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ONE!**

A L W A Y S F R E E

ISSUE 232 NOV. 15-DEC. 5, 2017

NEWS • CULTURE • EVENTS • CEDAR RAPIDS • IOWA CITY • CORALVILLE

# LITTLE VILLAGE

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Australian National Maritime Museum

## 10 2017 Election

Mazahir Salih earns a seat on the Iowa City Council.

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**Little Village** is an independent, community-supported news and culture publication based in Iowa City. Through journalism, essays and events, we work to improve our community in the Iowa City, Coralville and Cedar Rapids area according to a few core values: environmental sustainability, affordability and access, economic and labor justice, racial justice, gender equity, quality healthcare, quality education and critical culture.

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Mazahir Salih  
Photo by Zak Neumann

VOICEMAILS

Iowa City schools will get rid of controversial temporary seclusion rooms

How the hell was this legal in the first place? —Brad Pector

Can you say school to prison? —Jeremy Endsley

In my day we just sat in a desk at the front of the room facing everyone else. The chair of embarrassment. Mid-70s small town. —Carolynn Evans

How is it that the schools got away with this without parents knowing about them? I've never heard of them and my kid is almost 17. He's never been a troubled maker but still something I'm shocked over. —Lisa Detweiler

About fucking time. —Jenny J Arnold

'The Wood Problem' explores the tension between Grant Wood and the University of Iowa

Because sexuality and religion matter so much when you enjoy someone's art?? —Karen Parrott

The art isn't part of that, agreed. But everybody has to decide what their personal compass permits—there are many folks who won't listen to Wagner because of his views. —Joe Altmaier

Op-Ed: West High women are taking their power back

Ugh. Time to dump the "boys will be boys" mentality. —Pamela Miller-Dekeyser

En Español: Argentina's deep political divisions have created a 'cold civil war'

"Cold Civil War" is how I've been describing America's political climate for years, now. —John F. Michalski

Bidding the iconic University of Iowa Field House pool a fond farewell

Glad I got to watch my son swim there for club meets, and grateful for the



Thomas Agran

Sunday, Nov. 5, 9:37 p.m.  
 "Hi this is a Colorado resident here in Iowa City lookin at your piece of shit Little Village Magazine and I'm pretty mad about my president being on the front of your cover like this. You need to take it off. You need to apologize. I will fight. I will contact everybody I need to to get this off of the front of this page. You will be accounted for as far as... you'll take accountability for this. Um... bye."

Sunday, Nov. 5, 9:48 p.m.  
 "I'll be taking your newspaper and your phone numbers to Colorado Springs and letting everybody know you guys are wrong and you shouldn't be putting this shit out for people as far as our president and you will pay." —Anonymous

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**DONALD TRUMP'S GUIDE TO CRISIS MANAGEMENT**

1) DEFLECT, DEFLECT, DEFLECT!  
 TRUMP DIDN'T COLLUDE WITH RUSSIA! HILLARY CLINTON'S THE ONE WHO COLLUDED WITH RUSSIA!  
 ALSO, WHAT IS THE DEAL WITH THAT WEIRD SPRAY TAN OR WHATEVER IT IS? SHE LOOKS LIKE A RACCOON, WITH THOSE GOGGLE MARKS AROUND HER EYES!  
 EXCELLENT QUESTIONS, SIR.

2) DENY EVERYTHING!  
 I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THIS SO-CALLED CAMPAIGN MANAGER, PAUL MANAFORT! LET ALONE THE LOW-LEVEL CAMPAIGN VOLUNTEER, GEORGE WHAT'S-HIS-NAME!  
 YES SIR, I'LL ALERT THE MEDIA, SIR. WHO ARE YOU, AGAIN?

3) UNDERMINE OBJECTIVE REALITY AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY!  
 MANY PEOPLE ARE SAYING, RUSSIA IS COMPLETELY IMAGINARY! THERE'S NO SUCH PLACE! THE LYING MEDIA MADE THE WHOLE THING UP!  
 THAT'S JUST WHAT I HEARD.

4) IMPULSIVELY TWEET YOUR REACTIONS TO WHATEVER YOU JUST SAW ON "FOX AND FRIENDS!"  
 IS NANCY PELOSI AN ALIEN SHAPE-SHIFTER ON A SECRET MISSION TO DESTROY THE PRESIDENT?  
 WE ARE JUST ASKING!  
 Why don't weak Democrats DO SOMETHING about Nancy Pelosi who may be (is) an Alien (Space Monster) shifting her Shapes? SAD!

5) TURN YOUR WEAKNESSES INTO STRENGTHS!  
 THE PRESIDENT'S NOT SMART ENOUGH TO COLLUDE WITH RUSSIA!  
 IT'S A WONDER HE CAN DRESS HIMSELF!  
 6) DEFLECT SOME MORE!  
 How many people has Crooked H defrauded with her Private University and real estate Scams? SAD!  
 UM, SIR?

TOM TOMORROW © 2017

opportunity to coach and officiate there. An old relic, but the history!  
—*Kelly Plumber*

Was a lifeguard and a regular lap swimmer at Field House pool during mid-day open swim hours in 1981. I was working when news came over the pool speakers that President Reagan had been shot. Walking to VAMC before 6 a.m. for a student job in a lab, the pool windows would be shining bright as the swim team trained.  
—*Catharine Phillips*

It's been having operational and structural issues since the mid 1990s. Lots of fun memories training, racing and coaching there for me.  
—*Donald P. Spellman*

I work for facilities management at the U and have been told it costs \$200k a year just in the water bill because the pool leaks so bad. It's a great opportunity for the Field House to be updated. There is no AC in most of the work out spaces and this will create a great place for all university workers and students west of the river to work out. Glad they aren't tearing it down for a hotel for the hospital like originally discussed. I for one am excited for the renovations!  
—*Richard Hall*

**Gov. Kim Reynolds offers a new explanation for why she called Iowa liberals 'unhinged'**

At least she hasn't selected any vitriolic figureheads to help with her upcoming campaign team yet. That would be embarrassing and hypocritical. Whoops. I spoke too soon.  
—*Kieran Leopold*

Oh yeah, picking Steve King will really improve the level of constructive discourse. Such a level headed mellow guy. I am so ashamed for Iowa—Reynolds, King, Ernst and Grassley. Iowans are in trouble.  
—*Deb Schmalz*

I don't see how this is any different than "basket of deplorables." Both poor choices of words and both examples of poor leadership.  
—*Rich Young*

Civility may well start with the governor of a state not calling her citizens "unhinged."  
—*Suzi Monkman*

Hmmmmm. Sounds like trying to blame the "left" for folks that don't

approve of work done. Sounds like she could fit right into Washington congress types right now ... Don't mind the noise, Kimmy ... get something going worth praise and it will be there for you.  
—*Ardalia Williams*

Her explanation doesn't match what she said. As usual ...  
—*Carol Erban*

Reynolds is a blithering idiot.  
—*Tena Kapp*

Submit comics to: [Comics@LittleVillageMag.com](mailto:Comics@LittleVillageMag.com)



Sam Locke Ward

**Seattle joins Iowa City as a UNESCO City of Literature**

I'd thought Trump ruined the UNESCO relationship/affiliation, so this is good to hear. —*Lindsay Gingerich*

**Iowa City Police chaplain program contested by national, local secular groups**

"The Iowa City Police Chaplain Corps is a volunteer service consisting of vowed men and women who support and assist the community." Just to be clear, people with nothing better to do are getting their panties in a wad about a volunteer chaplain program requiring voluntary applicants to be chaplains. —*Nathan Poage*

chap-lain (noun)—a member of the clergy attached to a private chapel, institution, ship, branch of the armed forces, etc.

Yes ... a volunteer program that is limited to only those with religious ties is discriminatory. Maybe require they have a counseling degree instead of a religious one? Since one is actually useful. —*Josh Combs*

I do hope the local police chief/politicians don't try to fight this. They will spend thousands of their constituents tax dollars on a losing fight. There is no excuse whatsoever for this sort of 'chaplaincy' program. Other cities don't have one. Why should this one? What is the 'secular purpose' of these taxpayer-sponsored clergy? Does this program pass ANY of the three prongs of the Lemon test? Are the people who created this program ignorant of the law regarding religious establishment, or are they just being intentionally insubordinate? Do we want people who either don't know or don't care about what the law says to be administering the law? —*Netizen\_James*

**Sam Clovis is out one day after Sen. Grassley defended his nomination to be the top scientist at the USDA**

What?!!!! But he was such an accomplished scientist. —*Jamie Newton*

Grassley is incapable of thinking now days. Maybe he really should think about stepping down—a little senility setting in! —*Mary Ann Walter*

A little? Settling? More like a lot and it's already settled. —*John Logsdon*

The man didn't meet the requirements for the position as required by federal law. He never should have been considered in the first place. I've lost all respect for Grassley and I never had any for Ernst. —*Robert Harrison*

**Sam Clovis: The Iowa connection to the arrests in the Trump/Russia investigation**

Gotta love his "I didn't mean anything I said, I'm just a polite Midwestern guy" defense. Raygun needs to jump on that one. —*Norbert Sarsfield*

They're gonna need a bigger cell. —*Ben Craighton*



**READER POLL:**

**Where do you do most of your holiday shopping?**



**Chuck Grassley and Joni Ernst help kill a rule protecting consumers from predatory banks and credit card companies**

Both of them have disappointed me on this issue. Grassley likes to portray himself as the folksy everyman, protecting the "little guy." This doesn't wash. Ernst, on the other hand, seems to have no mind of her own, follows the "to get along, just go along" path and her best defense is "I was just following orders." History shows that doesn't work in the long run. —*Al Taggart*

When does Joni begin to "make 'em squeal" in DC? Oh, yeah, they're squealing—with delight. —*Jim Davis*

#Traitors to all but their corporate puppet masters. —*Frank Iowa*

Gee, thanks, guys. I'm sure this will greatly benefit the people of Iowa. Good looking out. —*Hart G. Epstein*

I am sorry I live in Iowa every time I see these 2 bozos. —*Doug Dillow*

I swear these people prey on our civility. —*Jason Agne*

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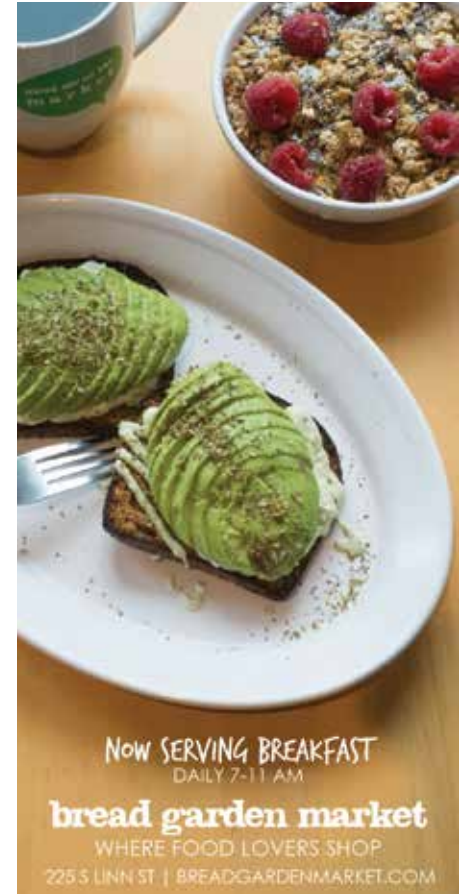
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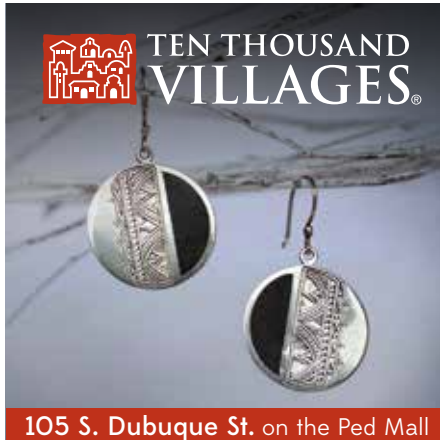
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## Democracy in Crisis

# Conspiracy Theories

The government's case in J20 trial sets low-bar for conspiracy charges.

BY BAYNARD WOODS

A year ago, after the election of Donald Trump, Dylan Petrohilos hung an Antifa flag out in front of his house.

"I had [the flag] flying outside my home because Trump was elected and there was a belief he was a fascist, and so we had this idea that we needed to bring back the moniker of anti-fascism," Petrohilos told me at a bar where he was discussing the Washington D.C. Riot Act case with other defendants arrested in connection with the protests of Trump's inauguration.

When Petrohilos' home was raided by D.C. police in April, the flag was the first thing they took. They also took seven small black flags, copies of *The Nation* and *In These Times* magazines and a banner, made during the financial crisis, that read "Kiss Capitalism Goodbye."

These items are evidence in the J20 case, the first mass trial of which begins this week. Most of the defendants were arrested on Inauguration Day, after a protest (which the government has called a riot) resulted in several broken windows and other damage. Police officers threw more than 70 "non-lethal" grenades, sprayed dozens of canisters of pepper spray and cordoned off around 200 people in a "kettle" flanked by riot police and walls on all sides.

