FREE PRESS

H O U S T

MUSIC - NEWS - PUBLIC OPINION - A



Issue #50

September 2005

9/15 - 9/31

Cyberspace Defined

The W of Oz

Legalize Murder

Rock You Like a Hurricane: Katrina Benefits a Plenty

AIN T NO USE IN TURNING ON THE LIGHT BABE





ROCK & ROLL SHOES AND BOOTS

Sole

JOHN FLUEVOG SHOES LUICHINY **BED STU** MARY JANES
PLATFORMS CREEPERS **TUK** MARY X MARY **MARY FRANCES**
DJ BAGS **MANHATTAN PORTAGE** MESSENGER BAGS

1338 B Westheimer Road (Montrose) Houston, TX 77005
713.353.1057 www.SoleHouston.com

2946 S. Shepherd Dr. 713.526.6888

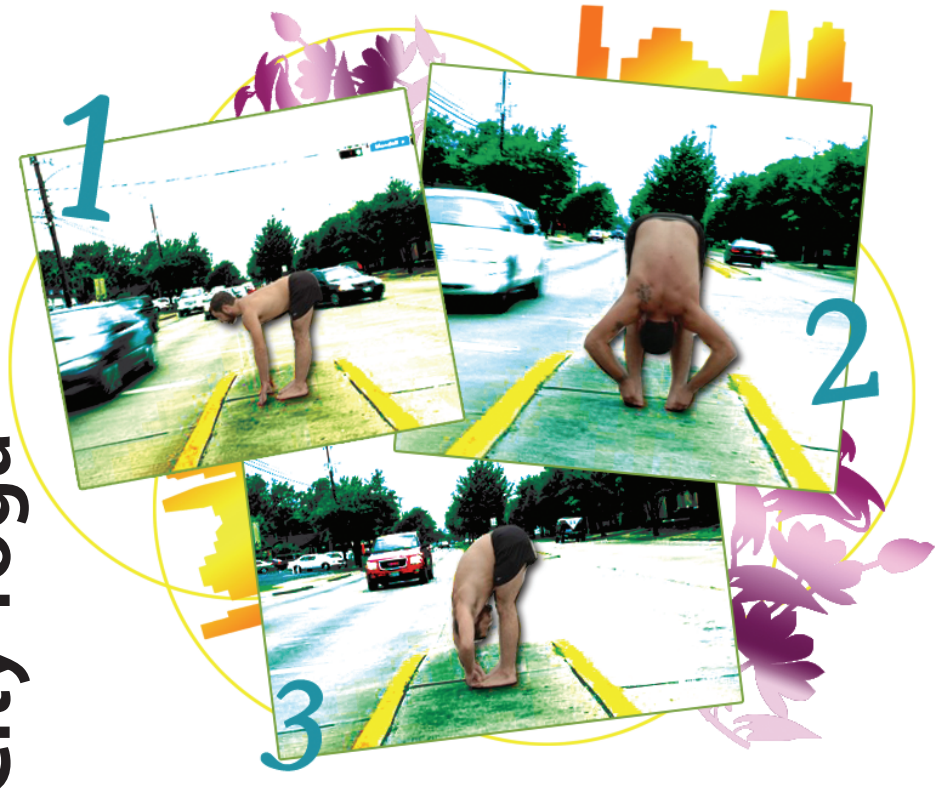
Kaké

traditional &
innovative sushi
japanese cuisine

open friday & saturday until 2am
DJs each friday & saturday 10pm-2am
sushi lunch specials under $10 • happy hour m-f 5-7pm

ThisIssue

September 2005 what you'll find



39 World View
Fat City Yoga

4 Editor's Page
Rock Stars are dying Posers are flying

7 Arts
Legalize Murder
The Gospel according to Miss Bly

18 Soundbytes
Rock you like a hurricane
Katrina benefits a' plenty

24 Book Review
How to be Idle

27 Worldview
Mourning New Orleans

34 World View
The W of Oz

23 Tech-knowledge
Cell Phone Drivers



Staff

Publishers	Andrea Afra
	Omar Afra
	Omar Al-Bochi
Associate Editors	
World View	Ken Freeland
Arts	Sean Carroll
Film	Michael Bergeron
Local	Alex Wukman
Music	Kwame M. Anderson
Managing Editor	Omar Afra

Contributors & Staff Writers	Lance Walker
	Christopher Brunn
	Brittany Bly
	Devin McNulty
	Jeff Storm
	George St. Clair
	Alex "Asshole" Wukman
	Mirroz
	Yolanda Garza Birdwell
	John Ferguson
	Timothy O'Brien
	Brandon Montes
Photographers	Anthony Rathbun

Art Director	Tyler Barber
Designers/Illustrations	Lyndia Haryanto
	Omar Al-Bochi
	Jodie Worthingto
	Shelby Hohl
	Tim Dorsey
Delivery	Ken Freeland
	Jeff Storm
	Mark Galveston
	Tony Kaelin
	Jerri Huston
	Evan Dunivan
	Chris Hutto



Cover by Buffalo Sean & Shelby Hohl
Oops, last issue's cover by Derek Schumate

Feel FREE to take us Seriously.

editors@freepresshouston.com

Letters

Churches like the huge Humble First Baptist and Lakewood Church did not open their Sunday School rooms for people to sleep in because they told me the Church could not do that, the damage would be too much that would be caused by "these" people.

Apartments with FEMA funding are checking credit and criminal backgrounds of "these" people before they can allow them to live among us. Most of these people were on welfare, they cannot pass credit checks. As for criminal history, most of your people on probation are there out of fear and a plea bargain struck because they had no money for attorneys, go sit in a court room and listen. Once bitten by the Judicial Bug you are tagged for life.

Ed Mays
Humble

Thank you, the people of Texas, for you open arms diplomacy. Having worked with many Texans throughout my career, I was not surprised. Being from Alabama, I always have felt a kinship to Texans. The other Gulf Coast States thank you.

Claude Dodson
Ozark, Alabama

Those who fervently wish for car-free cities should take a closer look at New Orleans. The tragedy of New Orleans isn't primarily due to racism or government incompetence, though both played a role. The real cause is automobility — or more precisely to the lack of it.

Randal O'Toole
New Orleans

You might be interested in a free online service that securely and confidentially matches Katrina evacuees and people who are willing to share their homes: The Open House Project, a non-profit website that currently has 1974 beds waiting for hurricane victims.

www.TheOpenHouseProject.org.

Betsy Jones
Nasville

It is not only a human tragedy - but also a tragedy for animals - living creations with their feelings, fear and needs and right to life!

Bente and Wilfred Høsteland (owners of three pets)
Bergen, Norway.

For those of you who are new to Houston city as a result of Katrina: Welcome. Nonetheless, it seems as though many Houstonians' inherent lack of hospitality can be heard through snide attitudes and distasteful ideas that are hidden behind the surface. If you are one of these soul-less fucks, please put this paper down.

Anyhow, there is a lot in the pipe right now. New people. New Season. Oh yeah, this is issue number 50. That's right — 50 issues and no fatal accidents.

One of the few and rare positive things about Katrina is that New Orleans' Gambit Weekly Assistant Production Director Jody Worthington has either temporarily or indefinitely joined our staff. She has lent a lot of assistance for just pennies on the dollar! Man -- these evacuees really work cheap! Seriously though, she has lent a lot of expertise and done some much needed editing. It seems that she learned this strange concept at her last paper called "protocol."

In related news, we just lost Clarence Gatemouth Brown. As the legend goes, Clarence Gatemouth Brown got his big break filling in for a sick T-Bone Walker at the Bronze Peacock here in Houston circa 1947. Gatemouth was known for his deep voice -- hence the name. He was also a controversial, pompous loudmouth. That is why we will miss him.

Lastly -- WestFest Compressed is October 15th if you don't know. This will be a smaller, tighter, better, leaner festival. This festival will differ from recent incarnations of the fest with the visible presence of good music and art. Spread the word.



photo by: Anthony Rathbun

helios



upcoming:

Friday 16: Household Names, Chris Neri & Direwood The Black Math Experiment, The Division Therory & Poison Apple Martini

Saturday 17: Private Party

Friday 23: The Western Civilization

Saturday 24: Liviya Compean

Friday 30: Two Star Symphony, Landfall, The Mathletics

October

Saturday 1: Dreambreakers
Friday 7: Millon Year Dance, The Medicine Show
Saturday 8: Isola
Friday 14: Deep Ella (acoustic show) w/Billy Harvey & Zach Broocke

Saturday 15: Go Girls annual benefit

ongoing:

MONDAYS:
Spontaneous Jazz, The Medicine Show, The Trade

TUESDAYS:
El Gato Negrito @ 10pm w/ Mary Allen, Belly Dancing

WEDNESDAYS:
1st Wed: New Beatnik Review 2nd Wed: Poetry Slam
4th Wed: Poetry in Reverse Every Wed: Mausoleum Poets Society

THURSDAYS:
Music Open Mic; All Talented musicians welcome; Digifunk

FRIDAYS:
D.R.U.M.

SUNDAYS:
A few jazz giants gather to create authentic jams

411 Westheimer Rd. 713.526.4846 www.HeliosRising.org

NEW ORLEANS EVACUEES' RELIEF BENEFIT
sunday - sep 18th
5 pm 'til midnight
Louisiana gumbo - $5
Miller Lite pints - $2
food, fun, music, prizes
$1 door donation - $2 raffle tickets
catbirds
lounge & patio bar
336 westheimer
713-523-8000
www.catbirds.com

TapIt
CHOOSE TO EVOLVE
SHOWCASE YOUR
FASHION
ART
MUSIC
ENTERTAINMENT
ONLINE
VISIT THE SITE FOR MORE DETAILS
WWW.TAPITFAME.COM
SAVE OVER 50%
UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15 ONLY, WITH THE INTRODUCTORY PRICE.



arts

Debris:
Something is definitely wrong

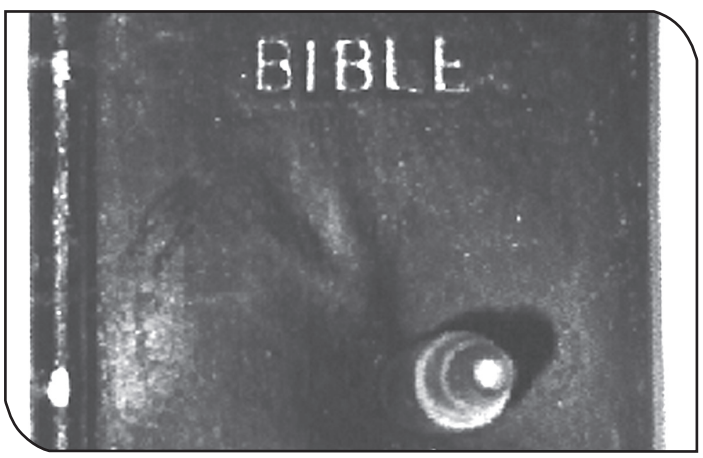
By Buffalo Sean



Dune Patten: Catharsic
Gallery 1724 1724 Bissonnet
Through October 28, (713) 523-2547



The Golden Ghost Awards: curated by Jacob Calle
Commerce Street Artist Warehouse 2315 Commerce Street
Through September 24, (713) 226-7897



Jim Loney: Recent Studies
Redbud Gallery 303 East 11th St.
Through October 2, (713) 862-2532



James Surls: Marking Time
Barbara Davis Gallery 4411 Montrose
Through October 15, (713) 520-9200

As September and seventy degree nights roll in, Houston's galleries come to life; **Robyn O'Neil**'s new show at **Inman Gallery** (3901 Main) is great to see for her for her representation to Houston- a locally based artist who is successful (Clementine Gallery, Whitney Biennial), but these particular drawings are not as sparse or strong as her recent work that truly impressed me more than what I see on Main. I realize now that I missed the **Misaki Kawai** show in Gallery 2, I'll have to go back for the dioramas now.



Monster Painting at McClain (2242 Richmond) sounds fucking awesome... I definitely want to see a show of **McClain**'s caliber of monsters... the result was disillusioning though. **Jose Lerma**'s new New York works are amazing monsters eating themselves; but the rest of the show seems to be centered more on "monstrous" painting techniques, more about the grotesque representation of portraiture (not too well) than anything else.

Four exhibits and a party at **CSAW**? Cool. A nice, drunk party was thrown by **Texas United**, **Vicki Fowler**'s tasteful distraction in the front gallery being smoked out at the end of the show was a lovely tribute to it's welcoming, communicative atmosphere. **Matthew Steinke**'s theoretical sound and robot installations lacked strong visual presence; but after speaking with the traveler from Chicago his work is endearing, and part of a larger whole.

James Surls and **University of Houston** get together again for The Splendora Years, twenty of them spent on the construction of large sculpture; the show is well curated throughout the space of the **Blaffer Gallery** and the reunion of the two (Surls was a UH professor before Splendora) is a nice benchmark for where the school has been. Blaffer exhibit opens on Friday the 16th (always free liquor) and another show of his work debuts at **Barbara Davis** the next day. (check out the new building!)

Well, **Devin Borden Hiram Butler Gallery**'s website doesn't help me out one bit as to the content of the show, but **Laura Lark**'s paintings, or photos, or videos... are on display beginning on September 17th, I can't help but root for a strong, twisted show.

Dune Patten, who's taken a beating on the boards of Glasstire recently, opens his solo show Catharsic [sic] at **Gallery 1727** September 17th (1727 Bissonett).

Two things seem to come out of the gulf coast disaster to me. Ineptitude and nepotism breed at all levels of government, and a hazy, rosy picture must have infected everyone near this situation, for no one is blameless. Well, three things, if you count that Jody now working on editing for the Free Press now.

If I catch **POET**, the asshole who tagged Inversion at the ***Art League Houston***, I'm gonna kick his ass. That little bitch better stick to walls and bathrooms- things that need enlivening, not public artworks. On second thought... they did just have the closing party right before it happened, and if he waited till it was to be imminently destroyed to tag it, perhaps he does respect it as a work?

"During September 2005, a billboard for **Spacetaker** will be seen by 190,000 commuters daily on a 14' x 48' billboard located at T.C. Jester and Interstate-10"; that's a quote from a press release with no image... very seductive if you drive on the freeway....

Look out this October for stoned.- a show contained within the Westheimer Street Festival putting the art back into WestFest; featuring performance, installation, and public art- stay tuned for juicy, bizarre details...



The Gospel According to Miss Bly

Legalize Murder

By Brittany Bly



In an alternate universe a crowd gathers in front of City Hall. Protest banners read "murderers have rights too." Others have my personal favorite tagline of the crowd: "fight for anything but fighting is hypocritical." Wow, it's so hyper-theoretical and simultaneously sublimely stupid, it's almost profound. The crowd of hundreds chants melodically, "Legalize murder! Legalize murder! Legalize murder!" This crowd that once cheered to legalize marijuana and give peace a chance now has bigger fish to fry. Or rather, people to fry.

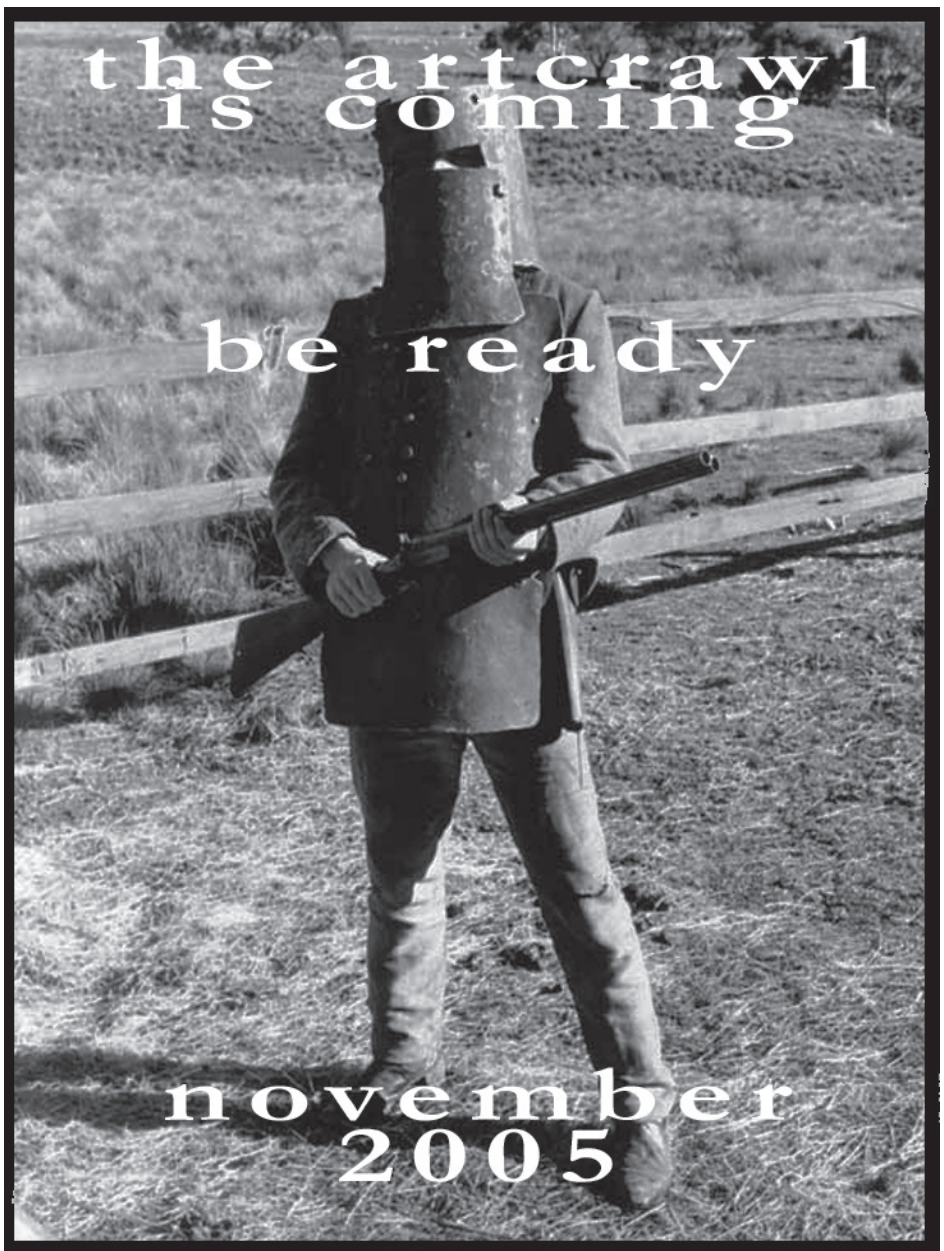
Of course, this is an alternate universe, one that only exists in the imagination of Carl Lockstedt, a former" visual artist. No, Carl quit making art and instead makes grandly idiotic ideas which are "not art." I'm not certain how you could categorize them - although rants, political statements, or acts visual culture all come to mind.

For the last month Carl has been obsessed with a spoon. This kitchen utensil is not like ordinary kitchen utensils. This spoon is a mystic act of God. It displays the image of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Child. It's not a coffee stain in need of a good soak in some CLR; it's a modern day miracle. It was so profound that Carl knew the spoon must be put up for auction on Ebay where it will go down in history with the illustrious haunted cane and the man auctioning off ad space on breast implants.

Meanwhile, Carl is balancing his non-secular activities with his secular by creating a cult entitled "Cult-o Bizarre-o." Carl, as it turns out, is in league with aliens that have parked their spaceship behind Jupiter. As cult members the aliens can revive you after your mortal death and beam you to their spaceship, which is full of enough pot to smoke for the rest of your life – err, death. To gain acceptance into Cult-o Bizarre-o is, however, no walk on the moon. First, you must give all your worldly possessions to Carl and include him as the beneficiary of your will. Then, you must cut off one limb, although you are free to pick which limb you would like to cut off.

