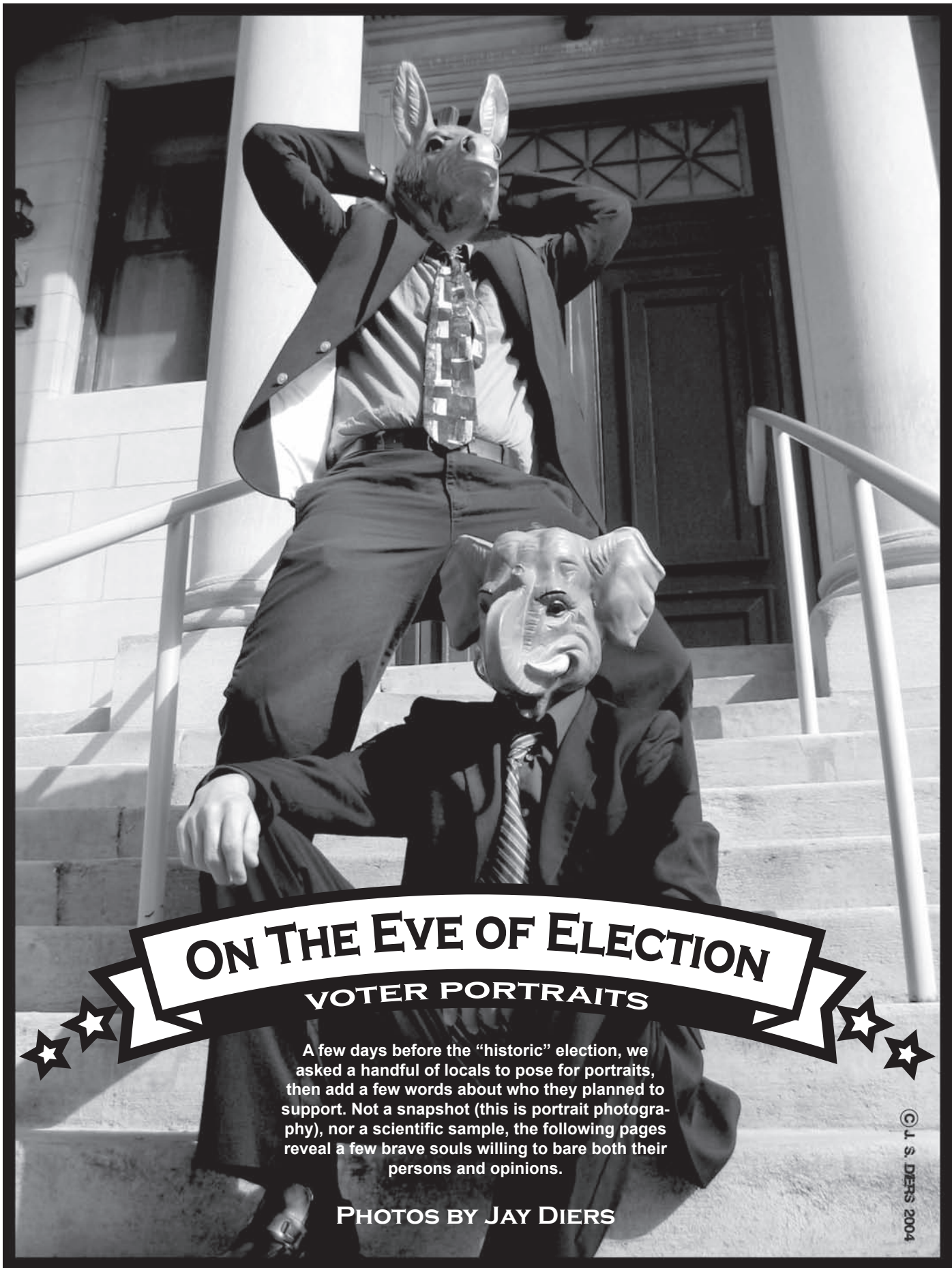


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ON THE EVE OF ELECTION

VOTER PORTRAITS

A few days before the “historic” election, we asked a handful of locals to pose for portraits, then add a few words about who they planned to support. Not a snapshot (this is portrait photography), nor a scientific sample, the following pages reveal a few brave souls willing to bare both their persons and opinions.

PHOTOS BY JAY DIERS

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ADAM MIX

One of the most difficult things for me to admit is that I voted for Bush in the 2000 elections. The worst part about it is that I did so because of greed; I wanted a tax cut. If only life came with a rewind button.

My reasons for voting for John Kerry go far beyond the fact that I have a French girlfriend (I'll give you one guess who she'd vote for!). I fundamentally disagree with President Bush on more issues than I can count, but here are a few: abortion rights, gay marriage, stem cell research, the "No Child Left Behind" educational laws, the automatic weapons ban, the Patriot Act, and Iraq. For a candidate who was elected on the platform of being a "uniting force," I believe that no president has been as divisive since Nixon.

The cavalier cowboy swagger that President Bush uses for virtually every occasion has lowered our world standing to horribly low levels, and, as much as the Bush administration would like us to all believe that it doesn't, the rest of the world matters. It certainly matters to me.

One of the other reasons that I voted for Bush in 2000 was that I felt that the nation needed a change from the eight years of the Clinton administration. Now, another change seems even more important.

I am voting for John Kerry for president.



VIRGIL “SCOOTER” HARE

This photo represents my independence from both parties. I don't think either party has all the answers and that the best course is somewhat of a blending of the two. I detest the far left as much as I detest the far right. Granted, with this election, I have no choice. However, I have lived under two terms of Reagan and two terms of Clinton and am none the worse, so I can live under Bush or Kerry. I have voted in every election since I turned 18 and will do so until the day I die. That says a lot more than most people in this so called, “Athens of the Midwest.”



ROB WILKIE

I will be casting my vote for George W. Bush on Nov. 2. When asked why I am voting for President Bush, my response is simply that I trust him. I trust his leadership capabilities. Now more than ever this country needs a leader who will do “whatever it takes” to prevent another catastrophe like 9/11. I am a firm believer in the Bush Doctrine for fighting terrorism. President Bush is truly a compassionate conservative, who believes that the government should have a limited role in people's lives, but is there to provide help in times of need. I, like President Bush, am a strong believer in the individual. I believe a person can achieve amazing things, if only given the opportunity to do so. I believe that the Republican Party embraces this ideal. A majority of my votes will be going to Republican candidates this year, because these candidates most accurately reflect my views on the role of government. I have faith that President Bush, Sen. Grassley, and Rep. Leach will continue to make our country stronger at home, and more respected in the free world.

Everyone always says how liberal the University of Iowa is. While the institution indoctrinates liberal ideology, the student body seems to be fairly split. The College Republicans are the second largest student organization on campus behind Students Today Alumni Tomorrow. I have been criticized more for my conservative values in the classroom, than I have been in the dorm or walking around campus. The criticism doesn't bother me, in fact, it motivates me, but I know there are many students who are afraid to express their political views.





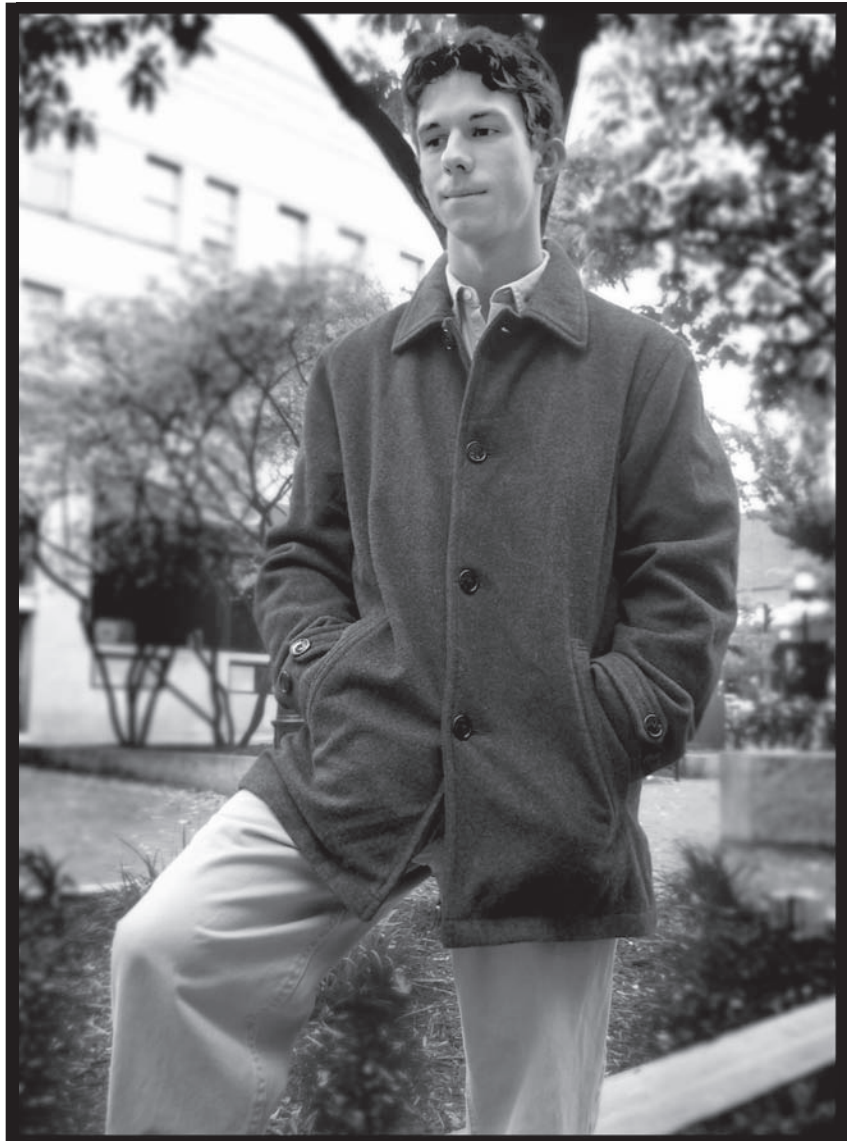
CHRIS WARREN

I am voting for John Kerry because I, too, do not believe in this war. In my three-person household we pay \$450 per month in health insurance; this is double what we paid just four years ago. Our prescription medications cost us an additional \$120 per month, and that is just our co-pay!