And though the Department of Justice claims that Petrohilos conspired to plan the riot, he was not arrested that day. He says he was not even there.

But the fact that he spoke about J20, a group that planned inauguration day protests, on a podcast and was recorded by undercover police and the far-right sting video site Project Veritas at protest planning meetings has put Petrohilos at the center of what could be the most important political conspiracy trial of a generation—one that could change the way we think about our data and other records of our actions.

Almost any statement made by Petrohilos about the day's protest was at play in what was to be the final hearing before this week's trials. The Nov. 9 hearing was intended to establish the fact of the conspiracy, a move

that would make co-conspirators' statements admissible in court, despite hearsay rules.

Prosecutor Jennifer Kerkhoff cited statements made on the *It's Going Down* podcast as evidence of conspiracy. At one point, the judge, Lynn Leibovitz, surmised that appearing on a podcast required planning, so if Petrohilos was going on the podcast to talk about the protests perhaps the existence of the podcast could be evidence of conspiring.

"Saying that coming on a podcast recorded for public consumption to talk about a public demonstration is evidence of conspiracy, is like saying that someone writing a column in *High Times* is proof that they are in a drug cartel," Paul Hernandez, a member of the *It's Going Down* editorial collective wrote me. "The State is trying to make the case that anyone that attends a demonstration or protest is thus involved in a conspiracy."

All the prosecution needed to establish was

## All the prosecution needed to establish was a conspiracy to commit any crime.

a conspiracy to commit *any* crime, including "conspiracy to disrupt public congress." This could refer to any protest at any time.

"This is a fundamental attack on the right to organize," Petrohilos said.

Petrohilos is not among those to stand trial this week. The prosecution classed all of the defendants into four categories based on their alleged involvement in planning or participating in the riot. He is in category two, which Kerkhoff has referred to in court as the "planners."

"Dylan Petrohilos said, 'Come with me if you want to talk about black bloc. I am black bloc,'" Kerkhoff said in court, citing the planning meeting that was infiltrated.

"Black bloc" is the essence of a large part of the J20 charges. It is a political strategy in which wearing identical clothing and face masks allows a group to move collectively through the city in protest, mimicking the black flag of anarchism and making it harder

for police to identify individuals, which is why the government is using clothing as evidence of conspiracy.

Isaac Dalto, Petrohilos' friend who is also included in category two as a planner, says the government is using affiliation with the Industrial Workers of the World union, for whom he organizes, as evidence of conspiracy.

"Because they went to legitimate, aboveground union meetings about forming a union in their workplace, their Google calendars say IWW, and that's being used against them to prove membership in this criminal conspiracy that we're alleged to be part of," says Dalto.

"Conspiring to commit lawful acts is not a crime. It's not a conspiracy. It's called organizing," he said. "That's the real danger of this case to democracy and dissent in this country—that any form of organizing or civil resistance stands to become a crime."

The threshold for conspiracy is so low that two journalists, Aaron Cantú and Alexei Wood, are still facing charges for following a group that they were covering. Wood is part of the group who demanded a speedy trial and so goes to court Nov. 15.

With long hair, black clothes and a leather

wide-brimmed hat, Wood may have looked a bit like an outlaw at

the hearing, but he was arrested and charged with conspiring because he was livestreaming the political actions.

"The chilling effect is obvious," he said. "It took me months to go document another protest. Even the most, like, Grannies Against Trump thing, I didn't want to go to. I was traumatized. Absolutely traumatized."

Finally, he says, on May Day, he was fed up.

"I was like, 'Fuck it, this is what I do. This is my beat. This is what I've done for years,'" Wood said. "I didn't do anything wrong. I live-streamed myself from beginning to end, and the entire world can decide whether I incited a riot ... it's out there for the whole world to decide, and I'm glad it is."

*Baynard Woods is a reporter at the Real News Network and the founder of Democracy in Crisis. Email baynard@democracyincrisis.com; Twitter @baynardwoods*





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# Victory Party

Mazahir Salih gained a seat on the Iowa City Council. • BY PAUL BRENNAN

Zak Neumann/Little Village

The morning after winning a seat on the Iowa City Council, Mazahir Salih was up early working to support one of the causes she believes in. She testified before the Johnson County Board of Supervisors on community IDs, even though she'd barely had any sleep.

"News people had been calling me all night," Salih told *Little Village*. That's not surprising. Salih's decisive win in her race for an open city council at-large seat was featured in

news stories about the numerous progressive electoral victories across the nation on Nov. 7, because Salih is reportedly the first Sudanese-American woman elected to office in the United States.

That Salih wasn't taking a day off following an intense, eight month-long campaign also wasn't surprising, according to Charlie Eastham, who served as the treasurer for Salih's campaign.

"I've known Mazahir for over five years," said Eastham, a prominent human rights activist in Iowa City for four decades. "I've known her as a very

diligent, hardworking community organizer and very effective in her work. She is both fearless and very pleasant."

Salih's background as a community organizer—along with Eastham, she was part of the group that organized the Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa in 2012, and has served as the center's president—prepared her for many aspects of campaigning, but not all.

"It was really hard for me to ask money for myself. It wasn't normal, you know?" Salih said. "I've asked for money for organizations before, but never for myself."

**Mazahir Salih celebrates a landslide victory at the Mill with Royceann Porter and a room full of supporters.**

Salih said the campaign's original fundraising goal was \$7,000. Her campaign ended up raising more than twice that amount, despite the \$100 limit on contributions in city elections in Iowa City.

"It was an almost unprecedented amount," Eastham said. "It's a reflection of the number of people who know her and understand what Mazahir stands



for, campaigned for and lives out in her life.”

Salih said the three issues she stressed in her campaign—affordable housing, improved public transportation and economic development that helps everyone—will be her primary focus at first.

“I’m trying to prepare myself now, talking to people who really have experience with these issues,” Salih said. “So we can find some ideas to put before the council when I take my seat in January.” LV/

*Paul Brennan is a staff writer/editor at Little Village.*

## FAST FACTS ABOUT THE NOV. 7 ELECTION

**1. Big cities, small turnout.** Only 15.5 percent of registered voters cast a ballot in Iowa City. In Linn County, the auditor’s office had predicted a turnout of approximately 30 percent for Cedar Rapids, but just 20.38 percent of the city’s voters exercised their franchise. Some smaller communities, like Oxford in Johnson County (44 percent turnout), did much better.

**2. Linn loves libraries.** Voters in two Linn County cities, Hiawatha and Center Point, approved funding proposals for their libraries. It was a different story in Tiffin, the only Johnson County city with a similar measure on the ballot. Voters there rejected a new tax levy for the library, 59 percent to 41 percent.

**3. “Unopposed” doesn’t mean no one opposes you.** Candidates for mayor in seven Johnson County cities—Coralville, Hills, North Liberty, Oxford, Shueyville, Tiffin and University Heights—ran unopposed. Officially, at least. Write-in votes for other candidates hit the double digits in each of those races. Write-in votes accounted for more than 30 percent of votes cast for mayor in Shueyville.

**4. The election that almost wasn’t (part one).** No one filed to run for one of the open city council seats in Linn County’s Prairieburg (pop. 181). Faced with a blank space on the ballot, 40 voters (35 percent of the city’s 114 registered voters) wrote in a candidate. Sandy Marsh won the race, with 23 votes.

**5. The election that almost wasn’t (part two).** North Liberty had the most disappointing turnout numbers. Only 547 people bothered to vote. That’s just 4.9 percent of the city’s registered voters.

**6. Take two.** The Cedar Rapids mayoral election will be decided in a runoff vote on Dec. 5 between the top two candidates, Monica Vernon and Brad Hart. Fewer than 70 votes separated the candidate in second place, Hart, from the candidate in third place, Scott Olson. LV/

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We never claimed to be experts! • BY LITTLE VILLAGE STAFF

**IT'S ECONOMICAL! PICKS UNDER \$16/750 ml**



## Baron de Breban Brut Blanc de Blancs

My vote is for more Champagne (or sparkling wine)! After a long day of holiday eating and socializing, a glass of bubbly really is the perfect refresher. Crisp and dry with perfect tiny bubbles that buzz around on your tongue, it's an

instant lift for your mood and your energy. It's a great addition to any party, holiday or not—and after the holiday season, it's my favorite way to bring a little festivity to an evening bath or Sunday family dinner.

—Frankie Schneckloth



## 19 Crimes Hard Chard

When I was young, I drank my \$5 pink wine straight from the bottle, still in the paper bag, while brazenly wandering through public parks with my friends, yelling drunkenly at them that they “just didn’t understand my life, OK?!?!?”

Now that I am old, I have put away childish things. White zin is the devil’s wine, my children. And sweet wines come with a wicked headache. One thing I haven’t lost, though, is my fascination for extralegal behavior—and a particular passion of

mine, more than public intox, is historical crime.

Enter 19 Crimes. This Australian vintner celebrates the country’s past by highlighting the criminals who founded it (each settler was charged with at least one of a list of 19 crimes). As a bonus, the company offers an app that, when your phone is pointed at a bottle, turns the convict on the label into a storyteller spinning their sordid tale—perfect for those who (like me) wish to avoid small talk at dinner parties.

Hard Chard is the label’s only white. It features the mug of Jane Castings, and notes on the back that approximately 20 percent of those shipped from England to Australia were women. (We

won’t get into the stereotypes inherent in associating the only woman featured with the only white wine offered.) The wine is dry enough to offer a crisp mouthfeel and a clean finish, but the flavor has a hint of sweetness to it, making it ideal for mixed company, where you don’t know everyone’s preferred flavor profile. —Genevieve Trainor



## Cedar Ridge Edelweiss

Not just for the holidays, but year-round, this summery white is my go-to. It might be its lovely but subtle sweetness and whispers of peaches and apricots, or the way it reminds me of warmer and brighter days even in the grip of

winter, or maybe even my obsession with *The Sound of Music*, as it feels only right to give my own rendition of “Edelweiss” every

time I pour myself a glass. Great for ending long days and starting long nights. Give this one a try!  
—*Jav Ducker*



**Ackerman Winery blueberry wine** This may be the most dangerous wine I've ever tasted. A sip can quickly turn into me stumbling around with an empty bottle and a blue-stained mouth a la Ben Wyatt in *Parks and Recreation*

when the character is first introduced to blueberry wine.

That is to say, this muffin in a glass is delicious and highly drinkable. Despite its red-blue color, Ackerman's blueberry wine is more comparable to a sweet white like Moscato, but with the nice tart finish you can expect given its essential fruit. If nothing else, this delightful little wine is worth it for the excuse to visit Ackerman Winery in Amana, Iowa, which is beautiful in the fall and winter.

—*Emma McClatchey*



**Casillero del Diablo Carménère** When bringing bottles of wine to holiday get-togethers, I have three rules: the bottle has to look nice on the table, the wine has to be reasonably priced and tasty, and it's always nice

to have some little story to tell. This one ticks all those boxes. Casillero del Diablo's Carménère is fairly easy to find and isn't terribly pricey. It starts off with almost peppery notes but evens out into softer, fruitier flavors, and isn't so dry that it makes your teeth feel like they are coming loose. It works well with carb and meat-filled holiday meals, or on its own.

Plus, the grapes themselves

have an interesting story. In the '90s, a grape expert was looking at "Merlot" vines in Chilean vineyards and realized they weren't Merlot at all, but an obscure varietal called Carménère. The Carménère grape is originally from France, but nearly disappeared due to a one-two punch of pest infestations and generally being seen as a persnickety grape to grow. In the mid-1800s, before this loss of popularity, vineyards in Chile imported grapes from Bordeaux, including Carménère, which became mislabeled over time. Now, some Chilean vineyards are trying to bring this grape back from obscurity, and I'm all for it. —*Lauren Shotwell*



**Frixenet Cava** For someone who spent two years working the back offices of the dominating fine wine retailer in New Zealand, I have an embarrassingly undeveloped knowledge of the

stuff. I learned some but retained next to nothing, and being more of a swallower myself, have few critical tasting skills. Though I drank dozens (hundreds?) of bottles based on the recommendations of my office mates, these days, when I reach through the cobwebs of my neglected cellar of information, all I can find are wines that just don't make it to Iowa.

One thing I did retain is this: you do not have a civilized barbecue or holiday meal without a bottle of celebratory bubbles to break the ice. I recommend Frixenet Cava, produced in Catalonia, which is under \$10 and easy to find in just about any wine section. It was suggested to me by my general manager Liz Wheadon, who went out of her way to see to it that everyone's glass was filled with bubbly.

—*Jordan Sellergren*



**IT'S REALLY ECONOMICAL!**  
PICKS UNDER \$3/750 ml

**Charles Shaw Shiraz** I tried a classic Charles Shaw Shiraz blend that has been pleasing pocketbooks at Trader Joe's for years, coming in at just \$2.99 per bottle. Once opened, a pleasant aroma complemented my first glass; the taste was exquisite and featured hints of grape flavors that didn't overwhelm my palate and left me quickly pouring a second glass. If you're considering a Charles Shaw Shiraz on

## Because it's the perfect choice for an awkward Thanksgiving dinner.

your table this Thanksgiving I'd recommend purchasing at least three bottles—we went through the first bottle just as dinner was served. Don't forget to give thanks and express gratitude this holiday season before you dive into your favorite mashed potatoes. —*Jason Smith*



**Charles Shaw Shiraz** Looking for a wine that will make people say "I've had worse," with a happy tone of mild surprise? Try the Charles Shaw Shiraz from Trader Joe's. The famous nickname "Two

Buck Chuck" is no longer accurate price-wise, but it's still close enough.

