FREE PRESS **HOUSTON**

DON'T FEED THE KIDS



140

WAR ON HOMELESSNESS OR THE HOMELESS?
CHAIRS
ART CAR PARADE AT 25
INTERVIEW : TONY DIAZ

KEEPING HOUSTON DRRRTY SINCE 2006

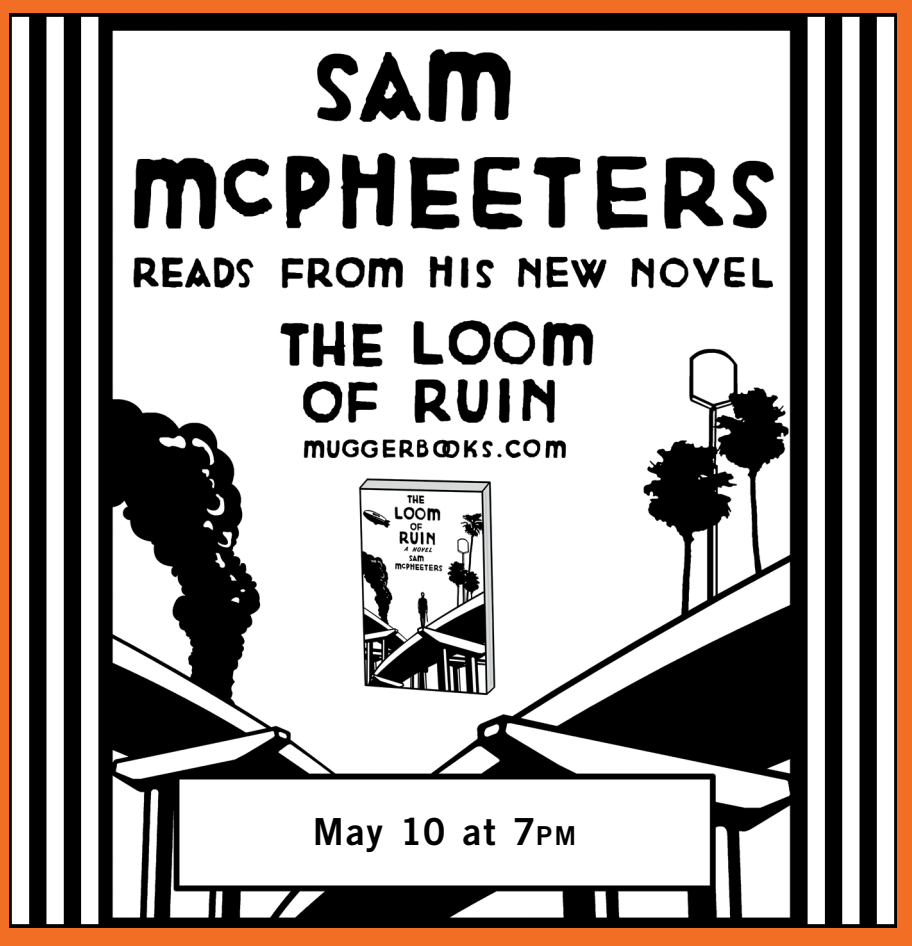
Domy BOOKS

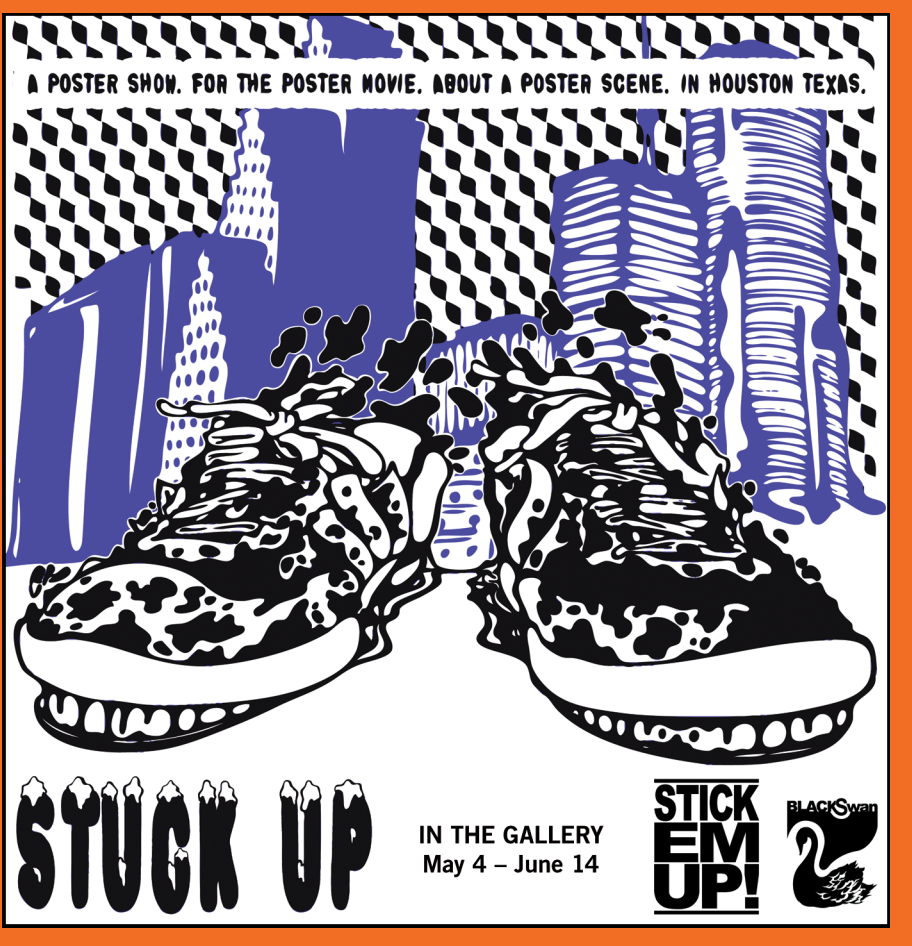
ART, BOOKS, COMICS, ZINES & CULTURE

and Twitter, too.

kidrobot®

We're on Facebook





1709 WESTHEIMER (Next to Café Brasil)

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL BUSINESSES

DomyBookstore.com (713) 523-3669 — Monday–Friday 12–8pm Saturday 11–8pm Sunday 11–7pm

FIND US IN AUSTIN, TEXAS TOO!

















may

EMAIL US
editors@freepresshouston.com
713.527.0014

Cover Art by MICHAEL C. RODRIGUEZ

Staff

Publisher
Omar Afra

Assistant to the Editor
Marini van Smirren

Associate Editors
Sean Carroll
Michael Bergeron
Alex
Kwame M. Anderson

Managing Editor
Omar Afra

Copy Editor
Andrea Afra

Layout Design
Tyler Barber

Contributors & Staff Writers
M. Martin
Andrea Afra
Tyler Barber
Brigette Zabak
Mills-McCoin
Ramon Medina
Jack Betz
Shelby Hohl
Nick Cooper
Amanda Hart

Intern Mujahedeen
Blake Jones

Photographers
Anthony Rathbun
Mark Armes

Designers & Illustrations
Shelby Hohl
Tim Dorsey
Andrea Afra
Omar Al-Bochi

Wolf
Paul Holzhauer

Delivery
Tim Dorsey
Jeff Storm
Paulski
Tony Kaelin
Belligerent Me
Ozcan Ozcelik

AWN

The Free Press is an open forum. Public submissions are encouraged. The Free Press will never refer to itself in third person. We do not endorse any of the ideas, products, or candidates included in this publication. The Free Press does not knowingly accept false advertising or editorial nor does the publisher assume responsibility should such advertising or editorial appear. The Free Press is not liable for anything, anywhere, ever.

HOUSTON'S PREMIERE GLASSBLOWING STUDIO

BOMDIGGIDY

SMOKE SHOP






510 S. MASON RD SUITE H1 KATY,TX 77450 • 281-392-1166
WWW.BOMDIGGIDYSMOKESHOP.COM

CUSTOM GLASS AND GLASS REPAIR OFFERED

FPSQ×

FREE PRESS SCAVENGER QUEST 2012

MAY 12TH, 2012 | FITZGERALDS | 2706 WHITE OAK DR. | HTX

Prizes are as follow:

1st place: Fancy Pants tickets for all team members.
2nd place: General Admission tickets plus Swag Bags for all team members
3rd place: General Admission tickets

Preregister for the Scavenger Quest via this link:
http://tinyurl.com/FPSQ2012

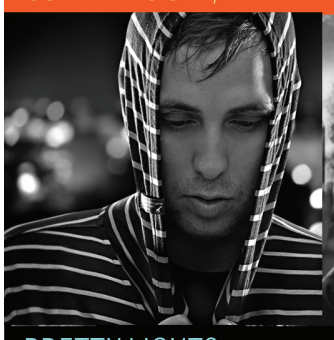
If you choose to participate in the Scavenger Quest, it is your decision to attempt any of the quest items...

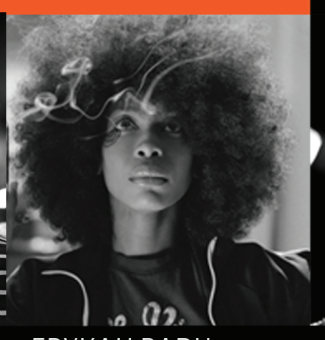
FPSF.COM ×

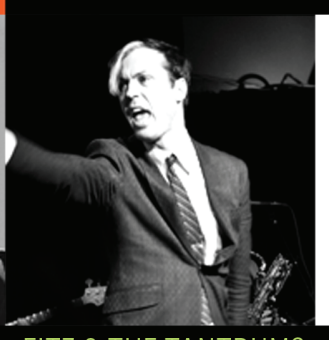
FREE PRESS SUMMER FEST

JUNE 2ND & 3RD, HTX

LINE UP ADDITIONS!


PRETTY LIGHTS

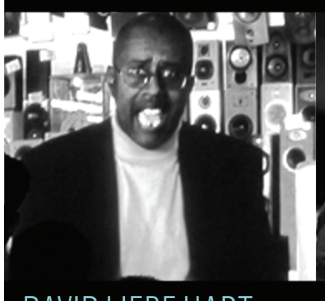

ERYKAH BADU


FITZ & THE TANTRUMS


PHANTOGRAM


DAVID GARZA


R3HAB


DAVID LIEBE HART


SISTER CRAYON


VANAPRASTA


SUNDRESS


LAST YEAR'S MEN


THE BIG SLEEP

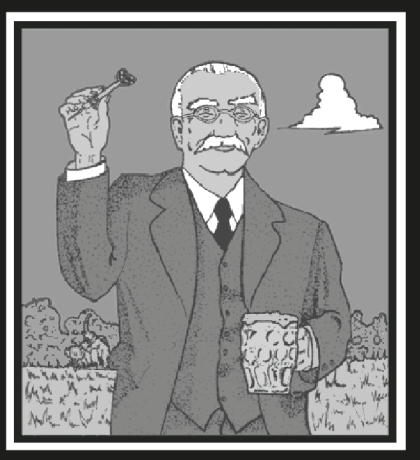
ALONG WITH

SNOOP DOGG × THE AVETT BROTHERS × WILLIE NELSON × AFROJACK × THE FLAMING LIPS × PRIMUS × DESCENDENTS × YOUNG THE GIANT
PORTUGAL. THE MAN × MAJOR LAZER × MORRIS DAY AND THE TIME × TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB × BEST COAST × Z RO × DIPLO × STRFKR × DANNY BROWN

GET PASSES NOW BEFORE THEY'RE GONE! FSPF WWW.FPSF.COM

Rudyard's

BRITISH PUB
713.521.0521
2010 WAUGH DR.
RudyardsPub.com



OPEN 11:30AM - 2:00AM

KITCHEN HOURS:
SUN-THURS 11:30 AM - 11:00PM
FRI-SAT 11:30AM - MIDNIGHT

DAILY FOOD AND DRIND SPECIALS!

BURGER AND A BEER
ONLY $7.50 EVERYDAY
FROM 11:30AM - 3PM

MONTHLY BEER TASTING!