JUSTIN GLASGOW

There are certainly a number of issues facing this country both nationally and internationally. Clearly, not every single person in this country can place their vote on every single issue, and this is why we elect representatives to our state governments and national governments. During this campaign, Sen. John Kerry has been accused of flip flopping on many of the issues facing our country. However, in my observations his votes have been a reflection of the constituents he represents. At the time President Bush proposed declaring war on Iraq, a deep sense of nationality pervaded this country directing our national legislators to vote in favor of declaring war. As the war unfolded, public opinion changed and Sen. Kerry's remarks and votes concerning the war reflected the constituents that he represents.

I will be voting for Sen. Kerry in this election because I believe he embodies the true spirit of a representative government. He will tackle the issue of Iraq, bringing greater democracy and autonomy to the Middle East while balancing the interests of our country and our soldiers. He will also protect the liberties of Americans, protecting many of the liberties threatened by the Patriot Act and the impending retirements of Supreme Court Justices. While a Kerry/Edwards presidency isn't perfect for the country (medical liability is one issue that comes to mind), for the next four years they are, to me, clearly the package that will protect everything that our country has fought for and is fighting for.





CHRISTOPHER SHAWN HEMMINGSSEN

When did the election become a gross display of stupidity? I thought the debates were to show who has the best ideas or who is able to...what is that word again...oh yes, DEBATE. I only say these two men because we, the "informed," never hear about Ralph Nader. Corporate America would never let a man like him into the White House. I alternately watch Bush and Kerry, Cheney and Edwards point fingers at each other like little children during recess.

These are the men we want to run the country? We, the American people, walk through life with our blinders on, only seeing and hearing what we want. If the information contradicts what we believe, we say it is a lie! It has to be liberal or conservative propaganda. When did we lose sight of what is important? I wonder what our founding fathers would say if they could witness this feeding frenzy.

The voting process has become a dirty game of deceit, with scandals already popping up. We have only about one week before we vote, then we can sit back and watch our once glorious democratic process unfold into ugliness. We will once again get to re-live the hanging chads, and voters being discouraged to vote because of their ethnic backgrounds. Why are we soiling something we claim to be so proud of? We're one of a few countries in the world that let the people decide who will be our next leader. I just shake my head and ponder the question we should all be asking: Why would we ruin something that others desire or would love to have the chance to experience? Why are we tarnishing a process so many have died to establish and protect? By the way, I'll be voting for John Kerry, like it matters.

Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater

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Further confusion

Janet Desaulniers' short stories allow the differences and confusion between women and men to reveal and unite

Steve Horowitz

Janet Desaulniers writes sensitive tales of mothers, daughters, sisters and wives engaged in the domestic, emotional worlds of living and loving. What does a woman do when her mother calls for help with a younger sister at home who starts acting wild after the death of her father? How does a woman communicate freely with her husband after the death of a child has come between them? How should a woman react when seeing her husband passionately kissing another woman? Desaulniers' fictions

deal with such situations, but the Iowa Writers' Workshop graduate doesn't reach for easy answers or even offer solace. Instead, as the title of her debut collection, *What You've Been Missing*, suggests, the co-winner of this year's UI Press John Simmons Short Fiction Award leaves the missing pieces alone and lets the gaps in the relationships between characters sit there and reveal what's going on through what's left out.

Desaulniers' women are strong, but self-conscious creatures who wonder how they should act. The men in her 10-story collection are more confident of their actions, even when behaving badly.

"There are absolute differences between women and men," Desaulniers explained over the telephone from her Evanston, Ill., residence. "Men can be merciless when they have to." Switching emphasis, she added, "The differences create the wonderful, awful dance that women and men do when they love each other, the shimmering, pulsating moments born out of our separate identities." Desaulniers' poetic language was surprising consid-

ering the fact that her prose is so terse, containing the sparsest of description and commentary mixed with short bits of elliptical conversations. Were it not for the feminine themes, one might describe it as Hemingway-esque. Maybe this is because both writers hail from the same region of the country?

"I grew up and live in the Midwest," Desaulniers said. She currently teaches writing at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. "[Midwesterners] understand that there are things we don't know and accept that fact more easily than people do in New York City or San Francisco. We let facts have their way with us—even when it's bad news, and we say OK and go to the next step."

The quality Desaulniers describes matches that of her characters, who when faced with problems don't deny but address them head on. Consider the story "Where We All Should Have Been," which begins, "The last time my mother called she did not say hello. She said, 'This is not a discussion, Ellen. I need you here. It's Diana. She drinks. And God knows what else. This morning she came in near dawn.'" The author sticks to the facts and the characters speak frankly, even if at times they can be eccentric or idiosyncratic.

And at times, the straight facts can be downright upsetting, as Nora, the young protagonist of "Never, Ever, Always," learns from a nun at her Catholic school. Nora asks Sister Mary Benedict, "Suppose I had committed a sin, but then I was deeply sorry in my own heart. And suppose I was on my way to church to confess when a milk truck ran me down... God would still welcome me, wouldn't he Sister," I asked... 'God would not welcome you, Nora,' she spoke quietly, lowering her eyes when she said my name. Then she looked at me again. 'You would die alone and outside His love.'"

Of course, the God in the story is a man, one of the merciless ones Desaulniers mentioned earlier. Desaulniers acknowl-

edges this gender trait and does not apologize for it.

"Good intentions don't matter," she explained. "Men know that—that's part of their stature and calling, and it's even heavy and comforting." The friction and frisson of her stories lie in the fact that sometimes life can be hard and cruel.

As a whole, the tales in *What You've Been Missing* are depressing, even when the endings offer glimpses of hope. Desaulniers didn't plan it that way, nor does she see her narratives from that perspective.

"I see my artistic activity as an act of inquiry," she said. "I open the seeds and let the stories go. I use the things I experience and observe to start and then just let things develop. For example, 'Never, Ever, Always' began after hearing enough people say, 'What's wrong with you?' Not to me necessarily, just that phrase took me on a journey to where I had a character, who lived in one world with her mother at home and another with the nuns in school. The story went through an allusive process. One moment alluded to another that alluded to another, and then..."

Desaulniers didn't continue, but the implication is clear when you read the story. The narrator begins with Nora as a child questioning the morality of the world and ends with the character as an adult, having caught her husband cheating on her, speaking hoarsely from a hospital bed, telling a stranger that she's not dying (which is true). The author takes us there through a sequence of Nora's mental associations.

"One kind of confusion always leads to another," Desaulniers said. "In terms of gender relations, that can be a good thing. It's our confusion about each other that brings us together." **IV**

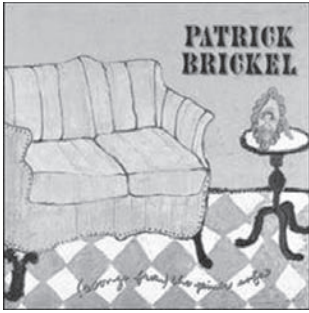


Janet Desaulniers

What: Reading from her new 2004 John Simmons Short Fiction Award book of short stories (with co-award winner Merrill Feitell)

Where: Prairie Lights, 15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City

When: Monday, Nov. 15, 8pm



Patrick Brickel
(Songs from) The Pink Sofa
Trailer

American roots music lovers consider The Band's first album, *Music from Big Pink*, a landmark record. Fresh from jamming with Bob Dylan, the group's debut release mined the heart and soul of country and folk traditions to forge a new kind of rock that sounded old as the hills with songs like "The Weight" and "I Shall be Released," the latter written by Dylan. Patrick Brickel's new solo disc, *(Songs from) The Pink Sofa*, evokes the spirit of The Band's seminal record. It's unlikely the similarity of titles is simply serendipitous. The former and founding mem-

ber of The Mayflies of Johnson County (later The Letterpress Opry) purposefully evokes the work of the Minnesota troubadour on the CD's first track, "The Ghost of Hollis Brown," whose title character recalls an old Dylan tune, "The Ballad of Hollis Brown." Like the Band, Brickel fuses folk and old-time country music traditions, and his guitar-picking summons up the spirit of Robbie Robertson.