Unlike many discount wines, this Shiraz doesn't taste like a

headache waiting to happen. In fact, it doesn't taste like much of anything. It's an inoffensively bland red wine. Its dark red color, however, will tint your teeth and tongue before you finish a single glass. (Bring a toothbrush and you'll be fine.)

So, why recommend this Shiraz? Because it's the perfect choice for an awkward Thanksgiving dinner. (You know what I mean.) The wine is cheap, and it gives you something to talk about. You can skip right over politics and other uncomfortable topics, and discuss shopping at Trader Joe's instead. For some reason, people will chat contentedly about employees in Hawaiian shirts and Speculoos Cookie Butter for far longer than you'd think possible. Use that to your advantage this year.

—*Paul Brennan*



**SensaWine** Prior to my 21st birthday a couple months ago, my wine experience was very limited. By that I mean the only wine I had ever drank came from stolen sips

of the samples given to my off-age friends on the rare occasions we ate at Olive Garden. Each time, they were always stronger than I imagined wine should be.

It wasn't until after my birthday that I was introduced to SensaWine, and it was the first time I actually found myself appreciating wine. For people like me that can't seem to find a wine they enjoy, SensaWine is perfect—not to mention affordable. The lightness of the wine makes it the ideal drink for nights in spent reading a book or engaging in good conversation with friends. —*Jayme Bigger LV*



Hot Tin Roof is a program to showcase current literary work produced in Iowa City. The series is organized and juried by representatives of three IC-based cultural advocacy organizations: The Englert Theatre, Iowa City UNESCO City of Literature and Little Village magazine, with financial support from M.C. Ginsberg Objects of Art.

**Hot Tin Roof: November**

# Self Help through IKEA Furniture Assembly

The dream fills the room  
 when we unpack—the parts—the makings of  
 our soon-to-be kitchen table.  
 I remember reading that IKEA furniture  
 in particular is more self-gratifying  
 than the non-IKEA do-it-yourself-put-it-together furniture  
 because of the self-assembly required.

•

The dream fills the room  
 from the faucet drip  
 from the water bill  
 which is gunna be outrageous this month  
 from all the spontaneous shower sex. You promised—  
 back to the table  
 Peg A fits into impress B only when you use the directions  
 or when forced.  
 Make the screw dig-in-deeper  
 just stand there and watch me struggle—please.

•

The dream fills the room—  
 that is what the schematic leaves out.  
 The part where I'll be here  
 every single day—every week holding up the legs while you fumble  
 with the pouched screws.  
 The line where loneliness is only a memory.  
 That is what the schematic leaves out and then forgets.  
 I was mad at you because the people who actually live here came home  
 the next fixer-upper never planned.

•

The dream fills the room  
 and I'm still here  
 in the house that isn't ours.  
 So, you can finally come home. LV/

*Harrison Cook is a senior studying writing, publishing, and people at the University of Iowa. He also interns at 'The Iowa Review' and is the editor-in-chief of 'earthwords: the undergraduate literary review.' His play entitled 'ECHO' will be produced in the spring through the University of Iowa Theatre Department.*

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## Prairie Pop

## L7 Wasn't Pretending

UI grad Sarah Price transformed 125 hours of tampon-throwing, Mötley Crüe-shaming '90s feminist hijinks into a documentary. • **BY KEMBREW MCLEOD**

L7 performed one of the defining shows of the 1990s alt-rock era on April 3, 1992, sharing a bill with riot grrrl pioneers Bikini Kill and indie stalwarts Fugazi at Washington, D.C.'s Sanctuary Theater. It was the evening before a massive pro-choice march in the city, and the former church was charged with punk rock energy.

The four women of L7 founded the organization Rock for Choice in response to the first Bush administration's assault on abortion rights, and the band was in their element that night. Sort of.

In the new documentary *L7: Pretend We're Dead*, the group recalled that some D.C. scenesters were a bit taken aback by their onstage collaboration with Slymenstra Hymen, of the shock rock group GWAR. Slymenstra performed in her trademark spiked leather bikini as L7 laid down heavy-duty riffage that soundtracked her flaming acrobatics and fire-breathing routine.

"It was my impression," L7 cofounder Donita Sparks recalled, "that the crowd wasn't going as apeshit for Slymenstra. We wrapped our feminism in a bit of fun, whereas the Fugazi and Bikini Kill crowd were a bit more serious, which was the opposite of GWAR."

Nevertheless, some in the crowd loved the irreverent gesture, including myself (I was rocking and rolling on the floor laughing, watching sparks literally fly). That ephemeral moment has now been preserved in all its glory, along with several other infamous pranks and provocations sprinkled throughout *Pretend We're Dead*.

In 1992, L7 turned the tables on a mud-hurling Reading Festival audience while the band was having technical difficulties onstage. Sparks removed her tampon and hurled it into the crowd, screaming, "Eat my used tampon, motherfuckers!"—kind of like when Ozzy Osbourne shocked a Des Moines crowd by biting the head off a bat, but much cooler.

"At least there were no animals harmed

in my performance art piece," the guitarist observed, comparing the two infamous incidents.

On another occasion, she yanked down her pants during a lip-synced performance on the live BBC television show *The Word* and rocked out sans underwear, with only her Gibson Flying V guitar covering her privates. (Appropriately enough, she nicknamed that guitar her Flying Vagina.)

Sparks and fellow guitarist Suzi Gardner came out of an art-punk background, which they continued to embrace after forming L7.

"Yes, there may be a statement behind that action," Sparks said, "and yet there isn't. It's an act of defiance, but it's also cracking me

**"Yes, there may be a statement behind that action, and yet there isn't."**

**—Donita Sparks**

up."

While Sparks grew up in a feminist household, as a whole L7 marched to the beat of their own drum.

"We appreciated the seriousness of feminism," she said, "but L7 are kind of funny people, so that's just not how we rolled. For me being serious kind of sucks the fun out of it, so I prefer to be a bit more provocative. I like shock value. Still, we are living, breathing examples of the success of the feminist movement."

*Pretend We're Dead* director Sarah Price first discovered L7 in 1990 as an undergrad at the University of Iowa, where she earned a degree in film production.

"I played their first Sub Pop single on my show on KRUI, the student radio station," she recalled, "and was a fan from then on."

After graduating, she began playing in bands for 12 years—including an alt-country duo named Little Debbie Jug Band and Ambush #5. The latter group performed with Bikini Kill and did the riot grrrl circuit, and

**Screening 'L7: Pretend We're Dead' followed by a conversation with director Sarah Price, moderated by Kembrew McLeod FilmScene, Saturday, Nov. 18, 1 p.m., \$5**

Price also played drums in a Milwaukee dance-rock band named Competitorr.

"That was one of the reasons I agreed to do this documentary," she noted, "because playing in alternative rock bands in the 1990s was a big part of my life."

For Price, music and movies are deeply interconnected. Competitorr and their friends in the garage rock band the Mummies played at the premiere party for Price's breakthrough film, *American Movie*, which won the 1999 Grand Jury Prize for Documentary at the Sundance Film Festival. This was followed by the acclaimed films *Caesar's Park*, *The Yes Men*, *Summercamp!* and *Youssou N'dour: I Bring What I Love*, each of which she produced or directed (or both).

One of the best documentary filmmakers of her generation, Price brings out L7's humor and pathos while avoiding many of the clichés that plague rock docs. After starting work on *Pretend We're Dead*, her first formidable task was logging and cataloging over 125 hours of vintage footage, which became the film's backbone.

"They were filming behind the scenes," Price said, "filming on the road and having fun with the camera, and training their roadies to film as well."

"It was this big gift that was dropped into my lap," she continued, "all this footage that was shot by an insider rather than a documentary maker coming in from the outside and filming them. After watching the troves of stuff, I felt we could use it as verité footage. I wanted to drop the audience into that era and tell the story so that the audience would experience what the band was experiencing in real time, taking people on a journey. I wanted the film to have that time capsule feel."

The band members carry the film with their irreverent personalities, absurd hijinks and deadpan responses to lame "women in rock"-type questions. When MTV's Chris Norris broaches the subject, for example, Sparks shoots back: "How do you know

**CONT. >> ON PG. 22**







## A-List

# Etsy IRL

Ditch the Black Friday stampedes and invest in local, handcrafted charm.

BY DARCIE HUTZELL

The winter holidays are upon us, and for many, that means holiday shopping—and the question of whether to go to the big box stores, or make a conscious effort to spend our money more locally. When we choose to shop small and local, we keep more of our money in the community, which encourages more business, more artists and more jobs. Small businesses and local artists depend on the holiday season, just like the big boxes do. We are blessed in Eastern Iowa to have a variety of options for shopping small and local, giving our shopping dollars to people we know in the community and supporting events that showcase local artisans. Here are some of the many options for local holiday shopping.

The annual Holiday Thieves' Market, sponsored by the University of Iowa's Fine Arts Council, runs Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Dec. 3, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission is free. This event, which has been happening in Iowa City since the 1970s, is held in the UI's Iowa Memorial Union ballroom and is a wonderful way to kick off the holiday season.

"We have about 125 vendors in varying mediums for the holiday show," director Annalise Castro said in an email, "the majority of them being from the Midwest."

There are new and exciting changes to the market this year, including being part of a larger event called Holidays at the IMU, which Castro said was "curated to be the ultimate holiday weekend." Holidays at the IMU

includes Cocoa and Carols, brought to you by the Old Gold Accapella Choir; children's art activities, sponsored by the Campus Activities Board; and a Festival of Wreaths and silent auction to benefit UI Dance Marathon.

"This is a great opportunity to shop for everyone on your holiday list while supporting local artists," Castro said. "If your intention is to grow your art collection, this is a great show to discover artists."

There will be everything from jewelry to printmaking, paintings and fiber arts. The market also features craft beer and wine tasting, highlighting local breweries and wineries.

If you're looking for some European-style holiday fun, visit the National Czech and Slovak Museum in Cedar Rapids for the Old World Christmas Market. The museum is hosting this annual event for the eighth time, and it is sure to bring old world charm to your holiday preparations. This event also runs the weekend of Dec. 2, and features European-style holiday crafts, food, music and dance. Admission to the museum is free during this event, so if you haven't yet been to see this piece of Iowa history, this is the perfect opportunity.

As with the Thieves' Market, the Old World Christmas Market will have a number of local artists on hand for holiday gift shopping. One of those artists is Holly Moore, who crafts birdhouses with Czech themes out of red

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## HOLIDAY MARKETS

**Iowa City Card Collective Pop Up**  
RADInc., Iowa City, Friday and Saturday, Nov. 17 and 18 at 11 a.m. and Sunday, Nov. 19 at 10 a.m.

**9th Annual Holiday Bazaar** Grace Baptist Church, Marion, Friday, Nov. 17 at 11 a.m. and Saturday, Nov. 18 at 9 a.m.

**Small Business Saturday**  
Everywhere, Saturday, Nov. 25

**Modela's Holiday Market** RADInc., Iowa City, Thursday, Nov. 30 at 4 p.m. and Friday, Dec. 1-Sunday, Dec. 10 at 11 a.m.