So, what is this stuff? The more that I think about it the more I am certain that this is art, indeed. It's really, horrendously, terribly, horribly bad conceptual art. So horrendously, terribly, horribly bad that it, in fact, goes back to good. I think of Carl as the Basquiat, the modern day primitive of the conceptual art world. Sometimes I think that Carl Lockstedt is a genius. But most of the time I just want to punch him in the face. Check out his spoon on Ebay by visiting acution number 5606411174.





Film

Cross the Line

By Micheal Bergeron

Wong Kar-Wai — or Kar Wai Wong if you pronounce his name the Asian way — would never cross the line. We're talking about the 180-degree line rule in filmmaking.



Summer Glau, one of the stars of Serenity in a shot taken from a U.K. fan site.

2046

Kar-Wai is the type of director who can compose a scene with montages of disparate master shots. But he also mixes this with a classic narrative touch.

At one point we see the 2046 lead, Tony Leung Chui Wai (a Kar-Wai regular), talking to his landlord in the apartment hallway. The framing is a classic over the shoulder two-shot. But when Kar-Wai cuts to a reverse he appears to cross the line. However, a successive reverse shot with a wider focal length shows that the image of Leung also appears in a mirror next to the door jam where the landlord stands. Okay, so Kar-Wai did not cross the line. Yet the audience was jolted in that art movie, Ozu-was-here manner.

Later, Leung's character writes (the entire movie might be the literary musings of this character), "While I am wild and erratic I never cross the line," referring to the time he co-wrote a martial arts novel.

2046 bursts with self-referential strokes, the true sign of a director in a pensive period. It borrows a color scheme from In The Mood For Love — except with Gong Li in the look once worn, figuratively, by Maggie Cheung. Kar-Wai also borrows the red-toned color scheme from 2001: A Space Odyssey for another sequence, but what director hasn't? Kar-Wai's signature shot is of a person peering through a hole into another room. Is this how Kar-Wai sees his audience? The use of '50s-era pop songs mixed with the film's score give it a cross-cultural balance. Typical Kar-Wai pacing, at times edited and timed to a waltz, was also a signature of Kubrick and the same touch pops up in Paul Thomas Anderson films.

Kar-Wai's foray into martial arts, Ashes of Time, was the last film Kar Wai made before he was distributed in the U.S. Chung King Express was made in the same year as Ashes and distributed in the mid-'90s under the Tarantino/Miramax shingle Rolling Thunder. As for 2046's 2004 Cannes appearance, the only news was that the film literally arrived hours before its premiere (hand carried by Kar-Wai), negating any traditional morning press screening.

Maybe 2046 is a time travel story since some parts take place in the future, or perhaps a sci-fier with its anime graphics, or maybe even a romantic melodrama all in the head of the writer who appears in the late-'60s segments. It doesn't matter in a narrative sense because Kar-Wai knows how to vary frame rate and his actual main point never dominates his method to make same.

The Man

Does it seem like movie ads and trailers attempt to finagle you, the viewer, into seeing something you don't really want to see? If anyone tries to convince you that The Man is some sort of important action comedy, you should never trust that person, and certainly don't loan him money. The Man is one of about 50 mediocre films (of about 200) released by major studios every year. Yes, Virginia, 25 percent of studio films fall in the formulaic flotsam category. Percentage-wise, about a quarter of the indie and foreign films should likewise be banished.

When The Man comes on cable that would be a good time to weed the garden. Actors refer to films like this as "Stand and Deliver" movies. Samuel L. Jackson and Eugene Levy inquire where to stand, and ask when do they deliver the paycheck. They do their thing: Levy scrunches his eyebrows and Jackson acts badass. Jackson will make you cry in one scene where he channels his anger into a puppy dog gaze, but that's his talent, and not the ability of The Man to rise above a projected beam of light.

Kiss, Kiss, Bang, Bang

Kiss, Kiss, Bang, Bang is not a remake, although there are at least three films with that same title. Director Shane Black has crafted an arch version of the action thriller with snappy dialogue that made him (at one time the writer of the highest paying spec script) a Hollywood commodity. Really, one could argue that Black (along with Eszterhas and Tarantino) is the most important screenwriter since William Goldman. Like Goldman, Black's formulas are tried and true, and copied by many.

A Shane Black-written (and now directed) film can be counted on to provide funny, laughable zingers. Zingers are funny retorts, and different in structure than a punch line. In-joke moments abound with the plot revolving around an incomprehensible Hollywood murder mystery. It's like Black purposefully convoluted the mystery to make it harder to follow than The Big Sleep.

KKBB stars Robert Downey, Jr. as a small-time thief who ducks into an audition while being chased after a botched robbery. Natch, he aces the cold reading and eludes the cops, then finds himself whisked to L.A. for further grooming as a movie private eye. (Shades of Richard Rush's The Stunt Man.) Downy's Harry Lockhart can be a likeable, almost Chaplin-esque rogue but he possesses habits that some will find despicable. At the first party Downey attends he meets the person he's supposed to study for character, the flamboyant and totally out investigator Gay Perry (Val Kilmer).

As much as Black has a touch for eloquence in the middle of big action sequences, his best moves for KKBB are the absurd ones where he literally stops the film to explain to the viewers what he's doing and what will happen next.

Serenity

A little Joss Whedon goes a long way. Serenity, a big screen adaptation of the sci-fi television series that lasted a year, makes a big wave with little effort. Whedon concentrates on character for this space western and the many scenes are that are small and confined still give the impression of being somewhere in outer space. By the end of this interstellar opera the true appeal of Serenity rests on the sneer of villain-with-a-conscience Chiwetel Ejiofor (one of the few cast members not from the original show) and the way the camera just seems to fall for lithe Summer Glau every time her character, the psychic River Tam, busts a move.

Serenity has appeal outside its rabid fan base with a story that finds unique ways to tie up loose ends. And what prematurely cancelled sci-fi series doesn't have a rabid fan base?

Korean Ennui and Other Events

By Micheal Bergeron

Houston audiences have the chance to catch up on Korean director Chan-wook Park. Earlier this year Park's Old Boy (2003) played for about a month at the downtown Angelika and now Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance (2002) unwinds a the same venue. And Friday, September 23 (7:30 p.m.) the MFA, Houston screens Park's breakthrough film Joint Security Area (2000).



Old Boy was a cause celibre at the 2003 Cannes Film Festival. Press reports had jury president Quentin Tarantino stumping for Old Boy for the Palme D'Or, but a majority finally went with Fahrenheit 9/11. It's easy to see why Q.T. would be drawn to Park's film. Like Tarantino, Park has a way of presenting violence so that the impact penetrates the psyche.

While a lot of art house and indie directors are known quantities, like a Jim Jarmusch or Wong Kar Wai experience, Chan-wook Park still needs word of mouth to announce his presence. As stylistically diverse and original in his staging of vengeance as a Tarantino or Takashi Miike, the audience doesn't see the violence coming with Park. His narrative approach, dense with shifts in temporal p.o.v. requires the kind of concentration best found in a theater setting.

The pay-off for viewers of Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance (Boksuneun naui geot), amid macabre and delightfully perverse moments, comes in waves as Park constantly shifts the plot or lead character in a seismic manner. Sure, Park can shock us easy enough but it's as if he also wants to lead us through the valley of death while promising a pastoral if not bright light at the end of the tunnel.

Joint Security Area (Gtongdong gyeongbi guyeok), set in the demilitarized zone of North and South Korea, was a landmark success upon its release and established Park as an international talent to watch.

Old Boy revolved around a man who is kept prisoner by an unknown assailant for 15 years. When he's just as mysteriously set free he vows vengeance only to find himself locked into a psychological mind fuck with someone he wronged years ago.

Park's films explore the ramifications of retribution, but it's Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance that really blows the lid wide open as to the power of his graphic imagery. Plot strands include a mute, his sister who needs a kidney operation, a gang that sells human organs, a rich industrialist whose daughter has been kidnapped, the police who are investigating all of the above, a girl who uses her day job to fund her work with a terrorist group. Park has a way of establishing a scene but then using a different set-up or angle to signal a boundary of indignity has been crossed. Simply put, Sympathy for Mr. Vengeance is one of the most sophisticated films to play in Houston this year.

The MFA, Houston presents The Freshman, Harold Lloyd's classic silent with musical accompaniment on September 24 & 25.

Also, on Friday September 30, and Saturday October 1, MFA, Houston welcomes British director Adam Curtis who will introduce his documentary The Power of Nightmares. Curtis' powerful political history follows the rise of fundamentalist Islam and the similar progress of Western neo-conservative philosophy since WWII to the present day. Curtis never confronts his audience like a Michael Moore film although his spine speaks with peace and reason.

Curtis has a remarkable ability to let facts fend for themselves, plus he assembles Power of Nightmares like a DJ programming a dance floor. The film has a groove. Through a collage of stock footage, scenes from classic movies involving evil, and an uncanny sense of musical timing Curtis hammers out his thesis over three hours that glide by in an instant.



A Strange Sickness:
the 48 Hour Film Festival Hits Houston

By Robert MacCready



mas•och•ism (mãsʾə-kĭzʾəm) *n.*—A willingness or tendency to subject oneself to unpleasant or trying experiences.

This is a common thread that binds all filmmakers. Any honest one will agree. Impossible deadlines, extreme compromise, frequent disappointment, and personal torment terrorize most filmmakers. When I heard that the world famous 48 Hour Film Competition was coming to Houston for the first time, I knew that those with the most savage appetites for self hurt would be flocking to participate.

The Rules:

1. Form a Group (one person or a thousand)
2. Work with an assigned genre, line of dialogue, a few mandatory props, and a character's name.
3. Conceive, write, shoot, score, and edit a film, up to 7 minutes in length, in 48 hours. One second more, you're out.

These guidelines condense all of the pressure and anxiety that usually occur over months of filming into one sleepless, shotgun-blast weekend. The 5 best films of the 32 global city winners then make another 2 day film in Sydney, Australia for the title and a Sony High Definition camera. Major festivals have featured films by winners, some of which are distributed world wide on DVD. Some winning 48 hour filmmakers have even gone on to make commercial films like Napoleon Dynamite. Being a masochist myself, I stockpiled Ginseng energy pills and convinced a team to let me tag along for their weekend shot at greatness.

Friday. 8pm. The producers and I are barreling down 610 north. My team, Texas Wood, has randomly drawn the "Cop Movie" genre. The group, which now numbers around thirty (and later ballooned to nearly one hundred), are primarily men. Snagging the cop genre is a relief. They are certainly a talented lot, but are still wary of having to bang out, say, a musical comedy in two days. Texas Wood is one of the most equipped, funded, and staffed teams of the contest. Most of the prep and shooting is taking place at Digipixel Studios, a six room compound wedged into a remote leasing strip on the north of town. The studio is equipped with a cast lounge, soundproofed music/mixing studio, 3 editing bays, and a special effects setup.

Our car squeals to a stop in front of the studio and people get moving. Their twelve writers split into two groups. Each writes a script in ninety minutes. The producers then vote on the winner: a clichéd, albeit amusing yarn about a nerdy do-gooder taking down a deeply corrupt cop entitled, The Wrong Guy. After the losing writers quickly bury their bitterness, the script is handed out to a pool of about thirty waiting actors who pair off and scatter the narrow parking lot outside. The auditions begin.

11pm. A key scene in the script calls for an intense marital screaming match, which all the actors rehearse at once. Standing in the middle of a parking lot full of couples violently pushing each other and screaming "I hate your fucking guts!" and "I'll kill you bitch!" all overlapping one another gives one the sort of cracked, bizarre delight that can rarely be found anywhere but on a film set. The actors are all well into the moment. The building's dumpster that is wafting a thick, balmy stench of fish entrails over the crowd. I put a perfumed rag over my face, sit back on a deck chair, and smile. By 3am the cast of our police drama is chosen. The corrupt cop is a beefy Vin Diesel doppelganger, accompanied by the sexy buttoned down

CHEAP DOMAIN NAMES
DOT COMS STARTING AT ONLY $8.75 A YEAR
FREE WITH EVERY DOMAIN:
Forwarding/Masking
Change of Registration
Starter Web Page
Status Alerts
Total DNS Control
100 Email Forwards
"FOR SALE"/Parked Page
GO TO www.OMBDOMAINS.com
BROUGHT TO YOU BY:
WWW.ONEMOREBEER.COM

two chicks trying
handbags * clothing * accessories * and more
www.twochickstrying.com

internal affairs lady, her clueless, square sidekick, and the balding, spectacled do-gooder not quite wormy enough to hate. The crew begin to piece together their shot schedule around 4am. Everything is running smoothly. I fall asleep.

Day 2. Noon. I awake on the floor of the studio. The Texas Wood team had left to shoot early that morning. Those who slept managed an hour at best. I meet the team downtown; it is two o'clock and nearly one hundred degrees outside. Everyone is in that awkward, crabby state that usually precedes fragile, giggling delirium. No one told the actors to change costumes between scenes that morning, so the team must re-shoot most of the morning's work. After re-shoots wrap and the crew gets an hour for dinner, its 8pm. The film is half shot. The producer splits the group to save time. Half will return to the studio, the rest will go to south Houston. An actual police officer on the crew has agreed to let them use his house, guns, and squad car. I'm with them.

9:30pm. Another high speed caravan. We arrive in an uneasy sixth ward neighborhood. Luckily we are rolling with police-- well, one of them. I get a quick tour of our officer's home, and spot a man's arrest profile pinned beside the peephole on the front door. The officer explains that the man lives in the neighborhood and has claimed to be after something called "suicide by cop". I drop it. The crew set up an arrest sequence and tempers are worsening. Some start drinking, including me. Many of us inspect the cop's arsenal of pistols and Uzis. One actor is even wearing a Kevlar vest. A neighborhood crowd gathers outside, befuddled at the sight of a leggy uniformed blonde bursting out of a HPD squad car to arrest an under-shirted beefcake over and over again. Next up: the marital fight. As I plop down next to a gaggle of awestruck five-year-olds on a cop's front lawn to watch a spot lit "Vin Diesel" beat his wife for the fifth time, something occurs to me. Moments like these make the whole thing worth it. Moments when simply a camera create the power to disrupt and warp reality so much that no one questions you, in fact they just want to watch in wonder. We are lucky.

Across town, crew of The Secret Mexican were shooting an unusual robbery scene in a donut shop. When people passed by two "armed" men in gorilla suits holding up a clerk at gunpoint, they called the police. Once they set their cameras down and put their hands up, it took the director close to a half an hour to convince the arresting officers that the group of young Hispanic men was simply making a movie. They were eventually let go.

Back on the Texas Wood set, its 5am and I've been deputized. I have an oversized HPD uniform draped over my tired shoulders and there's a 9mm in my hand. We are all back at the studio where I am needed as an extra for another arrest sequence. This is the big one. There are ten certifiably delirious actors in this scene and everyone is armed. Most of the crew has finally lost their cool and are shouting at each other intermittently. Day 3. I wake up on the floor again. It's 4pm. All the actors are gone and the only sound is coming from the editing bay. Three hours until the deadline. I pop my head in and can tell that my presence is not wanted. I need a shower.

I return at 5:30pm and our movie looks great, except it has no credits or music. The tape has just been handed to the composer. Ninety minutes to the wire. Assistants scramble to organize the flurry of paperwork. The producers pace and sweat. The composer works quick and tight. It's 6:15. Half of the score is done. The actors look nervous. Flies dance around the celebration cake. Finally, 6:45 arrives and there is no chance of making it. The producer makes the call to submit the film to the late deadline of 9pm, but the film will not be in competition. A screaming match breaks out, then quickly subsides. There is a bit of no fault and good hard work talk, and then a solemn group hug. The film all of them had expected to win was now disqualified. The producers politely asked everyone not working to leave. Later that night I called to make sure they had met the 9pm deadline. They hadn't. The film couldn't even be shown.

Everyone's real trouble started on the final day. The boys on The Secret Mexican, despite their police run-in, had finished that morning, ahead of schedule, but when the final cut came out of their computer, the sound had vanished. In a miraculous recovery they re-shot much of the film and pieced the sound back together that afternoon, got the movie in minutes under the wire, and still managed to snag the award for best sound design.

Another team, making a mockumentary called Behind the Veil, had nearly finished their final edit when the producer's dog tipped over their hard drive. The team was forced to pay an editing studio to rush and re-edit their entire film from the beginning, also turning it in minutes under the wire. Then they won the contest.

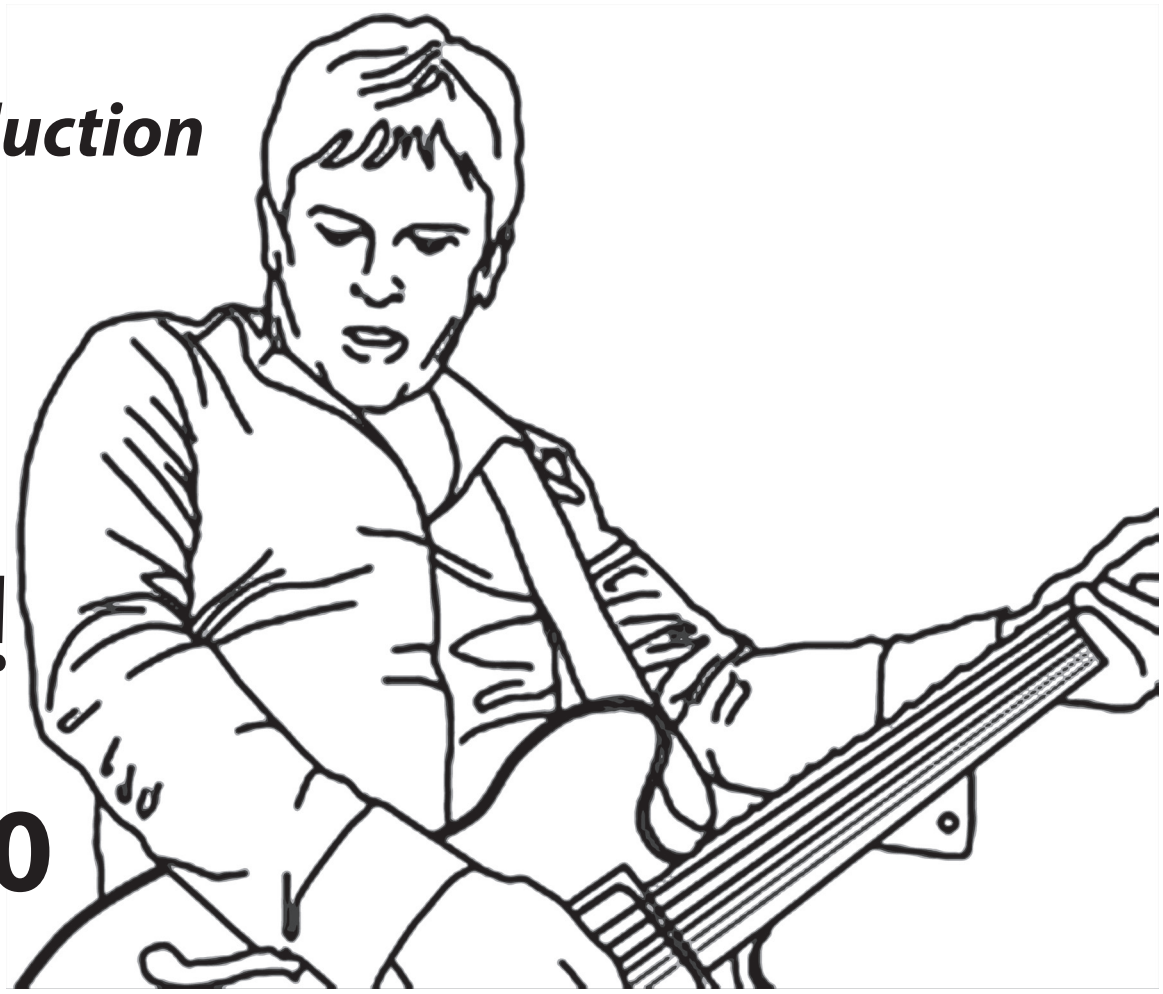


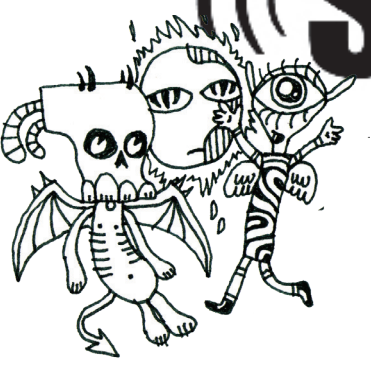
Houston Live Sound

-Sound/Lighting Production
-Live Party Bands
-DJ/Karaoke Services

WE BUY
USED GEAR!