Still, one doesn't want to make too much of the connections. Brickel's music mostly pays homage, with a nod and a wink to his influences. The tenor-voiced, acoustic guitar-playing songwriter has a distinctive, crisp, clean style. Sometimes The Band purposely sounds mushy for effect, as if the members are performing drunk and sloppy. Brickel's songs feature more space and resonance to create a sparser and more sober audio landscape. Brickel has vast studio expertise and has worked as a recording engineer on folk music star Greg Brown's last two Trailer Records releases. Brickel is ably backed here by many of Iowa City's best acoustic musicians, including Marty Letz on pedal steel, Bob Black on banjo, Dave Zollo on piano, Al Murphy on fiddle, Nate Bassinger on organ, and Amy Finders on vocal harmonies.

Brickel has always been a fine songwriter who

deals with dark themes. He continues this tradition on *(Songs from) The Pink Sofa*. The aforementioned Hollis Brown tune takes the title character, who in real life and Dylan's song, killed himself and his family in desperation as bad luck and worse weather took his farm and livelihood. Brickel's exorcism has Brown's ghost on the run, filled with "love and loss and yearning."

The stoic "Coal Dust Flowers" concerns the slow death by gas of a miner trapped underground. The narrator of the lilting "Vermillion Trees" compares his love to "a willow weeping but for you." Several songs are more jaunty and bittersweet, such as the playful "Possums," the Beatlesque "Julianna" (think "Julia") and the melodic "Martha Falling Down."

Every tune shines brightly with Brickel's fine singing, creative writing and deft performing talents. He knows how to phrase lines to understate deep emotions, whether he's telling someone to "get the fuck out of my place" or evoking a complex sentiment for a boozy lover ("mercy is as mercy does/and mercy always goes"). He uses his guitar to explore the nuances of thought and feeling the words suggest. The record rarely gets loud, but Brickel's quiet intensity always keeps things sonically and lyrically interesting.

Steve Horowitz



Nolan
Rotation
Redemption

This three-piece made up of the late Alto Hece-ta's singer/guitarist Dino Balocchi, Jake Mohan (of the former Speed of Sauce) and Chris Ellis

(current Burn Disco Burn) writes and performs really good pop music, and the album *Rotation* is a near perfect showcase of their considerable talents. There isn't a track here that isn't sung, played and recorded within epsilon of the archetypal paragon of the genre. No wonder the WB series "Summerland" used the song "Galleries" in its soundtrack.

So why have I listened to the CD for a month off and on without forming a strong opinion? Am I such a twisted grump that I've lost all appreciation for music that's pleasant? Has "nice" become a criticism? Maybe so, because what I notice most about Nolan's music is that it sounds like a lot of other music I hear on television and radio. Chiming guitars, a young-sounding tenor voice and a well-behaved rhythm section. Take a little REM, a little Cure, maybe a touch of Bright Eyes, shake and pour.

The difference between Nolan and its above-mentioned precursors is that this music seems to lack the idiosyncrasies and quirks that made said precursors distinctive. Nolan's songs seem generic—though it pains me to condemn them as such, because they are very good on their own terms. My favorite is "My Morning Waitress," for its loping, slow beat and quiet, intimate tone: "There are some waitresses/who know I haven't been sober in weeks/They don't care what I've been drinking/they don't care who I've been hanging with.../They can't see me trying really hard/to believe in what I'm looking for."

I know that a lot of people would really like this CD, and that I'm probably going to hell for damning it with such faint praise. Oh well. So ignore me, go to www.nolanmusic.net and check it out for yourself.

Kent Williams

www.prairielightsbooks.com

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CALENDAR

Calendar listings are free, on a space-available basis. Mail entries to Little Village, P.O. Box 736, Iowa City, Iowa 52244 or email little-village@usa.net

Art/Exhibits

African American Historical Museum and Cultural Center

55 12th Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids

Iowa in Ghana: Dr. D. Michael Warren and the Bono of Takyiman, photographs of the Bono people of Ghana, through March 10.

AKAR

4 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 351-1227

Spatial Containment: Ceramics by Maren Kloppmann, Nov. 12-26 • 30 x 5, 30 artists—including Robert Archaubeau, Dan Anderson, Sam Chung—contribute five pots each, Nov. 19-Dec. 10.

Arts Iowa City/The Galleries Downtown

218 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 337-7447

Landscape Abstractions, mixed media work by Marcia Wegman, through Nov. 12 • *Subtle Explorations*, photographs by Lily Michaud, through Nov. 18.

Brucemore

2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375

Animal House, honoring the exotic and local animals that have called Brucemore home, through May.

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503

The Naked Truth: 2004 International Juried Wood Fire Exhibition, selection of teapots, bowls, vessels and other ceramic objects, through Jan. 9 • *From Surreal to Abstract: 20th Century European Prints*, through Feb. 13 • *Villa to Grave: Roman Art and Life*, 150 Roman objects—sculpture, frescoes, jewelry, furniture, coins and other decorative art objects—displayed in a recreated Roman architectural setting, through Aug. 25, 2005. (See *Words* listing for more)

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Off the Wall, art by area artists for sale to benefit CSPS, through Oct. 30 • *The Billboards of My Mind*, paintings and drawings by Bill Heral, through Nov. 21 • *Tectonic Industries: Recent and New Works*, through Nov. 21 • *In Progress*, paintings by Becky Danielson, through Nov. 21 • Sculpture by Chile's Ivan Navarro, opens Nov. 24.

Faulconer Gallery

Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660

William Kentrige Prints, 120 prints by this South African artist, through Dec. 12. (See *Words* listing for more)

Hudson River Gallery

538 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 358-8488

Preview of Faculty Art, the Annual Benefit Auction for the UI Museum of Art, through Nov. 13 • Shannon Kennedy, paintings and drawings, Nov. 19-Dec. 31; opening reception Nov. 19, 6-8pm.

Iowa Artisans Gallery

207 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 351-8686

20th Anniversary Exhibition: Rowen Schussheim-Anderson: Tapestry & Fiber Constructions and Recent Works by members of the Woodworkers Studio, through Nov. 8.

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200

Life in the Ice Age, artifacts and fossils from Iowa Ice Age finds, through October.

Iowa State Bank & Trust

102 S. Clinton St., Iowa City, 337-8615

Works by Iowa City Branch of the National League of American Pen Women; poetry, watercolor and oil painting, paper and fiber, and photography by Joan Liffing-Zug Bourret, Patricia King, Mildred Lavin, Lois Muehl, Ruth Muir, Carole Ann Robey, Lila Borg Rohrer, Naomi Kark Schedl.

Lorenz Boot Shop

132 S. Clinton St., Iowa City, 339-1053

The Natural World, prints by Janet Hart Heinicke; *Twin Towers*, photographs & frames by Laura Hobson; mixed media works in foil, ink & digital imaging by Alexandria Cmaylo.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529

Dustin Blank Art Event, Oct. 31, 4:30pm.

Monster Design Studio

716 Oakland Rd. NE, Cedar Rapids, 365-1844

The Peep Show, photography by Jay Scott Diers, Nov. 6, 7-10pm.

Mt. Mercy College

Janalyn Hanson White Gallery, Cedar Rapids, 363-1323

Rick Edleman and Friends, drawings by Mt. Mercy grad Rick Edleman converse with the constructions of Iowa artist Michele Buchanan, through Nov. 16.

Mythos

9 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-3576

Tibetan painting and sculpture and Chinese porcelain of the 17th and 18th centuries, through November.

Ruby's Pearl

323 E. Market St., Iowa City, 248-0032

Score! Totally Kiss Mark and Laren, video, through November.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

quiltz and dollz, Patti Zwick, through Oct. 27, Boyd Tower West Lobby • Carol Carter, photography, through Oct. 29, Boyd Tower East Lobby • UI School of Art, Jewelry and Metalsmithing Department Exhibition, through Nov. 30, Main Lobby • Trúc Deegan, ink and watercolor paintings, through Dec. 31, Patient and Visitor Activities Center, Eighth Floor, John Colloton Pavilion • Edward Herbeck, prints, through Dec. 31, Patient and Visitor Activities Center.

UI Main Library

UI campus, Iowa City

Exhibit of UI alum filmmaker Nicholas Meyer's papers, Special Collections, third floor, through October • *Velocipedomania: The Origin and Evolution of the Bicycle*, through November, North Exhibit Hall.

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

Faculty Exhibition 2004, through Dec. 11 • *The History of Iowa in the Art of Maps*, traces changing perceptions of the Midwest and Iowa through historic maps from the 16th to 20th centuries, Oct. 29-Jan. 30 • *Beaded Rhythms: Women's Adornments from Northern Cameroon*, Oct. 29-Dec. 11.