**Winter Wonderland Craft & Vendor Fair** Garfield Elementary, Cedar Rapids, Friday, Dec. 1 at 5 p.m.

**Arts and Crafts Bazaar** Iowa City Public Library, Saturday, Dec. 2 at 10 a.m.

**Eastside Artists Annual Show and Sale** Masonic Temple, Iowa City, Friday-Sunday, Dec. 8-10 at 10 a.m.

**Not Your Mother's Craft Fair** MERGE, Iowa City, Saturday, Dec. 9 at 9 a.m.

**Annual Holiday Bazaar** The Church on Northland, Cedar Rapids, Saturday, Dec. 9 at 9 a.m.

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# EVENTS

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## ARTS, CRAFTS & EXHIBITIONS

**11/15**

**Sewing: Handmade Style Zip-top Tote, Session 1/2**, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$45/course

**Makerspace: Musical Matchboxes**, UI Museum of Natural History, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free

**Knitting: Ylva Fingerless Mitts, Session 1/2**, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$45/course

**11/16**

**Art Lovers Book Club: Egypt-Omania**, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 4 p.m., Free

**Gems of Hope Workshop at Beadology Iowa with Women in Business**, Beadology, Iowa City, 5 p.m., Free

**Art Therapy Session**, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 6 p.m., Free

**Iowa City Press Co-op: Intermediate Letterpress—Printing Books, Session 3/3**, Public Space One, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$135/course

**Autumn Centerpiece Workshop**, Willow & Stock, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$60

**Knitting: Norwegian Mittens, Session 1/3**, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$45/course

**Bohemian Betty Presents: Vintage Holiday Style Fashion Show**, Lion Bridge Brewing Company, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free

**11/17**

**Iowa City Card Collective Pop Up RADinc.**, Iowa City, 10 a.m.

**9th Annual Holiday Bazaar** Grace Baptist Church, Marion, 11 a.m.

**Curator Guided Tour of 'Faces of Freedom: The Czech and Slovak Journey'**, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., Free with admission

**11/18**

**9th Annual Holiday Bazaar** Grace Baptist Church, Marion, 9 a.m.

**New Class: Roaring Twenties Necklace with Branched Fringe**, Beadology, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$68

**Iowa City Card Collective Pop Up RADinc.**, Iowa City, 10 a.m.

**Sewing: Hadley Top**, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$55/course

**Big & Small Holiday Print Workshop**, Public Space One, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$115/course

**11/19**

**Soldering Sampler**, Beadology, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$98

**Artist Market 2017**, Cedar Rapids Museum Of Art, 10 a.m., Free

## ARTS, CRAFTS & EXHIBITIONS

**Sewing: Toaster Sweater, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$60**  
**Iowa City Press Co-op: Letterpress—Text and Image on the Proofing Press, Session 1/3, Public Space One, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$115/course**  
**Next Steps in Boro: Marble Making, Beadology, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$98**  
**Art in the Afternoon, The Iowa City Senior Center, 1 p.m., Free**  
**Metal Bezels, Beadology, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$98**  
**Make Your Own Stein, Lion Bridge Brewing Company, Cedar Rapids, 2 p.m., \$35**  
**Artifactory's Life Drawing Drop-In Session, Beadology, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$10**

### 11/20

**Iowa City Press Co-op: Mokuhanga—Japanese Woodblock Printing, Session 1/3, Public Space One, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$150/course**  
**Knitting: Comfy Socks, Session 3/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:15 p.m., \$50/course**  
**Sewing: School of Sewing Pt. I, Session 3/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$85/course**

### 11/21

**Knitting: Classic Cuffed Hat, Session 2/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$40/course**

### 11/24

**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., Free-\$12**

### 11/25

**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., Free-\$12**

### 11/26

**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., Free-\$12**  
**Iowa City Press Co-op: Letterpress—Text and Image on the Proofing Press, Session 2/3, Public Space One, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$115/course**

### 11/27

**Sewing: School of Sewing Pt. I, Session 4/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$85/course**

### 11/28

**Sewing: Range Backpack, Session 2/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$65/course**

### 11/29

**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., Free-\$12**  
**Sewing: Handmade Style Zip-top Tote, Session 2/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$45/course**  
**Knitting: Knit 101, Session 2/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$25/course**  
**Knitting: Ylva Fingerless Mitts, Session 2/2, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$45/course**  
**Polymer Clay Workshop with Layl McDill, Artisan's Sanctuary, Marion, 6:30 p.m., \$55**

### 11/30

**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., Free-\$12**  
**Modela's Holiday Market RADinc., Iowa City, 4 p.m.**  
**Wine & Design: Paperwhite Holiday Centerpiece, Moss, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$35**  
**Sewing: School of Sewing Pt. I, Session 1/4, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$85/course**  
**Knitting: Norwegian Mittens, Session 2/3, Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$45/course**

### 12/1

**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., Free-\$12**  
**Modela's Holiday Market RADinc., Iowa City, 11 a.m.**  
**Winter Wonderland Craft & Vendor Fair, Garfield Elementary, Cedar Rapids, 5 p.m.**  
**Night at the Museum—Making The Museum: American Explorers, UI Museum of Natural History, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$30**  
**Iowa City Press Co-op: Letterpress—Text and Image on the Proofing Press, Session 3/3, Public Space One, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$115/course**

### 12/2

**A Very Cherry Holiday Art Sale, Cherry Building, Cedar Rapids, 9 a.m.**  
**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours, Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m., Free-\$12**  
**8th Annual Old World Christmas Market, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m.**  
**Holiday Thieves' Market, Iowa Memorial Union, Iowa City, 10 a.m.**  
**Feather Bracelet, Beadology, Iowa City, 10 a.m., \$68**  
**Arts and Crafts Bazaar, Iowa City Public Library, 10 a.m.**  
**Modela's Holiday Market RADinc., Iowa City, 11 a.m.**

## COMMUNITY & EDUCATION

### 11/15

**History at the Grove: Archeology & Architectural History of Brewery Caves in Iowa City and Cedar Rapids, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., Free**

### 11/16

**Women's Entrepreneur Breakfast, Merge, Iowa City, 7 a.m., Free**

### 11/17

**Old Capitol Museum History Club: World War I, Old Capitol Museum, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$30**

### 11/18

**Quad Cities 4th Annual Psychic & Paranormal Expo, TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 10 a.m., \$5**  
**Lighting On The Commons, TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 3:30 p.m., Free**

### 11/19

**Quad Cities 4th Annual Psychic & Paranormal Expo, TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 10 a.m., \$5**  
**Cranksgiving Cedar Rapids, Goldfinch Cyclery, Cedar Rapids, 12 p.m., Free**

### 11/24

**Coralville Center for the Performing Arts Presents: Sweets with Santa, Brown Deer Golf Club, 10:30 a.m., 1 & 3 p.m., \$5-12**  
**Walking In Mindfulness Silent Meditative Walk, Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 3 p.m., Free-\$6**

### 11/25

**Coralville Center for the Performing Arts Presents: Festival of Trees, Brown Deer Golf Club, 6:30 p.m., \$25-200**

### 11/26

**LULAC Presents: Loteria Night, The Mill, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$5 suggested donation**

### 12/1

**Read on the Rug: 'Snowflakes,' Museum of Natural History at UI, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free**  
**Christmas In The Park: Peppermint Walk, Holiday Concert with the Mockingbyrds, Artisan's Sanctuary, Marion, 4 p.m., Free**  
**Christmas Past Celebration, Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, West Branch, 5 p.m., Free**

## 12/3

**8th Annual Old World Christmas Market,** National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, 10 a.m.

**Holiday Thieves' Market** Iowa Memorial Union, Iowa City, 10 a.m.

**Modela's Holiday Market** RADInc., Iowa City, 11 a.m.

**Make a Stone: Glass and Metal Ring to Size,** Beadology, Iowa City, 12 p.m., \$98

**The Human(oid) Figure in Glass,** Beadology, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$98

**Daytime Holiday Mansion Tours,** Brucemore, Cedar Rapids, 1 p.m., Free-\$12

## 12/4

**Modela's Holiday Market** RADInc., Iowa City, 11 a.m.

**Iowa City Press Co-op: Mokuhanga—Japanese Woodblock Printing, Session 2/3,** Public Space One, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$150/course

## 12/5

**Modela's Holiday Market** RADInc., Iowa City, 11 a.m.

**Knitting: Anker's Sweater, Session 1/2,** Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 4 p.m., \$60/course

**Sewing: Handmade Style Basket,** Home Ec. Workshop, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., \$30/course

## 12/2

**Christmas Past Celebration,** Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, West Branch, 9 a.m., Free

**Nature's Noel,** Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 9 a.m., Free

## 12/4

**Midwest Telegraph Monthly Brown Bag Lunch,** Beadology, Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free



>> CONT. FROM PG. 16

we're women?" On another occasion, the ladies plaster their recording studio with photos of naked men and invite Mötley Crüe—making an album next door—over to hang out. L7's Hi-8 video recorder captures the Crüe's wincing reactions and wounded masculinity in all their pathetic glory.

Sparks got the idea to do a documentary after she began archiving the band's old footage before it all disintegrated.

"Then I thought, well, *shit man*, young people should really know about us," she said, "because we had a *blast* doing all the shit we did. Yeah, we could be tough cookies, but we also could be really fucking funny. I thought that sort of angle of feminism needed to be represented for the public record."

When Price was approached to direct *Pretend We're Dead*, it was a natural fit. "I was very much part of that DIY world as a musician, but also as a filmmaker," she said. "So going from seeing all those bands at Gabe's to actually playing in bands around town a few years later, and then doing this film, it really rounded out that formative experience. It brought me back to that time in my life when I was wearing flannel shirts and spinning music on KRUI, and walking around campus with my guitar player boyfriend." LV

*Kembrew McLeod wants to learn how to breathe fire and rock out.*

**THEATRE & PERFORMANCE**

**11/15**

**Peppa Pig Live! Peppa Pig's Surprise!**, *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 6 p.m., \$15-151.50

**11/16**

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 2 p.m., \$10-31

**11/17**

**Young Footliters Youth Theatre: 'A Charlie Brown Christmas,'** *Coralville Center for Performing Arts*, 7 p.m., \$11-17

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-31

**'Annie,'** *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40  
**The Heartland Bombshells,** *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City*, 8 p.m., \$10-25

**Sam Tallent w/ Brent Hiker,** *Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids*, 8 p.m., \$12-15

**11/18**

**Young Footliters Youth Theatre: 'A Charlie Brown Christmas,'** *Coralville Center for Performing Arts*, 7 p.m., \$11-17

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-31

**'Annie,'** *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40  
**Sam Tallent w/ Brent Hiker,** *Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids*, 8 p.m., \$12-15

**Great Stories Series: 'A Show of Gratitude,'** *Giving Tree Theater, Marion*, 8 p.m., \$20

**11/19**

**Young Footliters Youth Theatre: 'A Charlie Brown Christmas,'** *Coralville Center for Performing Arts*, 7 p.m., \$11-17

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 2 p.m., \$10-31

**Chonda Pierce: Getting Back to Funny,** *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7 p.m., \$27-49.50

**11/22**

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 2 p.m., \$10-31

**11/23**

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 2 p.m., \$10-31

**11/24**

**'Annie,'** *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40  
**Holiday Cabaret,** *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$21-25

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-31

**Alex Ortiz w/ Chris Schlichting,** *Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids*, 8 p.m., \$12-15

**'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,'** *Giving Tree Theater, Marion*, 8 p.m., \$15-120

**11/25**

**'Junie B. Jones Is Not A Crook,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m., \$10

**Sesame Street Live!**, *US Cellular Center, Cedar Rapids*, 2 & 6 p.m., \$18-63

**Murder Mystery Dinner: 'The Grapes of Death,'** *Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher*, 6 p.m., \$50

**'Annie,'** *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40

**'A Christmas Carol,'** *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana*, 7:30 p.m., \$10-31

**Holiday Cabaret,** *Theatre Cedar Rapids*, 7:30 p.m., \$21-25

**'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,'** *Giving Tree Theater, Marion*, 8 p.m., \$15-120

**Alex Ortiz w/ Chris Schlichting,** *Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids*, 8 p.m., \$12-15

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## 11/26

'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,' *Giving Tree Theater, Marion, 2 p.m., \$15-120*

'A Christmas Carol,' *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$10-31*

*Holiday Cabaret, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$21-25*

'Annie,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$31-40*

## 11/29

'A Christmas Carol,' *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$10-31*

## 11/30

**Dance Me a Story: The Nutcracker with Ballet Quad Cities,** *Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free*

'A Christmas Carol,' *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$10-31*

**Disney On Ice Presents: 'Reach For The Stars,'** *TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 7 p.m., Free-\$62*

## 12/1

**Disney On Ice Presents: 'Reach For The Stars,'** *TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 7 p.m., Free-\$62*

**Young Footliters Youth Theatre: 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,'** *Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, West Branch, 7 p.m., Free*

**Run of The Mill Theater Production Presents: One Act Showcase,** *The Mill, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-12*

**Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'Civil,'** *Public Space One, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-13*

**Nolte Academy of Dance Presents: 'The Nutcracker,'** *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$20-32*

'LUNGS,' *Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$18-30*

'Annie,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40*

'A Christmas Carol,' *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$10-31*

*Holiday Cabaret, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$21-25*

**DC Malone w/ Adam Minnick,** *Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$15-17.50*

'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,' *Giving Tree Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., \$15-120*

## 12/2

'Junie B. Jones Is Not A Crook,' *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 10 a.m. & 1 p.m., \$10*

**Disney On Ice Presents: 'Reach For The Stars,'** *TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 11 a.m., 3 p.m. & 7 p.m., Free-\$62*

**Nolte Academy of Dance Presents: 'The Nutcracker,'** *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$20-32*

**Young Footliters Youth Theatre: 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,'** *Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, West Branch, 2 & 7 p.m., Free*

**Orchestra Iowa with Ballet Quad Cities Presents: 'The Nutcracker,'** *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 & 7:30 p.m., \$18-54*

**Dreamwell Theatre Presents: 'Civil,'** *Public Space One, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-13*

**Run of The Mill Theater Production Presents: One Act Showcase,** *The Mill, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10-12*

'LUNGS,' *Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$18-30*

*Holiday Cabaret, Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$21-25*

'A Christmas Carol,' *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 7:30 p.m., \$10-31*

'Annie,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$31-40*

'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,' *Giving Tree Theater, Marion, 8 p.m., \$15-120*

**DC Malone w/ Adam Minnick,** *Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$15-17.50*

## 12/3

**Disney On Ice Presents: 'Reach For The Stars,'** *TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 11 a.m. & 3 p.m., Free-\$62*

**Nolte Academy of Dance Presents: 'The Nutcracker,'** *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 2 & 7:30 p.m., \$20-32*

**A Carpenter's Christmas,** *Adler Theatre, 2 p.m., \$28-48*

'LUNGS,' *Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$18-30*

'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever,' *Giving Tree Theater, Marion, 2 p.m., \$15-120*