713-630-1050





SOUNDBYTES



Ain't no use in turning on the light babe, a light I never knowed

By Kwame M. Anderson

So...um...how's everybody? There's really not that much I can say in light of the recent events in New Orleans, but I can say that its handling is another atrocity in American history. Can it be said that people are allowed to suffer if they are poor? I think the answer is glaringly evident. Regardless of politics and agenda speeches, the horror experienced by New Orleanians will stay in the minds of all Americans. If this is the security our government promised us, then I'll stick with the uncertainty I felt before.

But, oh well, it's just people...right? There are more important things to talk about. Like (you got it) music and musical performances. There are happenings happening in the places. So while we could talk about the things so-and-so did or didn't do, let's just focus on other things, like Condoleezza Rice would.

SHOWS

M.I.A.
9/17/05 Engine Room 1515 Pease

Who has the best album of this year? M.I.A. could be the answer. A mix of reggae, afro-funk, Miami bass, UK grime, Southern bottom and any other sound that can be achieved with a beat machine, M.I.A's album *Arular* is the remedy for your sickness. While the songs mix the place between rebel music and booty music, the compromise is special. While she has performed all over, on the 17th she will bring the party to Houston and it is pertinent that you are present. Some songs are about the pointlessness of gun violence, some about getting down to "the Missy and the Timbaland," and some are from the perspective a teenage hooker, where the taunt, "What can I get for ten dollar?" is as funky as it is dark.

HIGH ON FIRE
9/19/05 Engine Room 1515 Pease

In describing High On fire the word *heavy* can be used, and I would agree that they are heavy, but not in that "I'm really high and this sounds amazing" way. More in that chair through a window, random explosion of chaos kind of way. It's musically complex, while maintaining a blood-curdling amount of energy and power. If this music doesn't move you , then you have taken too many Vicodins and you need to chill on that shit.

GRAND BUFFET & DJ JESTER
9/30/05 Rudyard's Pub 2010

Some people really get into the Blues Brothers, and by that I do not imply that Grand Buffet is like the Blues Brothers. Anyway, there's this "watch 'dem white boys get down" thing that's big with the blues/soul revival that happens every so often. I think that Grand Buffet is good in the way Buddy Guy digs John Mayer. I'm no blues legend, but these boys do get down. They have rhymes, they have flows, and they have rhymes with the flows which are performed in a somewhat comical manner. They are not a joke though, and I mean that in the Eric B.. and Rakim source of the phrase. So, why should you go see them? Why not? They are to current hip hop what water is to psychedelic Celtic dance music.

MUSIC

THE DIRTY THREE
Cinder
Touch and Go

If you heard the most beautiful song in the world, it might sound like The Dirty Three. Enchanting like a sunset and powerful like floating in the middle of the ocean, it soothes my soul and pours glasses of tea for my heart. Their newest album - their first in about three years - features vocals of people such as Sally Timms and Chan Marshall. While the last part may be mentioned a lot, what should also be mentioned is the sheer intensity which occupies all things D3. To describe the band as something other than awe-inspiring would be trying to convince the obvious. Buy this album, play it for someone you love, sit with them, discuss the feeling that overcomes you, and let that feeling wash over you.

PAUL WALL
The People's Champ
Screwed Up Click/Asylum

What it do? Is this how all of Paul Wall's songs begin? Paul Wall gained national fame as Paul Wall of "Still Tippin'" fame, and he has parlayed that fame into a seemingly profitable affair. When he opens his mouth, "light illuminates the dark." Yeah, that's a real line. His album features the talents of Bun B, G.R.I.T. Boys, Kanye West, Freeway, Trey Songz, B.G. and TI. What that tells me is that there are other people on the album (did I mention Arthur Lee and Coodabang?). I will not profess to know whether or not you will like it, but if you ride candy paint and sit on 24 inch shoes, you probably know other code words on the album for weed, car parts, and riding around the city. It's like the Beach Boys for the syrup set but without the abusive father and the shut-in. You should pick up this album because it's sold in stores.

Shows



Roni Size 9/17 @ Meridian



Buttercult 9/28 @ Super Happy Fun land



TheDecemberists 9/23 @ Engine Room



Barbez 9/16 @ Rudyard's

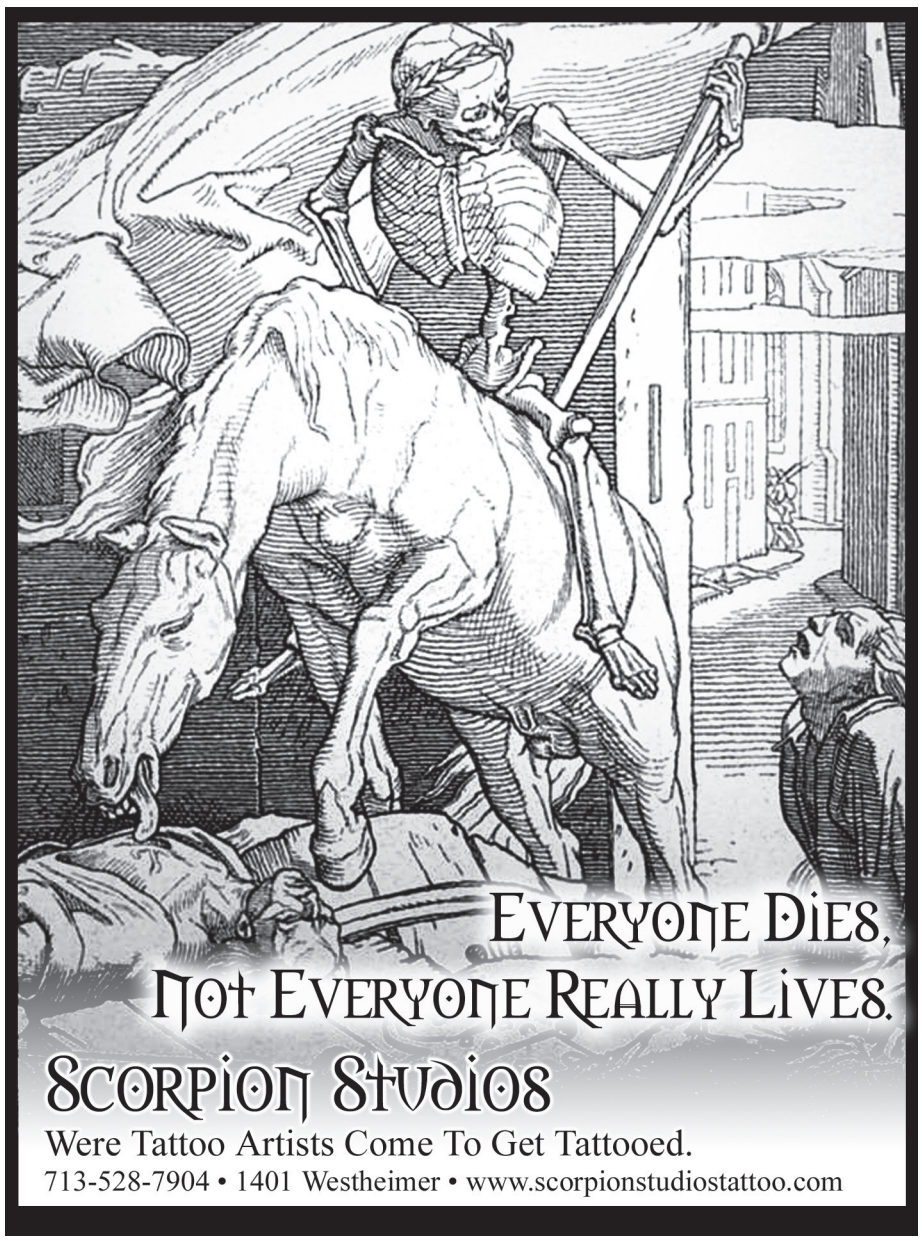


M83 9/22 @ Numbers



and you will know us by the TRAIL OF DEAD 9/15 @ fat cat's

for info on venues, visit freepresshouston.com



AFFORDABLESOUND.COM

500CDS FULLY PACKAGED $799

1000CDS FULLY PACKAGED $999

A/S

100 CDS FULLY PACKAGED $295

100 CDS DISC PRINT & CASE $125

12X18 COLOR POSTERS $.99

FREE SHIPPING*

Shipping code HFP20

A/S AFFORDABLESOUND AND CD DUPLICATION BBB

Toll free 866.815.CDCD

Be LOUD

Private Sound-Proofed Rooms
24 Hour Access
A/C ▪ Heat
Located Downtown
Private Parking
$275.00 and up

FRANCISCO STUDIOS

Band Rehearsal Studios
713.225.3112 ▪ 281.630.0513

HOT ★ ROD
TATTOOS
HOUSTON, TX MOTHERFUCKERS

WE HAVE MOVED ACROSS THE STREET

WANTED

HOMER SAENZ
JOEL TORREZ
B.B.
CORY ROGERS
MARK ANTHONY
VINCE CROWLEY
JASON FRIEDMAN
LEE LOPEZ

WANTED ON MULTIPLE ACCOUNTS FOR
TATTOOS & BODY PIERCING

REWARD

THE CLEANEST AND LARGEST SHOP IN HOUSTON
AWARD WINNING STAFF
CAN YOU KEEP UP?
WWW.HOTRODTATTOOSTUDIO.COM
713.533.1239
1533 WESTHEIMER HOUSTON, TX 77006

Rock You Like a Hurricane
Katrina benefits a plenty in Houston

By Belligerent Me



Hurray! The coming weeks and months are host to plenty of New Orleans benefits to reconcile all of your white guilt and altruistic urges. A bit of competiton as to who is the most legit has bubbled to the surface as well. Several benefit shows have found it fitting to explain the at "100%" of funds will go to various charities. Well, no shit! That is where they are supposed to go. Now let's quit patting ourselves on the back and get on to the benefits:

9/17

Houston Underground Katrina Benefit at 4116 Crosstimbers

$7 dollar donation or a bag full of canned goods Live performances by Akshun Kid, Mr.Ish, Baby Cee, Killer Cut, Q.U.E., and Many more. Expect some great hip hop, DJ's, and some hootchies. Bring a blunt , clean kicks, and a cap.

4116 E. Crosstimbers 18 and up. Doors open at 7 www.houstonhiphop.com

9/18

Evacuees Relief Benefit at CatBird's

$% Louisiana Gumbo, $@ Pints, Raffle, and some great Jazz. $! Dollar donation at the door. Expect the usual CatBird's alchoholics, a few tattoo artists, and maybe a scuffle outside.

1336 Westheimer 5 pm till midnight www.catbirds.com

9/18

"Voodoo2 Houdoo" Katrina Benefit at Engine Room with The finalist, Glass Intrepid, Morningside Drive, Type Nine, The Last Starfighter, Neverwreck, Before There Was

Roslyn. Loads of young up and coming emo, metal, and other bands. Expect lots of emo haircuts, contrived tattoos, and fast ladies.

1515 Pease $10, Doors open at 6pm www.engineroomhouston.net

10/7

Katrina Benefit Comedy Show at Super Happy Fun Land featuring comedians Patton Quinn, Bryan Gutman, Lisa Delarios, Bryan Roberts, and Kerri Lendo. Expect some great comedians at a great venue.

Take LSD or Ecstasy first. Wear something sexy.

2610 Ashland www.superhappyfunland.com call for info 713 880 2100

10/8

BRINGING BACK THE BIG EASY at Meridian

Lots of food, bands, Dj's lawyers and accountants. In fact, this thing is being sponsored by the TEXAS ACCOUNTANTS AND LAWYERS FOR THE ARTS. Bands will play on a covered outdoor stage. Expect to see a few art cars, sports figures, local celebs, and maybe even some Free Press staff passed out.

1503 Chartes WWW.NEWORLEANSRELIEFCREW.COM 713 225 1717

Submit to Us

editors@freepresshouston.com



"LET US GET THE MOST MONEY FOR YOU FOR YOUR HOME ELECTRONICS on eBay!"

it's easy, it's fast, it's the right price

audiogo specializes in getting you the most money for your home audio & video equipment in a quick and painless process. audiogo takes the time and worry out of getting results, so call or come by today and get a price you can love.

FREE APPRAISALS
713 231 4460
www.audiogo-online.com
DROP OFF WAREHOUSE: 9214 Ronda Lane

it's easy, it's fast, it's the right price

audiogo
audio & visual equipment resale
you drop it, we shop it!

Live Music Picks

By Timothy J. O'Brien

The Black Halos

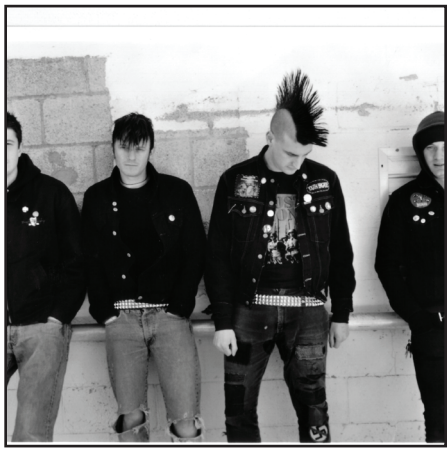
Thursday, September 29, with Die Hunns, Kings of Nuthin, Angel City Outcasts, Fitzgerald's, 2706 White Oak, 713.862.3838



There's no shortage of Johnny Thunders/New York Dolls/Dead Boys inspired glam punkers these days. Vancouver's Black Halos have been at it long enough to earn some name recognition and notoriety. Now a decade into their career, their solid songs and anthemic melodies have allowed them to float above a sea of faceless sound-alike glam punk bands. The just released "Alive Without Control" is their first full length effort since they reformed after imploding back in 2002. Front man Billy Hopeless recently spent some time in the hospital for an abscess on his spine but the new disc proves he's still got plenty of fight left in his bones. The new slice also adds two new faces, guitar player Adam Becvare who played in a post Stiv Bators version of the Lords of the New Church and bassist Denyss McKnight. Lead off track "Three Sheets To The Wind" gets the mosh pit hopping and sets the tone for the chaos to follow. The title track is reminiscent of D Generation without the New York edge. It's all good here, especially "Third World U.S.A" with its "bring 'em down ... let 'em die" chorus. The other bands on the bill are worth a look too. Duane Peters newest incarnation Die Hunns headlines the Old Skars and Upstarts tour that brings the Black Halos to town. Grab up your mates and head out to the old Polish dance hall in the Heights for a quadruple shot of punk rock anarchy.

The Unseen

Sunday October 2, the Meridian, 1503 Chartres, 713.225.1717



This country needs more loud and angry political punk rock. One look at the corporate media shows that our poor, in this case, mostly African Americans were left behind to fend for themselves in New Orleans when Hurricane Katrina struck. Karl Rove's spin machine couldn't stop the international media from exposing how the United States treats its lower class. Vivid images of bloated bodies floating around streets that used to channel drunken visitors were broadcast worldwide. Ruling class oppression is alive and well in the "good ole U.S.A." From the Jim Crow like history department at the University of Houston to the racist policies of the Houston Independent School District to the habitual liars that make up the Houston City Council there are plenty of battles to be fought right here in Space City. Putrid air wafts up from the ship channel and the SUV tailpipes that clog our freeways. In the words of one local Marxist scholar activist, Houston's "clown major" Bill White runs virtually unopposed in the upcoming election ensuring that his corporate hegemony will rule the day for another two years. The Unseen's songs are dispatches from similar battlefronts of social injustice. Songs from their latest release "State of Discontent" like "Weapons of Mass Deception" and "Final Execution (Armageddon)" prove that there is more to popular culture than reality shows, bling bling and Bud Light. If you grab the latest Unseen disc the music will act like social activist spinach to make you into the Popeye of agitators.

Roger Miret & the Disasters

Wednesday, Septembe r 21, with the Horrorpops, Left Alone, Mary Janes Fat Cat, Washington Avenue, 713.869.5263



If the name Roger Miret doesn't ring a bell then the name Agnostic Front should. Miret is the front man for that long time New York City hardcore band. Cuban born and NYC raised, Miret uses plenty of the New York attitude to ram his three chords down your throat. The Disasters are touring in support of their second release, "1984." The title doesn't refer to George Orwell's book instead it's an ode to the Lower East Side punk scene that Miret experienced and recalls fondly. Besides being mainstays on the scene Agnostic Front is known for their socially aware lyrics. So it's not much of a stretch to expect the Disasters to include a couple of socially relevant topics in their songwriting. "The Boys" and "Shot Stabbed and Fooled" are the numbers that include some social justice themes mixed into the normal punk topics. The disc is the musical embodiment of the rough and tumble New York's city streets that exist mostly in the memories of punk rockers like Miret. As sports bars creep into the once dangerous neighborhoods between Avenue A and B, the tough guy persona Miret projects has less relevance to the reality in the big apple. When it's all said and done there's nothing earth shattering here, it's just solid American rock and roll played with the intensity and ferociousness of someone that lives and breathes street punk.

Greg Trooper

Thursday, September 29, Mucky Duck, 2425 Norfolk, 713.538.5999



One of the local corporate music writers rants and raves about Greg Trooper like he's the second coming. Repeated listens to his new long player "Make It Through This World" don't merit that much overblown praise but it does confirm that there's a lot of talent here. Trooper, a New Jersey native, was raised just down the road from the Bruce Springsteen's stomping grounds in Asbury Park. Trooper's music is usually found in the folk or Americana bin. His songwriting makes him worth seeking out and has gained him some stature among his musical peers. When Trooper asked Grammy winning roots rocker Dave Alvin Trooper for production help on his latest disc he was referred to Dan Penn. Penn is an unappreciated songwriter and producer who's helped the bishop of soul Solomon Burke and Irma Thomas wax sides. Mixing a producer/songwriter known for churning out great soul music with the folk rockin' Trooper doesn't sound like a recipe for a great record. The horrid sounds of pale Otis Redding imitations are the first thing that comes to mind after hearing of that combination. Fortunately Penn knows that there are few things worse than a white guy over-singing rhythm and blues. The record has a very warm and full sound that would fit nicely next to classic Band albums. The music is like an opium based narcotic that temporarily numbs you from an ugly world. It should go down nicely with one of the choice drafts available at the venue.

HATETANK
WWW.HATETANK.ORG

Monday, September 5th, 2005

EVERGREEN TERRACE

WINTER SOLSTICE

AS CITIES BURN

THE BURNING SEASON

MaryJane's FatCat
4216 Washington Ave.