Music

Carver Hawkeye Arena

UI campus, Iowa City

Bob Dylan, Oct. 29, 8pm.

Clapp Recital Hall

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160

Claudia Anderson, flute; Diane Burr, piano, Oct. 29, 8pm • Camerata, Oct. 30, 8pm • New Horizons Band, Oct. 31, 3pm • Scott Conklin, violin; Alan Huckleberry, piano, Oct. 31, 8pm • University Choir, Nov. 5, 8pm • Las Guitarras de Mexico, Nov. 6, 3pm • Johnson County Landmark jazz band, Nov. 6, 8pm • UI Percussion Ensemble, the Pan-American Steel Band and the Afro-Cuban Drum and Dance Ensemble, Nov. 7, 3pm • Composer's Workshop, Nov. 7, 8pm • Symphony Band, with David Gier, trombone, Nov. 8, 8pm • Wolfgang David, violin; David Gompper, piano, Nov. 9, 8pm • Musicians from Marlboro, Nov. 10, 8pm • Kenneth Tse, saxophone; Alan Huckleberry, piano, Nov. 12, 8pm • Iowa Woodwind Quintet, Nov. 14, 3pm • Iowa Brass Quintet, Nov. 17, 8pm • Emily Johnson, Katie Wolfe, violin; Christine Rutledge, viola; Jeffrey Agrell, horn; Shari Rhoads, piano, Nov. 19, 8pm • Rachel Joselson, mezzo soprano; Uriel Tsachor and Marceline Turcanu, pianos, Nov. 30, 8pm.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

8pm, except Sundays (7pm)

Skott Freedman, Nov. 6 • Balfa Toujours, Cajun, Nov. 9 • Michael Fracasso, Texas songwriter, Nov. 12 • Alasdair Fraser (fiddle), Natalie Haas, Nov. 13 • Bohola, Irish-American band, Nov. 14 • Peter Mulvey, Nov. 20 • Disappear Fear, Ember Swift, Nov. 21.

Gabe's

330 E. Washington St., Iowa City, 354-4788

Lady of The Lake, Marah-Mar, The Slats, The Vine and The Archer, Little Brazil, Oct. 28 • Early show: Spitalfield, Faultlines, Still Pictured, The Lifestyle, Goodbye Annabelle Lee; Late Show: Siderunner, Arcane, Rachel Kann; Oct. 29 • Early show: Destrophy, Oct. 30 • Bad Wizard, The Witnesses, ActionAction, Oct. 31 • The Close, Reverend Glasseye, Nov. 3 • Early show: Piebald, Triptii, Humans, Nov. 5 • Local regional hip-hop showcase, Nov. 6 • Early show: The High Strung, Stars Hide Fire, Nov. 8 • The Western Front, The Escape Engine, Prom Night Tornado, Nov. 10 • Early show: Anything But Joey, Jupiter Sunrise; Late Show: Meatjack, Kita; Nov. 11 • Early show: Brother Ali, Psalm One; Late show: The Metrolites; Nov. 12 • The Plastic Constellations, Ricky Fitts, Frankenxin, Marah-Mar, Nov. 13 • Early show: Bury Your Dead, Scars of Tomorrow, Nov. 15 • The Shapeshifters, Nov. 16 • Troubled Hubble, Old Canes, Chin Up Chin Up, The Gunshy, Nov. 18 • East Eighteen, All But Screaming, Sea of Miranda, Nov. 19 • Leven, Pimps, 8 Foundead, Creeping Charly, Nov. 20 • Early show: Me Without You, Owen, Despitado, Faultlines, Nov. 21 • The Arcade Fire, Nov. 23 • Wanksgiving, Nov. 27.

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350

Blues Jam Mondays, Funk and Jazz Jam Tuesdays Mr. Blotto, Dancing Andy & the Sensitive Assholes, Oct. 28 • Public Property, The Diplomats, Oct. 29 • Family Groove Co., Deuce, Oct. 30 • Euforquestra, Oct. 31 • Sam Knutson, Matt Grimm, Jen Gloeckner, Nov. 2 • Bockman Eupho, Bent Wookiee Breakdown, Nov. 3 • Tony Furtado, Nov. 4 • Swing Crew, Nov. 5 • Damen Dotson Band, Nov. 6 • Tell Julia, Nov. 9 • Oteil Burbridge and the Peacemakers, The Ggitch, Nov. 11 • Bottom Feeder, Breakdance, Miracles of God, Hoopride, Nov. 12 • United Nations, Nov. 13 • Hot Buttered Rum Stringband, Euphoria, Nov. 16 • Important People and Meetings, Nov. 17 • Railroad Earth, Mr. Baber's Neighbors: The Solar String Band, Nov. 18 • Lucky Boys Confusion, Nov. 19 • Perpetual Groove, Nov. 20 • Kevin Bassett DJ, Nov.

26 • Funkmaster Cracker, Nov. 27 • The Greyhounds, Family Groove Co., Nov. 30.

Hancher Auditorium

UI campus, 335-1160

Thomas Hampson, Oct. 29, 8pm • Band Extravaganza with Symphony Band, Johnson County Landmark, Hawkeye Marching Band, Nov. 16-17, 7:30pm • Kremerata Baltica and Gidon Kremer, Nov. 18, 8pm.

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200

School for the Performing Arts Voice Studio Seminar, voice students of Rachel Walker practice performing in front of others in a master class setting, Oct. 29, 4:45-5:30pm, Meeting Rm. A.

Iowa Memorial Union

UI campus, Iowa City

Howie Day, Nov. 7, 8pm, Main Lounge • The Ropeadope New Music Seminar, featuring Charlie Hunter, Matt Haimovitz, Sex Mob, Bobby Previte, DJ Olive, Lyrics Born, Critters Buggin', Benevento/Russo Duo, DJ Rich Medina, and more, Nov. 11, 8pm, Second Floor Ballroom.

The Java House

211 E. Washington St., 341-0012

WSUI's "Iowa Talks Live from the Java House," Fridays, 10am

Martini's

127 E. College St., Iowa City, 351-5536

Shows at 9:30pm

Billy Lee & The Compact 3, Oct. 29 • The Saints, Oct. 30 • The Diplomats, Nov. 5 • Moe Band, Nov. 6 • Blues Tunas, Nov. 12 • Bryce Janey, Nov. 13 • Merrill J. Miller, Nov. 19 • Soul Searches, Nov. 20 • Soul Patrol, Nov. 26 • McMurrin/Johnson Trio, Nov. 27.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529

Open Mike Mondays, 8pm • Wednesdays, Burlington Street Bluegrass Band, 7pm, Bluegrass Jam, 10pm • All music 9pm unless noted otherwise
Iowa City Songwriters Showcase, with Nikki Lunden, Caleb Ryder, Jason Miller, Oct. 28 • Important People and Meetings, Tell Julia, Oct. 29 • Wylde Nept, Halloween Party, Oct. 30 • Brandon Ross and the Wads of Paper, Andrew Cantine, Nov. 4 • The Austin Lounge Lizards, Nov. 5 • Wylde Nept, Nov. 27, 8pm.

Paramount Theatre

123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

CR Symphony Masterworks Concert, Bartok and Beethoven, Nov. 13, 8pm, 366-8203 for tickets • *Vagabond Tales*, by Barrage, musical troupe, Nov. 14, 7pm.

Sanctuary

405 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 351-5692

Music at 9:30pm

Sam Knutson & Nate Bassinger, Oct. 29 • Chicken Shack with Stuart Wood, Oct. 30 • David Zollo and Bo Ramsey, Nov. 6 • Indoor/Outdoor, with Anton Hatwich, contemporary jazz from Chicago, Nov. 13 • Steve Grismore Trio, Nov. 19 • Kelly Pardekooper, Nov. 26.

Siren Club

124 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 248-2840

Tuesday Nights, *Jacqueline Krain and The Ringers*, 8-11pm; Wednesday Nights, *jazz piano*, 7-11pm; *Tony Nickle, classical piano, Sundays*
Eddie Piccard Quartet, Oct. 28, 8pm-12am • The Spread, six-piece R&B and pop, Oct. 29 • Halloween Masquerade Party with Ernie Peniston Band, Oct. 30 • Witches Brew, Oct. 31 • Tim Daugherty from the Daugherty McPartland zypdecos, Nov. 3, 8-11pm • Big Al and The Heavyweights, zydeco blues, Nov. 4, 9pm-12am • The Blue Tunas, West Coast blues, Nov. 5, 8pm-12am • Bob Dorr and The Blue Band, Nov. 6 • Andy Parrott Trio, Nov. 11, 8pm-12am • Tornadoes, Nov. 12 • Evan Mazunik Trio featuring Betsy Hickock, Nov. 13, 8pm-12am • Eddy "The Chief" Clearwater, Nov. 19, 9pm-1am.