**Run of The Mill Theater Production Presents: One Act Showcase,** *The Mill, Iowa City, 2 p.m., \$10-12*

'A Christmas Carol,' *Old Creamery Theatre, Amana, 2 p.m., \$10-31*

'Annie,' *Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$31-40*  
**Holiday Cabaret,** *Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$21-25*

**Orchestra Iowa with Ballet Quad Cities Presents: 'The Nutcracker,'** *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., \$18-54*

**Nolte Academy of Dance Presents: 'The Nutcracker,'** *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$20-26*

**Cirque Musica Holiday Presents: 'Believe,'** *US Cellular Center, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$33-88*

**Josh Gondelman w/ Arish Singh, Jessica Misra & Mike Lucas,** *The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$8-10*

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**11/15**

'Wonderstruck,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 5 & 7:30 p.m., \$6.50-9*

'The Florida Project,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 & 8:30 p.m., \$6.50-9*

**11/16**

'Wonderstruck,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 1, 5:30 & 8 p.m., \$6.50-9*

The Picture Show: 'Fly Away Home,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 3:30 p.m., Free-\$5*

'The Florida Project,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 6 & 8:30 p.m., \$6.50-9*

'Wasted: The Story of Food Waste,' *Iowa City Public Library, 7 p.m., Free*

**11/17**

Friday Flick at ICPL: 'Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory,' *Iowa City Public Library, 5:30 p.m., Free*

**11/18**

The Picture Show: 'Wizard of Oz,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5*

Bijou Film Forum: 'L7: Pretend We're Dead,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 1 p.m., \$5*

**11/19**

The Picture Show: 'Wizard of Oz,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5*

**11/22**

'A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving,' *Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free*

**11/23**

The Picture Show: 'Wizard of Oz,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 3:30 p.m., Free-\$5*

**11/24**

Friday Flick at ICPL: 'Beauty and the Beast,' *Iowa City Public Library, 5:30 p.m., Free*

**11/25**

The Picture Show: 'The Princess Bride,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5*

**11/26**

The Picture Show: 'The Princess Bride,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5*

**11/30**

The Picture Show: 'The Princess Bride,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 3:30 p.m., Free-\$5*

**12/1**

'Alternate Endings, Radical Beginnings': A World AIDS Day Video Screening, *Public Space One, Iowa City, 4:30 p.m., Free*

Friday Flick at ICPL: 'The Nightmare Before Christmas,' *Iowa City Public Library, 5:30 p.m., Free*

**12/2**

The Picture Show: 'Napping Princess,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5*

**12/3**

The Picture Show: 'Napping Princess,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 10 a.m., Free-\$5*

Vino Vêrité: 'For Ahkeem,' *FilmScene, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$20-25*

**LITERATURE**

**11/15**

The Power of Story—Session 5/5: The Power of Reframing, *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$275/course*

Ethel Barker, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**11/16**

Preschool Storytime w/ the 100 Grannies, *Iowa City Public Library, Iowa City, 10:30 a.m., Free*

Iowa Youth Writing Project Student Reading, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 6 p.m., Free*

**11/19**

Free Generative Writing Workshop, *Public Space One, Iowa City, 5:30 p.m., Free*

**11/28**

Lauren Haldeman & Nick Twemlow, *Prairie Lights Books & Cafe, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**12/1**

Our Available Wilderness: Using Personal Experiences and Memories to Elevate Fiction and Nonfiction—Session 1/3, *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$265/course*

**12/2**

Our Available Wilderness: Using Personal Experiences and Memories to Elevate Fiction and Nonfiction—Session 2/3, *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 9:30 a.m., \$265/course*

**12/3**

Our Available Wilderness: Using Personal Experiences and Memories to Elevate Fiction and Nonfiction—Session 3/3, *Iowa Writers' House, Iowa City, 9:30 a.m., \$265/course*

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**Mass Battle Class with Fightmaster Brian Byrnes UI Theatre Building, Thursday, Nov. 16, 5 p.m., \$10** Brian Byrnes, a certified teacher and fight master with the Society of American Fight Directors, is headed to the University of Iowa theatre department for a one-night mass battle class, open to the public. The first two hours will consist of students developing their own fights, to be merged together into a mass battle. The final hour will be a stage combat Q&A session with Byrnes. Photo by Søren Niedziella

**SPORTS & RECREATION**

**11/15**  
**Gentle Yoga w/ Jamie, Public Space**  
*One, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5-10*  
*suggested donation*

**▲ 11/16**  
**Mass Battle Class with Fightmaster Brian Byrnes, UI Theatre Building, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10**

**11/17**  
**Quad City Mallards vs. Tulsa Oilers,**  
*TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 7:05 p.m., \$10-30*

**11/18**  
**Tiny Whoop Alley Cat Coffee Cup Invitational Race: Indoor Drone Race,**  
*Artisan's Sanctuary, Marion, 10 a.m., Free*

**Quad City Mallards vs. Kansas City Mavericks, TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 7:05 p.m., \$10-30**

**Iowa Hawkeyes vs. Purdue Boilermakers,**  
*Kinnick Stadium, Iowa City, 2:30 p.m., \$35-299*

**11/19**  
**Quad City Mallards vs. Kansas City Mavericks, TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 4:05 p.m., \$10-30**

**11/22**  
**Gentle Yoga w/ Jamie, Public Space**  
*One, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5-10*

**11/24**  
**Quad City Mallards vs. Wichita Thunder,**  
*TaxSlayer Center, Moline, 7:05 p.m., \$10-30*

**11/25**  
**Cedar Rapids RoughRiders vs. Waterloo Black Hawks, Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 7:05 p.m., \$12.75-25**

**11/30**  
**Gentle Yoga w/ Jamie, Public Space**  
*One, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5-10*



**12/2**  
**Cedar Rapids RoughRiders vs. Sioux Falls Stampede, Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 7:05 p.m., \$12.75-25**  
**SCW Wrestling Presents: Hawkamania 2, Wildwood Smokehouse & Saloon, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$10**

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**11/15**

**Flash In A Pan's Bluegrass Jam**, *The Mill, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free*

**The Malina Brothers**, *Legion Arts CSPS Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$17-21*

**The Wildwoods**, *Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$5-10 suggested donation*

**NastyNasty w/ Proko**, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-15*

**Birtherates w/ Bri, John Ramsey**, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$5*

**Oasis Stage Presents: Middle Children**, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free*

**11/16**

**Trinidad James**, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$20*

**Austin John Winkler w/ Shallow Side**, **Remada**, *Spicoli's Rockade, Waterloo, 8 p.m., \$15*

**SonReal w/ Blaque Keyz**, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$13-85*

**Matt Woods**, *Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., Free*

**A Far Cry: 'The Blue Hour' w/ Luciana Souza**, *Hancher, Iowa City, 7:30 p.m., \$10-35*

**All Them Witches w/ King Buffalo**, *The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$12-15*

**James McMurtry w/ Max Gomez**, *Wooly's, Des Moines, 9 p.m., \$17-20*

**11/17**

**Drew Hurn**, *Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 6 p.m., Free*

**The Snozberries: After Work Party**, *Spicoli's Rockade, Waterloo, 6 p.m., \$5*

**Family Folk Machine Fall Concert: Calling Me Home**, *Iowa City Senior Center, 7 p.m., Free*

**America**, *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$42-62*

**Blitzen Trapper w/ Lilly Hiatt**, *The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$15-17*

**In The Attic w/ Hex Girls, Dee Pretion, The Port Authority**, *Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$5*

**Roomful of Teeth**, *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10-20*

**Brother Trucker & Twins**, *Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., \$5*

**The Maytags w/ Towncrier, Wooly's**, *Des Moines, 9 p.m., \$10*

**Flawd Logic**, *Spicoli's Rockade, Waterloo, 9:30 p.m., \$5*

**Rockinfreakapotamus**, *Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$7*

**DJ Obscene**, *EDEN Lounge & Nightclub, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free*

**Hoodstock 2**, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$5*

**11/18**

**Quad City Symphony Orchestra Presents: Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone in Concert**, *Adler Theatre, Davenport, 2 & 8 p.m., \$18-58*

**Home Football Game w/ King of the Tramps**, *Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free*

**Real Friends w/ Life Lessons, Exit Emergency**, *Wenslow, Gabe's, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$20-23*

**Ken Killian Big Band Salute to Veterans Holiday Show**, *Ohnward Fine Arts Center, Maquoketa, 7 p.m., \$13-25*

**Hairball w/ Large Midgets**, *Cedar Rapids Ice Arena, 7:30 p.m., Free-\$27*

**Vienna Boy Choir**, *Paramount Theatre Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$14-44*  
**Agency**, *Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free*

▼ **Big Grove for Good & The Mill Present: A Tribute to Tom Petty, A Puerto Rico Relief Benefit**, *The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10-30*

**Willy Porter & Carmen Nickerson**, *Legion Arts CSPS Hall, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$17-21*

**California Voodoo—A Tribute to Widespread Panic**, *Wooly's, Des Moines, 8 p.m., \$10-12*  
**Noname**, *The Englert Theatre, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$22-25*

**Bleedchain w/ Legions of Raum, Mutilated by Zombies, Burnt Ailment, Phoenix Curse**, *Spicoli's Rockade, Waterloo, 8 p.m., \$5*

**Skunk River Medicine Show**, *Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 8 p.m., \$5*

**Pets With Human Names w/ Terrapin & the Wolves & Guss Royall**, *Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5*

**Fret Rattles w/ Zuul**, *In The Mouth of Radness, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$5*

**Operation 808—'The Black Hole' w/ Phantom Flex, BRUUUCE, Android Antill, Tommy Gunzz, Sound Trooper, Too Peace**, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free*

**Miles Over Mountains w/ High Water Mark**, *Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$7*

**Blue Water Highway Band**, *Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$8*

**11/19**

**Reina del Cid & Toni Lindgren Concert**, *Farmers Mercantile Hall, Garrison, 2 p.m., \$10*

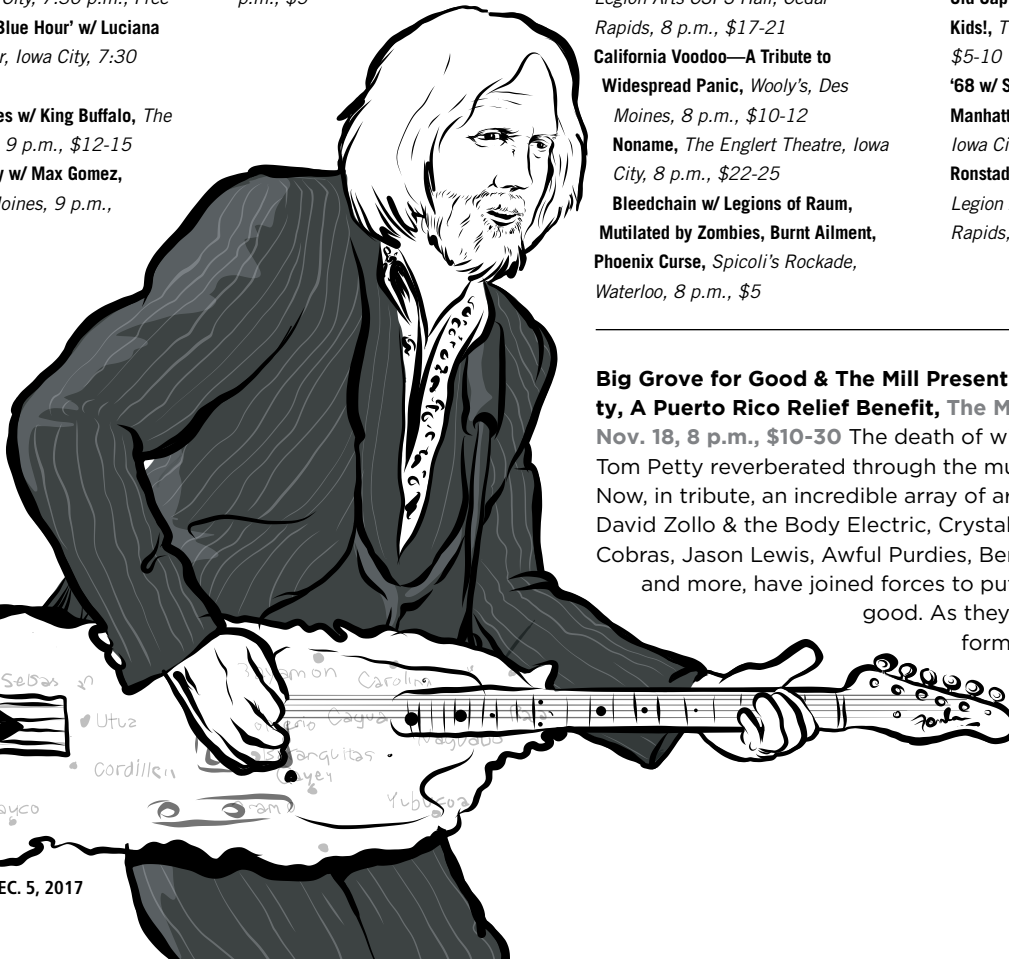
**Family Folk Machine Fall Concert: Calling Me Home**, *Old Capitol Senate Chamber, Iowa City, 3 p.m., Free*  
**Old Capitol Opera Presents: Opera for Kids!**, *The Mill, Iowa City, 3 p.m., \$5-10*

**'68 w/ Stolas, Alistair Hennessey, Manhattan Blockade, Arias**, *Gabe's, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$13-15*

**Ronstadt Brothers y Los Tucsonenses**, *Legion Arts CSPS Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$16-19*

**Big Grove for Good & The Mill Present: A Tribute to Tom Petty, A Puerto Rico Relief Benefit, The Mill, Iowa City, Saturday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m., \$10-30** The death of widely influential musician Tom Petty reverberated through the music world in October. Now, in tribute, an incredible array of area musicians, including David Zollo & the Body Electric, Crystal City, Cedar County Cobras, Jason Lewis, Awwful Purdies, Bernemann Brothers Band and more, have joined forces to put their grief to work for good. As they pay their respects performing both Petty classics

& deep cuts, the money raised from admission will go to Red Cross relief efforts in Puerto Rico.