COME TRY THE BEST BURGER IN TOWN!
Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, & MySpace
Upstairs is available for private parties

UPCOMING SHOWS IN MAY

FRI. 4TH
Poor Pilate, Tiziano Dominico, Tyagaraja

SAT. 5TH
Cinco De Mayo: Flamin Hellcats, Poor Dumb Bastards

FRI. 11TH
Elect Trick, The Space Villians, Los Area 51

SAT. 12TH
Serious as a Heart Attack: Dead Roses, Ain't Nothins, Freakouts, Wrong

THURS. 17TH
Ben Parks Band

FRI. 18TH
The Hookers, The Swinging Dicks, Hammercocks

THURS. 24TH
Gut Radio, Sour Patch

FRI. 25TH
Sideshow Tragedy, Red 100's

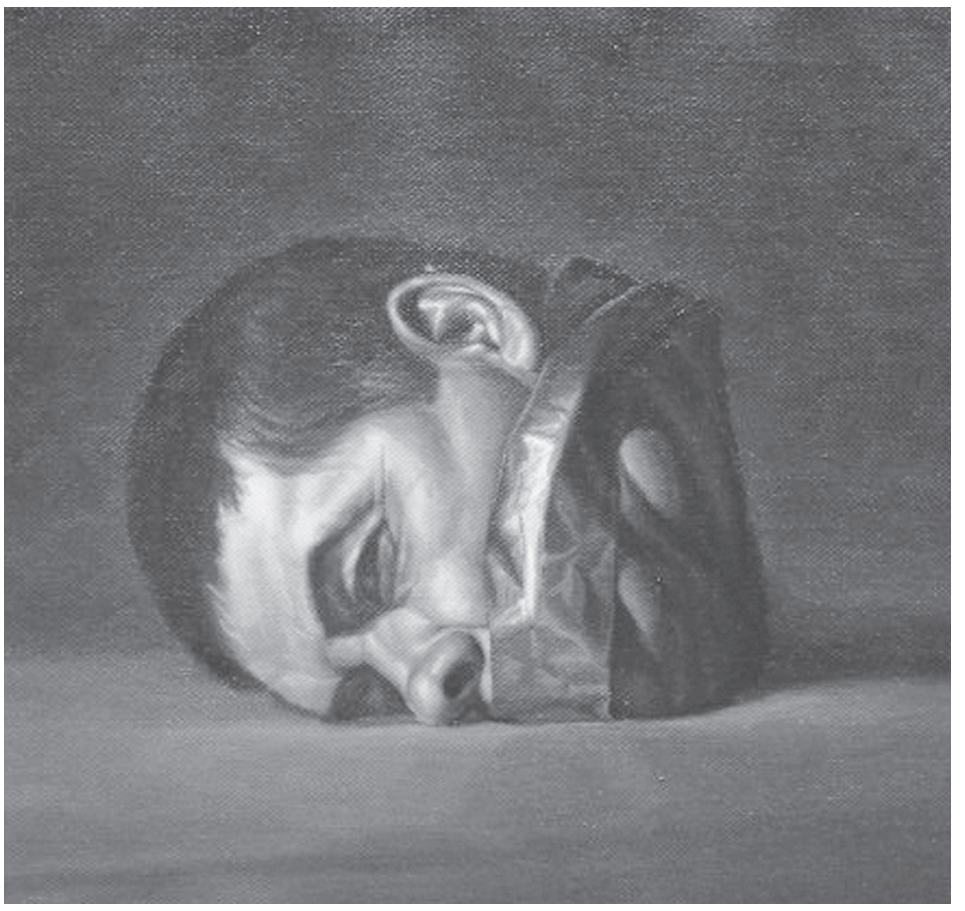
SAT. 26TH
Black Cobra, Gaza, Lord Dying

SUN. 27TH
The Cry!, Something Fierce, The Wrong Ones

ALL SHOWS 21 AND UP / MUSIC STARTS AT 10PM!

We have been trying to go big for months now. Push hard, think 'big', and imagine we are impervious to everything. Once you go down the road of self perceived grandiosity there is no turning back. And then something slaps you in the face and you realize what the fuck is really up. Example: for the last several months, FPSF's Procurement Director Josh Blanchard and I have engaged in a battle of machismo and physical endurance. We engaged in continuous contests in push ups, pull ups, 'L-sits', planking, and general agility. We taunted each other, in playful and non-malicious ways, about everything from size, strength, age, and intellect. It came to a point last week where we engaged in a contest we dubbed 'The Triple Lindy'. The name is based on Rodney Dangerfield's Back to School and is just as preposterous in it's nature. We challenged each other to sprint towards a pull up (which was now fastened to the doorway), grab the neutral grips, and horizontally lift our bodies to where our feet touched the ceiling. I went first and managed to grab the grips and lift my feet to the ceiling. Josh followed and had a false start after I stupidly told him he had not built up enough speed. He quipped back "Yeah but your legs are shorter." So I advised him to start further back. So he sprinted with grace, jumped in the air and grabbed the grips, and started lifting himself to the horizontal position. All seemed well until the unfastened pull up bar came crashing down with him following. So, he essentially fell from a horizontal position from 6 feet in the air onto the hard floor. No carpet. Point is: the very second he landed we all knew what morons we had been fro the last several months. We never tempered our goofy competition and were so enthralled in the machismo that we failed to see the potential danger of the The Triple Lindy. Often times it takes some scary shit to get your head out of the clouds. Josh has since had a concussion, a slightly less massively defined and absurdly large latissimus dorsi, and is afraid to watch P90X commercials. He will be all better in a few days but the lesson remains: even the toughest of us are not invincible, the bigger you get the harder you fall, and always have a level headed woman around when men are doing stupid shit.

by Buffalo Sean



PAIN AND DESPAIR lie everywhere, under the green grass and ground into the pavement. History is full of the cries of the despondent, echoed in art, music and the written word. Misery sure does love the company of people from across the world and all walks of life. This spring, the gallery walls of Houston have been saturated with expressions of this dark miasma.

Pure expressions of emotion are rare, but the titan of modern sculpture Richard Serra has delivered a retrospective selection of drawings to the Menil Collection (1515 Sul Ross, on view through June 10) that defy categorization. Are they sculpture? Installation? Painting? Staring into Serra's soul manifest as thick masses, rectangles and circles of black oilstick is like seeing the enveloping darkness of the deepest ocean crevasse. Videos of Serra's early 70s minimalist performances play on a loop before the viewer enters the main gallery. A side gallery is filled with sketches of Serra's massive steel sculptures that are his calling card. Those curving walls dominating spaces large and small are so pervasive in the artworld holding a Serra exhibition of drawings is a bit of a curveball for those familiar with his work. True to form the artist has twisted the concept of drawing to his own ends. The former Modernist gallery of the museum has been transformed, pushing the viewer closer to gigantic, eight to ten foot tall drawings. These most recent works are site-specific recreations made just for the Menil exhibit. Movement through the space is hemmed in by a mazelike arrangement. Around every turn another drawing- thick with matted, globby oilstick- draws in light and captures the eye with unerring, eerie blackness. Though the modern ethos leaves interpretation up to the viewer, these intense drawings seem to direct one to confront Serra's drawings as a hole in your own existence.

Caravaggio, the dueling, drinking, fighting painter who introduced the baroque style to the world at the turn of the 17th century, reveled in another kind of darkness. The high contrast, dramatic interpretation he lent to his work gave a wicked twinge to the biblical stories that were de rigueur to the masters of the Renaissance. In America today we do not know fear of Black Death, cities wallowing in sewage or the crushing poverty of serfdom, but Rigoberto A. Gonzalez has found a modern mythos to relate to the best of Caravaggio's expressionism. Gonzalez paints the horrors of Mexico's drug wars on the Texas border with all the pain and power of an old master, borrowing compositions and parables from centuries-old artists. His paintings, (Art League of Houston, 1953 Montrose, now closed) dramatize individual or anonymous events as the greatest stories ever told. Severed heads of cartel opponents resonate with the gravity of John the Baptist. Callous kidnapping and senseless torture become settings for martyrdom. The Federales, traffickers, citizens, migrants and coyotes of northern Mexico are immortalized in Gonzalez's work as those who suffered most for their faith- while his characters only live to survive.

With the sun beating down and the swimming pool calling your name it may be tough to call to mind the horrors of Houston's underbelly. Human trafficking, murder, abuse, drugs, fiery car crashes, toxic waste, these appalling things and more pervade the city we live in whether we acknowledge them or not. In art, as in life, contemplation of these aspects of existence does not mean that we have to give up to pain and despair, only that it is an inescapable part of life and should be relished with gusto and respect. **FPH**

MAY 11th FRIDAY

FREE PALESTINE art show

WAR'HOUS GALLERY 4715 Main ST.

tito-fabian.com 7-11pm Houston,TX

50 % of all sales in the art show will be donated to organizations dedicated to Palestine

PCRF Palestine Child Relief Fund *pcrf.net* Houston Palestine Film Festival *hpff.org*



EL XX comida teXana

El Xuco Xicana
2416 Brazos
Wednesday
April 11th
7-9 pm

Art for Children's Relief:
An Evening of Dinner
and Drinks for PCRF



pcrf.net HOUSTON PALESTINE FILM FESTIVAL tito-fabian.com

Last Concert Cafe

SINCE 1949

1403 NANCE ST.
713.226.8563
LastConcert.com

BAR & LIVE MUSIC TUES-SAT TIL 2AM

ECLECTIC TEX-MEX RESTAURANT
& LIVE MUSIC NIGHTLY

VEGETARIANS & VEGANS WELCOME!

KITCHEN HOURS

LUNCH:
MON-FRI 11AM-3PM

DINNER:
MONDAY 3PM-9:30PM
TUES-THUR:3PM-10:30PM
FRI: 3PM-12:00AM
SAT: 5PM-12:00AM
SUN: 3PM-9PM

SUNDAY BRUNCH:
10:30AM-3PM

HAPPY HOUR

Mondays:
LONGEST
HAPPY HOUR
3 p.m.- 2 a.m.

Tuesday-Friday:
HAPPY HOUR
3 pm-7pm

ONION CREEK
COFFEE HOUSE BAR & LOUNGE
EST. 2002 HOUSTON, TEXAS

3106 WHITE OAK DR.
713.880.0706

DRY CREEK cafe
HOUSTON, TEXAS

544 YALE
713.426.2313

CANYON CREEK
CAFE BAR GRILL
HOUSTON, TEXAS
EST 2003

6603 WESTCOTT
713.864.5885

CEDAR CREEK
CAFE, BAR & GRILL
Houston, Texas

1034 W. 20TH ST.
713.808.9623

ONION CREEK

Monday: Happy Hour all day
Tuesday: Dutch Beer Day
Wednesday: Texas Day (SALE ON ALL TEXAS BEER AND LIQUOR) - Steak Night
Thursday: Red Stripe - Burger Joint Night
Friday: Cheap Ass Beer Day
Saturday - Burgers & Farmer Market
Sunday: Sunday Funday

DRY CREEK

Best Breakfast in Town
Served Daily!!!

PORTABLE CREEK GUIDE:
FOLD ALONG DOTTED
LINES AND PLACE IN WALLET
FOR DRINK/HUNGER/COFFEE
EMERGENCIES

COURTESY OF ONIONCREEKCAFE.COM

SEE SITE FOR MENUS, BUSINESS HOURS, HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS, AND EVENTS

CANYON CREEK

Monday: MNF game specials Steak Night
Tuesday: Texas Tuesdays:
Wednesday: Red Stripe & Red Stripe Light $9 Fish n Chips
Thursday: $ 11 Rib Night
Friday: $10 Fish Tacos
Sunday: Game Specials/ Sunday Funday

CEDAR CREEK

Monday - Industry Night
Tuesday - Texas Tuesdays
Whiskey Wednesday
Three Olives Thursday
Sundays On The Patio

by Michael Pennywark



Scoot-In
8 pm, May 19
Sesquicentennial Park, 400 Texas Ave.

Seven in the Third
noon & 3 pm, May 20
Project Row Houses, 2505 – 2521 Holman St.

Stephan Koplowitz: Taskforce – Natural Acts in Artificial Water
2 pm & 4 pm, May 20
Gerald D. Hines Waterwall Park, 2800 Post Oak Blvd.

AHHH, MAY. There's nothing quite like it. Except maybe April, which is kind of like May, just a little colder and with Easter and no Cinco de Mayo. Ahhh, Cinco de Mayo, is there any better way to start a month? A day when, after several shots of tequila, everyone becomes the most interesting man, or woman, in the world. So what do you do later this month when you finally overcome the embarrassment of the things you are told that you did when you blacked out that night? First, look for a new apartment, because your neighbors are never going to forgive you for what you did to their pet. Next, check out the sights and sounds of Houston during the Insight|Out Festival May 19-20.

That gives you two whole weeks to get over your humiliation and embrace the world, or at least, Houston. Promising to deliver site-specific performances by visionary guest artists in unique locations around the city, Insight|Out brings together three different local arts organizations for three different performances in three different disciplines in one celebration of Houston. And the best part? It's free, so you can spend the last of your rent money on booze and still get to enjoy a little culture—not to mention you can check out any apartments for lease in the area.

According to the press release, there will be a drive-in film event hosted by the Aurora Picture Show called "Scoot-in" 8pm, May 19 at Sesquicentennial Park. Curated by Bart Weiss of the Dallas Video Festival and hosted by Buffalo Bayou Partnership, this event will highlight short films featuring two-wheeled vehicles. Which might be all the City of Houston lets you drive by this point.

If you make it the Gerald D. Hines Waterwall Park between 2pm and 4pm, May 20, you can catch Stephen Kolowitz's "Taskforce—Natural Acts in Artificial Water." Presented by Diverseworks with support from Uptown Houston, the sixteen professional dancers will perform to music composed by Aaron Hermes and Space City Gamelan, Houston's Indonesian orchestra. Hopefully none of these natural acts resemble what you may or may not have done during your Cinco de Mayo celebration.