Thursday, September 8th, 2005

YOUTH BRIGADE

COMPLETE CONTROL

KRUM BUMS

THE GHOULS

MaryJane's FatCat
4216 Washington Ave.

Saturday September 10th, 2005

BLACKLISTED

CAST ASIDE

DOWN TO NOTHING

MY LUCK

SURVIVOR GUILT

MaryJane's FatCat
4216 Washington Ave.

Wed., September 21st, 2005

HORRORPOPS

ROGER MIRET AND THE DISASTERS

LEFT ALONE

MaryJane's FatCat
4216 Washington Ave.

Saturday, October 1st, 2005

SUFFOCATION

CRYPTOPSY

DESPISED ICON

ABORTED

BRACED FOR NAILS

MaryJane's FatCat
4216 Washington Ave

Wednesday, October 19th, 2005

FEAR BEFORE THE MARCH OF FLAMES
BEAR VS SHARK
SINCE BY MAN
FALL OF TROY

MaryJane's FatCat
4216 Washington Ave.

---

the MEZZANINE lounge

Where you never pay a cover charge!

TUESDAY AUG. 16 — CHAD HOGUE & THE HELLCATS — $2.50 U-CALL-ITS

WEDNESDAY AUG. 17 — EXTREME KARAOKE — $2.50 BIG MEZZ BEERS — ANY DRAFT WE HAVE!

THURSDAY AUG. 18 — ADAM BERRY — $2.50 HOUSE MARGARITAS & DOMESTIC BOTTLED BEERS

FRIDAY AUG. 19 — TABITHA MONET — HAPPY HOUR TRIVIA & DINNER!

SATURDAY AUG. 20 — UFC BOILING POINT — $4 VODKA/ RED BULLS

SUNDAY AUG. 21 — WWE PPV SUMMERSLAM — SPANKY'S BDAY BASH — $2.50 PINTS OF YOUR CHOICE

MONDAY AUG. 22 — HILLARY ARWEN SHOWCASE — $5/$7/$9 PITCHERS

TUESDAY AUG. 23 — CHAD HOGUE & THE HELLCATS — $2.50 U-CALL-ITS

WEDNESDAY AUG. 24 — EXTREME KARAOKE — $2.50 BIG MEZZ BEERS — ANY DRAFT WE HAVE!

THURSDAY AUG. 25 — 2ND NATURE — $2.50 HOUSE MARGARITAS & DOMESTIC BOTTLED BEERS

FRIDAY AUG. 26 — GLENN ELIOT — HAPPY HOUR TRIVIA & DINNER!

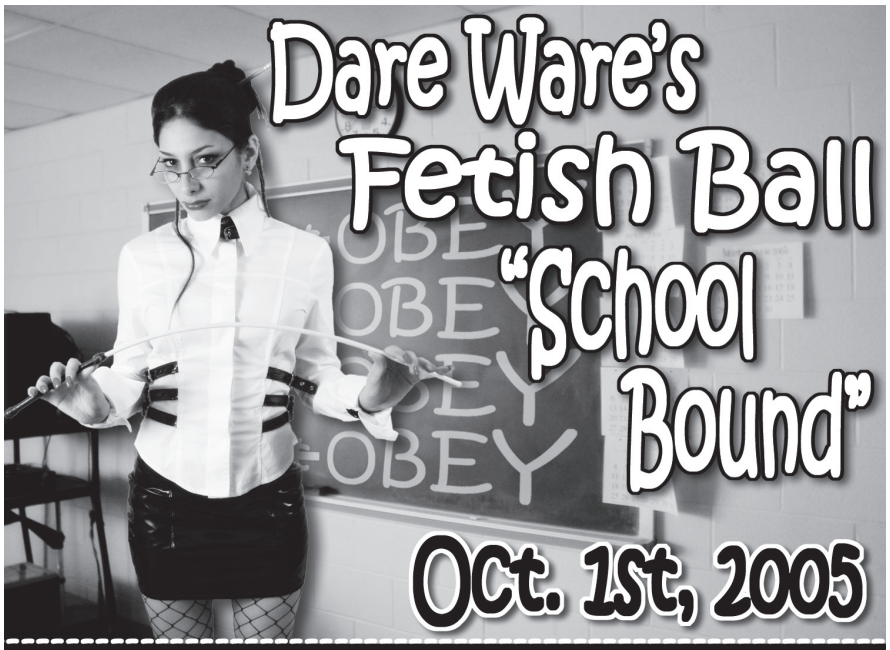
SATURDAY AUG. 27 — END OF SUMMER LUAU
GET LEI'D - HULA HOOP CONTEST
ICY SHOT BLOCK - $3 TROPICAL DRINKS
TACKY HAWAIIAN SHIRT CONTEST
EXTREME KARAOKE ON THE PATIO

OPEN MONDAY - FRIDAY 4PM - 2AM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 11AM - 2AM

2200 Southwest Freeway @ Greenbriar/Shepherd
Houston TX 77098 713.528.6399

FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUR WEBPAGE:

www.mezzaninelounge.com



Tickets Avail. at Dare Ware
6363 Westheimer Rd. (At Winrock)

VIP: $40/$45 Day of
Doors open @ 8:30pm

Gen: $25/$35 Day of
Doors open @ 10:30pm

713-953-9393 www.dare-ware.com

Location: The Meridian 1503 Chartres @ 59

"Come celebrate Kinky Culture at it's finest..."



Ear Infection

We really think we know what shows you should see

By: Chris Stevens

Following the two week lull of national acts coming through town, the second half of September tempts one to throw their textbooks, portfolios or resumes into the bonfire of corporate self-effacement, piss on it, and get into a live show that obliterates your sense of time and space. No matter your taste, the ear will be appeased with the broad arrange of local and national acts playing.



Weekend 1: The Posies, the Seattle pop act comes into Fat Cat's on Friday the 16th. The musical void of modern radio can be breached when you come and check out shows like this. It is still pop, but at least it expresses something other than some over-casted role of victim or passive recipient of authoritarian dictates; everybody failed me rather than I failed everyone. Funny how Bush continues the victim role inaugurated by Nixon and these things show culturally in our music. Stained is a great example. Woe is me! This is a show where you bring a date. The staccato pop movement which music biz whiz kids The Strokes may have started, continues with openers Inara George. Think of a fem Interpol minus amphetamines plus folky alt country.

Saturday the 16th is a local night without a doubt. Dune TX and John Evans transform into a Voltron like force at the continental club. Sacco, front-man, model, and best guitarist nominee brings a rock that resonates the strut and style of Houston's historical rockers ZZ Top while the ladies chew bubble gum and tap their toes at the shows. Is David Grohl the invisible member of Dune, TX? Come and see. Americana club Continental club hosts. If you

Midweek, **Thursday the 22nd**, take a break from volunteering, don't answer the boss's calls, don't finish that project, let the unresolved argument with your lover linger in the stale kitchen air and enjoy The Walkmen at Numbers. The pomp of mod punk returns in the inevitable twenty year cycle of children turned A&R rep. These guys fucking rock. Don't believe me? www.myspace.com/thewalkmen.

Friday the 23rd, if your ears have endurance, come see Built to Spill. I used to have a great concert poster of theirs that had a monster truck squashing a junk pile of cars. I have vague memories of opening for these guys. Did I? Hell, you won't remember the night you'll spend here either. The foundations of mid-west rock were laid with this band. The opener's however, the Decemberists represent an untitled west coast movement which reminds one of Abby Road and can be found in acts like Limbeck, Joanna Newsome, The Pleased, and many others I don't know of because I don't live in the northwest. Their older material reminds me of Catherine Wheel. Their new material reminds me of Devendra Bernhardt, a New York folk icon coming to Walters on October 3rd. Don't miss either of these shows. By the way, what the hell is going on with Fitz's booking?

Friday 30th.Pomo-Hardcore as they are coining it, as the word "post" seems to capture the hindsight of modern creativity evident in the now formula driven music of once possibility latent EMO. Alright, so its not my bag, but I would enjoy being at a show.





#1 IN DETOX

B CLEAN™

BE COOL. BE CAREFUL.™

It's Not About Luck!

DOUBLE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

DOUBLE MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

B-CLEAN PRODUCTS FOR INTERNAL AND EXTRENAL TOXIN REDUCERS

B-Clean Formula
WORKS IN ONE HOUR, EFFECTIVE UP TO FIVE HOURS.
IN HAWAIIN TROPICAL AND ORANGE.

B-Super Clean
WORKS IN ONE HOUR, EFFECTIVE UP TO FIVE HOURS.

Effervescent Tablets
WORKS IN ONE HOUR, EFFECTIVE UP TO FIVE HOURS.
WATER SOLUBLE FORMULA TASTES GREAT.

Hair Cleansing System
EFFECTIVE UP TO EIGHT HOURS, ELIMINATES EXTERNAL BARRIERS AND LOWERS TOXINS DEEP WITHIN.

Daily Capsules
SUPPLEMENTS DETOX PROCESS, 12 TO 24 HOURS PRIOR TO CLEANSING DEADLINE, POWERFUL COMPANION TO OTHER TOXIN REDUCTION PRODUCTS.

ASK FOR B-CLEAN AT YOUR FAVORITE SMOKE SHOPS

SCOUT BAR

94.5 FM the Buzz

Rock | Dance | Lounge











Performing the hits "Little Black Backpack" and "Kick Some Ass"



MONDAY
Big Beer / Alternate Blue
$1.75 Big Ass Beer Refills
($5 for 23oz glass) and $1.75 Well Drinks

TUESDAY
Industry Night / BC & the Crisis
$2 Domestics & Wells
$3 Premiums & Imports All Night

WEDNESDAY
College Night / 18 and Up Welcome
3 Orginial Bands Every Wednesday
$1 Domestic and $2 Import Draft, $2 Kazis
Featuring DJ Mike D. in the R.V. Room

THURSDAY
Ladies Night
Live Bands, $2 Well Drinks & Dom. Bottle Bee
Featuring DJ Daniel Salas in the R.V. Room

FRIDAY
Enjoy live bands on the Scout stage from 10pm-2am or Dance to the sounds of DJ Keith Walker in the Red Velvet Room

SATURDAY
$1.00 Drinks from 8 - 10pm. No Cover till 9pm
Live bands on the Scout stage from 10pm-2am
Featuring DJ Daniel Salas spinning in the Red Velvet Roon

SUNDAY
The Texas Buzz
Live Broadcast from 11pm to Midnight hosted by Zakk United w/ 3 Buzz Bands Every Sunday
$5 Pitchers & $2 Jager shots All Night



LIVE MUSIC 7 DAYS A WEEK

Scout Bar
18307 Egret Bay Blvd.
Houston, TX 77058
281.335.0002
www.ScoutBar.com

SEPTEMBER *Music and Events*

Hot Rod Tattoos & Body Piercing
Now at 1533 Westheimer 713.533.1239

Thursday

Open Mic @ Helios
The Hightailers @ Last Concert
Beetle @Continental
Gary Gulman @Laff Stop
Fleshtones, Sons of Hercules @Rudyards
Rock Box Pelvic Thrust Thursdays @proletariat
Monsters With Machines Tour@SHFL
Mighty Orq @Rhythm Room

15

Friday

Classic Fridays @Numbers
DJ Keith @Scout Bar
Karaoke @Proletariat
Barbez, Symphoney @Rudyards
Derek Shumate @SHFL
Gary Gulman @Laff Stop
Dreambreakers @ Last Concert Cafe

16

NatureViewing.com Nature Videos Art Gifts Land Preservation

Saturday

The Posies, Deathray Davis@Fat Cats
The Hunger @Numbers
Sean Reefer and the Resin Valley Boys @Rudyards
From Postcards to Letters @SHFL
The John Evans band @Continental Club
Dread Neck @ Last Concert Cafe
Joe's Roadhouse 3rd Anniversary @Rhythm Room
Rock'Um Sok' Um Tour @ Meridian
Heavy Heavy Low Low @Walters
Gary Gulman @Laff Stop

17

Sunday

Texas Live BUZZ 94.5 Broadcast @ Scout Bar
Felix Madison Jam @ Rhythm Room
Gary Gulman @Laff Stop
Gypsy Market@The Old School House
Buddhacrush Tribute Concert @ Meridian
David Fahl @ Last Concert Cafe
Tera Melos, The Guns of Will Sonnet, Cocker Spaniels @SHFL
Earlimart @Fat Cats

18

SCOUT BAR
www.ScoutBar.com



Monday

The Medicine Show, The Trade @ Helios
Soul Satisfaction @Proletariat
Open Mic Comedy @ Laff Stop
Pool, Darts, Ping Pong @Fitzgerald's
John Evans, Open Mic @ Mucky Duck
El Orbits, Free Soul Food @Continental Club
Texas Jazz @ Red Cat Jazz Cafe
The Mighty Orq @ The Big Easy

19

Tuesday

Free Pool(all day) @Proletariat
Rock Jam @Dan Electros Guitar Bar
Bellydancing@ Helios
Soulphilia@Dean's Credit Clothing
DJ Sun@Onion Creek
Scott Daniels Band @ Last Concert Cafe
Industry Night@Scout Bar
City Council Public Session

20

One More Beer Bar

Wednesday

Breakfast Club @ Number's
Cory Holcomb @Laff Stop
Psychodillos @Dan Electros Guitar Bar
Commune Music @Proletariat
Potroast @ Last Concert Cafe
Poetry Night @ Helios
Open Mike @SHFL
Horrorpops, Roger Miret and the Disasters, Left Alone @Fat Cats
Pot Roast @ Last Concert Cafe

21

Thursday

Blues Jam @Cosmos Cafe
Underworld @Numbers
Open Mic @ Helios
The Hightailers @ Last Concert
Beetle @Continental
Blues Jam @Dan Electros Guitar Bar
Rock Box Pelvic Thrust Thursdays @proletariat
M83, Mates Of State @Numbers
Cory Holcomb @Laff Stop

22

HOUSTON'S LAFF STOP

Friday

Classic Fridays @Numbers
Doves @ Meridian
The Raspas @ Last Concert Cafe
DJ Keith @Scout Bar
Karaoke @Proletariat
Belville, Sitka Sound, Buckley @Rudyards
Unit Breed, Boogdish, Red Beard, Orents Stirner @SHFL
The Fiery Furnaces, Dungen @Fat Cats
Cory Holcomb @Laff Stop

23

Saturday

Genitortures, Miss Kitten @Numbers
Magnolia Electric Company @Rudyards
Rent @ Meridian
Discordian Popes @SHFL
Liviya Compean@ Helios
Cory Holcomb @Laff Stop
Pagan Pride Day @ Last Concert Cafe
Doo Wop Night @Continental Club

25

SLIDERS BAR & DAIQUIRIS

#1 IN DETOX BCLEAN It's Not About Luck!

Sunday

Texas Live BUZZ 94.5 Broadcast @ Scout Bar
Felix Madison Jam,
Battle of the Bands @ Rhythm Room
Gypsy Market@The Old School House
David Fahl @ Last Concert Cafe
Gorch Fock, Tea Carrera, The Jonx @Rudyards

25

Monday

The Medicine Show, The Trade @ Helios
Soul Satisfaction @Proletariat
Open Mic Comedy @ Laff Stop
Pool, Darts, Ping Pong @Fitzgerald's
El Orbits, Free Soul Food @Continental Club
Brian Kenney Fresno, Letters to Voltron @SHFL
The Mighty Orq @ The Big Easy

26

ARTS ENTERTAINMENT RECORDS

Tuesday

Free Pool(all day) @Proletariat
Rock Jam @Dan Electros Guitar Bar
Bellydancing@ Helios
Soulphilia@Dean's Credit Clothing
DJ Sun@Onion Creek
Carolyn Wonderland @ Last Concert
Laughs Bayou Comedy @ Fitzgerald's
Industry Night@Scout Bar
City Council Public Session

27

Wednesday

Breakfast Club @ Number's
Jon Reep @Laff Stop
Psychodillos @Dan Electros Guitar Bar
Commune Music @Proletariat
Potroast @ Last Concert Cafe
Poetry Night @ Helios
Buttercup @SHFL
Pot Roast @ Last Concert Cafe

28

superUnison www.superunison.com

Thursday

Jon Reep @Laff Stop
Blues Jam @Cosmos Cafe
Underworld @Numbers
Open Mic @ Helios
The Hightailers @ Last Concert
Beetle @Continental
Blues Jam @Dan Electros Guitar Bar
Rock Box Pelvic Thrust Thursdays @proletariat
Genitortures, Miss Kitten @Numbers
Lanky @Rudyards

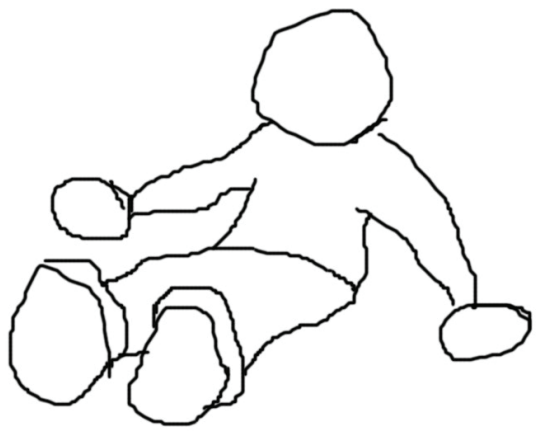
29

Friday

Classic Fridays @Numbers
Jon Reep @Laff Stop
DJ Keith @Scout Bar
Karaoke @Proletariat
Evening Of Bliss @ Meridian
Fruit Bats @Walters
Austin Colins Band, Jacey Saucedo @ Last Concert Cafe

30

stoned.
paranoia, persecution, and apathy.



an exhibit of installation, performance, and public art.
october 15th, westheimer near taft
buffalo union

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL
Benefit
Houston Chapter AI-23

















LIVE MUSIC
Arthur Yoria * Free Radicals *
Tucker Bradley Band featuring Rock Romano
The Defenestration Unit * Lee Alexander
Yard Band * Shina Rae *Kendall Klay and more.

PERFORMANCE
Grupo de N'Golo Houston - Capoiera fight dance troupe
Nuestra Palabra - "Human Rights poetry slam"
open to all comers with a prize for the best slammer
Djidala Djembe - Galveston's famous open
drum circle - Bring drums and rhythm instruments

SILENT AUCTION
amazing donations from numerous businesses, museums,
sports teams, artists, massuers, and much more.....

SAT, OCT. 1
5pm to 2 am

LAST CONCERT CAFE
1403 Nance Street, Houston, TX.



Cindie's

The Sexiest Costumes in Houston

Hosiery · Wigs · Eyelashes · Shoes
Party Favors · Wings · Boas
Petticoats · Flapper Accessories

7903 WESTHEIMER	(713) 266-8665
3507 SOUTH SHEPHERD	(713) 522-9339
821 FM 1960 W.	(713) 397-0731
4303 HWY. 6 NORTH	(281) 463-6234
16929 TOMBALL PKWY. #D	(281) 897-9246
18165 GULF FWY.	(281) 486-1000
25915 I-45 NORTH SUITE C	(281) 367-3331

WWW.CINDIES.COM

1226 Westheimer @ Commonwealth 713.522.8895
The former owner and chef of Patu's in the Village bring you...

Bangkok Place
Delicate Thai Cuisine

The Best Lunch Buffet in town!
All of your Thai favorites in one place:
Seafood, Curries, Tofu, Panang,
Vegetables, Soups, Pad Thai, Salads, and
new items everyday!
Also try our full dinner menu



Basil Seafood

Perfect for Vegans & Vegetarians

Lunch: M-F 11-2 Sat. 12-3
Dinner: Mon-Thur. 5-9
Fri.-Sat. 5-10pm

Free Dinner Delivery
$20 Minimum
4 mile radius

we don't use msg because our food is delicious without it!