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**11/20**

**Generations of Jazz**, Coralville Center for Performing Arts, 7 p.m., Free

**11/21**

**Dave Tamkin & Ryan Joseph Anderson**, Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 8 p.m., \$5

**11/22**

**Pop Evil w/ LIONIZE, Ded**, Spicoli's Rockade, Waterloo, 8 p.m., \$17-20

**11/24**

**Bob Dorr & the Blue Band**, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 2:30 p.m., Free

**Terry McCauley**, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 6 p.m., Free

**Christmas Dreams Forgotten: A Tribute to Trans-Siberian Orchestra**, Adler Theatre, Davenport, 7:30 p.m., \$28-50

**The Last Waltz Tribute**, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$15

**11/25**

**The Four Preps Holiday Show**, Ohnward Fine Arts Center, Maquoketa, 7 p.m., \$25-30

**James Mons and His Not So Little Monsters Jazz Band**, Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$5-10 suggested donation

**Amelia & Melina: 'Thanksgiving Leftovers'**, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., \$5

**Galactic Cowboy Orchestra**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free

**6th Annual Holiday Ramble—A Crisis Center Benefit**, The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$10

**Craig Erickson Expedition**, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., Free

**Cultured Calamity**, Spicoli's Rockade, Waterloo, 9 p.m., \$5

**Dead Rider w/ Anthony Worden**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$10

**3rd Annual Dankssgiving: Dead Larry & the Uniphonics**, Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$7-10

**11/28**

**Wage War w/ Oceans Ate Alaska, Gideon, Varials, Loathe, Gabe's**, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$15-17

**University of Iowa Jazz Performances: Latin Jazz Ensemble & Jazz Repertory Ensemble**, The Mill, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$3-5

**Linear Symmetry w/ Harbor & Home**, Iowa City Yacht Club, 9 p.m., \$6

**11/29**

**Michael Graves Band w/ Grave Corps**, Spicoli's Rockade, Waterloo, 8 p.m., \$12

**11/30**

**The Cantafios**, Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 6 p.m., \$5

**Fiona Grey**, Iowa City Yacht Club, 7 p.m., \$8

**The Spill Canvas w/ Wild, Super Whatever, Blue Moose**, Tap House, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$12-15

**Little Village and Dead Coast Present: The Brother Brothers w/ Brian Johannesen and Ryan Joseph Anderson**, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$8-10

**12/1**

**Almanac**, Cedar Ridge Distillery, Swisher, 6 p.m., Free

**Semisixteenz**, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free

**Terence Blanchard ft. the E-Collective**, Hancher, 7:30 p.m., \$10-40

**Sing-Along Messiah 2017**, Coralville Center for Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$8-12

**Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons**, US Cellular Center, Cedar Rapids, 7:30 p.m., \$45-119

**Cody Johnson w/ Randall King**, Wooly's, Des Moines, 8 p.m., \$20-25

**Pieta Brown**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$17-21

**Colt Ford**, First Avenue Club, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$20

**James Tutson & the Rollback**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., Free

**Brooks Strause**, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5

**DJ Fashen**, EDEN Lounge & Nightclub, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free

**12/2**

**Stars of Wonder—An Original Christmas Celebration**, Coralville Center for Performing Arts, 7:30 p.m., \$15-25

**A Barefoot Christmas**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$22-27

**Quad City Symphony Orchestra Presents Masterworks III: Postcards from Scandinavia**, Adler Theatre, Davenport, 8 p.m., \$8-62

**The Tanya English Band**, Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., Free

**Stereowide**, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 9 p.m., \$5

**12/3**

**Quad City Symphony Orchestra Presents Masterworks III: Postcards from Scandinavia**, Augustana College, Centennial Hall, Rock Island, 2 p.m., \$8-39

**A Carpenters Christmas**, Adler Theatre, Davenport, 2 p.m., \$28-48

**Moodie Black w/ Audrey Robinson, Sotr Caf**, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 8 p.m., \$5

**12/4**

**Sir Sly**, Gabe's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., \$15-20

**12/5**

**Kris Delmhorst & Jeffrey Foucault**, Legion Arts CSPA Hall, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., \$20-25

**Yelawolf w/ Mikey Mike, Big Henri, Cookup Boss**, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 8 p.m., \$25-125

**Lindsey Stirling: Warmer in the Winter Christmas Tour**, US Cellular Center, Cedar Rapids, 8 p.m., \$33.50-69.50



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SAT 2 | 8:30PM

**ABBIE CALLAHAN**  
SAT 16 | 7:30PM

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Joy is the beverage director at Atlas Restaurant & Bar in Iowa City and has been working in the industry for 13 years. She naturally took to bartending especially as both a creative outlet and a subject of study. She had spent the last several years in Chicago & Los Angeles, two cocktail capitals, and gained extensive knowledge and experience from some of the best.

"I'm very excited to be able to come back to my home state of Iowa and get the chance to help shape two new bar programs at the space of Atlas, an Iowa City institution, in itself. The Fuzzy Lady is a twist on the classic cocktail named The Pink Lady. I switched out the gin for Fuzzy's Vodka and added St. Germaine to give it more depth of flavor." - Joy Buehler



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## FOOD & DRINK

### 11/15

**Foodies Fighting Homelessness**, *Short's Burger and NoDo Downtown, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$20*

**Foodies Fighting Homelessness**, *Hudson's Southside Tap, Stella, Thai Spice Noodle House and Iowa City; Monica's, Coralville; Bluebird Cafe, North Liberty, 6 p.m., \$40*

**Foodies Fighting Homelessness**, *Devotay and One Twenty Six, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$60*

### 11/16

**The Autumn Shrimp Boil**, *Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$25*

**All You Can Eat Pancake Ploooza**, *Old Brick, Iowa City, 5 p.m., \$5*

### 11/18

**Umpteenth Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Supper**, *Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free (donations accepted)*

### 12/5

**Ferments For Health: Kombucha and Sauerkraut**, *Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., \$20-23*



**The Autumn Shrimp Boil Big Grove Brewery & Taproom, Thursday, Nov. 16, 5 p.m., \$25** Enjoy some fresh, local "seafood"—in Iowa, in November! Join Iowa Shrimp Farms as they team up with Big Grove for Good to raise money for FilmScene and the Englert Theatre. Entry cost covers a plate of Iowa-raised shrimp with sides of corn, potatoes, onions and peppers, prepared by Big Grove executive chef Benjamin Smart. In addition to special events like this, the Big Grove for Good program donates a portion of taproom sales on alternate Tuesdays to area 501(c)(3) organizations, as part of Big Grove's mission to give back to the community. Photo by Adam Burke

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**MONDAYS** Open Mic, *The Mill, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free Honeycombs of Comedy, Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., \$3*

**TUESDAYS** Acoustic Music Club, *River Music Experience, Davenport, 4:30 p.m., Free Practice in the Prairie: Free Summer Yoga Series, Indian Creek Nature Center, Cedar Rapids, 6 p.m., Free Blues Jam, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free Underground Open Mic, Yacht Club, 8 p.m., Free Weekly Old-Timey Jam Session, Trumpet Blossom Cafe, Iowa City, 8:30 p.m., Free Karaoke, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free Karaoke Tuesdays, The Mill, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free*

**WEDNESDAYS** Food Truck Wednesday, *NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 11 a.m. Late Nights at NCSML, National Czech & Slovak Museum & Library, Cedar Rapids, 4 p.m. Burlington Street Bluegrass Band, The Mill, Iowa City, 6 p.m., \$5(2nd & 4th Wednesdays) Open Mic Night, Penguin's Comedy Club, Cedar Rapids, 6:30 p.m., Free Open Mic, Cafe Paradiso, Fairfield, 8 p.m., Free Karaoke Wednesdays, Mondo's Saloon, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free Open Stage,*

*Studio 13, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free Open Jam and Mug Night, Iowa City Yacht Club, 10 p.m., Free Late Shift at the Grindhouse, Film Scene, Iowa City, 10 p.m., \$4 Talk Art, The Mill, Iowa City, 10:30 p.m., Free (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)*

**THURSDAYS** I.C. Press Co-op open shop, *Public Space One, Iowa City, 4 p.m., Free CSA Market, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 4 p.m. Meet Me at the Market, NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 5 p.m. Green Drinks Cedar Valley, Octopus College Hill, Cedar Falls, 5:30 p.m., Free Kids Meditation Class Iowa City, Quaker Friends Meeting House, Iowa City, 5:45 p.m., Free Iowa City Meditation Class: How To Transform Your Life, Quaker Friends Meeting House, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m., \$5 Novel Conversations, Coralville Community Library, 7 p.m., Free (3rd Thursday) Thursday Night Live Open Mic, Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free Daddy-0, Parlor City Pub and Eatery, Cedar Rapids, 7 p.m., Free Live Jazz, Clinton Street Social Club, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free Karaoke Thursday, Studio 13, Iowa City, 8 p.m., Free Gemini Karaoke, Blue Moose Tap House, Iowa City, 9 p.m., Free Retrofit Vinyl w/ DJ Slimpickens,*

*Dick's Tap & Shake Room, Cedar Rapids, 9 p.m., Free*

**FRIDAYS** NewBo Open Coffee, *Roasters Coffeehouse in NewBo City Market, Cedar Rapids, 8 a.m., Free (2nd & 4th Fridays) Friday Night Out, Ceramics Center, Cedar Rapids, 6:30 p.m., \$40 FAC Dance Party, The Union, Iowa City, 7 p.m. Sasha Belle Presents: Friday Night Drag & Dance Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, 10:30 p.m., \$5 SoulShake, Gabe's, Iowa City, 10 p.m., Free*

**SATURDAYS** Weekend Brunch, *Atlas Restaurant, Iowa City, 8 a.m. Family Storytime, Iowa City Public Library, 10:30 a.m., Free I.C. Press Co-op Open Shop, Public Space One, Iowa City, 12 p.m., Free Saturday Night Music, Uptown Bill's, Iowa City, 7 p.m., Free Elation Dance Party, Studio 13, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$5*

**SUNDAYS** Weekend Brunch, *Atlas Restaurant, Iowa City, 8 a.m. Pride Bingo, Studio 13, Iowa City, 6:30 p.m. Pub Quiz, The Mill, Iowa City, 9 p.m., \$1*



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>> **CONT. FROM PG. 18**

cedar. Moore, a three year veteran of the market, is bringing back her popular birdhouses this year. They feature Czech textile motifs, inspired by textiles displayed at the museum. She also has a “Faux Masters” line of birdhouses, which feature her own reproductions of fine art paintings.

“I love this market,” Moore said in an email. She said she really enjoys seeing familiar faces as well as new customers. “My birdhouses have been very well received there, and some folks come back year after year, and then buy from me other times in the year ... I get a good bit of my own holiday shopping done from the other wonderful vendors.”

This event, Moore said, is really well attended and great for families. The market runs Saturday, Dec. 2, 10-5 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 3, 10-3 p.m. Admission is free.

The market is also part of the larger Deck the District event in Cedar Rapids, which includes holiday vendors at the NewBo Market, holiday themed light displays, horse-drawn carriage rides and the Very Cherry Holiday Art Sale at the historic Cherry Building (329 10th Ave SE) from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 2. The art sale will feature art from the Iowa Ceramics Center and Glass Studio, as well as craft opportunities for kids.

If you’re looking for still more ways to shop local, the Amana Colonies turns it up a notch for the winter holidays with it’s Prelude to Christmas. The shops in Amana feature locally made handicrafts, art, woolen textiles, wine, foodstuffs and many other holiday delights to sample and share with friends and family. Events begin Thanksgiving weekend and run through Dec. 17.