If that's not enough, the Cynthia Woods Mitchell Center for the Arts will present "Seven in the Third" on May 20 at Project Row Houses where composer Travis Weller provides a site-specific score spread across seven of the historic buildings. Inside the houses audiences will roam about with portable radios and headphones as they encounter musicians delivering refracted solos.

Not entirely sure of what to make of all this, I did what I always do when confronted with something I don't totally understand—drink. And then apparently call the person organizing the event. Luckily for me, Karen Farber, director of the Cynthia Mitchell Woods center for the Arts was kind enough to answer my questions. She explained that the inspiration for this somewhat experimental event came from an interest in examining how site-specific art can be created in a city that is as car-centric as Houston. When artists from each of the disciplines of film, dance, and music were invited to create new works specifically about Houston and how we traverse our city, they each selected a historically significant site in which to perform.

But unfortunately, she didn't know of any apartments for rent. **FPH**

Les Givral's Kahve

713.547.0444
801 Congress Street 101
Houston, Texas 77002

832.582.7671
4601 Washington Ave. 100
Houston, Texas 77007

CONVEY SUSHI
FUJIMOTO MIYAZAWA

713.225.1408
801 Congress Street 175
Houston, Texas 77002

BanhMieria™

BanhMieria

713.396.2264
on.wheels
follow@banhmieira



FRIDAY THE 13TH

COME JOIN US FRIDAY, APRIL 13TH
FROM 12 TO MIDNIGHT

seven one three
tattoo parlour

#13 THEMED TATTOOS
FOR $13
$7 MANDATORY TIP FOR GOOD LUCK

LOTS OF DESIGNS
TO CHOOSE FROM

FOLLOW US ON TWITTER @HOMERSAENZ AND @713 TATTOO

FREE FOOD AND DRINKS
(WHILE THEY LAST)

1533 WESTHEIMER · (713) 533-1239 · 713TATTOO.COM

by Michael Bergeron

MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY has played lawyers in a number of movies – The Lincoln Lawyer, Amistad, A Time To Kill, and now Bernie, the latest collaboration between McConaughey and Richard Linklater. "You mean movies where I'm defeated," laughs McConaughey. While McConaughey was studying pre-law at University of Texas he met a casting director in a bar that lead to his role in Dazed and Confused. "That's where I was headed when I ran into Don Phillips in a bar and that's how I met this guy," McConaughey says pointing to Linklater, sitting next to him at a press roundtable in Austin (during SXSW).

"The process of getting to the day of shooting is really fun for Rick and I. However many hours it takes us it never seems that long," notes McConaughey. Adds Linklater: "There's always some crucial rehearsal time." "Sometimes it's one on one, and I always look forward to that," says McConaughey.

A little over ten years ago Linklater had attended a murder trial in East Texas after reading about the case in an article in Texas Monthly. Linklater felt that one day this crime of passion would make a great movie. "A lot of the dialogue is word for word from the transcripts of the trial," says Linklater. McConaughey plays the small town district attorney Danny Buck who prosecutes Bernie (Jack Black) the town's kindly mortician after he kills the town's wealthy yet shrewish widow, (Shirley MacLaine) herself the object of scorn from everyone in the town. The actual events took place in Carthage.

Linklater optioned the rights to Skip Hollandsworth's article and started attending the trial, which appealed to both his sense of curiosity and East Texas background. While Linklater took his cues from Hollandsworth's story (they share screenplay credit), the movie also uses the people of Carthage to tell the story. "I'd never seen a movie told from the perspective of a group of gossips, but in this case it seemed like the proper narrative technique that would reveal everything you ever wanted to know about the town and the people involved," states Linklater in the film's director's statement.

"I have a way of pulling people into my world," explains Linklater. "Most times you option the story and that's it, I directly called up some of the people involved. I told them how much this story got to me, how much I liked it." In reality everybody in town hated the old lady, an animosity brought on by her own mean ways. As much as the widow was despised Bernie was adorned mainly because of his many contributions to the community. Many people honestly thought that Bernie would be found not guilty, as one person says in the movie "He only shot her four times, not five."

"I think I've been trying to tell an East Texas story for years but was never able to find one. I have a football story based there but that's never happened. While this movie has some appropriate dark twisted humor it really lends itself to what I'm trying to say," says Linklater. "I had no access to the two main characters, Mrs. Nugent's gone and Bernie is in prison. I was hearing the story from a lot of different angles. So the format of having town gossips tell the story evolved out of that. It's a small town, and the sense of humanity is just stronger in a small town. I never saw this as a documentary so much as the story of a small town."

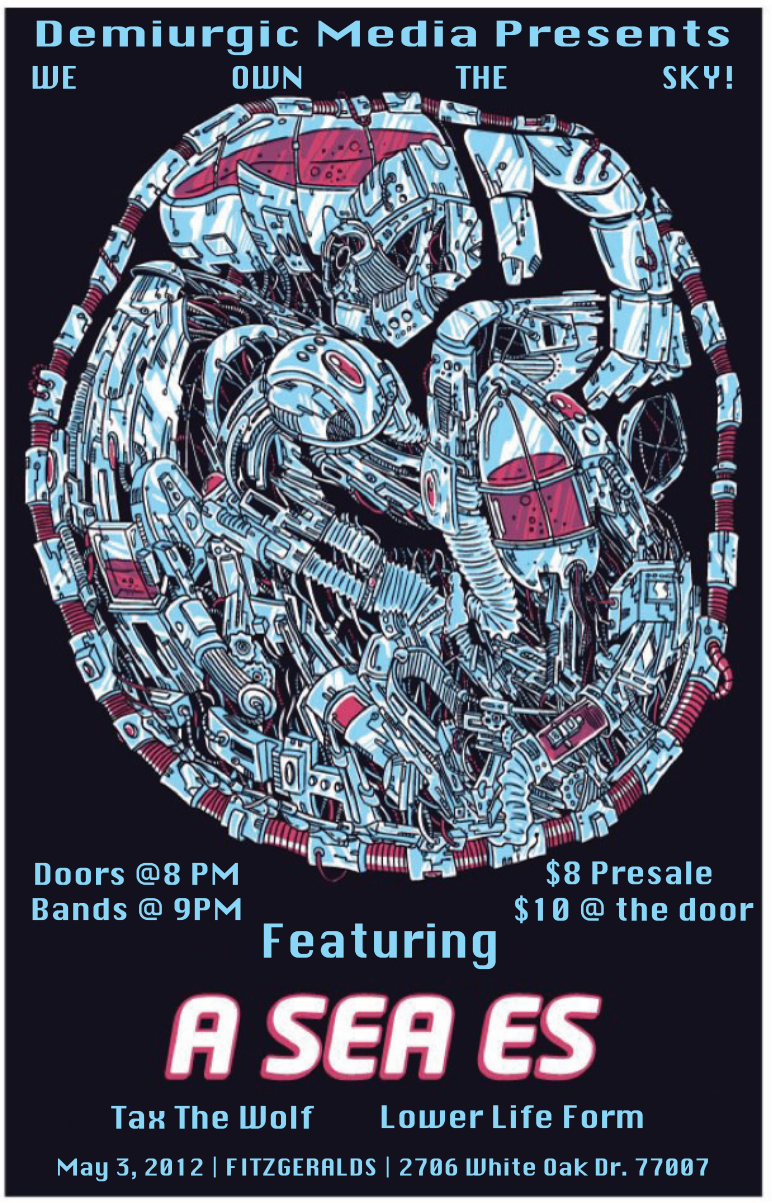
Regarding the tone of Bernie, McConaughey states "This was one of the funniest scripts I'd ever read, but there was also a charm to it. Yes there's was dark comedy but I was laughing more than anything else." One reporter asks how exaggerated McConaughey's performance as Buck was to which Linklater answers: "Danny Buck's going to be at the screening tonight and if anything Matthew underplayed his character."

One reporter asks Black how it felt to be one of the Jacks that romances Shirley MacLaine – first there was Jack Lemmon (The Apartment) and then Jack Nicholson (Terms of Endearment). "That's a lot of pressure, those are some powerful Jacks," Black says with a straight face. "I feel like the third Jack on that list, definitely the one-eyed Jack."

Black considers Linklater one of the best directors he's ever worked with and hopes to one day film School of Rock 2 although presently there's no script. "Linklater's a real worker, he just doesn't show up on set. He likes to do his due diligence, reading through it with the actors a month in advance, rehearsals." And Black did meet the real life Bernie. Visiting Bernie Tiede in prison (he's currently incarcerated at the Texas unit at New Boston) was a humbling experience. "It's a tricky spot to be in," Black says in total seriousness. "You want to be funny but this is a person's life. So it's a little dance you do with respect. It's just intense going to a maximum-security prison. Five security checkpoints, you get scared. Guys with facial tattoos, heavy stories around every corner. And then you see Bernie and it's so incongruous. He's like a gentle giant; really what it comes down to is he had one bad day. He's been in prison for twelve years so he's not aware of my career at all."

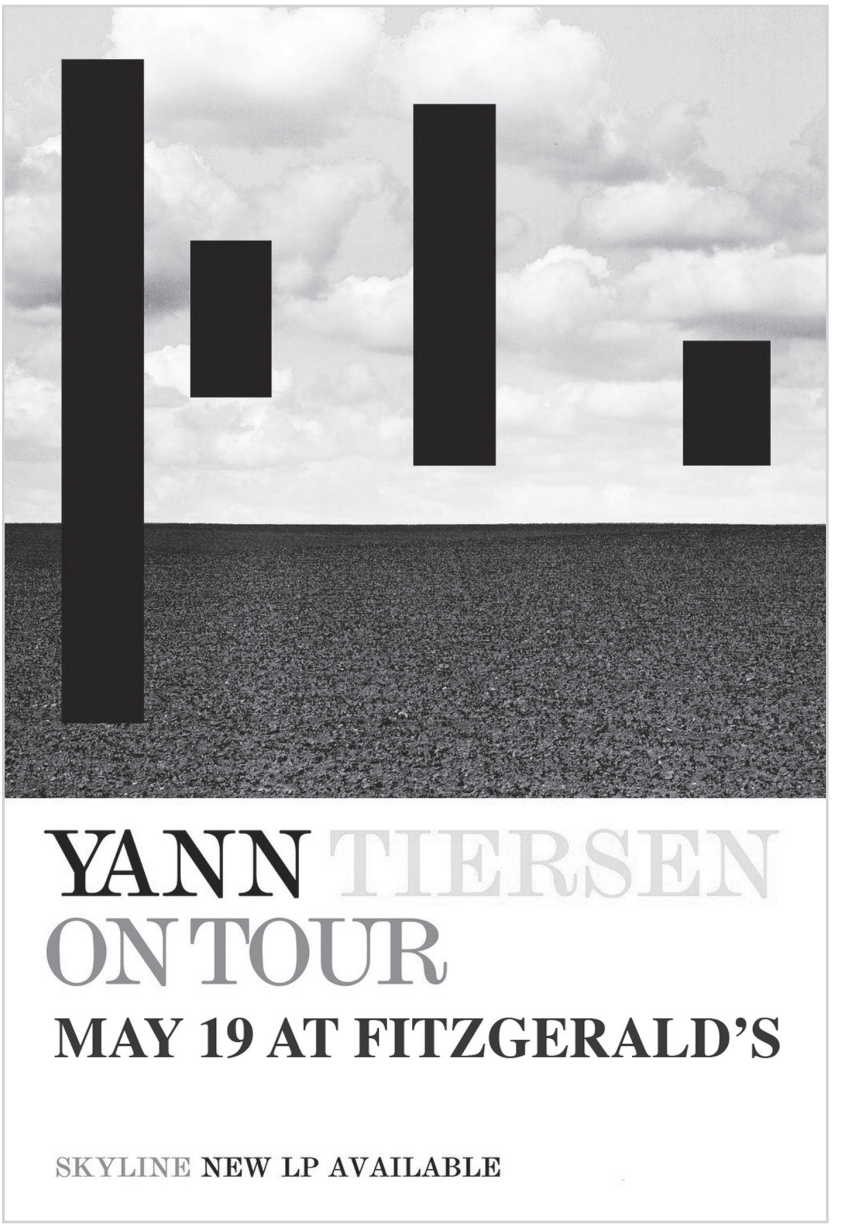
Bernie gives Black the chance to sing (there's some community theater) and when you think about it some of his best roles involve music (School of Rock, Tenacious D and the Pick of Destiny, High Fidelity). When asked to describe the album cover of Tenacious D's new recording Rize of the Fenix, Black leaps to the occasion to display his trademark wit. "It's a Phoenix rising, the most powerful mythological bird. It's a terrifying creature made of flames. It's head is sort of helmet shaped mushroom cap, purple and the legs are so powerfully muscular they're like round globes with a blue tint. A majestic creature, thanks for mentioning it." FPH