South Park Coalition Weekend

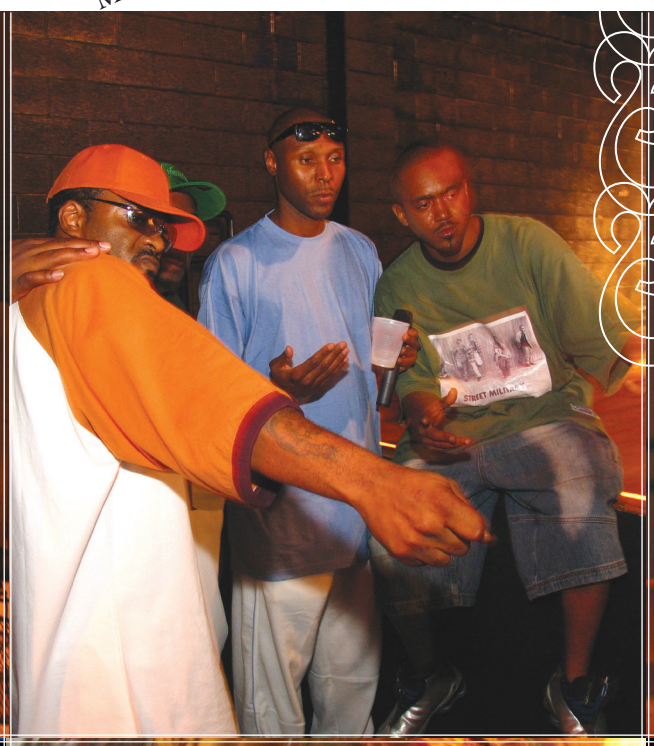
Captions by Lance Scott Walker
Photos by Jordan Graber

The below photos were taken at the Omni Central on the night before the South Park Coalition Annual Picnic.
www.southparkcoalition.com

Toodark
Too dark! The only thing I can tell you about this picture is that it was taken on the back deck of the club, and that the weed smoke back there was nearly as thick as the air. You actually couldn't smoke in the club at all – not even cigarettes.



Klondike-murder-k-icey
Klondike Kat, an obscured Murder One, K-Rino and Icey Hott (formerly the DJ for Street Military).



Klondike
Klondike Kat, who collaborated with producer J-Chill on the excellent Eating off the Streets 2, put on easily one of the best sets of the night. What you're not seeing here is a shot of one of the multiple times he'd drop to the stage and start doing push-ups during his set.



Pointblank
Point Blank, The Bull, who showed up with a freshly spray-painted shirt that had his face on the back.





Dope-e-late
After the show we took Dope-E too a speakeasy and got him drunk until 6 a.m. We pretty much all regretted that the next day...



K-rino
K-Rino served as master of ceremonies all night and closed out the evening with a set of his own. The other two members of his late '80s group, Real Chill, also showed up, and it was the first time all three of them had been in the same room in over a decade. K-Rino is the founder of The SPC, and Real Chill released one of the first hip-hop records ever to come from Houston.



TECH-KNOWLEDGE

Gadgets, Games and Gear

By Mirrorz

In recent days, there was some deliberation about the ban of cell phone use while operating a motor vehicle. I am a proponent of this idea becoming law. However, much like the laws against driving-while-barefoot which are impossible to enforce, this issue could be a pointless waste of time as well. Part of the problem here lies within the enforcers.

Everyone can agree that driving in Houston is already a gamble. If you aren't evasively maneuvering past Grandma doing a cool 27mph in the fast lane, there's a good chance you might have to deal with some of the other potential escaped mental patients behind the wheel. We've all come across Mary Kay: The last minute facial detailer driving past us with her visor mirror flipped down with hands fixed to her make-up applicators and knees eloquently guiding her SUV in the general direction of traffic flow. Her counterparts, Late Shaving Larry and Carl the Casual Reader are never far from sideswiping you either. As frightening as that may sound, it's a phenomenon far more common that necessary.

Depending on the time of day, you may even spot a mobile office where Multi-tasking John works. He's extra busy sipping his piping hot coffee, taking his smoke break, answering phone calls, and manually shifting his 5-speed at the same time, so don't be offended when he rear ends you as the freeway backs up. Occasionally you might run across a restaurant on wheels where the common soccer mom is busy handling food distribution to the litter of kids she has spastically hopping throughout her mini-van at 70mph.The key to her driving success is that her eyes are fixed to the rear of the vehicle only eighty percent of the time, allowing the other twenty for driving or phone conversations.

With all the other careless drivers out there and our "Whiskey-Engineered" road conditions, cell phones are just another distraction that can complicate any driving experience. (There's no way a sober person could have designed our roadways, right?) So why are these drivers allowed to flourish?



Take a glimpse in any parked police cruiser and you may notice the soothing glow from their computer screen mounted next to the steering wheel. This is strictly my opinion, but they may be the worst drivers out there. These stressed-out individuals, with the highest divorce rates known, have the ability to do as they please on the road. People with questionable mental stability could have a tiny bit of trouble enforcing laws while they juggle the tasks of eating donuts, drinking coffee, smoking, play with their computer, doing their job and driving while they participate in their own cell phone conversations. I have no confirmed evidence that officers are out driving barefoot but I have seen quite a few on their cell phones so I doubt they would be enforcing a law based on that premise anytime soon.

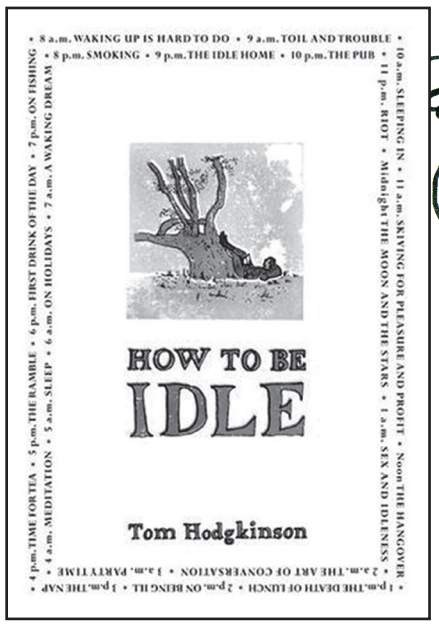
mirrorz@gmail.com
www.mizzelphug.mirrorz.com





Books&Shit

Review by Rebecca Onion





Doing Nothing or Nothing Doing?

"It's a well-known fact that Europeans spend fewer hours at work a week than Americans," says the publisher's promo copy for this book. "So it's only befitting that one of them -- the very clever, extremely engaging, and quite hilarious Hodgkinson -- should have the wittiest and most useful insights into the fun and nature of loafing." Hodgkinson, editor of British journal, The Idler, is indeed clever, engaging, hilarious, and European, and promo copy naturally needs to market its subject. However, this reductionist take on How to be Idle diminishes its capacity for creating radical shifts of thought (as well as ignoring the fact that European countries are shifting towards a more Americanized workweek).

Hidden in American compliments of European better living, such as the one penned by HarperCollins' PR person, is a smug satisfaction that they might have idleness down pat, but we're the ones with the money. Our capital and our (usually shaky) world power prove that our relentless work ethic is superior, despite the toll it takes on our psyches. Even our own "simplicity" movement, as embodied in magazines like Organic Style and Real Simple, is time consuming and expensive to take part in.

Thankfully, you won't find any Real Simple-style recommendations for how to make elaborate dried flower arrangements or stenciled place cards in Hodgkinson's book. The beauty of How to be Idle is its realism, and its lack of puritanical zeal. The author's prescription for a better life doesn't assume that we're going to go to yoga every day or maintain a distance from drugs and alcohol. In this, the book is very European, indeed, to a sometimes off-putting extent (the chapter on the true virtue of cigarettes, for example, is sometimes hard to stomach). But in general, the book is really all about forgiving yourself, and allowing yourself to live a life that's more full of human enjoyment.

The author's prescription for a better life doesn't assume that we're going to go to yoga every day or maintain a distance from drugs and alcohol.

Hodgkinson splits How to Be Idle into chapters named after hours of the day, and addresses issues that each hour brings up. Nine in the morning, for example, introduces the concept of rejecting a nine to five job. One in the afternoon serves up a rant on the death of the business lunch tradition. Four pm extols the virtues of teatime. And so on.

The book is full of prescriptions for small and big things you can do to fit enjoyment into your days. Hodgkinson on reading poetry while still in bed in the morning, for example (covered in the 10am "Sleeping In" chapter):

Poetry is routinely shunned by sophisticated urbanites who think they simply don't have the time to waste on such indulgences. But a poem can be read in a few minutes and have great effect. The horizontal idler, in bed at 10am, has the time to do this.

Or, another great idea: How about changing the way that you look at hangovers? Instead of stressing out all Saturday about how much you're missing or what you're not doing, says Hodgkinson, "abandon yourself completely to it... We need to embrace the hangover as a day off, time out from reality, a chance to live in the moment."


LUNCH • DINNER • DINE IN • DELIVERY • TO GO
NEW YORK
pizzeria
713.432.1121 2250 W. Holcombe @ Greenbriar

LUCKY
BURGER

MONDAY-SATURDAY 11AM-9:30PM CLOSED SUNDAYS
FREE DELIVERY W/IN 2 MILE RADIUS $10 MINIMUM
1601 RICHMOND @ MANDELL 713.522.5650

MERIDIAN

"BEST NEW CLUB 2004" Houston Press

1503 Chartres

FRI/16



SAT/17
Rock 'Um Sok 'Um Tour
A Night of Midget Wrestling with performances by Feo y Loco

SUN/18
Buddhacrush Tribute Concert
The Zealots, The Buddhacrush with special guest vocalists Norma Zenteno, Drop Trio & Orange Is In

TUE/20
Z-TRIP with BLACK SHEEP

FRI/23
Doves with Longwave

SAT/24
RENT

SUN/25
Paul van Dyk
Hurricane Relief Show
w/ Sean Carnahan & TBA

THU/29
DJ Brotha Jabril

FRI/30
Evening of Bliss (EOB)

OCTOBER
SAT/1
Dare Ware's Fetish Ball

BOOK MERIDIAN FOR YOUR OWN PARTY OR SPECIAL EVENT
www.meridianhouston.com
BOX OFFICE HOURS
NOON- 6:00 PM MON - FRI
713.225.1717

premier music venue
engine room
houston • texas

9/17
M.I.A.

9/18
Voodoo 2 Houdoo Katrina Benefit
w/ The Finalist, Glass Intrepid, Morningside Drive, Type Nine, The Last Starfighter, Neverwreck & Before There Was Roslyn
100% of door to benefit Katrina Victims

9/19
Everytime I Die
w/ High on Fire

9/20
Alien Ant Farm
w/ April Sixth & From Satellite

9/22
Go Betty Go

9/23
Built to Spill, The Decemberists, Sons & Daughters, Mike Johnson

9/24
Wet T-shirt contest
w/ Dirt, Incisor, Abasia, Erase the Virus, To Scale the Throne

9/26
Overkill

9/28
Streetlight Manifesto
w/ Whole Wheat Bread & R-rated Kids

9/30
The Misfits, 45 Grave, Ironhead, Hell's Engine, Horehound

1515 PEASE 713.645.7846
Downtown between Crawford & LaBranch
www.EngineRoomHouston.net
www.TicketMaster.com
All shows all ages

LAST CONCERT CAFE

1403 Nance in the Downtown Warehouse District **713 226 8563**

Every Tues **SCOTT DANIELS BAND**
Last Tues every month **CAROLYN WONDERLAND**
Every Wed 18+ jams w/**POTROAST**
Every Thurs Rock w/**THE HIGHTAILERS**

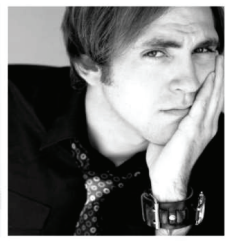
Fri 9/16 Rock w/**DREAMBREAKERS/FAHL & FOLK**
Sat 9/17 Funk reggae w/**DREADNECK**
Sun 9/18 Bluegrass and folk rock w/**BUFFALOFITZ/FAHL & FOLK/ CARRIE ANN & THE APOCALYPTICS**

Tues 9/20 Blues rock w/**CLAY McCLINTON BAND** (Delbert's son!) plus **SCOTT DANIELS BAND**
Fri 9/23 Surf ska w/**THE RASPAS/SHARK ATTACK**
Sat 9/24 **PAGAN PRIDE DAY Benefit for HOPE** w/**FEMATICS/SOUL FUSION/CUT TIME/WYRDGRL/CEILI/DONAL/MAEVEN TOM THE FOLK SINGERBELLS ON HER TOES**
Sun 9/25 Rock w/**FAHL & FOLK/TABITHA MONET**

Friday 9/30 Alt-country/rock w/**AUSTIN COLLINS BAND/JACEY SAUCEDO**


BUFFALOFITZ


CLAY McCLINTON


AUSTIN COLLINS


CAROLYN WONDERLAND



Stop the War on Iraq !
Bring the Troops Home Now !

Stop U.S. torture! Military recruiters out of our schools and communities! End the occupation of Afghanistan and Palestine! Stop the war on immigrants, communities of color, and workers! Defend the civil liberties and civil rights of all!

Organized by the Houston September 24 Coalition. Coalition members:
Civilians Down, Code Pink, Harris County Green Party, Houston Peace Forum, International Socialist Organization, Latinos Por La Paz, Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers, Mexicanos en Accion, North Harris Peace Group, Pax Christi, Peace Action, Peace with Justice Ministry of the United Methodist Church Texas Conference, Progressive Action Alliance, Progressive Workers Organizing Committee, Troops Out Now Coalition, Wage Peace, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and Worldwide Movement for Justice and Peace.

For more information, call:
(832) 692-2306, (281) 935-9248, (713) 775-2108, or (713) 861-2494
Email: info@pwoc.org or herbertrothschild@hotmail.com.

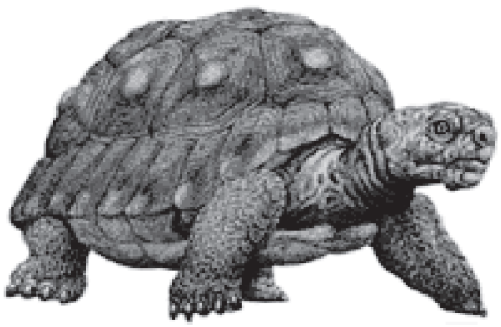


Meet at Market Square Park
(301 Milam) at 12:00 pm

March to City Hall
(901 Bagby) at 12:30 pm

Saturday, September 24

GET COVERED



Personal/Auto Insurance
Auto-Home Owners-Mobile Homes-Flood-Fire-Renter's-Boats-RVs-Condos
Motorcycles-Antiques-Same Day SR.22

Health Insurance
Group and Individual Health-Children-RX Card-Dental-Mortgage Life-Term Life-Whole and Universal Life- Disability-Long Term Care-Medicare Supplement-
High Interest Annuities

Commercial Insurance
Clubs-Restaurants-Contractors-Doctors-Realtors-Accountants-Garages-Dealers-Truckers-Retailers-Small or Large Properties-Workman's Comp-Umbrella-Malls-Clinics-Churches-Schools-Nonprofit Organizations-Limos
Any Business Can Save Money With Us!

SAFECO, CHUBB, PRUDENTIAL, THE HARTFORD, PROGRESSIVE,
CNA, TRAVELERS, AIG, BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD & More

Independent Insurance Agency
Located in the Heart of Montrose
2117 Dunlavy just N. of Fairview
Houston, TX 77006
713.355.7228



WORLD VIEW

Don't Let New Orleans Die

By Jordan Flaherty



Its been a day since I evacuated from New Orleans, my home, the city I love. Today I saw Governor Blanco proudly speak of troops coming in with orders to shoot to kill. Is she trying to help New Orleans, or has she declared war?

I feel like the world isn't seeing the truth about the city I love.People outside know about Jazz Fest and Bourbon Street and beads, and now they know about looters and armed gangs and helicopter rescue.

Whats missing is the story of a city and people who have created a culture of liberation and resistance. A city where people have stood up against centuries of racism and white supremacy. This is the city where in 1892 Homer Plessy and the Citizens Committee planned the direct action that brought the first (unsuccessful) legal challenge to the doctrine of "Seperate but Equal." This is the city where in 1970 the New Orleans Black Panthers held off the police from the desire housing projects, and also formed one of the nations' first Black Panther chapters in prison. Where in 2005 teens at Frederick Douglas High School, one of the most impoverished schools in the US, formed a student activist group called Teens With Attitude to fight for educational justice, and canvassed their community to develop true community ownership of their school.

I didn't really understand community until I moved to New Orleans. Secondlines, the new orleans tradition of roving street parties with a brass band, began as a form of community insurance, and are still used to benefit those needing aid. New Orleans is a place where someone always wants to feed you.

Instead of demonizing this community, instead of mistreating them and shooting them and stranding them in refugee camps and displacing them across the southern US, we need to give our love and support to this community in their hour of crisis, and then we need to let them lead the redevelopment of New Orleans. As Naomi Klein has already pointed out, the rebuilding money that will come in doesn't belong to the Red Cross or FEMA or Homeland Security, the money belongs to the people of New Orleans.

Hurricane Diary

Many people have asked for more information about my experience in the past week. I was one of the fortunate ones. I had food and water and a solid home. Below are notes from my week in the disaster that was constructed out of greed, corruption and neglect.

Saturday, August 27

I'm in New Orleans, and there's word of a hurricane approaching. I don't consider leaving. Why? Because I don't have a car, and all the airlines and car rental companies are sold out. Because the last two hurricanes were false alarms, despite the shrill and vacuous media alarms. Because I have a sturdy, second floor apartment, food, water, flashlights, and supplies. Because there is not much of an evacuation plan. Friends of mine who evacuated last time sat in their cars, moving 50 miles in 12 hours.

Sunday, August 28

As the storm approaches and grows larger, everyone I know is calling. "Are you staying or going? where are you staying? Are you bringing your pets? What should I do?" Governor Blanco urges us to "pray the hurricane down" to a level 2.

I relent to pressure somewhat and relocate to a more sturdy location, an apartment complex built out of an old can factory in the midcity neighborhood. The building is five stories high, built of concrete and brick. There are seven of us in the apartment, with four cats.

Monday, August 29

Its morning, the storm is over, and we survey the streets outside. There has been some flooding. A few of us explore the neighborhood in boats, and we see extensive damage, but overall we feel as if New Orleans has once again escaped fate.

Later in the day, we hear some reports of much greater flooding in destruction in the ninth ward and lower ninth ward neighborhoods, New Orleans' most overexploited communities.

Tomorrow, we decide, the water will lower and we'll walk home. We expect power will start coming on in a week or so.

There are many relaxed and friendly conversations, especially on the roof. With all of the lights in the city out, the night sky is beautiful. We lie on our backs and watch shooting stars.

Tuesday, August 30

We wake up to discover that the water level has risen several feet. Panic begins to set in among some. We inventory our food and find that, if we ration it tightly, we have enough for five days. As we discuss it, we repeatedly say, "not that we'll be here that long, but if we had to..."

We continue to explore the area by boat, helping people when possible. The atmosphere outside is a sort of post-apocalyptic, threatening world of obscure danger, where the streets are empty and the future seems cloudy. The water is a repellent mix of sewage, gas, oil, trash and worse.

We meet some of our neighbors. Most of the building is empty. Of at least 250 apartments, there are maybe 200 people in the building, about half white and half Black. Many people, like us, are crowded 7 or 10 to an apartment. Like us, many people came here for safety from the storm. Some have no food and water. A few folks break open the building candy machine and distribute the contents. We talk about breaking into the cafe attached to the building and distributing the food.