Prelude Weekend coincides with the other area markets. Running Dec. 1-3, it features a tree lighting Friday night at 6 p.m. as well as visits from Santa all weekend. The following weekend is Children’s Weekend, with fun activities for kids in many Amana area businesses, ranging from face painting and scavenger hunts to decorating cookies and making holiday crafts. The Tannenbaum Forest, another feature of the festival, will include over 40 trees decorated by local artists. The shops in Amana will be festively decorated and open for your holiday needs. **LV**

*Darcie Hutzell is a longtime resident of Iowa City, a lifetime lover of books, a music enthusiast, a french fry aficionado and a mom to an amazing kid.*

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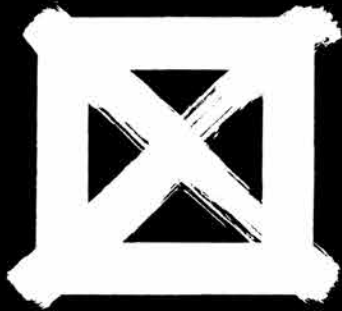
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## Visual AIDS Day With(out) Art



Tiona Nekkia McClodden, *The Labyrinth 1.0*, 2017  
Production still courtesy of the artist

Visual AIDS has commissioned seven artists: Mykki Blanco, Cheryl Dunye with Ellen Spiro, Reina Gosset, Thomas Allen Harris, Kia Labelija, Tiona McClodden and Brontez Purnell, to create short videos (~7 min each) about the ongoing HIV/AIDS crisis. The video program, titled **ALTERNATE ENDINGS, RADICAL BEGINNINGS**, is the 28th iteration of Visual AIDS' longstanding Day With(out) Art project.

Curated by Erin Christovale and Vivian Crockett, **ALTERNATE ENDINGS, RADICAL BEGINNINGS** looks to prioritize Black narratives within the ongoing AIDS epidemic.

These films will be presented on loop at Public Space One (lower level of Wesley Center, 120 N. Dubuque St) on **Dec 1st, 2017 from 11a-6p.**

More info at [publicspaceone.com](http://publicspaceone.com)

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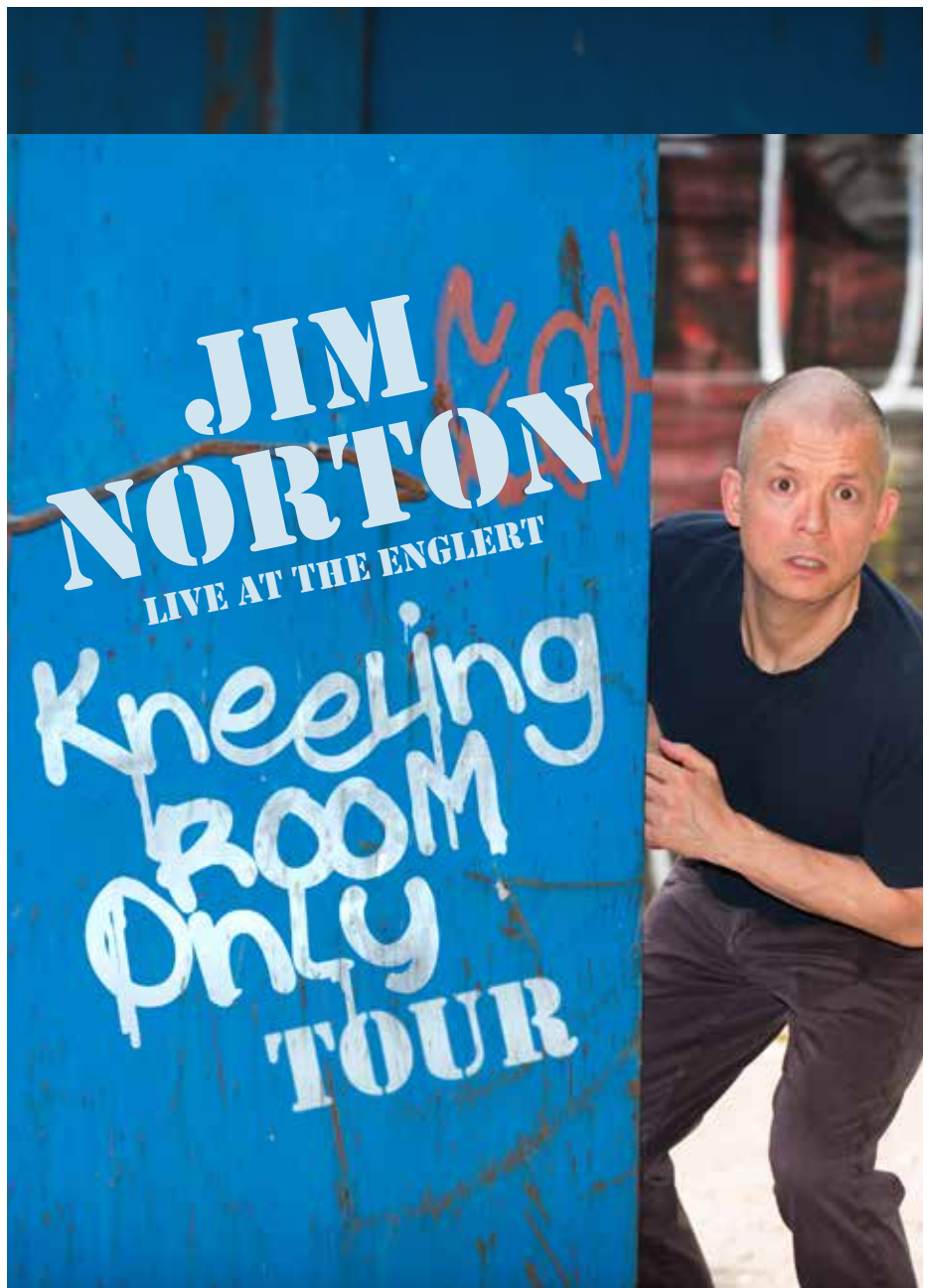
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*Don't get me wrong. I enjoy her enthusiasm! The neighbors are starting to retaliate with drums and the Ramones, and we got our window egged one night.*

*She lives with her homophobic family, so really my place is only option for intimacy.*

*What can I do?  
Sincerely, Lip Biter*

Dear Lip Biter,

Ah yes, the noisy sex conundrum.

It's fantastic that your girlfriend is so enthusiastic; it must be pretty freeing to be in a safe space for her to express her sexual-

ity. I would normally say, "Who cares who hears" since you're in the privacy of your own place, but now that you are getting egged and hearing "I Wanna Be Sedated" blasted on repeat, you should talk to your neighbors. How you do so will depend on your pre-existing relationship with them.

As long as they're not homophobic, the discussion could be pretty simple, "My girlfriend is loud, so blare whatever music you want if bothered, but no more egging."

Regardless of who is living next door, you two don't need to apologize. People who choose to live in apartments must be willing to tolerate the noise of neighbors (within reason). *xoxo, Kiki*

Dear Kiki,  
*I hit it off with a woman who I knew was moving out of the country. Our time together lasted only a few weeks. Though the time was short, we shared a really special connection and I've*

*been left with memories that will stay with me forever.*

*The last night she was in town, I met her family and we all went out for dessert together. She gave me a really sweet kiss in the car as we said good night. We didn't spend the night together, but in the morning I was the last person she saw before she left town for good. I gave her a hand-written card that expressed how happy I was that we met and that I wanted to keep in touch and keep getting to know her. She didn't read the letter that morning, and I felt her energy was cold. We hugged, but*

*didn't kiss good-bye. Since then, her communication with me has been cordial and mostly superficial. I'm a little blown away by how emotionally and physically intimate we had*

*been for it to suddenly turn so cordial/superficial, literally overnight, without any major incident (besides her move) to provoke the change.*

*What gives?  
Signed, Lady Hearts Woman*

Dear Lady Hearts Woman,

Ouch. I'm sure it stings to now be treated as a long-distance acquaintance after having a few lovely weeks with this woman. Drastic change in a person's life, such as moving out of the country, might hinder her ability to maintain previous relationships. Also, her mindframe and behavior before leaving may have been "carpe diem," and, unfortunately, you were only a part of her present.

It would be a shame if you took this slight personally. My hope is that you're able to move forward without too much hurt or anger.

I prescribe lots of self-care—and wine.  
*xoxo, Kiki LV*

**Regardless of who is  
living next door, you two  
don't need to apologize.**



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**Do supergeniuses still exist? The world has more people, so there should be more Newtons and Einsteins than ever, but I can't think of many today like that. —Wesley Clark, via the Straight Dope Message Board**

Wesley, honestly. Have you never heard of Stephen Hawking? He'd rank high on any list of supergeniuses. And of course there can be only one superdupergenius, namely me.

Still, times being what they are, I can appreciate wanting more depth on the supergenius bench. To understand why the breed is rare, let's look at supergeniuses of the past. Newton and Einstein were geniuses pretty much by acclaim, up there with other favorites like Shakespeare, Galileo and Beethoven. And how about Charles Darwin? He basically created our modern understanding of evolution—giving us, in natural selection, a sui generis theory that could only have issued from a singular mind. Right?

Well, no. Another guy came up with roughly the same idea, independently of Darwin, around the same time; the two subsequently co-published a paper. But despite some latter-day attempts to correct the historical record, few today have heard of poor Alfred Russel Wallace. Darwin, moreover, was by his own account no great thinker. The insights for which he's known are surely genius, but the man himself? Frankly unimpressive. As a 2009 article in *Genetics* put it, "In his style and from what we can deduce of his mental processes, he does not fit the image of 'genius' that we have inherited from physics and mathematics."

What I'm getting at is that whatever we're calling "genius" is a blurry concept that comprises not just smarts but creativity, timing and star-making PR. In its original formulation, genius was thought by the ancient Romans to be a unique talent everyone was born with. More recently, IQ testing has led it to be associated with quantifiable intelligence, though of course one doesn't guarantee the other. Just ask William James Sidis, once considered by some the smartest man ever. (I wasn't born yet.) Sidis, who went to Harvard at age 11, produced no great work and died in obscurity in 1944, at 46.

Einstein was the complete package: a high-IQ fellow who was exceptionally creative and productive—famously, in a single year he produced four papers that changed physics forever. You've stumbled, actually, on a point of some anxiety in the sciences today, where future Einsteins aren't assured. Why not? A few ideas:

*The disciplines are settled.* The supergeniuses we recognize today created their fields (Galileo) or revolutionized them (Einstein). Psychologist Dean Keith Simonton argues that for a century no disciplines have been created wholesale, but rather combined with existing fields into hybrid forms: astrophysics, biochemistry. "It is difficult to imagine that scientists have overlooked some phenomenon worthy of its own

discipline," Simonton writes. "Future advances are likely to build on what is already known rather than alter the foundations of knowledge."

*It takes more work to do that building.* The lower-hanging fruit having been picked, would-be supergeniuses now must spend more time acquiring the background knowledge needed to make higher-order discoveries. A 2005 study of noted inventors and Nobel laureates found the mean age for making significant discoveries had increased six years over a century.

*The implications of today's discoveries are more abstruse* and so get less public exposure. Einstein's work led to the atom bomb. Today, consider the Higgs boson, the so-called god particle—key to understanding the universe. Incredible stuff? Yes. Immediately consequential? No.

*Science today demands teamwork.* One guy theorized the existence of the Higgs, but it took thousands of very smart people—not to mention a series of increasingly enormous particle accelerators—nearly five decades to prove it. As our pursuits get more complex, that's increasingly what discovery looks like: teams of experts searching doggedly for answers, rather than one big brain flying solo.

And as much as the singular genius has given us, he's increasingly anachronistic. You'll notice everyone mentioned here is a white guy, a trend the lone-genius trope does nothing to disrupt. A recent poll of 2,000 academics found that fields where scholars explicitly equated success with brilliance (rather than, say, hard work; philosophy being the egregious example) conferred PhDs on far fewer women and people of color than fields (like psychology) in which respondents were less hung up on sheer intellect. Another survey asked subjects (civilians, not profs) to rate the impressiveness of discoveries described as either having occurred "like a light bulb" or having been "nurtured like seeds." The participants considered light-bulb-type ideas more impressive—unless the discovery was made by a woman, in which case nurturing scored higher.

The way the authors see it, these results comport with "gendered stereotypes of genius as male"—we expect men to have the classic "Eureka!" breakthroughs, with women seen as better off tending their little intellectual gardens. But such biases aren't advancing the overall enterprise of discovery. Supergeniuses, then, may be on their way out, but we'll make do without them—in fact the towering intellects of legend may not be particularly well-suited to the present day.