Demiurgic Media Presents
WE OWN THE SKY!
Doors @8 PM
Bands @ 9PM
$8 Presale
$10 @ the door
Featuring
A SEA ES
Tax The Wolf
Lower Life Form
May 3, 2012 | FITZGERALDS | 2706 White Oak Dr. 77007


Look for even more
Pinks Pizza locations at
FREE
PRESS
SUMMER
FEST
I
Pinks PIZZA
order on-line (operators standing by)
West U • Montrose/Midtown
Heights • Garden Oaks/Oak Forest
pinkspizza.com


BOWLING FOR SOUP
2012 U.S. TOUR!
WITH
PATENT PENDING
FRESH MAN
SANDLOT HEROES
FRI. 5/4
FITZGERALD'S
HOUSTON, TX
BOWLINGFORSOUP.COM
FACEBOOK.COM/BOWLINGFORSOUP
@BFSROCKS


YANN TIERSEN
ON TOUR
MAY 19 AT FITZGERALD'S
SKYLINE NEW LP AVAILABLE

music

THE PAGE WANTS TO STAY WHITE

by K. M. Anderson

HOUSTON. WHAT DO I HAVE TO SAY to you. Not much, I could just Instagram it, let's just abandon language as a communicative medium. I can take a picture of a crumpled napkin on a dirty table, and it says more about my life than words can ever say. Or maybe, it's art, I am an artist, not really, but I remember looking at Tortoise album covers, and now like everything is a Tortoise album cover, you know a well-placed half shot of a leg next to a dog and a Ron Paul logo. I don't know, because that's what it is, you know, a moment, but like a shared moment, because no one sees a private moment, and everyone has to know. I took a picture of a place where I got tacos, for real, I don't even know why, I was trying to entertain my 15 followers, who I could easily just have called, but what are we gonna talk about? "Hey man, did you see me Instagram photo?" I'm buying into it, but not, because like I subscribe to it, then insult it, because I'm so cool, it is disgusting. I disdain corporatism while typing on this Macbook, because you know Mac is a lifestyle, I'm part of the counterculture with $1200 to spend on a computer, and organic chicken sandwiches on gluten free bread with coconut mayonnaise and holistic smoothies. Check my Instagram, I just took a picture of a bird.

SHOWS

5/13/12 BLACK BANANAS/ MAGIK MARKERS/ DWARR
Black Bananas' album Rad Times IV may be one of the most awesome things you hear this year, for various reasons. First reason: it is bawse, like Ricky Ross bawse, it's kind of a metal record, it's kind of a r and b album, it's also some other shit I can accurately describe. Sometimes you hear people do a style of music, it's like a tribute, there are things you can name-check, but clearly Black Bananas is its own statement, you kind of get the idea that everybody in the room was like, "This works, let's put a distorted guitar solo in the middle of a Klymaxx song, and then make it sound like your speakers have water in them, and the next song will be like a Foghat reggae song." "Acid Song" is like something Bobby Womack would've sang, but like, the title is appropriate. Anyway, they are coming, with Magik Markers no less, and DWARR, and it's a Sunday night, so it's sort of too insane to be true. More than that, it's at Walter's, so like you'll be crammed in that bitch getting your face blown off.

5/24/12 TY SEGAL/WHITE FENCE
You should all go to YouTube, find any video of the Ty Segall/White Fence collaboration from their joint album "Hair" (Drag City) and it will pretty much solidify why you should go to this show. It would not be treading lightly to say that Goodbye Bread was my shit last year, and pretty much anything Segall does is like game changing awesome. I know some of you must miss guitars, and this will be all guitars, it will be a nonstop bouncy dance fest, it will reaffirm affirmations, it will make you listen to two records religiously before and after the show. It will be littered with people and that is something you should know before you get really stoned after not having done that in a while, and you show up and freak out and drink too much and then spend the night swaying and perfecting your diatribe about the problem with Instagram.

ALBUMS

TANLINES - MIXED EMOTIONS (MATADOR) Tanlines are marks that may recall good or bad memories, That may summon stories, that may be catalyst for change. Tanlines (the band) is sort of the same. Mixed Emotions is full of stories of transition, miscommunications, misunderstandings, reflections all sound-tracked by music that is afro pop funkish electro. My friend Christian says it sounds like New York and I have no idea what the fuck that means.

THEE SATISFACTION - AWE NATURALE (SUB POP)
Not so much a rap album as much as a rapped album with singing, some songs seem like afterthoughts, they are far from long winded, they are thorough, they are extended Shabazz Palaces fam, which means it is as awesome as that, and they are on it, however it is more groove than Black Up. "Queens" is a motherfucker of a song.

GEORGIA ANNE MULDROW - SEEDS (ENTERTAINMENT ONE) Curtis Mayfield's run of soundtracks was themed and funky, poignant and powerful. Georgia Anne Muldrow's Seeds is that kind of album, there is a point, there is a message, and Mad Lib did the music, and so each song encapsulates a feeling, you feel the truth, sonically and lyrically, you want a dashiki and a shotgun, you want to go out and talk to the people in the street, but then you realize, it's hot than a motherfucker, so you give up pork, read Soul On Ice, ride through Third Ward and you've feel you've done your part for the people. Sing it sister! **FPH**



GEORGIA ANNE MULDROW
"I saw two priests walk in a bar. What? That's not a joke, I saw two priests walk in a bar."
- Christian Azul

THE CONCERT PUB - North

The Ultimate Bar & Grill

SUNDAYS
KARAOKE
Happy Hour
Prices From
Open To
Close

MONDAYS
Industry Nite!
Cheap Drinks
Cheap Beers
BIG SLICK
POKER
TOURNAMENT

TUESDAYS
STEAK NITE!
and
Smitchers!
Jam
NIght!

WEDNESDAYS
Ladies
Night!
LIVE MUSIC
SINGLE ACTS
& DUOS

THURSDAYS
LIVE
BANDS!
Drink Specials!

FRIDAYS
Live Bands
Inside!
Live DJ
Outside On
The Patio

SATURDAYS
Live Bands
Inside!
Live DJ
Outside On
The Patio

Coming June 10
Hulk Hogan's
Micro
Championship
Wrestling
(Midget Wrestling)

Tuesday, May 15
JDs Birthday Bash
with JDs Throwdown
Band
featuring Sherree B.

Thursday, May 17
THUNDER ROADS
BIKE NIGHT
with
Outlaw Dave!
Music
To Be Announced

MAY EVENTS

FRIDAYS
May 4 - In Your Face
(Rock and Roll)
May 11 - Chrome 44
with
A Bitter Season / In Altum
May 18 - Big Noise
with
The Scars Heal in Time
(Classic and
Alternative Rock)
May 25 - Band TBA
June 1 - The Chromatics
(80s Dance Party)

SATURDAYS
May 5 - Double Vision
(Foreigner Tribute)
and Unchained
(Van Halen Tribute)
May 12 - Spare Heart
(Heart Tribute)
with Benastar
(Pat Benatar Tribute)
May 19 - Subdivided
(Rush Tribute)
and Highway To Hell
(AC/DC Tribute)
May 26 - The Fab 5
(Beatles & 60s Tribute)

THE CONCERT PUB North

2470 FM 1960 West • Houston, TX • 281.583.8111 • www.theconcertpub.com

THE CONCERT PUB - Galleria

The Ultimate Bar & Grill

SUNDAYS
LIVE MUSIC
WITH
ROCK RADIO
Happy Hour
All Day &
All Night!

MONDAYS
Monday
Madness!
Industry Nite!
Cheap Drinks
Cheap Beers

TUESDAYS
Steak Night
& Smitchers!
Jam Night!
Free Texas
Hold'em

WEDNESDAYS
Ladies Night
$2 Specials
All Day
and
All Night!

THURSDAYS
BIG ASS BEER
NIGHT!
$15 Beer Towers
$4 Shot Specials
"DJ'S"

FRIDAYS
Live Bands
Inside!
Live DJ
Outside On
The Patio

SATURDAYS
Live Bands
Inside!
LIVE DJ
Outside On
The Patio

MAY EVENTS

Saturday, May 5
Cinco De
Mayo Party
with La Raza
Connection

Our Kitchen Is
Open Daily For Both
Lunch and Dinner
Check Out Our
Great Deals On Meals
Today!!!

FRIDAYS
May 4 - Arrival
(Rock and Roll)
May 11 - Tribute Night
with Boys Don't Cry
(The Cure Tribute) &
Zero
(Smashing Pumpkins Tribute)
May 18 - The Chromatics
(80's Dance Party)
May 25 - Alter Ego Band
June 1 - EightyPlus
(Rock and Roll)

SATURDAYS
May 5 - Cinco De Mayo Party
with La Raza Connection
May 12 - Mindcrime
(Queensryche Tribute)
The Sound Of Madness
(Shinedown Tribute)
May 19 - JDs Birthday Bash
with JDs Throwdown Band
featuring Sherree B.
May 26 - Band TBA
June 2 - Double Vision
(Foreigner Tribute)
and Unchained
(Van Halen Tribute)

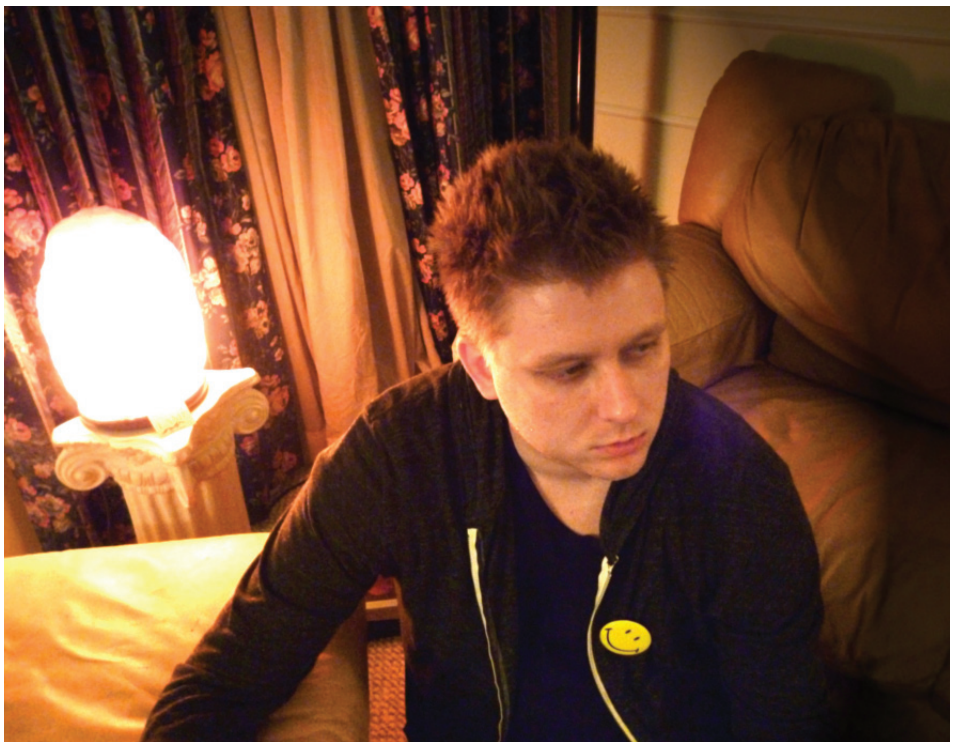
Saturday, May 19
JDs Birthday Bash
with JDs Throwdown
Band
featuring Sherree B.

THE CONCERT PUB Galleria

5636 Richmond Ave. • Houston, TX 77057 713.278.7272 • www.theconcertpub.com

Interview: Jonathan Barber
Really fucking short interview

by Jack Daniel Betz



LURKING ON THE OUTSKIRTS of Houston music, barely promoting himself at all aside from a few impromptu open mic nights, Jonathan Barber has been quietly plugging away on a not so quiet album. Under the name Pulse Rifle, Barber has been churning out ferocious, jagged, electronic songs ever since he went solo in the early 2000s. Not everyone will be ready for "Look Out Honey Cause I'm Using Technology" but fans of Aphex Twin and Squarepusher will probably really enjoy.

I HEAR THAT YOU'VE PLAYED A COUPLE OPEN MIC NIGHTS RECENTLY, CAN YOU TALK TO ME A LITTLE ABOUT THAT?

The reason I did the open mic nights is, well- I made a big transition after About This Product which is basically Pulse Rifle which is just About This Product with a cooler name, so I wanted to start from the beginning. I have been successful as About This Product and I've done some things I'm proud of but going to Fitzgerald's and that open mic night which I think is wonderful [...] it helped me get I guess what they call your mojo back. I learned how to perform again, to move, because unfortunately there's a big stigma with laptop music and seeing somebody with a laptop on there like he's just checking his email or something. [...] The basic reason I went is to learn to be myself again on stage.