Starns Guitars

Town & Country Center, 3639 First Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 866-362-1881

Acoustic jam session every Friday night, 7-9pm.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

Colloton Atrium, noon (unless noted otherwise)

Heartbeats, UI Hospitals and Clinics choir, Oct. 29 • UI's Martha-Ellen Tye Opera Theatre performs selections from *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Nov. 12 • Kremerata Baltica and Gidon Kremer, classical ensemble, Nov. 16, 12:30pm, Eighth Floor Solarium • Major Grooves, a cappella group comprised of UI medical students, Nov. 19, 12:30pm.

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

IC pianist Dan Knight Trio, tribute to Modern Jazz Quartet, Nov. 5, 5pm • "Know the Score," live radio program, Oct. 30, 5-7pm, Walter Thompson discusses and demonstrates his "soundpainting," with UI faculty member Jeff Agrell and musician Evan Mazunik, also songs of Edith Piaf; Iowa Woodwind Quintet, Nov. 12, 5-7pm.

Uptown Bill's small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401

Mud River Open Mic, Fridays, 8pm • Irish Slow Session, Celtic jam (for more info contact Tara Dutcher, tara@sc hoolperformingarts.com), Sundays, 2-4pm • All shows 7pm unless otherwise indicated
Bad Karma, Oct. 28 • Kirk Kelly, Anti-Folk Swing State Tour, Oct. 30 • Mad River Duo, Nov. 6 • The Unsung Forum (songwriters' workshop), Nov. 11 • Kalimbaman, Nancita Wernett, Nov. 13 • Anne Heaton, Frank Moretta Jr., Nov. 16 • Potluck Dinner and Jam, Nov. 18, 5-9pm • Teddy Goldstein, Nov. 20.

US Cellular Center

370 First Avenue NE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

Scorpions, Tesla, Keith Emerson Band, Nov. 3, 7:30pm.

Yacht Club

13 S. Linn St., Iowa City, 337-6464

No Rules Open Mic, Sundays; Hip-Hop Night, Tuesdays; Jam Band Jam, Wednesdays, 10pm
Rent Party Open Mic with DJ Commando, Gravity and DJ O-Mattic, proceeds to Crisis Center and the Iowa City Anti-Violence Project, Oct. 28 • David Haack Band, Oct. 29 • One Love Sounds Bob Marley Tribute, Oct. 30 • Funkmaster Cracker, Nov. 4 • Joe Price, Nov. 5 • Dennis McMurrin & The Demolition Band, Nov. 6 • Brother Trucker, The Red Smear, Nov. 12 • BJ Jaggers & The Jagoffs, Nov. 13 • Jay Farrar, featuring Mark Spencer (Blood Oranges), Anders Parker, Nov. 17, 8pm • Euforquestra, Nov. 19 • Futurerock, Nov. 20 • Kelly Pardekooper, Nov. 27.

Dance

Arts Ala Carte

20 E. Market St., Iowa City

African Dance Class led by Madou Dembele, Nov. 11, 7:30-9pm • Sock Hop Dance, Nov. 13, 10pm-12am.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Latin dance classes, Saturdays, 3:30-5:30pm, 364-2188.

Hancher Auditorium

UI campus, 335-1160

UI Dance Company's 2004 Dance Gala, "aLIVE! In Concert," Nov. 12-13, 8pm.

Paramount Theatre

123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888

Nutcracker, Moscow Ballet, Nov. 20, 3pm & 7:30pm.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City (unless noted otherwise)

Pre-Holiday Dance, with the Silver Swing Band, Nov. 18, 7-9pm • Line Dancing for Fun and Fitness, basic line dancing steps as well as the waltz, cha-cha, salsa and others, Mondays, through Nov. 29, 12:30-2pm, registration not required.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417

Colloton Atrium, noon (unless noted otherwise)

Dance Gala 2004 Preview, University of Iowa Dance Department, Nov. 2.

A-LIST



Critters Buggin'

Ropeadope

New Music Seminar

Nov. 11 • IMU

The Ropeadope New Music Seminar is a live show featuring artists on the Brooklyn-based independent record label Ropeadope. SCOPE Productions was lucky to snag a date for a show that is mainly stopping in large cities. And you can't get much more diverse than this lineup: from classical music's brightest young star cellist Matt Haimovitz to underground hip-hop hero Lyrics Born; from jazz guitar virtuoso Charlie Hunter to beat master DJ Olive; from the jazz of downtown New York City (Sex Mob) to the purveyors of improv in downtown Seattle (Critters Buggin'); from the organ and drums rock duo of Russo/Benevento to Philly's most respected poet, Big Rich Medina. And they're promising even more acts, all playing together over the course of the evening in a no-rules, improv-heavy set. The musicians will also be meeting with students during the day about everything from a career in the music biz to the effects of illegal downloads. For more info, call Scope: 335-3395.

Dr. Keyzom Bhutti

Nov. 11, 7:30pm • Senior Center

Dr. Keyzom Bhutti practices Tibetan medicine and is world-renowned for her herbal remedies. Not your run-of-the-mill HMO-approved practitioner, Bhutti should be of curiosity to anyone fed up with an American medical system that relies so heavily on overpriced, synthetic drugs and turns such a blind eye to prevention. Tibetan medicine's central tenet is that an imbalance of a person's wind, bile and phlegm causes disease. Whether you're looking for a medical cure or just curious, Keyzom Bhutti should be just what the doctor ordered.

Theater/Performance

Campbell Steele Gallery

1064 Seventh Ave., Marion, 373-9211

Liars Holographic Radio Theatre, music and original skits, with special guest Tracy Price, Nov. 19, 8pm; Nov. 21, 7pm.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580

Target Audience, New York playwright and performer Jim Neu, Oct. 28-30, 8pm • Metro High School fall theater production, Nov. 4-5, 8pm • *Ten Bedroom Heart*, by Minneapolis playwright/performer Heidi Arneson, Nov. 18-19, 8pm.

Dreamwell Theatre

Wesley Center, 120 N. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 541-0140
The Book of Liz, Amy and David Sedaris' satirical farce about the culture clash that ensues when a woman from an isolated religious community goes out into the wide world, Nov. 12-13 & 19-20, 8pm (discussion following Nov. 19 performance).

Old Creamery Theatre

Price Creek Stage, 39 38th Ave., Amana, 800-352-6262 (unless noted otherwise)
Price Creek Stage: Wed., Fri., Sat. 8pm; Thurs., Sat., Sun. 3pm
Out Of Order, comedy by Ray Cooney involving a philandering couple who find a body in their hotel room, through Nov. 7 • *Holiday Hijinks, 2004*, holiday variety show by Thomas P. Johnson, Nov. 12-Dec. 19.

Paramount Theatre

123 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 363-1888
Fosse, musical highlighting the work of legendary dancer, choreographer, director Bob Fosse, Oct. 28, 7:30pm • *Pink Floyd Laser Spectacular*, Nov. 19, 8pm • *Skeletons in Your Closet*, Nov. 21, 4pm.

Riverside Theatre

213 N. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 338-7672
Wed, Sept. 22 & Thursdays, 7pm; Fridays & Saturdays, 8pm; Sundays, 2pm
Still Life with Iris, adventure drama by Steven Dietz, Nov. 12-28.

Space/Place Theater

North Hall, UI campus, Iowa City
Columbus: A Soundpainting Opera, by Walter Thompson, Oct. 29-30, 8pm; Oct. 31, 3pm.

Theatre Cedar Rapids

102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592
7:30pm Thurs.- Sat.; 2:30pm Sun.
Rave On!, revamped version of musical featuring songs by Buddy Holly, Nov. 5-6, 7:30pm; Nov. 7, 2:30pm & 7:30pm • *Home for the Holidays: A TCR Christmas*, Nov. 21-23 & 28-30; Dec. 4-7 & 11-13.

UI Hospitals and Clinics

Project Art of UIHC, Iowa City, 353-6417
Colloton Atrium, noon (unless noted otherwise)
With Lars, play by Chris Leyva, romantic comedy about how a strange woman named Lars changes one man's life, Main Lobby, Nov. 5 • UI's Martha-Ellen Tye Opera Theatre performs selections from *Amahl and the Night Visitors*, Nov. 12.

UI Theatres

Theatre Bldg., UI campus, Iowa City, 335-1160
Solo, by Marnie Glazier, University Theatres Gallery production, Oct. 28-30, 8pm; Oct. 31, 3pm, Theatre B • *Shadows of the Reef*, by Anton Juan, University Theatres Mainstage production, Nov. 4-6 & 11-13, 8pm; Nov. 7 & 14, 3pm • *God's Little Lambies*, by Ralph Hall and ensemble, University Theatres Gallery production, Nov. 11-13, 8pm; Nov. 14, 3pm, Theatre B.

Uptown Bill's small Mall

401 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 339-0401
Catherine Moore, performance art, Nov. 30, 7pm.

Ushers Ferry Historical Village

5925 Seminole Valley Trail NE, Cedar Rapids, 286-5763
Morbid Curiosities, Parlour Theater Series, 19th century creepiness from HG Wells' *The Red Lodge* to *Dracula's* missing chapter, Oct. 30, 7pm, reservations required.

Comedy

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350
Korey Bassett, Nov. 26.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529
Lightning in a Bottle, comedy improv, Tuesdays, 8pm.