Most, anyways. I've got no plans to retire. **LV**

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**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): "Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible." —Lord Kelvin, President, Royal Society, 1895. "We do not want now and we never shall want the human voice with our films." —silent film pioneer D. W. Griffith. "Video won't be able to hold on to any market it captures after the first six months. People will soon get tired of staring at a plywood box every night." —filmmaker Darryl F. Zanuck, commenting on television in 1946. I hope I've provided enough evidence to convince you to be faithful to your innovative ideas, Scorpio. Don't let skeptics or conventional thinkers waylay you.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Of all the signs in the zodiac, you Sagittarians are most likely to buy a lottery ticket that has the winning numbers. But you're also more likely than everyone else to throw the ticket in a drawer and forget about it, or else leave it in your jeans when you do the laundry, rendering the ticket unreadable. Please don't be like that in the coming weeks. Make sure you do what's necessary to fully cash in on the good fortune that life will be making available.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): In the game of basketball, if a player is fouled by a member of the opposing team, he is given a free throw. While standing 15 feet away, he takes a leisurely shot at the basket without having to deal with any defenders. Studies show that a player is most likely to succeed at this task if he shoots the ball underhanded. Yet virtually no professionals ever do this. Why? Because it doesn't look cool. Everyone opts to shoot free throws overhand, even though it's not as effective a technique. Weird! Let's invoke this as a metaphor for your life in the coming weeks, Capricorn. In my astrological opinion, you'll be more likely to accomplish good and useful things if you're willing to look uncool.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): In 1991, Aquarius rock star Axl Rose recorded the song "November Rain" with his band Guns N' Roses. It had taken him eight years to compose it. Before it was finally ready for prime time, he had to whittle it down from an 18-minute-long epic to a more succinct nine-minute ballad. I see the coming weeks as a time when you should strive to complete work on your personal equivalent of Axl's opus.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Thomas Edison was a prolific inventor whose work led to the creation of electric lights, recorded music, movies and much more. When he was 49 years old, he met Henry Ford, a younger innovator who was at the beginning of his illustrious career. Ford told Edison about his hopes to develop and manufacture low-cost automobiles, and the older man responded with an emphatic endorsement. Ford later said this was the first time anyone had given him any encouragement. Edison's approval "was worth worlds" to him. I predict, Pisces, that you will receive comparable inspiration from a mentor or guide or teacher in the next nine months. Be on the lookout for that person.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): "Many people go fishing all their lives without knowing that it is not fish they are after," observed Henry David Thoreau. The spirit of Thoreau's observation is true about every one of us to some extent. From time to time, we all try to satisfy our desires in the wrong location, with the wrong tools and with the wrong people. But I'm happy to announce that his epigram is less true for you now than it has ever been. In the coming months, you will have an unusually good chance to know exactly what you want, be in the right place at the right time to get it and still want it after you get it. And it all starts now.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): I predict that during the next ten months, you will generate personal power and good fortune as you ripen your skills at creating interesting forms of intimacy.

Get started! Here are some tips to keep in mind. 1. All relationships have problems. Every single one, no exceptions! So you should cultivate relationships that bring you useful and educational problems. 2. Be very clear about the qualities you do and don't want at the core of your most important alliances. 3. Were there past events that still obstruct you from weaving the kind of togetherness that's really good for you? Use your imagination to put those events behind you forever.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): You may be entertaining an internal dialog that sounds something like this: "I need a clear yes or a definitive no, a tender revelation or a radical revolution, a lesson in love or a cleansing sex marathon—but I'm not sure which! Should I descend or ascend? Plunge deeper down, all the way to the bottom? Or zip higher up, in a heedless flight into the wide open spaces? Would I be happier in the poignant embrace of an intense commitment or in the wild frontier where none of the old rules can follow me? I can't decide! I don't know which part of my mind I should trust!" If you do hear those thoughts in your brain, Gemini, here's my advice: There's no rush to decide. What's healthiest for your soul is to bask in the uncertainty for a while.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): According to storyteller Michael Meade, ancient Celtic culture believed that "a person was born through three forces: the coming together of mother and father, an ancestral spirit's wish to be reborn, and the involvement of a god or goddess." Even if you don't think that's literally true, the coming weeks will be a favorable time to have fun fantasizing it is. That's because you're in a phase when contemplating your origins can invigorate your spiritual health and attract good fortune into your life. So start with the Celtic theory, and go on from there. Which of your ancestors may have sought to live again through you? Which deity might have had a vested interest in you being born? What did you come to this earth to accomplish? Which of your innate potentials have you yet to fully develop, and what can you do to further develop them?

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): I predict that starting today and during the next ten months, you will learn more about treating yourself kindly and making yourself happy than you have in years. You will mostly steer clear of the mindset that regards life as a numbing struggle for mere survival. You will regularly dream up creative ideas about how to have more fun while attending to the mundane tasks in your daily rhythm. Here's the question I hope you will ask yourself every morning for the next 299 days: "How can I love myself with devotion and ingenuity?"

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): This may be the most miscellaneous horoscope I've ever created for you. That's apropos, given the fact that you're a multifaceted quick-change artist these days. Here's your sweet mess of oracles. 1. If the triumph you seek isn't humbling, it's not the right triumph. 2. You may have an odd impulse to reclaim or recoup something that you have not in fact lost. 3. Before transmutation is possible, you must pay a debt. 4. Don't be held captive by your beliefs. 5. If you're given a choice between profane and sacred love, choose sacred.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): The next ten months will be an ideal time to revise and revamp your approach to education. To take maximum advantage of the potentials, create a master plan to get the training and knowledge you'll need to thrive for years to come. At first, it may be a challenge to acknowledge that you have a lot more to learn. The comfort-loving part of your nature may be resistant to contemplating the hard work it will require to expand your worldview and enhance your skills. But once you get started, you'll quickly find the process becoming easier and more pleasurable. **LV**



**GLOOM BALLOON**

*Drying the Eyes of the Goddess of Gloom, Underneath the Stars and the Moon*

gloomballoon.com

The songs on Des Moines band/project Gloom Balloon’s sophomore album, *Drying the Eyes of the Goddess of Gloom, Underneath the Stars and the Moon* were inspired by life-changing events of falling in love and the birth of Patrick Tape Fleming’s son Nilsson (who makes an appearance on the opening track, “Password”). During an in-studio interview in September on Ames alternative radio station KURE, he refers to the songwriting process as opening up a magic stratosphere. These songs form a song cycle that is a letter to his son: “The majority of the record is about falling in love ... it’s me telling him that’s all that really matters in the world.”

But, living up to his own moniker as the Gloom Balloon, he would be remiss to not share love’s attendant darkness. In “The Shit

**The distorted synth and washes of noise create a claustrophobic feel, underlined by the vocal sample repeating “Get out!”**

You Put Me Through,” he declares to a past love, “If I could put you through/the shit you put me through/you’d understand that it’s hard to be in love.”

*Drying the Eyes* owes a lot to the sonic ground broken by Gloom Balloon partner Christopher the Conquered’s 2016 album *I’m Giving Up On Rock and Roll*, which Fleming produced. *Drying the Eyes* shares a huge,

bombastic sound laden with strings, horns and vocal chorus. The album was written largely on piano, which would seem to contribute to the complexity of the compositions. Overall, the album’s reliance on themes and groupings of songs together props the album up in cohesiveness, reminding me of Flaming Lips circa *Yoshimi Battles the Pink Robots*. The harmony vocals on the album at times act as a sort of Greek chorus, providing commentary—like in “Password,” when Fleming

sings “And I’ll come running to you” and Ford rejoins “Oh fuck yeah...”

Fleming has said in recent interviews that *Drying the Eyes* might be his last album, as he plans to focus on his new role as father. If that’s the case, then this album is a crowning achievement: an album with a cohesive theme wrapped in dramatic symphonic rock. I suspect, however that the stratosphere will open again with songs for the taking, and we’ll get more Gloom Balloon.

—Michael Roeder



**SELEC**

*Teleph*

selecsound.bandcamp.com/releases

To release two EPs under two different names within a few months of each other suggests Clancy Clark—aka Selec, aka Clarence Johnson—has been busy. According to Clark, horror at the election of Donald Trump motivated him to be more proactive at making and putting out music.

*Teleph* collects tracks that are outside Clarks’ hip-hop wheelhouse. The intro track, “best and brightest,” sets distorted synth against layered, indistinct

voices—possibly echoes of the cacophonous political campaign of 2016. “RAUS,” an Amen break-fueled drum & bass rinse out follows. The distorted synth and washes of noise create a claustrophobic feel, underlined by the vocal sample repeating “Get out!”

The other tracks—in particular “autoreduct”—echo ’90s IDM, particularly Boards of Canada. On the surface these tracks are



warm and fuzzy, but underneath there’s a vague dread. The use of voices distorted and layered into unintelligibility may be a comment on the destruction of civil discourse brought on by the rise of our current president. Or not.

Clark explores a different mood, with a different sound palette, on *homemade sin*. The warm sound of the Fender Rhodes electric piano dominates these productions, sweetening the intricately varied hip-hop beats. Where *Teleph* is meticulously programmed, *homemade sin* is looser. The keyboard parts have a more live, improvised feel. For a producer used to working with samples and loops, the introduction of live playing shows a growing confidence as a musician.

These two EPs are different, but in the manner of two sides of a coin. *Teleph* is imbued with fear and foreboding, *homemade sin* with more comforting, hopeful emotions. While too abstract to be explicitly political, they do seem to evoke the dominant emotions swirling around current events. One says “we’re doomed!” and the other “it’ll be all right,” but both are well-made, subtle works that reward deep listening.

—Kent Williams LV

# THE LAY OF THE LAND BY BRENDAN EMMETT QUIGLEY

The American Values Club Crossword is edited by Ben Tausig.

## ACROSS

1. Watery arm
6. Straddling
10. Vietnamese currency (it's not funny)
14. *The Wreck of the Mary* \_\_\_\_
15. Folk stuff
16. Like some sources, briefly
17. English county that touches the Thames
18. Viscous Australian leaf extract that might treat asthma
20. Festival lineup units
21. 61-Across, e.g.
22. Like some arts
26. Respond upon feeling the holy ghost, say
28. Places for sugary refills
31. Scant
32. Never-before-seen
33. Nast of magazine publishing
34. Hat worn when going out to buy baguettes
35. Ungainly
37. Clear up, as a mirror
40. Where you always hang out
41. Khalid's record label
44. Anacreon works
45. Literary character who said, "Don't

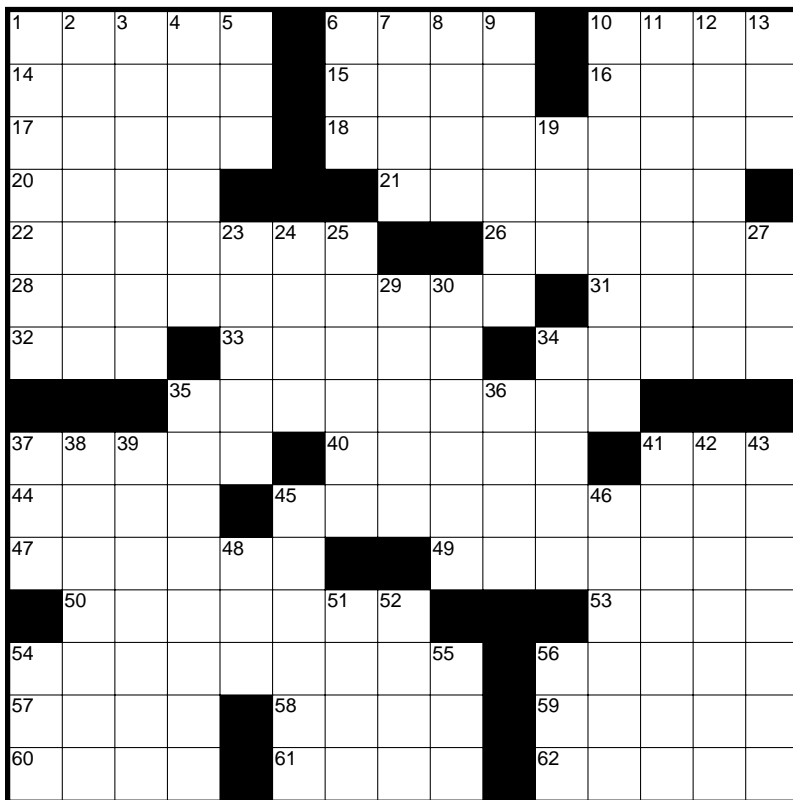
- ever tell anybody anything. If you do, you start missing everybody."
47. Pick up the pace
49. Bejeweled, say
50. Mentally untroubled
53. \_\_\_\_ *Homo* (painting botched in 2012)
54. Routine play ... and a hint to this puzzle's theme
56. Model Cody (to whom we wish better luck than his sister has had)
57. Noodles in Nippon
58. Green pod
59. Weather Channel warning, e.g.
60. "Honky \_\_\_\_ Women"
61. Its liquefied form is used as a refrigerant
62. Macron's number two?

## DOWN

1. Certain creative type
2. Brand in a Keurig machine
3. Nosebleed spot
4. Spanish pop tune of 1974
5. Nickname for a cowhand
6. Cisco Brewer's Grey Lady \_\_\_\_
7. What a band might book
8. Creature that eats seals
9. Twelfth wedding anniversary gift
10. First parts of doubleheaders, generally
11. Theoretically
12. "I'll make up my mind later ..."
13. Beast that might be hunted by spotted hyenas
19. Corso on ESPN
23. Disguised, informally
24. Heaps

25. "Oh thank goodness, because I need to get off this boat now ..."
27. Friend who might not be allowed in some condos
29. Best-case
30. "Tonight I Can Write (The Saddest Lines)" poet
34. "Everything seemed perfect ... alas"
35. Genre for the Fall
36. Like a line, for short
37. Word said while wincing
38. *The Blair Witch Project* co-director Sánchez
39. Cover, as with flowers
41. Cowhand

42. Where you might find lines behind a camera
43. Like slightly firm elbows, e.g.
45. Directly
46. Cuisine that uses 58-Across
48. Judge alongside Carrie Ann and Bruno on *Dancing With the Stars*
51. The white stuff
52. It's worth about 27,000 times more than the 10-Across
54. Clean out completely
55. It's hard to get one if you're pasty white like me
56. Fast flight



## LV230 ANSWERS



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Jangarh Singh Shyam. *Tree and Panther*, 1988. Gouache on paper. Photo courtesy of Sneha Ganguly.

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