TELL ME ABOUT THIS ALBUM AND HOW LONG YOU'VE BEEN WORKING ON IT BECAUSE I REMEMBER YOU SAYING THAT IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME COMING.

"Look Out Honey Because I'm Using Technology", I love the album. I try to market it as -well when I was in About This Product we came out with this album called "Trash Shard" which I consider to be Terminator 1 and "Look Out Honey" to be Terminator 2 in terms of the music. I really believed in the album and I started making it with my friend around 2002. I can't remember exactly when I finished it but I sent it out to an amazing, legendary, techno-wizard named Mark Gauge. Well, it was really hard to make. It's always wonderful, even the hard parts about making music. But this record is very difficult and I think it has a lot of difficult textures in it and a lot of difficult rhythms in it. Like for example there's one song that does not repeat itself once throughout the whole way. And that was hell to program. I mean the song goes for three minutes at like 200 beats per minute.

AND THAT SOUNDS LIKE IT WOULD TAKE A VERY LONG TIME.

Let's just say that it definitely took more than four years to make and it's about 42 minutes long. And I had some tracks that didn't make it on there but I'm very excited to finally release it because I have about four albums ready to be released. And this is an album I've always loved and I don't think people always understood it when I was showing it in the past in 2003 and 4. It's a very manic record. It's harsh at times and sad and it's also extremely happy. It's a moody record. It's difficult. FPH

SUPER HAPPY FUN LAND

UPCOMING SHOWS

MAY 3RD:
Gregg Ginn
The Escatones
The Mydolls

MAY 12TH:
Mad Conductor

MAY 14TH:
Briana Marela

MAY 15TH:
Pedestrian Deposit
Richard Ramirez
Concrete Violin
Permanent Outlet
The Secret Geography
RU-486

MAY 16TH:
Post Paint
Convergence of Shadows
Enloom

MAY 18TH:
As Told By Us
Broken Dream Boat
The Goonies

MAY 19TH:
The Drafted
No Love Less
Zipperneck
Lazer Cun-zz
500 Megatons of Boogie

MAY 20TH:
Super Happy Fun Garage Sale! 2pm-6pm

MAY 21ST:
Summer Pledge
Sleeping Ancient
Midnight Norma Lane
Ruins of Eden

MAY 26TH:
SHFL Summer Fest
Stage Benefit Show
Poopy Lungstuffing
Black Leather Jesus
Future Blonds
Rusted Shut
Muzak John
The Grass Skirts

MAY 28TH
800 Mile Monday

MAY 30TH
No Sky
Spew Cataclysm

713.880.2100 || 3801 Polk St. Houston.TX 77003
SuperHappyFunLand.com

FITZGERALD'S
houston, tx
LIVE MUSIC SINCE 1977

UPCOMING LIVE MUSIC


EVERY TUESDAY
FREE ALL AGES
OPEN JUKEBOX


EVERY WEDNESDAY
FREE ALL AGES
OPEN MIC NIGHT


MAY 04 BOWLING FOR SOUP
WITH PATENT PENDING + MORE


MAY 05 ACTIVE CHILD
WITH BALAM ACAB + MORE


MAY 10 ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE
WITH THE PHANTOM FAMILY HALO


MAY 11 EAST CAMERON FOLKCORE
WITH POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES


MAY 13 EYEHATEGOD
WITH VENOMOUS MAXIMUS


MAY 17 THE DONKEYS
WITH HANDSHAKE


MAY 18 FEATHERFACE
WITH NEW YORK CITY QUEENS


MAY 19 YANN TIERSEN
WITH PIANO CHAT


MAY 23 PARLOTONES
WITH RYAN STAR


MAY 25 AMERICAN SHARKS
WITH KNIGHTS OF THE FIRE KINGDOM


MAY 30 UNKNOWN HINSON
FOR MORE INFO VISIT WWW.FITZLIVEMUSIC.COM


MAY 31 SAINT VITUS
WITH FROM BEYOND (CD RELEASE)

ALSO COMING THE HEAD AND THE HEART JUN. 08 | YACHT JUN. 09
THE CRIBS JUN. 11 | SCALE THE SUMMIT JUN. 20 | WHITE ARROWS JUN. 22
THE BOUNCING SOULS JUN. 23 | NADA SURF JUN. 30 | DANIEL JOHNSTON JUL.14

WWW.FITZLIVEMUSIC.COM 2706 WHITE OAK
AT THE INTERSECTION OF WHITE OAK & STUDEWOOD

CHAIRS

Interview by RamonLP4





ONE WOULD THINK I AM IN CYPRESS, TEXAS. And with the images of homogenous architecture and SUVs parked in their driveways, this would seem to be the case but when I ask the three masked beings before me (who just minutes before were playing a cover of a Mayhem song) how they came to live in the suburbs, they turn to me incredulously and say with an air of urgency, "Where did you hear we live in the suburbs? Check your sources friend! The last thing you want to do is trigger an Intergalactic War!" That's hardly the response anyone would expect but a band like CHAIRS seems hardly a band of this world, much less this dimension. The entire time I am interviewing them they remain masked and mysterious and I begin to wonder if perhaps my senses are wrong, that I'm not in Cypress after all, and what I am witnessing is an elaborate illusion for my benefit. The music is no less baffling. One minute the band sounds like a group of Jazz heads, the next minute they sound like a sloppy inspired garage band playing Dick Dale inspired guitar riffs, then they may very well turn off the amps and resort to using any of the myriad of instruments from around the world at their disposal. Yet, the band is not simply about defying categorization, it is about absorbing any every idea they encounter and channeling it in a way that only CHAIRS can.

WHO ARE YOU BEHIND THOSE MASKS?

I am Invader Cass; an extra-terrestrial who was shipwrecked on Earth. I am forced to blend in with the Human Hive until my ghost rocket is repaired, or till I am picked up on a galactic hitch. Dr.FingerQ (the key holder) is another imposter here on Earth. His home planet is unknown. He is a joker with a twisted sense of humor. You do not want to encounter this highly intelligent trickster. And Clubfoot Kreezerast is an underground dweller who came up to the surface in search of children to eat. Not much is known about this underground race of creatures besides they are extremely hostile if encountered.

WHY, GIVEN YOUR FANTASTICAL BACKGROUNDS, HIDE THESE IDENTITIES BEHIND MASKS?

The costumes and masks are tools which we utilize to transcend the universal glitch you call 'life'. They empower us to do things we couldn't normally do.

WHEN YOU PLAY, IT'S AS IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANY CONTROL OVER WHAT IS HAPPENING OR WHERE THINGS ARE GOING. ARE YOU GUYS JUST CRAZY HIGH OR IS SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENING WHEN YOU PLAY?

We are mere conduits to the Universe. For thousands of years, people across the world have used music as a medium to connect them to the spirit realm. We use that trance-like state to liberate ourselves from this world. We are not creating the music so to speak, we are just the antenna thru which the music flows.

YOUR SHOWS ARE PRETTY EPIC. ARE THERE ANY THAT STAND OUT?

Well, this one time at Super Happy Fun Land, we ended up playing for almost 3 hours. One guy was there with some friends, he shot some footage of us and put it on Youtube. He wrote "This would have been awesome if it was 15 mins, but it went on for WAY too long". He also said that they went out to eat in the middle of our show, and when they came back, we were STILL playing. We won't apologize and are not liable for any detrimental effect on your psyche after seeing a CHAIRS performance.

HOW WAS YOUR RECENT TOUR?

We went with Doggebi and a circuit bender from France named Loic Bertrand. It was a southern tour; we rented a van and played 7 or 8 cities. The southern hospitality that everyone showed us was great. We had a place to sleep every night. This one night we all stayed in this one creepy house in Florida that was infested with spiders. It had hanging deer rib-cages, mummified cats, and other strange Skeletor stuff laying around. It was bizarre and it was hard to sleep that night. You never know what you'll encounter on the road, but that's part of the fun! We hope to get back on the road ASAP!

HOW HAS IT BEEN WORKING WITH NET-LABELS?

Net-Labels get our music to people all over the world, for free - it's good exposure. We're not in it for the money; we just want our work to be heard. It's also good for the environment, since there are no plastic cases and ink being used for CD production. You can download our albums for free at Spettro Records, based in Italy, Blek Blekk, from Norway, and TVK, based in Australia.

But we also established our own DIY label called "Den of Lost Skulls" to release physical hard-copies of our albums. We make personalized limited editions of our albums for those who like the feeling of an album you can hold in your hand.

YOU GUYS HAVE A PRETTY DIVERSE AMOUNT OF INSTRUMENTS...

We own a lot of world instruments for the 'acoustic' side of CHAIRS. We like to change things up as much as possible. Sometimes we might do an all-acoustic show, but you never know...We never play the same show twice. We are hugely influenced by Sublime Frequencies - a label that releases obscure, raw musics from all over the world, with a main focus on South East Asia, Africa, and the Middle East.

YOU GUYS SEEM TO EMBRACE EVERYTHING ANY ANYTHING TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN TO PEOPLE JUST WHAT CHAIRS IS IN A NUTSHELL. HOW WOULD YOU SUM IT UP?

Diversity is our thing. Our albums thus far highly differentiate from our live performances, usually saving our written songs (as well as some covers) for live shows. Having formed in 2006 as a duo in Houston, Texas, we became a trio sometime in '09 when Kreezerast came on board to participate in the mischief. We don't worry about mistakes, rather we embrace them. Mistakes reveal the humanity in us all. CHAIRS is a paradox that makes perfect sense. It says something about the human experience, it speaks of murder and love and how sometimes, they interact with one another. FPH

For more on CHAIRS visit them at facebook.com/chairsmusic



For tickets and information
www.TheHoustonArtCarParade.com



Live Music! Costumes!

The Houston 2012 25TH ANNIVERSARY ART CAR PARADE WEEKEND

powered by The Orange Show



MAY 10-12, 2012

The Legendary Art Car Ball

THURSDAY, MAY 10
7 PM-10 PM

The Wildest Party of the Year!

featuring
The Dirty Dozen Brass Band
Folk Family Revival
The Tyburn Jig
and many more!
$25 in advance
$30 at the door

Costumes encouraged





Sneak Peek @ Discovery Green

Free to the public

FRIDAY, MAY 11
6:30PM-10:30PM

Houston Blues Society

featuring **Live music**
from the Houston Blues Society
Screening of
Art Car:The Movie
by Del Monte Films



The Houston 2012 25TH ANNIVERSARY ART CAR PARADE

SATURDAY, MAY 12 · ALWAYS FREE!!

FPH

Summer Fest Stage: 11 AM - 1 PM **The Ton Tons** **Portal Walker**

Cars roll at 1 pm

Orange Show Center for Visionary Art
houstonartsalliance
United
Whole Foods Market
Shock Top Belgian White
Mayor Annise D. Parker
Discovery Green
Apache
CW39 KIAH-TV Houston
Texas Monthly
Saint Arnold Brewing Company
90.1 FM KPFT Pacifica Houston Texas
culturemap Houston
FPH
yelp
Houston Chronicle Supporting our Community
29 95
vitaminwater vitamins + electrolytes + antioxidants
IKEA Houston
Momentum Volkswagen
Universal Technical Institute Chosen by Industry. Ready to Work.
World's Foodbuckers
The Houston 2012 25th Anniversary Art Car Parade powered by The Orange Show

A Pageant of the Automotively Weird
The 25th Anniversary of the Houston Art Car Parade

by Mills-McCoin

BETWIXT THE EARLY AFTERNOON HOURS of 1pm and 3pm on May 12 of this year, Allen Parkway will be crawling with vehicles affectionately referred to as... art cars. But that's the end of this story and not the beginning.

Even if you're not asking yourself, "What in the hell is an 'art car'?", I'm going to answer that question for you anyway. An art car is any vehicle (lawnmower, golf cart, go-cart, unicycle, full-size motor vehicle, etc.) that has been physically modified to reflect the personal artistic expressions of the vehicle's owner or the cartist. That's right-- an art car artist is often referred to as a "cartist." To be a cartist, there is no formal training necessary; just a desire to express oneself artistically... and some gas money.

So the origin of this artistic and comical parade is found in the year 1984 with the donation of a 1967 Ford station wagon to The Orange Show Foundation for their annual Gala benefit. Houston artist, Jackie Harris, transformed the station wagon into the "Fruitmobile" with $800 of paint and plastic fruit. Following this act of artsy altruism, art cars began to be added to various events and parades in and around town. The quirky presence of these movable art pieces was so endearing that in 1986 Susanne Demchak fashioned together a "Road Show" at The Orange Show featuring eleven art cars, of course the flagship "Fruitmobile" (still alive and kickin' to this day mind you), children's art bike workshops and Lowrider demonstrations. Some 1,400 Houstonians attended the event along with WFAA-TV and National Public Radio. The following year, the Houston International Festival, at the time the City's official celebration of the arts, beseeched The Orange Show to produce a parade for the festival. The Orange Show agreed and picked its muse... the art cars. And in April of 1988, the Art Car Parade was born. The maiden voyage of the Art Car Parade was 40 art cars deep and witnessed by an estimated 2,000 Houstonians.