We turn on a battery-powered tv and radio, and then turn it off in disgust. No solid information, just rumor and conjecture and fear. Throughout this time, there is no reliable source of information, compounding and multiplying the crisis.

Tomorrow, the news announces, the water level will continue to rise, perhaps 12-15 feet. Governor Blanco calls for a day of prayer.

Wednesday, August 31

White people in the building start whispering about their fears of "them." One woman complains of people in the building "from the projects and hoarding food." There is talk of gangs in the streets, shooting, robbing, and lawless anarchy. I feel like there is a struggle in people's minds between compassion and panic, between empathy and fear.

However, we witness many folks traveling around in boats, bringing food or giving lifts or sharing information.

But the overwhelming atmosphere is one of fear. People fear they wont be able to leave, they fear disease, hunger, and crime. There is talk of a soldier shot in the head by looters, of bodies floating in the ninth ward, flooding in Charity Hospital, and huge masses (including police) emptying WalMart and the electronic stores on Canal street. There are fires visible in the distance. A particularly large fire seems to be nearby - we think its at the projects at Orleans and Claiborne. Helicopters drop army MREs (Meal Ready to Eat) and water, and peo-

ple rush forward to grab as many as they can.

After the third air drop, people in the building start organizing a more even distribution.

Across the street is a spot of land, and helicopters begin landing there and picking people up. Hundreds of people from the nearby hospital make their way there, many wearing only flimsy gowns, waiting in the sun. As more helicopters come, people start arriving from every direction, straggling in, swimming or coming by boat.

A helicopter hovers over our roof, and a soldier comes down and announces that tomorrow everyone in the building will be evacuated.

Across the street, at least two hundred people spend the night huddled on a tiny patch of land, waiting for evacuation.

Thursday, September 1

People in the building want out. They are lining up on the roof to be picked up by helicopters - three copters come early in the morning and take a total of nine people. Maybe 75 people spend the next several hours waiting on the roof, but no more come.

Down in the parking garage, flooded with sewage, a steady stream of boats takes people to various locations, mostly to a nearby helicopter pickup point.

We hear stories of hundreds of people waiting for evacuation nearby at Xavier University, a historically Black college, and at other locations.

Our group fractures, people leaving at various times.

Two of us take a boat to a helicopter to a refugee camp. If you ever wondered if the US government would treat US refugees the same way they treat Haitian refugees or Somali refugees, the answer is, yes, if those refugees are poor, black, and from the South.

The individual soldiers and police are friendly and polite - at least to me - but nobody seems to know what's going on. As wave after wave of refugees arrives, they are ushered behind the barricades onto mud and dirt and sewage, while heavily armed soldiers look on.

Everyone has a story to tell, of a home destroyed, of swimming across town, of bodies and fights and gunshots and looting and fear. The worst stories come from the Superdome. I speak to one young man who describes having to escape and swim up to midcity.

I'm reminded of a moment I read about in the book "Rising Tide," about the Mississippi river flood of 1927. After the 1927 evacuation, a boatload of poor black refugees is refused permission to get on land "until they sing negro spirituals." As a bus arrives and a mass swarms forward and state police and national guard do nothing to help, I feel like I'm witnessing the modern equivalent of this dehumanizing spectacle.

More refugees are arriving than are leaving. Three of us walk out of the camp, considering trying to hitchhike a ride from relief workers or press. We get a ride from an Australian tv team who drive us to Baton Rouge where we sit on the street and wait until a relative arrives and gives us a ride to Houston.

Friday, September 2

In Houston, I can't sleep, although we drove through the night. Governor Blanco announces that she's sending in more national guard troops,

"These troops are fresh back from Iraq, well trained, experienced, battle tested and under my orders to restore order in the streets. They have M-16s and they are locked and loaded. These troops know how to shoot and kill and they are more than willing to do so if necessary and I expect they will."

Many people have called and written to ask what they can do. I don't really have answers. I'm still tired and angry and I don't know if my home survived.

But, heres some thoughts:

1) Hold the politicians accountable. Hold the media accountable. Defend Kanye West.

2) Support grassroots aid. A friend has compiled a list at http://www.sparkplugfoundation.org/katrinarelief.html

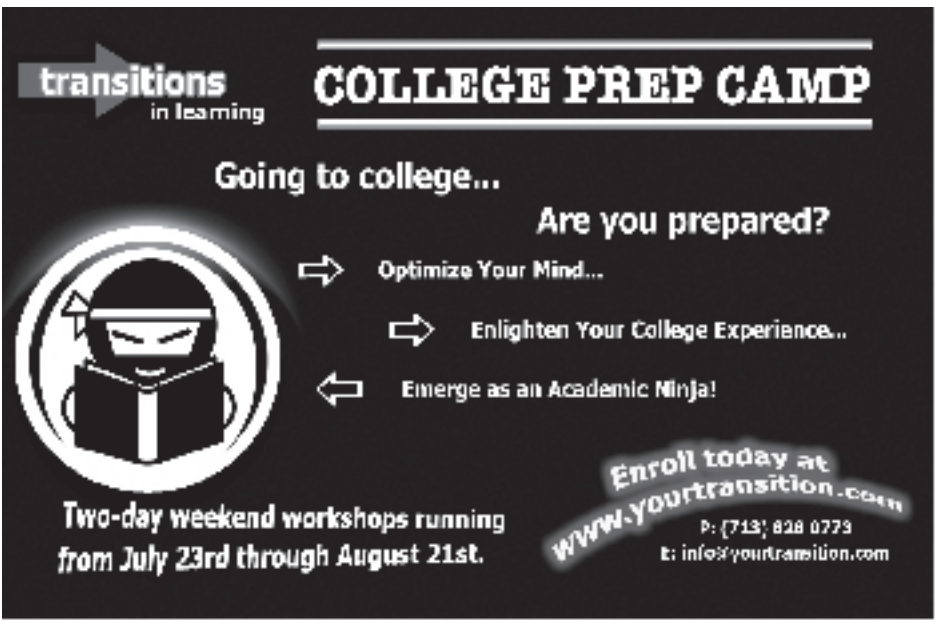
3) Volunteer. The following is a call for volunteers from Families and friends of Louisiana's Incarcerated Children, an excellent grassroots group: "Come and help us walk through the shelters, find people, help folks apply for FEMA assistance, figure out what needs they have, match folks up with other members willing to take people in. We especially need Black folks to help us as the racial divide between relief workers and evacuees is stark. Email us ASAP if you would like to help with this work.
kdhiggs@hotmail.com, familiescantwait@yahoo.com, deenv_2000@yahoo.com, xochitl@mediajumpstart.org"

4) Organize in your own community.

5) Add your apartment to the housing board at www.hurricanehousing.org.

6) Support grassroots, community control of redevelopment. Don't let New Orleans die.

Jordan Flaherty is a union organizer and an editor of Left Turn Magazine (www.leftturn.org).





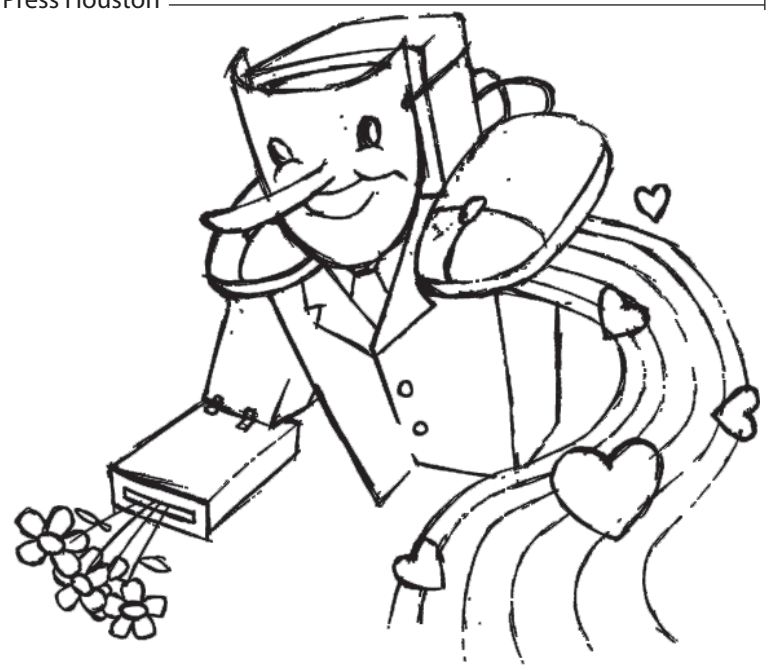




Cyberspace Defined

Rules for living in the new multi-verse

By John Kaminski



Why in the world would you pretend to be someone else when you could most easily be the lovely person that you already are?

In cyberspace, people pretend they are someone they are not all the time. A big part of the cybergame is figuring out what the difference is between who they say they are and who they actually are. Just like in real life.

It's not all malicious. Some of it is downright behavioral. People have to do what their early childhood education, their genes, and their astrological configuration demand they do, or they won't be happy. And people who pretend to be someone they're not are definitely not happy.

Or else they would simply be who they are.

Cyberspace is first and foremost a social skid greaser. It multiplies the opportunities exponentially for people to get together with other people with similar interests. Much of what I've seen in cyberspace these past three years is a very good sign for human civilization.

Some over-vigilant opinion posits that the Internet is being squeezed by doctrinarians eager to warp and manipulate history, but this is a neverending process that began ten minutes after the first word was written, and continues today in the profession of spinmeister publishers.

Yet two things strike me as contravening that view. First is research parameters. Anyone can, with any subject, find more relevant information about a topic than one could possibly, in one lifetime, use. And second, antiestablishment views are nowhere more evident than in cyberspace, where in the first five years of the new millennium, a growing gaggle of newssites already has made the corporate media we have come to rely upon for our own sense of history totally irrelevant — mere polluted shills for products that poison us. Why should their product be any different than the poisoners who sponsor them?

Now, in cyberspace, it helps to know a few things for navigational purposes.

1. There is no swearing in cyberspace. Swearing lets the listener know you can't form complete phrases in your head — and therefore can't think straight — so profanity is likely to terminate any conversation because it lets the listener know you're a loser.

2. The nearly lost art of politeness sends a signal that you respect your correspondent, and is usually reciprocated. This politeness comes in handy when the conversation turns contentious, and tempers flare.

3. No ad hominem attacks on people's motives. If you think they're government agents, why in hell would you let them know you know? This rule goes double for critics of other competitors, in whatever genre. This will be a hallmark of the new politics. When you criticize your opponent for disagreeing with you, or impute motives to his actions that imply he's not being honest, you first and foremost are admitting that your own argument is not sufficient to win the debate on its own merits.4. Trust your gut. It gut you this far. Haw. You know instinctively when someone's blowing smoke. It isn't necessarily what is said, but how it's framed and presented. Anything out of whack needs to be investigated.

5. Learn how to Google effectlvely. ("To google" is now a verb.) If you just type in, say, "9/11," you'll get a welter of all sorts of sites, many of which have scented their smoke with all sorts of smells that lead you everywhere; but if you type in "9/11 tower demolition" or "Israeli influence 9/11," well then, you're going to get a whole lot clearer picture.

But mostly, cyberspace is an arena, both imaginary and real.

The bifurcation of this statement doubles your mental capacity because it creates an analog brainspace which is shared by everyone in the world. In it, dreams and reality intersect in a tangible way.

Maybe the best thing cyberspace has to offer is that it teaches people how to treat those they meet as they would in their fondest, happiest, and most satisfying dream.

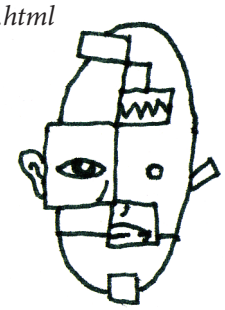
Beneath sunshine, with a big smile, in a green field.

That, my friend, is the true promise of cyberspace.

It's important to remember oppressive government is merely a collective manifestation of our own individual shadows, most of them the same uncomprehended issues, with the standard smattering of individualized pathologies. Life is governed by one rule: We will take advantage of what we can to get ahead.

If what we really want is slaughter, so that the last man can stand in a postnuke scenario and marvel at what we've done to ourselves, then we're on the right track, Jack.

John Kaminski is a writer who lives in the Gulf Coast of Florida (pelicans are back, eating merrily) whose essays are seen on hundreds of websites around the world. Check out http://www.rudemacedon.ca/kaminski/kam-index.html
skylax@comcast.net





Chapultepec Lupita
Mexican Restaurant

813 Richmond
2 blocks East of Montrose
713.522.2365
OPEN 24 HOURS for
Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Tired of missing **Happy Hour** *somewhere else? Don't worry! Come to Chapultepec Lupita, where our Happy Hour is from* **11am-9pm everyday!** *Try our new flavored* **Ritas and Martinis**- *We have all of the flavors! Plus check out our new* **Tequila Bar**- *We now have more than* **100 Tequilas** *and counting.* **Our full service bar is now open! Big screens, and bigger drink selection for Happy Hour!!!**

College Students Rejoice-- Now you can start a tab at all of your favorite bars...
(and get school loans/money from the parents directly deposited into your account)

Get a *Heritage Debit MasterCar ® Card* and you get Direct Deposit, Bill Pay, Text Messaging, Online Access to your account and much more! One low initialization fee plus $5.95 per month--NO QUALIFYING AND NO CREDIT CHECK!
Call 888.223.8151 or visit us at

Up to $2500.00 load limit!



*To become a cardholder, you must be 18 years of age and have a valid government issued ID.
The Heritage Debit MasterCard® Card is owned and issued by New Millennium Bank.
Copyright 2005 Heritage Card Solutions.

Save 50% On Inkjet/Laser Cartridges
Cartridge World
Westheimer @ Shepherd (Shepherd Square)
2055 Westheimer Ste.165 Houston, TX 77098
713.526.0040



ASE CERTIFIED Automotive Service Excellence

PACIFIC
Complete Auto Repair
5503 Glenmont at Chimney Rock
Houston, Tx 77061
713 663 7444

- State Inspection
- Diagnostics
- Computerized Alignment
- Brake
- Transmission
- Air Conditioning
- Foreign and Domestic



ASE Master Auto Technicians
Vietnamese and Spanish speaking

Special Savings
With this ad (Expires December 31st 2005)

State Inspection.....Only $35.50
4 Wheel Alignment .....Only $49.95
Air Conditioner Service*.....Only $25.00
*plus cost of refrigerant

Sig's Lagoon
(2 doors down from Continental Club)
NOW OPEN!



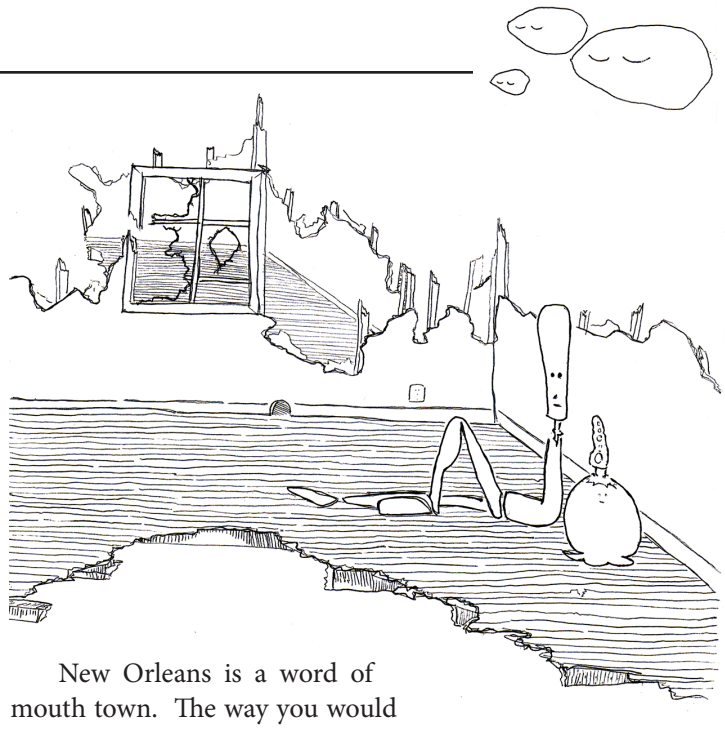
Mourning For New Orleans

By Jordan Flaherty

Its been six days since I left New Orleans, and I miss my home so much. I'm still in a daze, its hard to hold a conversation or to think straight. People ask if everyone I know is ok, and I don't know what to say. There are so many stories, so many rumors, so many people dispersed around the US. So many of us may never see each other again. I don't think any of us are ok right now.

One friend, a teacher, was searching the Astrodome while holding up a sign, looking for his former students. Another friend says she fears she'll never see New Orleans or her friends from there again. Another friend found temporary comfort with family in Houston and then got kicked out.

I can think of at least thirty people that I have no idea where they are. In some cities it seems like when people meet they give out their email address or weblog or friendster or whatever. In New Orleans, a lot of us only know each other only by first names. There are so many people I would see at least once a week that I don't know how to get in touch with at all. Even cel phones from the New Orleans area code have been nonfunctioning for most of the last two weeks.



New Orleans is a word of mouth town. The way you would find out about parties, secondlines, jazz funerals and other events is from hearing about it from friends. In an increasingly disconnected world, New Orleans felt different, more real and concrete. Now that we aren't seeing each other regularly, our elaborate communication network has broken down.

But when people ask I just say, yes, as far as I know everyone is ok. I can't really bring myself to think about it further than that.

There has been a lot of media hysteria regarding those who were locked in New Orleans' prisons during the hurricane, stories that make it sound like a Hollywood action film where murderers use a disaster to escape and wreck havoc.

This is exactly wrong. The truth is that tales from the imprisoned population of New Orleans are among the most heartbreaking stories of the past week. Families are still looking for loved ones lost in the system. According to organizers with FFLIC, of approximately 240 kids in state custody, as of a couple of days ago only 6 or 7 parents had been able to track down their children.

According to statistics compiled by the Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana, at least 78% of New Orleans' incarcerated youth were locked up for nonviolent offenses. The detention center in Jefferson Parish reports that 96% of the youth held there in 2000 were for nonviolent offenses. At least a third of youth in prison have been sentenced to three or more years for nonviolent offenses. In New Orleans, 95% of the detained youth in 1999 were African-American. Louisiana taxpayers spend $96,713 to incarcerate a single child, and $4,724 to educate a child in the public schools.