Words

101 of Biology Building East UI campus, Iowa City

Poet James Galvin and fiction writer Elizabeth McCracken, UI Writers' Workshop faculty members, Nov. 3, 8pm.

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503
"The Beginnings of the Republic; The Struggle of the Orders," DVD lecture series by Professor Garrett G. Fagan, Oct. 30, 1-2pm • "Roman Ceramics: Why Did the Romans Take Pottery for Granted?," lecture by Glenn Storey, Nov. 3, 12-1pm • "Who Says Latin Is Dead? How to Speak Like a Roman in One Easy Lesson," Latin workshop with UI Classics Department, Nov. 6, 1pm • "What the Romans Talked About at Dinner Parties: Poetry, Gossip and Lampon," Roman literature readings, with Cornell College Classical Studies, Nov. 13, 1pm • "The Doctor and the Emperor," lecture by Susan Lawrence, University of Iowa, Nov. 18, 7-8pm • "Make a Lasting Impression," Roman coin reproductions, family workshop, Nov. 20, 1pm • "Roman Expansion in Italy; The Roman Confederation in Italy," film and lecture, Nov. 27, 1-2pm.

CSPS

1103 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 364-1580
Reading by poets James McKean and Jan Weissmiller, Nov. 14, 2pm.

Falconer Gallery

Grinnell College, 1108 Park St., Grinnell, 641-269-4660

"Eye Play," family workshop, explore the gallery together and create simple animations, grades K-4 with adult, Oct. 30, 10-11:30am, call 641-269-4663 to register • "From Flipbooks to Flash," workshop, explore simple animation techniques in three sessions, grades 5-9, Nov. 6-Dec. 4, 10-11:30am, call 641-269-4663 to register • "Learning to Look," discussion group, plus one out-of-town museum day-trip, see more when you view art with others, high school-adult, through Dec. 7, every other Tuesday, 7-8pm, call 641-269-4663 to register • Jenny Anger, Grinnell College assoc. professor of art, shares perspectives on work by William Kentridge, Nov. 16, 4:15pm • Gallery Talks, Nov. 20, Susan Stewart, writer, 10am; William Kentridge, artist, 2pm; discussion, 3pm.

The Green Room

509 S. Gilbert St., Iowa City, 354-4350
Poetry Slam, Nov. 10 & 24, 9pm.

The History Center

615 1st Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-1501
Downtown Architectural Walking Tour, with historian Mark Hunter, Nov. 7, 2-3:30pm, begins and ends at the History Center • "The B-29 Bomber," Lawrence Robinson on Collins Radio's contributions to non-atomic weaponry in WWII, Nov. 14, 2-4pm • "Bells Are Ringing ~ Church Centennials," historian Mark Hunter

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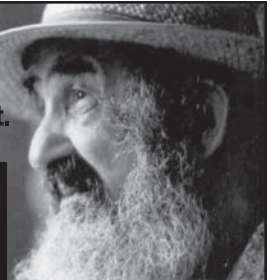
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- Thurs. 11/11 - The Unsung Forum (songwriters' workshop)
- Sat. 11/13 - KALIMBAMAN with NANCITA WERNETT
- Tues. 11/16 - ANNE HEATON & FRANK MORETTA JR.
- Thurs. 11/18 - Potluck Dinner and Jam 5 - 9 pm
- Sat. 11/20 - TEDDY GOLDSTEIN
- Tues. 11/30 - CATHERINE MOORE (performance art)

For more information, call 339-0401.

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- 3 Nov. The Close, Reverend Glasseye 9pm
- 5 Nov. Piebald, Triptii, Humans 6pm
- 6 Nov. LOCAL REGIONAL HIP-HOP SHOWCASE 9PM
- 8 Nov. The High Strung, Stars Hide Fire 5:30pm
- 10 Nov. The Western Front, The Escape Engine, Prom Night Tornado 9pm
- 11 Nov. Anything But Joey, Jupiter Sunrise 6pm
Meatjack, Kita 10pm
- 12 Nov. Brother Ali, Psalm One 6pm
The Metrolites 10pm
- 13 Nov. The Plastic Constellations, Ricky Fitts, Frankenixon, Marah-Mar 9pm
- 15 Nov. Bury Your Dead, Scars of Tomorrow 6pm
- 16 Nov. THE SHAPESHIFTERS 9PM
- 18 Nov. Troubled Hubble, Old Canes, Chin Up Chin Up, The Gunshy 9pm
- 19 Nov. East Eighteen, All But Screaming, Sea of Miranda 9pm
- 20 Nov. LEVEN, PIMPS, & FOUNDEAD, CREEPING CHARLY 9PM
- 21 Nov. Me Without You, Owen, Despitado, Faultlines 6pm
- 23 Nov. The Arcade Fire 9pm
- 27 Nov. WANKSGIVING 9PM

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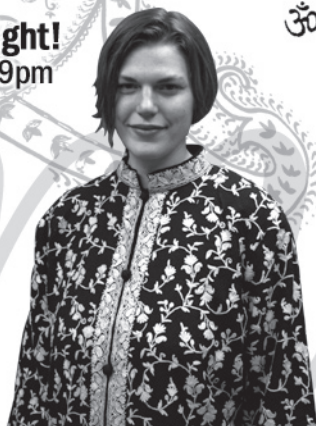
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Henna Night!
Nov 13, 6-9pm



on the history of four local churches celebrating the 100th anniversary of their buildings., Nov. 16, 12-1pm • "If I Were Elected President," area fifth graders present their versions of campaign speeches from the past, Nov. 21, 2-4pm.

Holiday Inn Conference Center

1220 First Ave., Coralville

Diabetes Awards Banquet and Health Fair, Oct. 29, health fair, 5-7pm; dinner, 7pm, keynote speaker Vivian Murray, executive director, Camp Hertzko Hollow, 337-8628 for info • Educational Seminar on Epilepsy, UI Health Care experts discuss epilepsy and seizures, Nov. 8, 6:30-8pm, 384-8442 to register • Midwest Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health Forum, Nov. 18-19, Thursday keynote by Chuck Fluharty, director of the Rural Policy Research Institute, "Community-Based Rural Policy," www.public-health.uiowa.edu/icash/ for info.

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200

Educational Program for Mental Illness Awareness Month, Oct. 28, 7-9:30pm, Meeting Rm. A • Kerry MeetUp, Oct. 28, 7-8pm, Meeting Rm. E • Discussion of *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, Nov. 1, 7-9pm, Meeting Rm. A • Community Reading Month Book Talk Lunch, books for grades 7-adult, Nov. 3, 12-1pm, Meeting Rm. A • "Images of America," International Writing Program participants reflect on their experiences in Iowa and the United States, Nov. 3, Meeting Rm. A • Johnson County Choice Action Team action planning meeting, Nov. 3, 7:30-9pm, Meeting Rm. E.

Iowa Memorial Union

UI campus, Iowa City

Linda Snetselaar, associate professor of epidemiology, Finding God at Iowa lunch series, Nov. 5, 12pm • "Innovations in Tobacco Control Policy—We Can Move the Mountain," Dr. Michael C. Fiore, professor of medicine and director and founder of the Center for Tobacco Research and Intervention, University of Wisconsin, Nov. 16, 12:30pm, Main Lounge.

Java House

211 E. Washington St., 341-0012

WSUI's "Iowa Talks Live from the Java House," Fridays, 10am

Macbride Hall

UI campus, Iowa City

"The Ice Age: Mammoths, Mastodons and Humans," Mark Anderson, Office of the State Archaeologist, Oct. 30, 1pm, 2pm & 3pm, Auditorium.

The Mill

120 E. Burlington St., Iowa City, 351-9529

Talk Art Cabaret, UI Workshop readings, Nov. 3 & 17, 10pm.

Monster Design Studio

716 Oakland Rd. NE, Cedar Rapids, 365-1844

CR Poets Poetry Slam, Oct. 1, 15 & 29, 8pm.

Mt. Mercy College

Cedar Rapids

Flaherty Community Rm., Basile Hall

"Understanding Islam," Anisa Mehdi, award-winning journalist, Oct. 28, 7pm • "Work of Shirin Neshat," art panel discusses this Iranian artist, Nov. 11, 7pm • "Understanding the Islamic Religion," Imam Ahmed Elkhalid, Islamic Center of Cedar Rapids, Nov. 22, 7pm.