Now, closing in on its 25th Birthday, the Houston Art Car Parade powered by The Orange Show is the climax of the Art Car Weekend, "a three-day celebration of the drive to create." The Art Car Weekend begins with The Legendary Art Car Ball on Thursday, May 10th featuring live music, food and the building excitement for the parade. It takes place at the art monument known as The Orange Show. Following that, there's a Sneak Peek at Discovery Green early friday evening; and then the parade begins the next day at 1pm. Here's the Route: the parade runs up and down Allen Parkway (east and west, if you're privy to cardinal directions) starting at Taft heading towards Downtown (east); then the parade makes a left at Heritage Park, and then travels back down (west) Allen Parkway the other way. This year, prior to the start of the parade, everyone is invited to converge on the parade starting line at 9am to meet and mingle with the cartists and enjoy a wide array of various activities, including but not limited to The Tontons and Portal Walker performing on the Free Press Summer Fest stage. There will also be other live music, children's crafts, food and beverages (especially the adult variety).

The magnitude of Houston's Art Car Parade has exploded since it's humble beginning of 2,000 Houstonians. Today, hundreds of thousands of attendees (close to 300,000) from 23 states and Canada and Mexico travel to the southern shore of Buffalo Bayou to witness the parade of over 250 art cars. It is the largest festival in Houston and the city's premier art event, dwarfing the super sexy FPSF and the iFest.

The largest Art Car Parade on the planet belongs to our beloved city, Houston, Texas... that is until Mayor Annise Parker passes an ordinance banning the event on account of it not being "Wealthy Land Owner" enough. Cheers. FPH





IT DOES NOT MATTER WHO YOU ARE.

FREE PRESS SUMMER FEST

JUNE 2 & 3

ELEANOR TINSLEY PARK
HOUSTON, TX

WITH PERFORMANCES BY

THE AVETT BROTHERS × SNOOP DOGG × WILLIE NELSON
PRETTY LIGHTS × AFROJACK × THE FLAMING LIPS × PRIMUS
ERYKAH BADU × DESCENDENTS × MAJOR LAZER × PORTUGAL. THE MAN
YOUNG THE GIANT × FITZ & THE TANTRUMS × PHANTOGRAM × STRFKR
TWO DOOR CINEMA CLUB × BEST COAST × MORRIS DAY AND THE TIME
DIPLO × WALLPAPER × SHABAZZ PALACES × DANNY BROWN × Z-RO
JEFF THE BROTHERHOOD × CLAP YOUR HANDS SAY YEAH × R3HAB
MAPS AND ATLASES × VALIENT THORR × TURQUOISE JEEP × BIG FREEDIA
QUINTRON & MS. PUSSYCAT × FATAL FLYING GUILLOTEENS × FAT TONY
DAVID GARZA × DAVID LEIBE HART × SISTER CRAYON × VANAPRASTAA
SUNDRESS × LAST YEARS MEN × THE BIG SLEEP × CHEALSEA WOLFE
ANCIENT VVISDOM × GIRL IN A COMA × ROBERT ELLIS × BAD VEINS
WHAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS × GRANDFATHER CHILD × PONDEROSA
DJ BIZZ × BOBBY BURNS × THE EASTERN SEA × MC BUDA LOVE
THE RIFF TIFFS × PAPERMOONS × THE TONTONS × WILD MOCCASINS

GET PASSES NOW BEFORE THEY'RE GONE! × WWW.FPSF.COM

IKEA HOUSTON · SWEET LEAF ICED TEAS · RED BULL ENERGY DRINK · 39 KIAH-TV · FPH · PEGSTAR.NET PRESENTS · BUDWEISER · NIGHT OWLS PRINT SHOP · 29 95 29-95.com

by Tyler Barber

***FEZ** (below, Xbox 360)*
***TRIALS EVOLUTION** (right, Xbox 360)*



BRING YOUR LITTLE RED HAT

Fez is a case study of missed opportunity and shortsightedness – though the game does not reflect these negative qualities on itself. Rather, Fez is a beautifully executed puzzle-platformer designed to treat us older gamers to a taste of true gaming nostalgia. And not cheap, cash-in nostalgia; creator Phil Fish represents an exciting breed of new game designers: those born into a world where gaming has already been established. Like the early punks tweaking rock and roll, the indie designers return to the roots of game design and harvest its best aspects. In this way, Fez shows developers a goldmine of gameplay mechanics that were left behind in lieu of building bigger, prettier games.

Fez's look is a mix of the simplistic 8-bit sprites, with the color palette of a 32-bit game. And though the style is simple, Fez's world is teeming with detail and little animated critters that are just dressing to its captivating land.

The gist of the gameplay presents players with a 2D world that they can rotate, revealing hidden depth, and thus many-a-devious puzzle. Because the player can rotate the stage on command, Fez is more of an exploration-focused platformer than one based on skill. Even the stages of the game are connected to an over-world map that's essentially open to you from the start. There are a few stages that need a certain amount of collectables to be unlocked, but for the most part, you can roam anywhere you'd like.

Even the audio of Fez is dipped in the appropriate amount of 8-bit-sauce and modern high-definition sound. Everything's chip-tuned, but it has the bass, stereo and mixing you'd expect in big-budget titles.

Fez is the type of game that one can't help but smile while playing. Like great graphic design, you kind of don't "see" the depth of brilliance behind Fez unless you look. It's an onion that constantly unravels the more you peel back the layers.

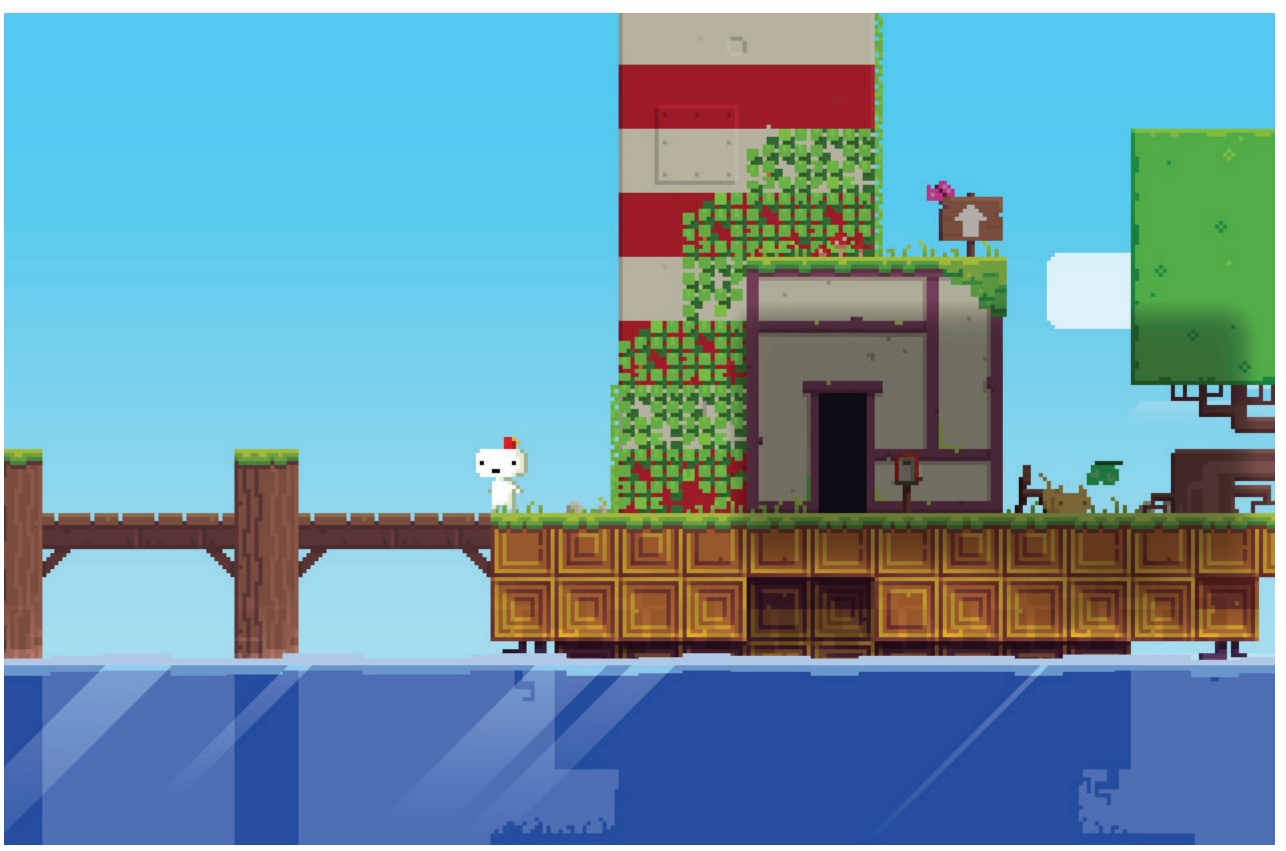
ALL RISE

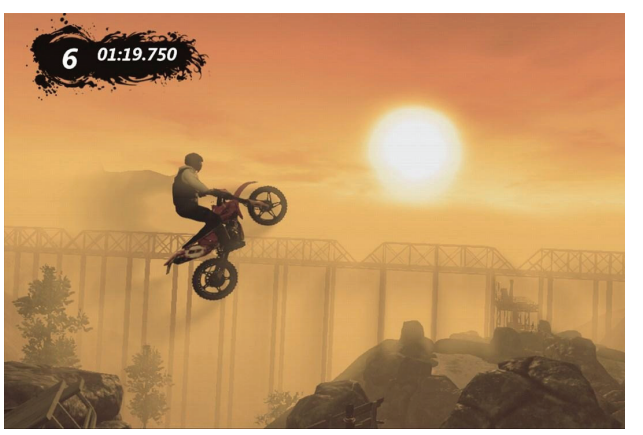
Trials needs little evangelizing as its newest addition, Evolution, grabbed the honors of the most downloaded game on Xbox Live Arcade during its debut. I say "evangelize" because Trials is one of those games that spreads virally by word-of-mouth. It's difficult to describe what's so appealing about it, but one that's immediately apparent upon playing or seeing.

Your only goal in Trials is to get to the finish line. You're on a single track littered with obstacles and checkpoints. But here, "obstacles" is a bit of a misnomer. They're more like Hollywood movie sets that you propel yourself through at 50mph. Some levels take place on a bridge that's constantly collapsing around you, another has you riding through a Normandy-esque beach invasion complete with giant explosions and desaturated colors. Endlessly creative, the levels scale in difficulty. In fact, there are tracks in the last set that I simply can not complete. In this way, Trials manages to tread a great line of fun and challenging. My friends battle over 10ths of seconds online, while I just enjoy playing the silly mini-games.

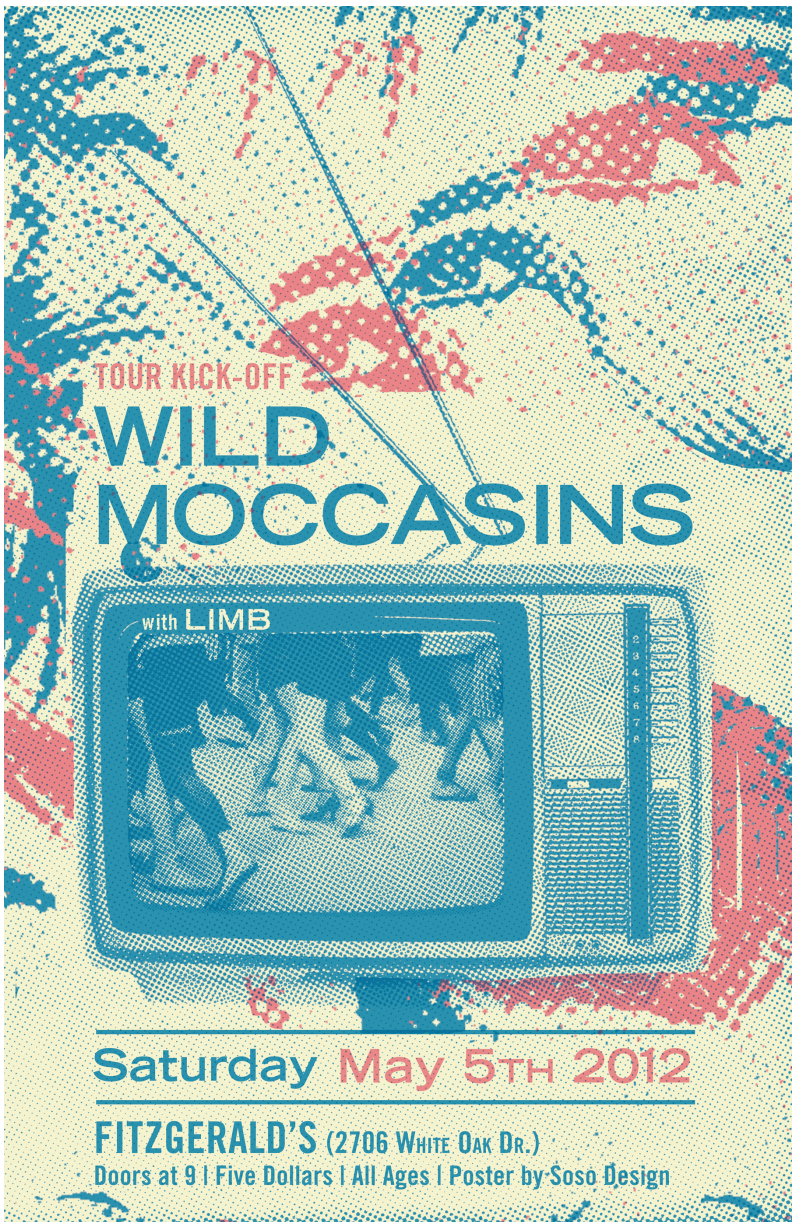
But it's not just the craziness that makes Trials appealing. For me it's two things: 1) the physics simulation, and 2) the fidelity of the controls. Both of these reveal the expertise of developer RedLynx. From the throttle, to the brakes, to your rider's posture, every millimeter of every analog-stick/trigger on your game-pad counts. With so much control given to gamers, the connection to the on-screen character is virtually one-to-one. And with this much finesse in the controls, good players are able to elegantly dance through each dizzying stage.