Ahmad from Guinea makes my falafel
sandwich and says
So this is your country

Yes Amadou this my country
And these my people

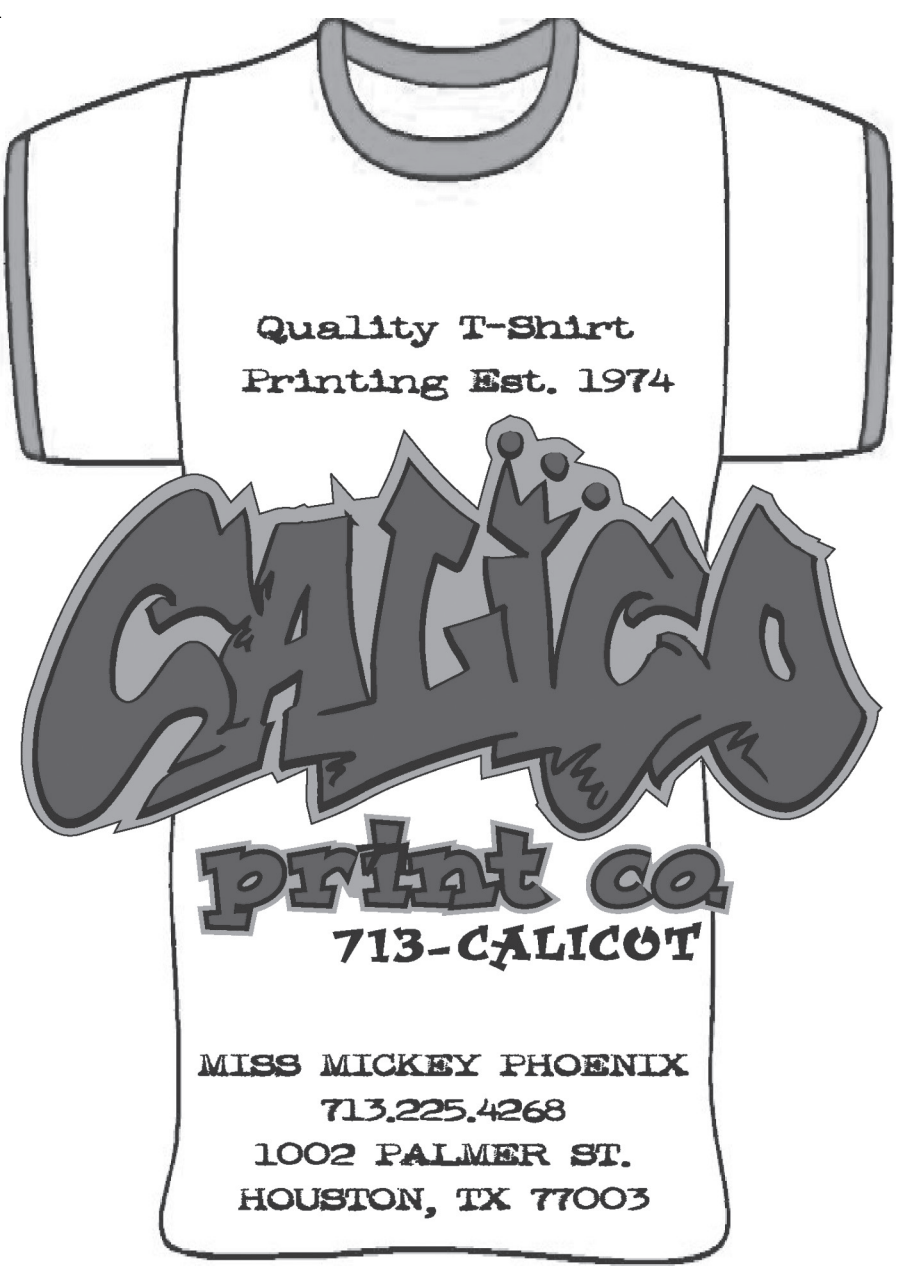
Evacuated as if criminal
Rescued by neighbors
Shot by soldiers

Adamant they belong

The rest of the world can now see
What I have seen

Do not look away

The rest of the world lives here too
In America







LOST SOULS
STUDIOS
New Location !!!
inside CHEMISTRY
CLEAN • STERILE • FRIENDLY • CUSTOM ART
1412 WESTHEIMER • 713.533.9429

the MEZZANINE lounge



2200 Southwest Freeway Suite 150
Houston Texas 77098
713.528.MEZZ (6399) fax:713.528.6394
www.mezzaninelounge.com

KICKS
INDOOR SOCCER
KICKSINDOOR.COM

VISIT US ONLINE
www.copydotcom.com
(a.k.a. www.houstoncopy.com)



Website Relaunch
* online only coupons
* in-store promotions
* services & price list
* online job submission
* quote requests
and much more...

copy.com
COPY CENTER/COMPUTERS/INTERNET BAR
713.528.1201 * 1201-F Westheimer



Between Is and Was

by Michael Patrick Welch

A satellite map claims that our corner of the 9th Ward, back by the naval base 200-feet from the Mississippi River, is somehow dry. Four of five friends who remained (and say they'll fight to stay) also concur: our house survived--our huge, gorgeous, rented house, and our maybe five thousand dollars worth of ragged possessions. Really, we own nothing. Except our pygmy goat, Chauncey. And where else but New Orleans can we live with a goat?

For $800, Chauncey had a thousand-square-foot backyard behind a huge double shotgun with an attic renovated into a comfortable hardwood bedroom in arguably the most enigmatic, creative neighborhood in the U.S.; the Bywater was a sort of non-result oriented Williamsburg, New York (hurts to use was, but present tense sounds wrong too). In the Bywater, a dirty but handsome young person might actually not detail all their genius artistic pursuits for you until well into your friendship. It's true. And now--especially after this latest governmental insensitivity--New Orleans feels like the only place I could stand to live within the U.S. The Bywater is paradise lost.

The "real estate bubble" in New Orleans was due to explode months ago (we moved off Esplanade Ave. a year previous when that idyllic area became more of a Monopoly board than a neighborhood). Still, the Bywater's lack of uptight neighbors remained a big draw. It



was rare anyone there would rat you out for illegally selling egg tacos and coffee out your bedroom window like in Costa Rica, or hosting a 20-band Noisefest in your backyard--or harboring a farm animal. Chauncey was a beloved Bywater celebrity. On his walks to eat tropical plants and cigarette butts down Royal Street, around to Sugar Park Tavern and on past famous Vaughn's, Chauncey brought down racial barriers, and introduced us to every single one of our neighbors.

Our favorite old loud neighbor who sold Viagra from his apartment would, like many black New Orleanians, make barbecue jokes whenever he saw Chauncey (to which we'd always quip back, "Oh, haven't heard that one in four-and-a-half minutes!") On the morning we fled Katrina, said neighbor laughed and told us no way he was leaving New Orleans for no hurricane. My girlfriend and I wouldn't have left the city either, but another kindly neighbor forced his car keys on us (I sold my truck to escape Florida five years ago; bike-riding in N.O. was less inconvenient than having a car). Florida's many false alarms throughout my childhood--much stockpiling of canned-goods and taping of windows all for naught--cultivated in me an it only happens to the other guy attitude. Then last year, after we purchased Chauncey for $75 from a farm on The West Bank, hurricane Ivan threatened, and for the first time ever, I evacuated. Then after we'd driven eight-hours to Baton Rouge (normally a 45-minute trip; I-10 from New Orleans is not suited for mass evacuation) with Chauncey in our laps (he has a great transport instinct; in any vehicle he lays right down and just waits), even Ivan turned away.

Add to this the silent psychological game played between New Orleans residents, especially us transplants, trying to outdo each other with our loyalty to the city--staying in New Orleans despite Mayor Nagin begging his citizenry to flee, is a bold declaration of love. We almost love the city that much. We almost chose to tough-out Katrina inside our huge, wonderful house.

But instead we took our neighbor's keys and proceeded to Tallahassee where we and several friends-of-friends drank and smoked pot like college Freshman, ate pulled pork and roast beef and fried chicken like Thanksgiving and sat on the couch, stoned and stuffed, watching our favorite thing in the world disintegrate on TV.

And still, despite living in a carrier half that time, Chauncey remained a peppy prince. Our friends-of-friends loved him as much as everyone else, and squealed with laughter watching us punch Chauncey in the head (it's how goats play; he loves it). We are refugees sir, take us in, please, and our goat will do tricks for your amusement... Chauncey provided great distraction.

After five days in Tallahassee, Chauncey's transport instinct then kept him calm for 15-hours in the rental car. My girlfriend lost the argument and we drove through the damaged South all the way to Texas, rather than fly over it in a plane, which would have felt very wrong to me. We filled the tiny gas tank of a crappy Chevrolet Cobalt in Florida, hung far north of the disaster areas and still witnessed enough downed power lines, uprooted trees, enough unnerving brick buildings blown off their bases--but not another drop of gas until Natchez, Mississippi. When my girlfriend's cell phone died, she lost her cool--while Chauncey retained his all the way to my parents gated community in Conroe.

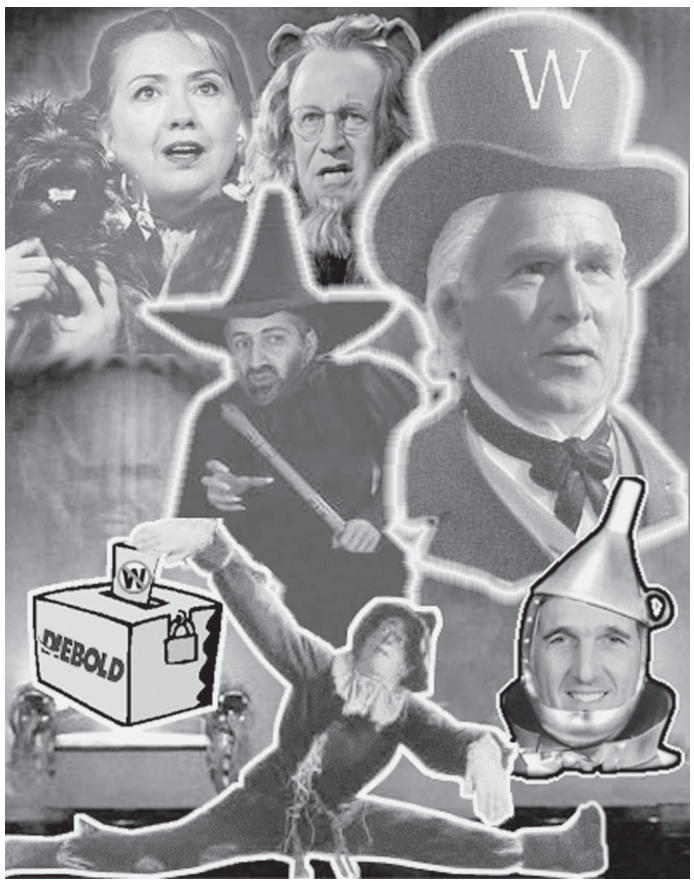
But after three days in Texas, Chauncey's ears droop. By now all our initial shock has worn off--I think of all our dead neighbors and somehow see and feel it all less clearly than I did at first. Shock almost felt better; there was electricity running through us then, at least, even if it was a negative charge. Now we've deflated. Now we are puddles. And we're in dreaded Texas: the exact opposite of how I want the world to be. The exact opposite of New Orleans. Chauncey doesn't like the over-manicured grass and sterile uniformity of my parent's gated community (located somewhere along the fifteen mile stretch between Wal-Mart and Super Wal-Mart) any more than we do. His movements have visibly slowed, like he's as lost and despondent as his owners.



The W of Oz

By Nick Cooper

In our political system fueled by campaign donations and corporate kickbacks, citizens suspend disbelief and pretend to be voting for candidates and not their sponsors. Even those of us who have realized the wizards' scam have a hard time remaining focused on the corporations behind that curtain. When we discover a scandal, such as that there were a bunch of clueless cronies in charge of FEMA, our outrage is awakened and a few lose their jobs. But there are cronies just like them in most government agencies, and it is entirely backwards to wait until they screw up to demand change. Until the people are ready to get involved to prevent corruption, it will continue. Advocating voting as the solution is our way of letting ourselves off the hook. "It's Bush's fault, and I didn't vote for him, and I'll do everything I can to oppose his party next time," becomes an impotent substitute for what responsible people should be saying, which is: "we are watching his every move carefully and we won't let him get away with anything."



From Nixon's recordings, it was clear that he was out of his mind. But America was more interested in discovering his cover-ups, lies, and crimes, which were important, but nowhere near as important as the fact that a man we had empowered to kill millions was insane. Even while listening to insane words, America finds it difficult to weigh the pathology beneath the calm surface of press conferences and speeches. We suspend our disbelief, as we have learned to do watching advertisements, tv, and movies, and treat politicians as if they have a coherent policy. Words and stories catch our attention and we forget for the moment that it is all just a play. Every time we hear politicians speak, we agree or disagree with what they say, as if they were conveying an agenda, but they are not. There is nothing being related except strung together plot devices written for effect. Bush presents bad guys and good guys and symbols that awaken our sentiments, but there is nothing behind it all except the looting of resources, institutions, and cash by those connected to the White House, which we are too distracted to stop. Despite constant proof that our leaders are insanely deranged, completely incompetent, wildly confused, ill-informed and fully corrupt, we keep pretending. Even when we hate and oppose them, we still act as if it were possible to elect a government that could do things well without our constant vigilance. The things we truly care about have ceased to be our

responsibility to create, and are instead used only to measure our disappointment or hope in a politician.

The Democratic Party has chosen not to strike to end the war when it is insanely unpopular, to expose corporate corruption when it is rampant, to dismantle Homeland security when it has been proven inoperable, to change energy policy as the prices double and global warming is confirmed, to rescind the patriot act when people are afraid of it, or to demand that politicians and military leaders be tried for their crimes. They have another plan - to remain passive as the Bush regime screws up, hoping that people will turn to them for change. It is an ok plan for winning some elections, but is a lousy plan for changing policies.

Delegates attending the 2000 Democratic Convention had their homemade signs confiscated by their own party. Whatever their issues were, they couldn't be allowed to detract from the unified message from the floor. But they could choose between some pre-made signs including one that said "Tipper Rocks." All the messages that spoke to the things that mattered to Democrat delegates were edited out and replaced by a meaningless slogan. Perhaps they were told that at least until the election is won, some of their issues would have to wait to show unity. But it turns out that during elections is the only time that issues are discussed at all. Although no one really believes that the next Democratic candidate is going to end the war or get rid of the patriot act or revolutionize our energy policy, we don't even know how to talk about politics other than to talk about elections. Eventually, we become very sophisticated about talking about leaders and strategies, and even sophisticated in our critiques of these leaders, but we have lost our ability to talk about any possible way of reversing the trends that are destroying us. We are used to having other people do our work for us, and have no idea how to act on our own outside of supporting or opposing some candidacy. Our organizing, thought and language has been so indoctrinated, that when we decide to show the world that we are ready to challenge the policies that will kill our children, we are at a loss for what to do beyond getting a Hillary '08 bumper sticker.

Few expect that the disapproval of Bush, even at unprecedented levels, will result in real action for change. Our energy seems overwhelmed by pessimism consumerism, fear, and the idea that democracy is best served by supporting some politicians. In South America, in the past few years, similar disapproval has manifested in the form of an unstoppable energy in the streets forcing Presidents out of office. Bolivians threw out President Carlos Mesa, and Ecuadorians dumped President Lucio Gutiérrez, learning some things from Argentina, where five Presidents were rejected in two weeks But these things don't happen here. The alternative, voting out incompetent and corrupt leaders, seems much more civilized to most North Americans. We pat ourselves on the back that such transitions here have always been smooth and easy. But we are disappointed with our choices of candidates, and that often, half of our potential voters don't vote. While other countries bring in international observers for their elections, and make voting mandatory, we lazily assume everything is basically fair here. The mantra that our most treasured blessing is the possibility for change every four years keeps us from asking if anything much is changing, whether politicians can offer us any solutions, and when we will begin to make the changes ourselves.

nickcooper@indymedia.org



Submit to us

photos
doodles
cartoons
letters

editors@freepresshoutson.com

15% off w/ mention of this ad.

MR. SMOKE

A huge variety of:
Glass on Glass
Blunt Wraps
Rolling Papers
Pipes
Water Pipes
DVDS/Videos
Swords
Novelty Items

available here:

#1 IN DETOX
B CLEAN
BE COOL. BE CAREFUL.™
It's Not About Luck!

1726 Dairy Ashford 281.558.3501
9309 Fondren Rd. 713.981.9277
Open Late: Sun-Thurs. 11am-11pm Fri-Sat. 11am-12am

Attention Homeowners

-Purchase
-Refinance
-Equity Withdrawal/Debt Consolidation

Local Broker Company working with you to achieve lower rates and minimal closing fees.

Conventional, FHA, VA, Sub Prime financing available

Bad credit, no credit, slow credit OK.
Ken Frank: 832-647-6294



houston.indymedia.org

Like Vultures to Carrion: Corporate profiteering in the Gulf Coast



Houston based Halliburton, well known for profiteering in Iraq, has already received a contract from the US Navy to reconstruct Navy bases in Mississippi. US Vice President and former CEO of Halliburton recently visited the Gulfport Mississippi, where some of these contracts for millions of dollars are to be carried out. Jeremy Scahill from Democracy Now! points out: "what's more significant and what people are not focusing on is that Kellogg Brown & Root is also now traveling throughout the region assessing damage to, for instance, the pumps in New Orleans and the infrastructure of the city. They have already begun providing services for some five hundred Department of Homeland Security personnel. They have set up a camp for the Mississippi Power Company. And so they're setting up these same kinds of camps that we see in Guantanamo and Iraq and elsewhere to service the rebuilding of the Gulf area here of the South."

Besides Halliburton, many other companies are cashing in on the disaster in the Gulf. Kali Dalton describes being recruited by a job agency under the pretense of helping people in New Orleans only to be shipped to Biloxi Mississippi and forced to work cleaning up casinos. "the area was under martial law, so we were not permitted to leave the area of a parking lot between 6pm and 6am. If we did, we would run the risk of being shot. That may be understandable, but it contributed heavily to the prison-camp atmosphere of the work site. Not only were they not providing us with transportation home, as they'd promised; we were not even allowed to walk away."

Voices from New Orleans



Jordan Flaherty: "I just left New Orleans a couple hours ago. I traveled from the apartment I was staying in by boat to a helicopter to a refugee camp. If anyone wants to examine the attitude of federal and state officials towards the victims of hurricane Katrina, I advise you to visit one of the refugee camps."

Malik Rahim (pictured): "It's criminal. From what you're hearing, the people trapped in New Orleans are nothing but looters. We're told we should be more "neighborly." But nobody talked about being neighborly until after the people who could afford to leave -- left."

Community Labor United: "The people of New Orleans will not go quietly into the night, scattering across this country to become homeless in countless other cities while federal relief funds are funneled into rebuilding casinos, hotels, chemical plants and the wealthy white districts of New Orleans like the French Quarter and the Garden District. We will not stand idly by while this disaster is used as an opportunity to replace our homes with newly built mansions and condos in a gentrified New Orleans."

Astrodome Radio Denied by Harris County Bureaucrat

evacuation radio services
KAMP 95.3 FM www.evacuationradioservices.org
"straight out of the 18th ward"

Efforts to start a low power fm radio station inside the Astrodome were thwarted by a Harris County Bureaucrat named RW Royal, Incident Commander of the Joint Information Committee (JIC). The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) had on Sunday approved an application made by Austin Airwaves for 3 micro-radio stations, to be set up inside the Astrodome and other emergency shelters in Houston to disseminate information to survivors of Hurricane Katrina. On Wednesday, after days of stalling from many different levels of government bureaucracy, including radio activists lining up the purchase of 10.000 radios, Harris County authorities denied the request. The project had received national support from radio activists, service providers, City Councilors, FEMA Public Information Officers, and Governor Perry's office, as well as approval from survivors of Katrina.

Jacob Applebaum writes: "The people on the ground I spoke with personally asked me why I was there. I told them that I was with a group helping to bring emergency radio information to them. Broadcast from right inside the dome. Those people were overjoyed to hear that they would get a radio station with emergency information, with information on job interviews, food, housing, lost children, found person, clothing and other important information. It breaks my heart."

the houston independent media center media for social and economic justice
get involved! contact: houston@indymedia.org

fiscal sponsorship for himc provided by
the southwest alternate media project
www.swamp.org

Classifieds&Forum

Starting at $10-713.527.0014 Editors@Freepresshouston.com

Employment/People Wanted

Laff Stop Comedy Club
Now Hiring
Experienced Waitresses
Flexible Scheduling
Great For Students
Please apply with Rachel:
713.524.2333

Now Hiring at
El Pueblito Place
Catering Director-- Build and maintain clientele

Hostess-- Take calls, Greet and Seat Customers

Receptionist-- Some bookkeeping, assist owners

Waitstaff

Experience a plus, training provided.
Call 713.522.6596

IMMEDIATE - Outside Sales Positions in Houston, TX.