Prairie Lights

15 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, 337-2681 (unless noted otherwise)

All 8pm, broadcast live on WSUI (unless noted otherwise)

Russell Banks, Oct. 28, Shambaugh Auditorium • Novelist Chuck Rosenthal reads from his memoir, *Never Let Me Go*, which describes the sexual abuse he endured as a young athlete, Oct. 29 • Sulkhan Zhordania (Georgia) and Vivienne Plumb (New Zealand) fiction, International Writing Program/Writers' Workshop reading, Oct. 31 and each Sunday, 5pm • Poets Jennifer K. Dick and Julie Carr read from their

debut collections, winners in the Contemporary Poetry Series Competition, Nov. 2 • Nancy Reisman reads from her Iowa Short Fiction Award-winning novel, *The First Desire*, Nov. 4 • Patricia Foster, Workshop grad and UI nonfiction writing program faculty member, reads from *Just Beneath My Skin: Autobiography and Self-Discovery*, Nov. 5 • Iowa City's Barbara Robinette Moss reads from her new novel, *Fierce*, Nov. 8, Shambaugh Auditorium • Joyelle McSweeney reads from her verse play, *Commandrine and Other Poems*, Nov. 9 • IC's Larry Baker reads from his new novel, *Athens, America*, Nov. 10 • Afghan writer Khaled Hosseini reads from *Kite Runner*, Nov. 11, Buchanan Aud., John Pappajohn Business Bldg. • Poet and filmmaker Bradley Paul reads from his first collection of poems, *The Obvious*, Nov. 12 • Des Moines teacher Charles Newton and Gretchen Cauffman sign copies of *A Disgrace to the Profession*, their hard-hitting expose of malfeasance in the public schools, Nov. 13, 12-1pm • Janet Desaulniers reads from her 2004 John Simmons Short Fiction Award-winning collection, *What You've Been Missing*, Nov. 15 • Jeff Shaara reads from his novel, *To the Last Man*, Nov. 17 • Poet Mark Irwin reads from his fifth collection, *Bright Hunger*, Nov. 18 •

Chuck Richards signs his full color picture book, *Jungle Gym Jitters*, Nov. 20, 2pm • Lisa Reardon reads from *The Mercy Killers*, Nov. 22 • Ruth Garrett reads from *Born Amish*, Nov. 29 • Peggy Gish reads from *Iraq: A Journey into Hope and Peace*, a personal story of her time with the Christian Peacekeeping Teams in Iraq, Nov. 30.

Ruby's Pearl

323 E. Market St., Iowa City, 248-0032

Erotica Reading, Nov. 4, 7-8:30pm.

Schaeffer Hall


UI campus, Iowa City


Saturday Scholars program, 10am, Rm 40 "Immigrants' America: Then and Now," Shelton Stromquist, department of history, Oct. 30.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City

"Iowa Wildlife Species and their Conservation," with naturalist Bradley Freidhof, Nov. 8, 10am • "Change and Progress: A Century in Review, Part IX. 1980s—Farm Depressions and Government Deregulations,"

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GRINNELL COLLEGE 

with historian Loren Horton, Nov. 8, 2pm • "Stock Investing Strategies," with Chad Andrews, Edward Jones, Nov. 9, 1-2:30pm, registration required • A Celebration for America's Veterans, Nov. 10, 2:30pm • Dr. Keyzom Bhutti, Tibetan medicine, Nov. 11, 7:30pm • "A Colonial Williamsburg Christmas," computer slide show by Jim Scheib, Nov. 12, 2-3:30pm • "Transitions: Senior Center to Postal Center. A Photographic Review of the Building at 28 S. Linn Street," with Linda Kopping, Nov. 17, 2pm • "An Inside Look at the *Press Citizen*," with *PC* editor Jim Lewers, Nov. 18, 1-2:30pm • "The Iowa City Flood of 1993," with Rick Fosse, Nov. 19, 2-3pm • "Our Veterans: A Tribute," with Janie Yates, Nov. 19, 2-3pm.

Shambaugh House

UI campus, Iowa City, 335-0128

Pakistani poet and scholar Alamgir Hashmi reads from his work, Oct. 29, 5pm.

UI Art Bldg.

UI campus, Iowa City

Alex Brown, lecture on his work, Nov. 11, 7pm, Rm. E109.

UI Museum of Art

150 North Riverside Dr., Iowa City, 335-1727

Gallery Talk, Sue Hettmansperger, Oct. 28, 2pm • Gallery Talk, Kee-ho Yuen, Oct. 28, 7:30pm • Know the Score," live radio program, Walter Thompson discusses and demonstrates his "soundpainting," with UI faculty member Jeff Agrell and musician Evan Mazunik, also songs of Edith Piaf, Oct. 30, 5-7pm • Gallery Tours: regionalist and early 20th-century American works in the museum's collection, Oct. 31; TBA, Nov. 7; curator Victoria Rovine leads a tour of *Beaded Rhythms: Women's Adornments from Northern Cameroon*, Nov. 14; all 2pm • H.D. Hoover, guest curator of the *History of Iowa in the Art of Maps* exhibition, speaks on the topic of maps as aesthetic documentation of historical and social progress, Nov. 4, 7:30pm • "Know the Score," live radio program, UI scholars consider what the sound of our voices may suggest about race, culture or class, Nov. 12, 5-7pm.

Women's Resource & Action Center

Iowa City, 335-1486

Feminist Fiction Reading Group, *The Female Man*, by Johanna Russ, Nov. 17, 8pm • Feminist Art Circle,

resource sharing, field trips and workshops, Thursdays, 5:30pm.

Film/Video

Cedar Rapids Museum of Art

410 Third Ave. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-7503

"Roman Expansion in Italy; The Roman Confederation in Italy," film and lecture, Nov. 27, 1-2pm.

Misc.

Brucemore

2160 Linden Drive SE, Cedar Rapids, 362-7375

Holiday House Tours, Nov. 26-Dec. 31, Tues.-Sat., 10am-3pm; Sun, 12-3pm.

IC Public Library

123 Linn St., Iowa City, 356-5200

Rotaract Halloween Party, Rotaract is a local and national service organization for people ages 18-30, Oct. 31, 2-4pm.

Monster Design Studio

716 Oakland Rd. NE, Cedar Rapids, 365-1844

Kids Halloween Party and Costume Parade, Oct. 30, 12-2pm.

Public Space One

6 1/2 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City

Stitch 'n' Bitch, knitters, Tuesdays, 4-6:30pm, emily-maloney@uiowa.edu for more info.

Ruby's Pearl

323 E. Market St., Iowa City, 248-0032

"Drag Out Yer Best," drag workshop for kings, queens and in-betweens, experts teach make-up, moves and style, Nov. 13, 7-9pm.

Theatre Cedar Rapids

102 Third St. SE, Cedar Rapids, 366-8592

TCR Costume Blow-Out, costumes for sale, Oct. 28-29, 9am-5pm.

Ushers Ferry Historical Village

5925 Seminole Valley Trail NE, Cedar Rapids, 286-5763

Harvest Dinner, Nov. 13, 6pm, reservations required • Thanksgiving Candlelight Tour, Nov. 26-27, 4-8pm.

Veterans Memorial Coliseum

Second Avenue Bridge, Cedar Rapids

Friends of CR Library Book Sale, Nov. 5, 6-10pm; Nov. 6, 9am-5pm; Nov. 7, 12-5pm.

Classes/Camps

Macbride Hall

UI campus, Iowa City

"Art! It's Natural," art classes for children first through third grades, 10:30am-12pm: Oct. 30, "Sculpt a Reptile"; register at 335-0481.

Monster Design Studio

716 Oakland Rd. NE, Cedar Rapids, 365-1844

Kids Art Classes, Saturdays, 11am-12pm.

New Pioneer Co-op

Coralville

Pizza from Scratch with Chad Clark, Nov 9, 6-8pm, register by calling 338-9441, ext. 36.

School for the Performing Arts

209 N. Linn St., Iowa City, 341-0166

Acting and music classes and lessons for all ages and abilities. Scene study, Kindermusik, group guitar and more. No audition necessary. Call, or visit www.schoolperformingarts.com to register or for more info.

Senior Center

28 S. Linn St., Iowa City

Learn to Play a Band Instrument, Mondays, through Dec. 6, 5:30-6:30pm, pre-register, open to the public.

Spooky Sprint 5K Charity Fun Run

Oct. 31, 10am, Seaman Center, UI campus

Prizes and breakfast, dress in costume, proceeds to Emergency Housing Project (EHP) of Iowa City.

HOWLEDAY
NOVEMBER 7TH - IMU MAIN LOUNGE

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Nov 5 Joe Price**

**Sat
Nov 6 Dennis McMurrin &
The Demolition Band**

**Fri
Nov 12 Backyard Tire Fire
Brother Trucker
+ Red Smear**

**Sat
Nov 13 BJ Jagers
& The Jagoffs**

**Wed
Nov 17 Jay Farrar 8pm
from Son Volt and Uncle Tupelo
featuring Mark Spencer
from the Blood Oranges
Anders Parker opens
\$12 advance \$15 day of show**

**Fri
Sat 19 Euforquestra**

**Sat
Nov 20 Spin Spin Coupling +
Foolhardy +
Futurerock**

**Sat
Nov 27 Kelly Pardekooper**

Every Sunday - No Rules Open Mic
1/2 priced ribs \$2 ICYC Pints

Every Monday - Texas Hold'em
\$2 High Life/Busch Lite

Every Tuesday - Hip Hop Night
\$2 Pints/wells

Every Wednesday - Jam Band Jam
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ASK RUBY

The purpose of "ask Ruby" is to give honest and accurate information regarding sex and sexual relationships and to promote mutual and consensual sexual practices. We believe strongly that censorship is a method of patriarchal control used to shut fiery, feisty folks down. This column is intended as a blow to barriers that keep people from experiencing good communication around sex.