It should be said that the first Trials game was wildly popular on XBLA, and that it would have been easy for RedLynx to quickly turn out a sequel. Instead, they actually perfected their game engine, and put in enough new content and game modes to call this a proper sequel. **FPH**



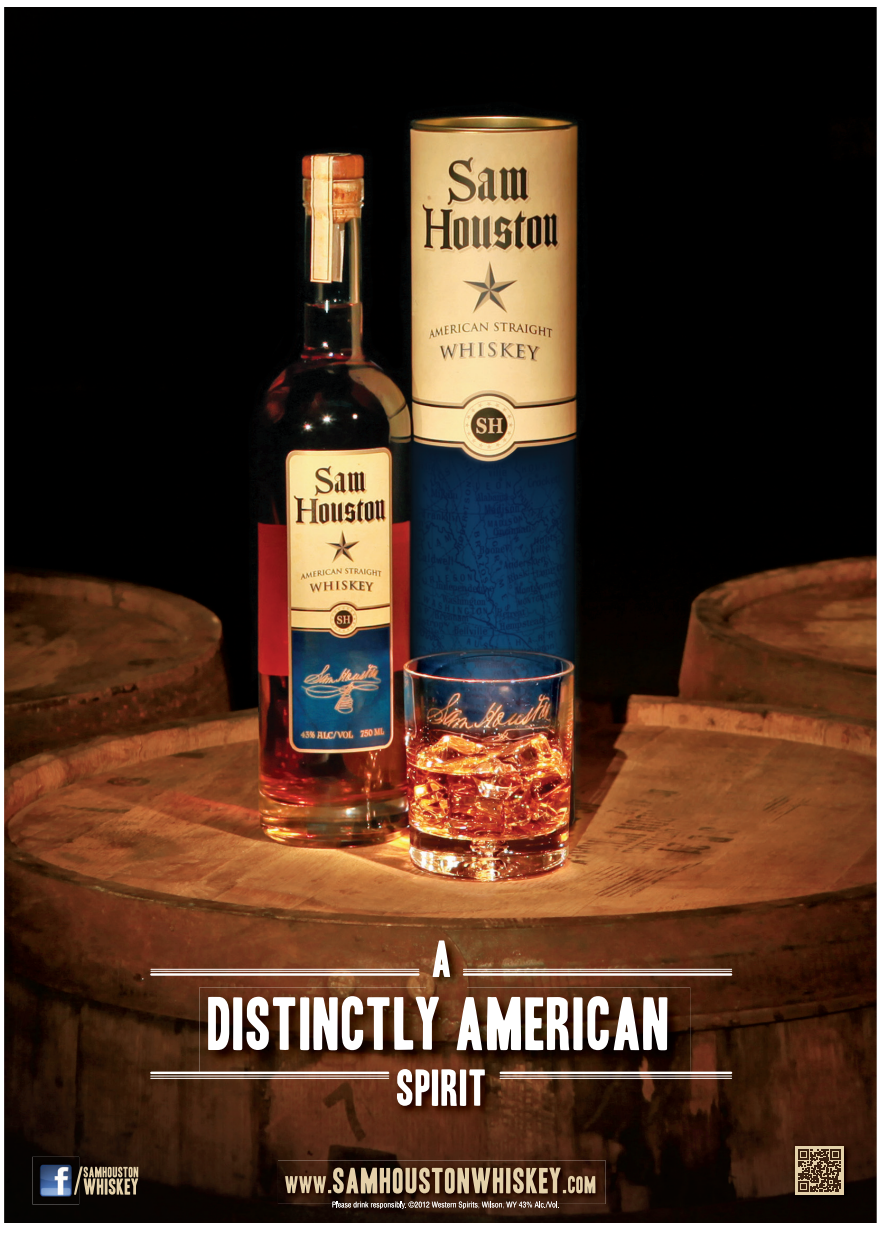





TOUR KICK-OFF
WILD MOCCASINS
with LIMB
Saturday May 5TH 2012
FITZGERALD'S (2706 White Oak Dr.)
Doors at 9 | Five Dollars | All Ages | Poster by Soso Design


MAY 11, 2012 7PM–11PM
FREE PRESS SUMMER FEST
POSTER SHOW
AT THE STATION MUSEUM 1502 ALABAMA ST. HOUSTON, TX 77004
ARTISTS INCLUDE:
JERMAINE ROGERS BRIAN TAYLOR SHELBY HOHL MICHAEL C. RODRIGUEZ
DUAL JASON MCELWEENIE TYLER BARBER JODY WORTHINGTON
MOLLY R. CLARK ARTHUR BATES RYAN OTTEA DANN MILLER
JUSTIN ANVILLE EVAN O'NEIL BLAKE JONES ERIC CASTORENA
ELI SEBASTIAN BRUMBAUGH JUNIOR PRINTMAKING CONGRESS
RAFAEL MAYORGA SARAH WELCH JACOB CALLE MARK WILLIAMSON
NIGHT OWLS PRINT SHOP
FPH
STATION
POSTER BY:
MICHAEL C. RODRIGUEZ


NEW ALBUM NEVER LOOK BACK
NOW AVAILIBLE AT CACTUS RECORDS
ELECTRIC TOUCH
NEVER LOOK BACK
SEE ELECTRIC TOUCH LIVE AT
FREE PRESS SUMMER FEST
electrictouch.com
facebook.com/electrictouch


Sam Houston
AMERICAN STRAIGHT WHISKEY
SH
A
DISTINCTLY AMERICAN
SPIRIT
/SAMHOUSTON WHISKEY
WWW.SAMHOUSTONWHISKEY.COM
Please drink responsibly. ©2012 Western Spirits. Wilson, WY. 43% Alc./Vol.

A War on Homelessness, or a War on the Homeless?

by Nick Cooper



Food Not Bombs regularly distributes free vegetarian meals

ON MARCH 2, Hank Rush, the CEO of Star of Hope Mission, who makes a quarter-million dollar salary for his work with the poor, joined several other homeless service leaders in signing a commentary in the Houston Chronicle. They gave their support to a new law that would impose a $2,000 fine on unpaid volunteers for sharing home-cooked food with the needy in public.

Going so far as to criminalize bringing a box of fruit into one's house, to keep it out of a hot car for a few hours before going to share it, the law would have been laughable if it weren't a threat to the food supply of a vulnerable population.

Wondering why homeless service providers might consider supporting a law that was so potentially devastating to Houston's homeless population, activists began researching Star of Hope. The first news item that came up, was that Mayor Annise Parker had announced a massive public / private partnership with the Star of Hope, just four days before the commentary was published. Initially $3 million, and $1.5 million per year thereafter, was planned for a "Sobering Center" for people found drunk in public. Touted as a cheaper and less punitive alternative to incarceration, the project would benefit Rush and other signatories to the commentary.

THE MAYOR, 'BALANCE,' AND HER 'EMERGENCY'

The Mayor and Council Member James Rodriguez began promoting the new 'emergency' law, though the nature of the emergency seemed to be constantly in flux. First, council members were told there was a crisis of food poisoning of the homeless, but the Mayor dropped that argument after being forced in open session to admit that there was no info to back up her claims. Next, they switched to talking about trash being left by organizations feeding the homeless, but apparently there was no study of that either. Eventually, Parker and Rodriguez seemed to settle on the main issue at stake here: the property rights of downtown business owners.

"I perceive this ordinance as trying to balance the rights and the needs of different groups of people," said the Mayor.

Apparently, for her, the homeless are the ones holding the upper-hand in this imbalance, and the victims, the downtown business owners, require the City's emergency help. The 'need' of property owners is being trampled by the need of the homeless to eat, sleep, and excrete.

She compelled city council to act urgently to control trash and excrement, not by putting out more receptacles and toilets, but by policing the food supply.

"While the Mayor professes to try to help the homeless," said civil rights attorney Randall Kallinen, "she's done nothing to put in sanitary facilities that the homeless might be able to use."

After years of 'civility' ordinances which criminalize homeless people for lying down, Houston City Council moved quickly towards enacting this new level of oppression.

The open secret here is that the only urgent matter is the opening of the new Dynamo soccer stadium. With homeless sleeping nearby, the Mayor wanted one more tool to evict the homeless encampments. As if to confirm this, City Council passed another urgent measure in March: drinking alcohol in public would be legalized in lots owned by, and at times set by sports venues. Without even an acknowledgement of the irony and scandalous timing of these two amendments, the City granted sports fans an exemption to an anti-homeless law that had been on the books for almost 20 years.

While of course, 'property rights' doesn't seem like an 'emergency' issue, the Mayor didn't let that slow her down. She ramped up pressure on the council to pass this law to force volunteers to show police specific prior written permission to share food. Coalition for the Homeless President / CEO Marilyn Brown supported the law as "a good first step," despite the fact that she had just personally conducted a Faith Initiative focus group



SCULPTURE: DANCING GIRL FROM MOENJODARO

WOMEN UNDER SIEGE

MAY 12 AT 8PM: PART 2

Free Admission • Home of Diane Barber & Karen Niemeier, 4513 Rusk, Houston 77023

The night includes an exploration of issues unearthed in Women Under Siege Part 1. Documentary art by Yunuen Perez Vertti and by Eric Hester will be on display, and an artist and audience member Q&A session will be moderated by Elizabeth Gregory, director of the University of Houston's Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program.

Featured artists for Women Under Siege, Part 1 included: Danza Azteca Taxcayolotl, Geet Chainani, Yaminay Chaudhri, Haya Fatima Iqbal, Mary Margaret Hansen, Tazeen Hussain and Ayesha Darr at Indus Earth Trust, Megan Jackson, Autumn Knight, Laltain Performing Arts Society, Tehmina Mirza + Sana Nasir from Designers United for a Cause, Karachi (D.U.C.K.), NRITAAL, Sehba Sarwar, Tentative Collection and more.

The productions are cosponsored by KPFT Pacifica Radio 90.1 FM, Houston Institute for Culture, Planned Parenthood Gulf Coast, University of Houston's Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies Program, and Geo TV (Pakistan).

@VBBARTS

voices breaking boundaries

in which every single participant opposed mandatory requirements for those sharing food in public. Any council member considering voting for the law had to ignore the opinions of the hundreds of homeless and others who came to speak against the law over three sessions of City Council.

The public pressure forced the Mayor to change the law, stripping it of the important details. It no longer explicitly criminalized things like the sharing of homemade food, but since the process for obtaining permission was never disclosed, it was anyone's guess what the criteria she or subsequent mayors might choose to use for granting permission. Homemade food might be illegal, it might not, it just depended on the unwritten criteria of whatever agency has the job of granting permission. The new version of the law temporarily hid the most egregious details, and the Mayor falsely and unilaterally declared that a compromise had been struck.

Some of the most important voices against the law were those of the homeless themselves who arrived to speak to City Council on April 3, the day before the vote. The Mayor and the majority of City Council instead favored a small group of downtown business representatives, bumping them to the front of the queue to speak. A few Council Members lobbied soft-ball questions to their powerful friends, filibustering until the news cameras and many City Council members had left the room. One homeless man waiting for his turn to speak was so frustrated that he yelled out and was escorted from the chambers.

When it was finally their turn to speak, the homeless opened up their hearts to a City Council that had probably already made up their minds.

"If it weren't for these truly gracious people, I would not eat," 58 year old James Lira told City Council.

"I've been homeless 15 years due to my mental illness... If they make it more difficult for me to get food, then I would be starving," were the words sent to City Council via the Voice of the Homeless Awareness Project from Alfred White, 51.