Sales agent responsibilities include generating customer leads and product sales for an energy company in the Houston area.

Successful candidates must have high energy and enthusiasm!!! Candidates must also be aggressive and have a positive attitude, and a strong desire to be successful.

Candidates who fluent in Spanish, Korean, and Chinese are encouraged to apply.

SALARY, COMMISSIONS, & BONUSES could equal up to $75,000 in the first year!!! Our company also offers medical, dental, other insurance options, 401(K) plans, paid vacation, and sick leave.

Submit your resume to resumes@sales-focusinc.com referencing in the subject line Outside Sales Houston, TX position. Send all resumes in either MS Word format or copied and pasted into the email

TAKE CARE OF FAMILY AND WORK PT/FT AT HOME
$500 INVESTMENT TO START
1-877-202-0320 TOLL FREE
www.am-enterprisestheonlinebusiness.com

Business Opportunites/Misc.



Draftwizard.com
Fantasy Football Help

How would you like daily player notes, weekly team reports, hundreds of fantasy football articles, expert player rankings, and gobs more we don't have space to tell you about here?!

draftwizard.com offers all that PLUS 12 different ways to
EARN $50
playing fantasy football!

And now as a FREE PRESS reader you are invited to join at the special rate of
JUST $9.95 A YEAR!

Simply use the promotional code of "FREEPRESS" when you create your account at https://www.draftwizard.com

Financial Freedom Awaits
SALES $100K-$350K+
First Year Income Potential - Training Provided. F/T or P/T
No Travel. Not MLM. Serious Only.
24/7 info message:
Call: 888-210-0623

Have you heard of Avon, Nuskin, Herbalife or Xango? Well a new company, in pre-launch mode, is offering you a once in a lifetime business opportunity. Go to www.gelexcell.com and don't forget to check out the revolutionary product too!

Would you like to...
Write your own paycheck?
Create your own hours?
Be home with your kids?
Work from home OR on the beach?
THEN PUT THAT PC TO WORK FOR YOU!
Our business offers an easy step by step system with one on one training. No cold calling, door to door sales, telemarketing or envelope stuffing. 25 year history in one of the fastest growing industries WORLDWIDE!
SERIOUS PEOPLE ONLY!!
4RaeJon theonlinebusiness.com
(888) 891-0213

Services

Conversational Spanish/English
and Tutoring For Adults By Professional Bilingual Instructors @ your pace...over coffee, walks, lunch, etc...

Drawing/Painting One on One
Instruction For Adults By MFA Professional Artist
www.sergiorodriguezgallery.com

Hand Drumming Lessons
For Adults
By Experienced Percussionist
Congas, Bongos, Djembe, etc
call 713-526-2485

FREE TO GOOD HOME!

Ramsey 1 1/2 Yrs. Old American Pit Bull Terrier Neutered
Cute auburn brown with pinkish brown nose, white chest,
very sweet boy!
Outside Dog,
Please fence him in.
Great with other dogs and kids 12 and older.
No cats!
Very Submissive, likes to rough-house play, non-aggressive, loyal.
I am in a small apartment and Ramsey deserves a BIG Yard with lots of room to play and a very loving family.
Please call Kristie:
713.807.8457

LOST DOG
White/Black short-hair Australian Shepard Mix, Female
40 lbs, Last seen (5/7/05) near corner of
Richmond/Montrose
No collar, **Answers to Lusha**
Please call 713-443-5148



Help Find Lusha

Health

HEALING THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE BY GLYNES
Pain and Stree Management
Specializing in sports injuries and back pain.
Heated Stones Therapy
RMT #4627 281-497-7041

For Rent

FOR RENT w/ Move in Special
Montrose and Midtown Area Apartments
Pet friendly! .Locations: Brun St., Austin St., Indiana St., Michigan St
Great communities and amenities.
Shahda Investments *713.521.1327*

Wanted

Established Metal/Thrash/Harcordcore Rock band looking for professional vocalist who can scream/growl and SING in key. Band is all well rounded musicians w/ experience. Call Kyle @ 713.885.7473

Pro Bass Player- Experienced all kinds of music, prefer R&B, Blues, Funk, Classic, and Texas Country. Singing a. Kingl@ 281.391.6727

Forum

Behringer Mains and Subs for Sale.
Contact Bruce @ 832 372 6235

Noah's Ark Oceanfront Vacation Home at Dolphin's Point
Treasure Island Oceanside at the San Luis Pass
LaWanda Royer 281-852-8974
713-553-5159 Beachrental@aol.com

TheFreePressneeds ad sells people.

call us:
713-527-0014

GetPaintoFightheBadGuys

Geriatric-Gynocologist
For Hire

—senior citizen discount
—have powertools

Help us grow our Forum. Post shout-outs, love/hate letters, proposals, lost/found, gigs, art openings, and the like online. Go to Freepresshouston.com & click on Forum. We may print it.

FREE Prescription Medication.

If you're spending at least $50 a month for your medication, you may be eligible for FREE prescription drugs like these:



Call 800-403-2080

Last year 8.2 million Americans got their brand name medications absolutely FREE! That's because they took advantage of "patient assistance programs" which help those who otherwise can't afford prescription drugs. So if you're unemployed, lack health insurance, or a person who doesn't have coverage under Medicare, you may be eligible.

"For patients, these plans can be life-savers."
- The New York Times

"This year, the pharmaceutical industry will give away 11 million prescription drugs."
- Orlando Business Journal

Free Medicine Direct is not affiliated with any U.S. drug manufacturer. We are an independent organization that provides fee based consulting services to its customers.

STICK IT TO THE MAN

Corporations or Partnerships – What's the Difference?

By Devin McNulty

Editor's Note: The information in this column is not legal advice. It is merely intended to illustrate general information about the law by using hypothetical examples. If you have a legal issue, including one that resembles the situation described below, you should consult with an attorney regarding the circumstances of your particular problem.

Some companies or businesses seem to be corporation and others are partnerships. What's the difference between a corporation and a partnership? Is one better than the other?

Corporations and partnerships are two distinct business entities. Both of them have benefits and drawbacks. When people go into business they need to decide which type of business entity to chose based on several factors particular to them and their business. Partnerships can be very informal and very little or no paper work is needed to form one. A partnership can agree to conduct the partnership in almost any imaginable way (although it must be legal). A corporation (an "Inc.") must be approved by the state government and must follow numerous rules in order to obtain the benefits of a corporation.

A partnership has two or more persons that associate with one another to participate as co-owners in a business for profit. Partnerships are easily created. Two or more people just need to decide to become partners and a partnership is born. No writing, agreement or contract is necessary and a handshake can be enough to form a valid partnership. The typical traits of a partnership are: the partners intend for a partnership to exist; they control the business together; they agree to share the profits (but it does not need to be even); they share the losses or liability of the partnership and they contribute something of value to the partnership. A partnership can own land and a partnership can sue or be sued under its own name (and not just the person behind it). The partners in a partnership can make their own rules about how to govern the partnership, but if they do not specify their rules, then the Texas Revised Partnership Act (TRPA) will presume to control the issues not in the partnership agreement. A partner may assign his or her interest in the partnership to a third party, but the third party will not be a partner (although they will be able receive benefits of the partnership).

Each partner is liable for the contracts and mistakes of the other partners. That means if partner #1 signs a bad contract and the partnership suffers financially, partner #2 is liable for the debts. It also means that if partner #1 is negligent, then partner #2 is also liable for partner #1's negligence. As a result, it is very important to carefully choose one's business partners since each partner will be liable for everything the other partner does in the scope of the partnership.

A corporation is a separate legal entity that is authorized by the secretary of state for any lawful purpose. A corporation is, under the law, a legal "person" with Constitutional rights (this was not written into the Constitution by the founding fathers, but rather the Supreme Court "interpreted" the Constitution to allow it to be so). A corporation has shareholders that have limited liability for the corporation's debts and obligations. It is typically controlled by a board of directors that appoint officers to manage the corporation's day-to-day affairs. A corporation must have a president and a secretary (and will often have vice-presidents, a treasurer, etc.). Corporations require much more paperwork than partnerships do. A corporation requires articles of incorporation, bylaws or shareholder agreements. Once a corporation is properly formed, there are several corporate formalities that must be followed or else the shareholders will lose the limited liability benefits of the corporation. There are numerous rules, but the most common are that corporate funds must be kept separate, corporate books must be kept, there must be shareholder and directors' meetings, shares must be issued, and corporate funds cannot be used to pay private debts.

Shareholders typically have no right to control the day-to-day operations of a corporation (unlike partners in a partnership). The power to run a corporation rests with the board of directors whom in turn generally give that power to corporate officers (such as CEO's, CFO's, CIO's, etc). The board and the officers have strict obligations to the corporation (to try and make it profitable), but the law carves out an exception regarding their business judgment. As long as no fraud or illegal conduct is shown, courts will not second-guess the business decisions made by the board or by the corporation's officers. Shareholder meetings should be held once a year and each shareholder is usually allowed one vote per share (so 100 shares means 100 votes or 100,000 shares means you can throw 100,000 votes behind some proposition). Shareholders owe no duty to each other or to the corporation. Shareholders are not liable for the debts or obligations of the corporation, so if a corporation is being sued for bad contracts or negligence the shareholders could only potentially lose the values of their shares and nothing more. Corporations require record keeping and must follow specific laws to enjoy the benefits of being an "Inc." but the ability to walk away from a bad business losing only what you put into it is an attractive option for many people.

Generally speaking a partnership could be construed as "all in" or "betting the farm" since if something goes wrong each partner could be 100% liable. Being a shareholder in a corporation limits the amount you could lose to the amount you put in, but then you also do not have as much control over the business entity as you would if you were a partner in it.

To recap: Partnerships are smaller and informal and each partner is 100% liable for anything the other partner does in the scope of the partnership's business. One partner may have to dig into his own pocket to pay off the other partner's business debts. Corporations require a lot more formality and paperwork, but people who own shares of the corporation have limited liability (can't lose more than they put in) for the debts or obligations of the corporation.

Devin C. McNulty, a former prosecutor, is engaged in the private practice of law in Houston, Texas. He can be reached at devin.mcnulty@gmail.com with any questions or comments.

Need Office Space?
Organizations or Individuals interested in sharing our office in The Midtown Art Center, please contact us at houston@indymedia.org

rent is only $250 per month and we have high speed internet, fax, phone, kitchen, bathroom and a meeting space





Submission is good...

to the
Free Press Houston

editors@freepresshouston.com

If I Were America's Secretary of State

By Anwaar Hussain





If I were America's Secretary of State and wished to dissuade my President from attacking Iran, my arguments to him would be as follows.

I would tell the President that we must not attack Iran because we are presently mired in Iraq where the sandal footed resistance fighters have blunted the edge of our technology and our casualties are mounting astronomically each day what with 5000 of our soldiers dead already, 30,000 wounded and 6000 deserted.

I would point out Iran to the President on an atlas and show him that Iran is a country almost four times that of Iraq in size and population and its political situation is fairly stable and its national strength, combat capability and cohesion among people are far superior to what we thought were Iraq's—whom we considered a mere walk over and where we are now stuck in the quick sand upto our knees and sinking deeper. I would also tell the President that in that Iraq now our Operation Iraqi Freedom has come to nothing but merely speeding at breakneck speeds from point A to point B in our heavily armored Humvees with the sole aim being surviving the drive.

I would argue that mere 'shock and awe' with cruise missiles and aerial bombing cannot bring about the desired results in Iran and we have to follow up with ground forces to ensure success—-forces that we simply do not have. Another important factor I would highlight to the President would be that as a result of our Iraq war and policies towards the Muslim World, our armed forces recruitment is at its lowest and that of Al-Qaeda's cadres at the highest at this point in time. The equation now stands fundamentally altered from the time when we were invaded Iraq.

I would argue that the use of nuclear weapons, however low yield, would amount to lowering the nuclear threshold and that we are neither the only country nor the only crazies in the world possessing nuclear weapons. Five nuclear states are ringing Iran on all sides.

I would say that our policies are pushing historic enemies into each other's embrace and an ominous Chen-Ivan alliance has formed against us who perceive their national interests competing with ours for some time now. They have swallowed their pride once too many times and there are no guarantees that they will continue to remain idle bystanders. I would also remind the President that their protégés, India and Pakistan—arch rivals once but now warming to each other, too can take a cue from their benefactors and form an alliance with their patrons against us. Between the four of them, they can field over four million first class fighting troops and nuclear weapons to boot.

I will remind the President that in the event of our war with Iran we will see no allies following except Israel. Even Britain has already shown an intent to abstain from our future war parties. I will dig up my archives and present to the President the USS Liberty file, some concrete proofs of Israel's unashamed espionage against us since then and many other archived secrets of Israel's infidelity to show that this one ally we just cannot trust...





Fat City Yoga

StreetYogiInstruction

By Eric Anthamatten

We should be warned that nature nostalgia detaches us from the urban present and promulgates condescension, disinterest, and eventually hostility. For better or worse, American man is now urban man. Nature nostalgia, no matter how subtle, does not serve him well. It is time for a turning and a celebrating of the dazzling experiences we have but do not witness for all to share. The city is now our home; in the most traditional and profound sense of the word, it is our land.

- John J. McDermott

Note: When doing yoga outside during rush hour, be prepared for much taunting and honking as you practice. Granted, as the traffic of daily experience zooms by, it is difficult to maintain focus. Focus, however, does not mean fully eliminating the frenetic motion that surrounds us. Rather, we must learn to embrace it, dancing and celebrating between the poles of movement and stillness, change and stability, Apollo and Dionysus. Shiva dances to the beat, dreadlocks madly whirling, yet his gaze remains calm and content. Music is created by pulling the string tight from both ends. From this tension, harmony arises, and yogi(ni) is always anxious to be stretched so that she can dance and sing.

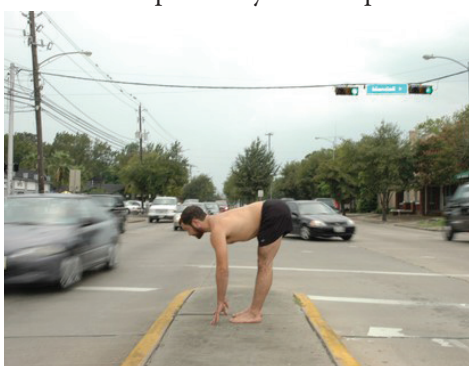
Uttanasana - Intense Spine Strech

Many times, this pose is simply called "forward bend." It is more appropriate, however, to think of this posture as a spine-stretch. If the emphasis is on simply bending forward, there is a tendency to neglect the alignment in the spine, sacrificing the quality of the pose for seeming depth of stretch. In many aerobic/stretching classes, one is pummelled with the mantra, "Hamstrings! Hamstrings! Hamstrings! Nose to your knees!" While stretching the hamstrings is certainly an important part of this pose, it is not the primary emphasis. If you focus on keeping the spine lengthened and mindfully integrating in this pose (leading with the heart instead of the head) the hamstring flexibility will come.

Start from a simple standing pose. Leading from the heart, allow the body to come forward, bringing the hands to the ground. Keep the spine as straight as possible. If you are unable to touch the ground without curving your spine, slightly bend the knees as necessary, or you may use a yoga block to make up the difference between your hands and the ground. Engage the muscles around the legs, and allow the tops of the femurs to sink back into the sitting bones. Inhale and shine from the heart as you gaze forward.

As you start to express the pose more fully, imagine the heart as the charioteer that guides the body into the pose. If you can bring your heart towards your knees (head towards the shins), then great! But, again, never go to the point where you have to sacrifice the integrity of the spine or the intentions of the heart. There are several variations as to where to put the hands: simply placing them on the ground, grabbing the big toes, or interlocking the wrists behind the calves. Wherever you decide to go in the pose, make sure your shoulders stay active, lifting them up and away from the ground. The legs and arms engage strongly, the spine lengthens with each breath, and the heart radiates ever brighter each moment. Relax the tongue, release the determination in the temples, and hold the pose

photos by Sarah Lipscomb









Wide variety of new and used boards
Local and West Coast designs
Cheap Prices

SMP

DA HUI

AKA surfboards

TAYLOR
SURFBOARDS

713.942.7004
801 Richmond
Houston. TX 77006

ONLY AT CACTUS



Clap Your Hands Say Yeah
"Clap Your Hands Say Yeah"



The Kills
"Run Home Slow" EP



Elizabethtown
"Songs From The Brown Hotel"Soundtrack EP



Regina Spektor
"Live At Bull Moose" out 9/6

Also in stock ...
Exclusive Music from:
Phish – Whitetape,
Ween – Shinola Vol. 1,
Coming Soon ...
Snow Patrol, Grandaddy,
Elbow, Gang of Four, &
Tift Merritt

Titles Featured Are For:
Clap your Hands...- $12.98
The Kills - $5.99
Elizabethtown - $7.98
Regina Spektor - N/A

cactus
MUSIC & VIDEO
SERVICE • SELECTION • SAVINGS ®

2930 S. Shepherd
Houston, TX 77098
(713) 526 - 9272

http://www.cactusmusicandvideo.com

SUPER HAPPY FUN LAND

Tues Sept. 13th:
Birthday Muzak!
Featuring: tina 'bullypulpit'/
randal&clyde/kairos/guy schwartz/
concrete violin/friendship bracelet/
organ failure/muzak/a pink cloud/
opie hendrix/don walsh/
the krinkles/PSA

Wed Sept. 14th:
The Wanteds, Three Fantastic
Harem Festival

Thurs September 15th:
Monsters With Machines Tour
www.monsterswithmachines.com
Featuring: Electrocutionerdz (Montreal)
The Smile Adventure (Boston)
The Mourningside Excursion (Lansing, MI)
The Toilet (Gothenburg, Sweden)
And local guests:In the Land of Archers

Friday Sept 16th:
Derek Shumate
featuring Hunter Curra
Blind Connections:
An interactive Display of Art & Sound
with music by The Satin Hooks

Sat Sept 17th:
From Posctcards to Letters, The Dimes
Landfall, Cartwheels in Central Park
Emo Side Project

Sun Sept 18th:
Tera Melos
The Guns of Will Sonnet
Cocker Spaniels

Thurs Sept 22nd:
Texas Association of Film/
Tape Professionals
30th ANNIVERSARY MEMBERSHIP PARTY
FEATURING MUSICIANS
FROM NOAHLeans

Fri Sept 23rd:
Unit Breed, Boogdish
Red Beard, Orents Stirner

Sat Sept 24th:
Discordian Popes
4 hour set with video projections

Sun Sept 25th:
MONKEYSOOP, Ekson
Tzar Bomba
The Magentic Frosties

Mon Sept 26th:
Brian Kenney Fresno
Letters to Voltron

Wed Sept 28th:
Buttercup

Sat Oct. 1st:
The Sidekick
The Mysterious H?, Panda 84

Oct. 2nd:
Bent Gents, Los de Verdad

Thur Oct. 6th:
Crooks and Nannies
A Particularly Vicious Rumor

Oct. 7th:
Katrina Benefit

Afternoon Art Workshops Every Sunday
1st & 3rd Sundays 2-6pm: Comics Jam Add-On Comics!
2nd & 4th Sundays 3pm-6pm: Screen Print & Tye Dye Workshop

www.superhappyfunland.com
2610 Ashland Between W.26th/27th
713.880. 2100

Super Happy Fun Land is Houston's venue for experimental electronic music, underground jazz and outsider art, featuring: Patio & Outdoor Stage, The SHFL Theater 2/ room for 200 folks, The Super Happy Fun Cafe, The SHFL Art Gallery. Available for fundraisers & private parties