Bad Vibrations

Dear Ruby,

I recently bought a personal vibrator, but when I opened the package, it felt kind of slimy and had a serious chemical smell to it. I tried washing it with soap and water, but the stinky slime did not go away. I'm not sure I want it anywhere near me. What should I do?

Skeptical

Dear Skeptical,

I can understand why you would not want to play with a toy that has an unpleasant texture and smell. Your instincts are right on! Just say no to nasty toys.

Recently, the staff at Ruby's has become aware of some materials used in manufacturing sex toys that are less than appealing in many ways. Toys that are made of "jelly rubber" or "jelly vinyl" often have an unpleasant chemical odor and an oozy texture that doesn't quit. Some folks who have used these types of toys have reported burning sensations or other unpleasant side effects.

Turns out these playthings may not be very good for your health. A German research team has been studying consumer products for years and found that unsafe chemicals are "off-gassing" from many popular items. Toys made from these materials contain up to 10 unsafe chemicals, the most serious of which are known as phthalates. Consumer protection groups have gotten baby toys, teething rattles made with these chemicals taken off

retail shelves because they are clearly harmful to vital organs.

Speaking of vital organs, the sex toy industry is huge these days, as the popularity of intimate playthings continues to grow. There are no controls currently placed on manufacturers regarding the materials they can or cannot use in their products. For that reason, here is how you can recognize these toys and avoid their use if you so choose.

Jelly toys are typically translucent bright colors, or clear. They may be thin and stretchy, or thick and semi-rigid. Invariably, they have a slightly slimy texture and chemical odor that does not go away with washing. These toys are also porous, and therefore cannot be disinfected and cannot be used safely with casual acquaintances. The old maxim "You get what you pay for" rings true here—they are among the cheapest toys on the market. For more information about phthalates and health, check out these websites:

www.cbc.ca/consumers/market/files/health/sex_show_2001/sex_toys.html

www.nottoopretty.org/

www.chemicalbodyburden.org/

www.noharm.org/pvcDehp/phthalatesDehp

So Ruby says choose carefully, do a sniff test and consider paying a little extra for the toys that won't harm your body. To keep all your parts healthy and happy, use only hard plastic, silicone or non-jelly types of vinyl.

*Smiles,
Ruby*

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319.339.9403

We do not claim to have all the answers, but we do have extended experience, both personal and professional. Questions should be mailed to Ruby's Pearl, 323 E. Market St., Iowa City, IA 52240, 319-248-0032 or emailed to rubyspearl@excite.com

♈ ARIES - This month, dreams of a better life will arise, stirred by positive developments in partnership areas. However, caution is strongly advised. Do not be carried away by reckless impulses or over-active hormones. Existing personal obligations impose legitimate restraints. Also, new partnership arrangements could put long-term financial holdings at risk. If you give in to temptation or act without sufficient safeguards, there will be consequences down the line. Take the high road. When appropriate, admit to yourself that you cannot see your way clear or things don't seem quite right.

♉ TAURUS - There are mixed signals all month. You will not see eye to eye with authority figures and, some days, you won't see things clearly at all. Your personal influence will peak early in November, leaving you somewhat exposed by month's end. Your partners and rivals seem to be holding all the cards. However, if you can fulfill your obligations graciously, and politely hold your ground, you will succeed nicely. Take things slowly and carefully. Your financial and work situations are set to improve significantly without further action on your part.

♊ GEMINI - You could well find yourself surrounded by nervous, impatient and confused people this month, but it is Gemini's turn to coast. While others swim hard just to stay afloat, Gemini will find things working smoothly. You can observe events and manage your affairs from a comfortable, protected niche. However, a tight budget will still impose limitations. Establish a solid foundation so you can expand later, when finances ease further. Shed old work habits that keep you on the job longer than necessary. Schedule some quality time with your own thoughts.

♋ CANCER - You might feel at a disadvantage for most of November, subject to circumstances beyond your control. Forced decisions. Hard choices. You might have to deliver unwelcome news or stern advice to those you hold dear. Set some boundaries anyway. Things are not at all as bad as they might seem. If you look closely, you will see that strong, lasting and positive patterns are taking shape in important areas of your life. Speaking hard truths or establishing firm limits with others is essential to building a better future for yourself.

♌ LEO - There's a lot of turmoil this month. The situation at home and with important associates might be especially troubling and confusing. And you will have to exert yourself to curb the rambunctious and reckless impulses of youngsters over whom you might have authority. However, your reflexes are good and you will be able to impose your will as needed. You might feel too much at the mercy of random events during November, but you will emerge very much in charge by month's end. Romance and creativity are especially well aspected.

♍ VIRGO - Your business and personal lives are rearranging themselves more in keeping with your hopes and aspirations. Many personal and business relationships will end, as new, more enduring and productive relationships take shape. The expansion of personal and professional activity you hope for won't be possible until unproductive ties are broken. Immature, unreliable, impulsive people won't fit anymore. If you watch the big picture or try to influence it, it will probably make you dizzy. Try to keep your eye on the details as they fall into place. Trust the outcome.

♎ LIBRA - Creative and romantic activities are powerfully stimulated and positively aspected in November. Good things will happen and they will have lasting effects. Early November is the best time to exert your considerable influence—but know when to stop. Power plays could backfire. You could find yourself walking a pretty fine line by month's end. Gracefully accept the guidance of older and wiser heads throughout the month, even when they impose limits. Impulsive actions, especially in romance, could have unfortunate consequences. Coming changes could catch you up short. When partying, don't overdo.

♏ SCORPIO - I fear Scorpio will find November frustrating. The impulse to act will be constant and strong and you can practically taste your potential influence over events. The problem is that your hands are tied. You can't depend on your partner, with whom you feel especially close now. Their hands are tied, too. That is probably just as well, since, if either of you were free to act, you wouldn't get it right. Things are more complicated than you can imagine. Trust the course of events. There is magic in that.

♐ SAGITTARIUS - You will have a hard time not being swept away in the glamour of exciting, new possibilities for your future. You will also probably be very annoyed as someone—an older, wiser person, or perhaps someone in authority over you—sets strict terms, limits and conditions. The thing of it is that, right now, if you totally had your way, you would live to regret it. This person is doing what is needed to ensure your emotional, physical and financial wellbeing, long term, and they are doing it well.

♑ CAPRICORN - This month, Capricorns might feel out of the loop. It seems like their input is being ignored and their contributions slighted. The problem could be that Capricorns are the ones who will have to say, "No." Or it might be that the best developments are in unglamorous areas like home, family, emotional health, insurance, pensions—all the invisible but vital underpinnings of your lifestyle. But many things are moving in Capricorn's favor, and you will often get the last word. You just won't get everything you want; but who does?

♒ AQUARIUS - Aquarians must take special care not to live in their own little dream worlds now. Your uplifting spirit is needed in these uncertain and troubled times. Your ability to inspire is peaking, too. Those responding to today's troubling world events need much guidance. Other authorities are sending mixed messages. If your love of life and humanity does not draw you out, economic and health issues might. Your lifestyle support system needs attention. One way or another, you should leverage your profound optimism into cash and expanding your personal support network.

♓ PISCES - Your desire to explore distant places and new ideas is being effectively blocked by financial and other kinds of practical hassles on the local level. You are probably entertaining unrealistic thoughts about what such adventures could bring you. Also, you cannot venture away now without shortchanging those around you and undermining your own security. Get your mind off things for a while. The various ties that presently hinder you will unravel themselves, in time. If you let matters run their course, you will be more than satisfied with the results.



- 28 Public Property**
- 29 Family Groove Co. + Deuce**
- 30 Euforquestra**
- 2 Sam Knutson
Matt Grimm + Jen Gloeckner**
- 3 Bockman Euphio
Bent Wookie Breakdown**
- 4 Tony Furtado**
- 5 SWING CREW**
- 6 Damen Dotson Band**
- 9 Tell Julia**
- 10 Poetry Slam**
- 11 Oteil Burbridge and the Peacemakers
+ The Gglitch**
- 12 Bottom Feeder + Breakdance
Miracles of God + Hoopride**
- 13 UNITED NATIONS**
- 16 Hot Buttered Rum Stringband
+ Euphoria**
- 17 Important People and Meetings**
- 18 Railroad Earth
Mr. Baber's Neighbors: The Solar String Band**
- 19 Lucky Boys Confusion**
- 20 PERPETUAL GROOVE**
- 26 Korey Bassett & Kevin Bassett DJ**
- 27 Funkmaster Cracker**
- 30 THE GREYHOUNDS
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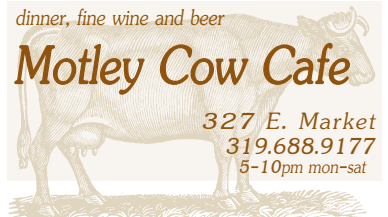
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