"I would like to see you in our shoes for one week and not have anything," said Michael Horn.

"When has American stopped being the land of the free and the home of the brave, and become the land of the oppressed, and the home of the economic slave?" asked Maurice Samuel O'Neal, who identified as being on and off the streets for the last 40 years. Many in the audience were affected, hearing the comparison to slavery by an older southern African American man.

The most devastating critiques of the Mayor's proposed law came from the kids.

"If I see one, or five, or twenty people in need, I should be able to help them without fearing punishment," said an 11 year old girl, Makota Ashé.

Next, the Mayor's entire argument was deflated in two short questions by 13 year old Dylan Cash.

"Mayor Parker, did you eat breakfast this morning?" he asked. "Did you have to get permission from the City?"

WHY DON'T YOU JUST SHUT UP AND GET A PERMIT, IT'S EASY!

Requiring permission for groups to serve has precedent. In San Francisco in 1988, the permit requirement was used to criminalize and arrest hundreds of food sharing volunteers. The Mayor then, like Annise Parker now, described the process as easy, but that was not the experience of volunteers in San Francisco.

"It was clear that the purpose of the permit process was to make it impossible for Food Not Bombs to share food and information in public," said Keith McHenry, the co-founder of the Food Not Bombs movement.

In November of 2011, a U.S. District Judge denied the city of Dallas' motion for summary judgment and ruled that a lawsuit can proceed against a similar law there. On the basis that spontaneous and unregulated feeding is part of their religious freedom, a church has a good chance to demonstrate that these permitting laws violate the Texas Religious Freedom Act.

"There are also Constitutional concerns about not requiring property owners to give notice by posting "no-trespassing" signs," said Daphne Silverman with National Lawyers Guild. "It's my position that this law also violates other first amendment rights of expression, religion, and assembly."

CASHING IN

On April 4, the amendment passed 11 - 6. Council Member Bradford joined the five Republican-leaning Council Members (Brown, Pennington, Sullivan, Christie, and Hoang) to oppose the hastily written, vague, punitive, and repressive law. Not only did the 'progressive' Council Members vote with the Mayor, but even Wanda Adams joined in. Though Adams repeats often that homelessness is an extremely personal issue for her, she is in need of support for her candidacy in the race for Texas House District 131.

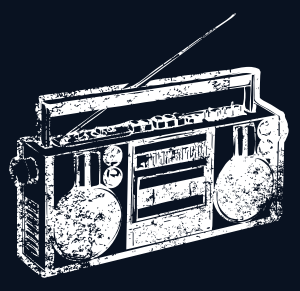
"Mayor Parker is very well connected and supported in the local Democratic party scene," explains local political activist and Democratic state delegate Benjamin Franklin. "Wanda Adams' chances of advancing to the State House require many of the same institutional supporters, and thus she needs to demonstrate that she's a team player. She can work to mitigate or soften the impact of a policy she disagrees with, but can't openly defy and vote 'no' to what's apparently a core priority for the Mayor."

Adams was taken aside for several arm-twisting sessions to vote for the anti-homeless law. Though unable to stop the law from passing, and apparently incapable

Groups are organizing volunteers to take on this struggle. If you are interested, please contact: free2givevolunteers@gmail.com

Contact the author of this article at nick@nickcooper.com





REUPSPOT.COM

RAW HIP HOP DOPE, SERVED DAILY

Fresh Hip Hop

FREE MIXTAPES

+ COVERAGE OF

LOCAL EVENTS

Artist Interviews

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

& More...

CHECK IT OUT TODAY: REUPSPOT.COM

RAW HIP HOP DOPE, SERVED DAILY

of standing up to even vote against it herself, she was able to pass an amendment to give volunteers a three month reprieve before the law went into effect.

Council Members need money to be re-elected, and non-profits need grants. Star of Hope wasn't the only agency to benefit from new funding, and wasn't the only organization whose leader signed onto the Houston Chronicle commentary to support the original extremely draconian version of the law. The Coalition for the Homeless is at the center of an influx of cash to Houston that is so big that it makes the millions involved in the Sobering Center look like chump change.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) channels 1.5 billion dollars a year into programs and non-profits. This month, Houston and eight other cities with large homeless populations begin getting big Obama dollars for the express purpose of "ending homelessness" in a few years through "Rapid Rehousing."

Sam Tsemberis, CEO and Founder to Pathways to Housing, who helped to create the Housing First model, which is similar to Rapid Rehousing, points out that "Housing First is not really about housing. It's about listening to the person who is homeless. The way we invented HF was by listening to people in the street. When you ask what do you want most urgently, people say 'housing first.' It's not about buildings or structures, it's about listening to people."

Nick Flynn, U of H professor, and author of the book which inspired the film "Being Flynn" starring Robert De Niro, has been a long time supporter of the Housing First model, but questions the nature of the program coming to Houston, asking, "is it driven by listening to the homeless, or listening to the powerful interests downtown?"

To kick off this program, the Coalition for the Homeless launched a series of breakfasts for Houston's homeless providers. Titled "Take Your Seat at the Table," the participants were welcomed to carve their pieces of the pie of all this funding coming to Houston. Participants in the breakfasts were told that along with the money comes an entirely new system. Houston's homeless services are being rapidly transformed into a system with centralized intake for all homeless, a new authority that links funding with performance evaluations, and a constantly expanding database called the Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).

JUST FOLLOW THE BACON AND EGGS

"The Coalition for the Homeless has friendly political ties to the agencies who will end up with the HUD money," said Jeff Lyons from Houston Solutions for Housing. "It's all political. The City founded Coalition for the Homeless, and appoints the people to the Board. As the designed agent for the national programs like HMIS, they decide where HUD money goes when it comes to Houston."

Shockingly, the underwriter for the first of the two Coalition for the Homeless breakfasts was Brookfield Office Properties, which, owns twelve skyscrapers downtown. Paul Layne, the regional head for Brookfield Properties' Houston operations also sits on the Board of Directors of the Coalition for the Homeless. As the largest commercial real estate owner in Houston's downtown, Brookfield is notorious for its central role in perpetuating the below poverty wages among downtown custodial workers, who make an average of $8,600 a year.

"It's ironic," said Laura Perez-Boston, director of the Houston Interfaith Worker Justice Center. "Instead of investing their money in promoting a breakfast, they should be investing in ensuring that human rights are upheld for the janitors in their buildings, and other Houstonians by supporting their right to share food in public."

Brookfield also happens to own Zuccotti Park, where Occupy Wall Street activists were encamped for months (the park is named for Brookfield co-chairman John E. Zuccotti). In October, Brookfield wrote to New York Police Commissioner Kelly demanding the eviction of the activists. This connection seemed to confirm the suspicions of many involved with Occupy Houston that the law was intended to target them.

"This whole issue may have never been about 'feeding the homeless'," said longtime community activist and Democratic State Rep. candidate Ray Hill. "It may have been about shutting down the Occupy movement that has done more than anything else to put a light on the injustice and excesses of big business greed."

Many Houston activists who assume that Brookfield doesn't value the needs of the homeless any more than the custodians working in their own buildings, are outraged to discover their participation in Coalition for the Homeless programs.

"Now it comes to light that there are big bucks in the pipeline from the federal government around homelessness," Hill continued. "The poor and the powerless are not players in the passing out of public funds into the private hands of the real players."

AND MEANWHILE... WHAT ABOUT THE VOLUNTEERS ABOUT TO BE CRIMINALIZED

Food Not Bombs volunteers, including myself, sit in these meetings a bit baffled. On July 1, our volunteer work in the streets of Houston, along with the work of dozens of other organizations, will be a crime. We don't have salaries, budgets, or pieces of the pie. We don't need money, bureaucracy, and we certainly don't need to be permitted. We do want to see homelessness eliminated, but not by punitive measures.

We found ourselves sitting at the breakfast table with others who were urging us to get iPads so that we could log all of the homeless, every time we serve, into the HMIS database and increase funding for the Coalition for the Homeless and other groups providing homeless services in Houston. Long time friends and allies within the homeless services sector seem to have been convinced by the power structure of absurd scenarios -- people we had trusted explained to us their sincere belief that the homeless downtown are practically drowning in healthy food and need less not more.

Food Not Bombs was the first group sharing food with the homeless after Ike, Rita, and Katrina. FEMA referred people to us. If this law is enacted in July, and by late August a hurricane comes through, even under emergency conditions, it will still be a crime for us to go out and share food. Even if police were willing to look the other way during a hurricane aftermath, we might no longer have the intact relationships, food supply, and institutional structure to resume our operations after months of being criminalized. We rely on an influx of new high school volunteers, and parents might think twice about having their children participate in a group that might be illegal. Making volunteerism a crime will damage Houston's infrastructure. Volunteers are a vital part of of a system that helps nourish a vulnerable population, that without our efforts, would turn to increasingly to shoplifting, dumpster diving, and panhandling.

There are over sixty local groups speaking out against these laws. From the conservative Houston Area Pastor's Council to the Catholic Worker Movement, from Occupy Houston to the Tea Party, from the Harris County Republican Party to the Green Party, from the Nation of Islam to the Hare Krishnas, the diversity of this loose coalition may well be unprecedented. **FPH**


FREE RADICALS
"THE FREEDOM FENCE" CD RELEASE
SATURDAY, JUNE 16, DOOR 8 PM
FITZGERALD'S (2706 WHITE OAK DR. 77007)
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS -
SAMBA SOUL, SOULAR GROOVES, HAVIKORO & MEMBERS OF H.I.S.D.
THE WAR ON DRUGS IS IMMINENT!
NO BORDERS!
MASHIALE SONKE SIBE MUNYE
IND AL MURD!
KEINE MAUERN MEHR
الجدار يجب ان يسقط
СТРОИТЕЛЕЙ СТЕН – К СТЕНКЕ


www.theconcertpub.com
mindcrime
The Ultimate Queensryche Experience
with special guest
The Sound Of Madness
(Shinedown Tribute)
THE CONCERT PUB Galleria
5636 Richmond
281-278-7272
Saturday
May 12


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


140+ Tequilas
Happy Hour
Daily 11am-8pm
Open 24/7
Serving Breakfast
Lunch & Dinner
Late into la Noche
813 Richmond Ave.
Houston, TX 77006
713-522-2365
Just East of Montrose Blvd
Chapultepec Lupita

INTERVIEW
Tony Diaz of Librotraficante

By Amanda Hart



WE ALL FEEL AT TIMES THAT TEXAS might just be the worst place to live if you aren't a rich white man. And many times this feeling is valid. However, Arizona over the past few years has really made an effort to alleviate us of those justified feelings with their ass backwards politics. In an ongoing racially motivated attack on their Hispanic population they keep reminding us that maybe Texas ain't so bad. As you might recall, last year Arizona introduced the anti-immigrant law SB1070-basically, making it illegal to be brown in public. And if that wasn't bad enough the Tucson Unified School District decided to straight up ban Mexican-American studies. And then just last week the same asshat, John Huppenthal, who spearheaded banning Mexican-American studies in high schools announced that he would next be targeting universities. One group here in Houston is fighting back. Tony Diaz is one of the many leaders who got together and created Librotraficante and here is what he had to say:

WHO IS TONY DIAZ?

First and foremost, I am a novelist. I'm an artist. I'm used to melting words and creating reality. Most people don't understand that. Most people can't live that way. To help people wrap their heads around me, I tell them I have an M.F.A. in creative writing. Some people ask me that what means. I know what the university thinks they conferred upon me, but to me-M.F.A. stands for Mighty Fierce Aztec. Mas Frijoles y Arroz. Might Fuckyouup Artistically.

WHEN DID YOU FIRST FIND OUT THAT MEXICAN-AMERICAN STUDIES WAS BANNED IN ARIZONA?

Arizona legislators have been demonizing my people for a long time. So I was used to hearing about them passing whack racist laws to sabotage the American dream. Arizona became experts at making my people illegal. And then other states copied those tactics. So we just became numb to their white noise. But then they fucked with our young.

No one is reporting how we are reliving the civil rights movement of the 60's and 70's. In 1968, TV was discovered. Or TV invented America. So for the first time, Americans saw young African American activists being beaten with clubs by the cops in Alabama. America saw the Yippies getting beat up by the Chicago cops in front of the International Amphitheatre during the 1968 Democratic convention.

I was born on the South Side of Chicago, down the block from that mayhem, to the sound of billy clubs cracking hippy skulls.

And today, I was woken up again, this time by another new media. Me and my crew from Nuestra Palabra: Latino Writers Having Their Say heard about how fascist Tucson, Arizona was getting.

Mi 'mano, Librotraficante High Tech Aztec, known by the IRS as Bryan Parras, saw reports of young Chicano students from Tucson talking about how their teachers were forced to enter their class rooms during school and in front of them confiscate and box up books by Mexican American writers.

That is just wrong. That is psychological warfare on our young. That is on par with racists telling Ms. Rosa Parks to get to the back of the bus. We were offended beyond words.

But words are our weapons.

And we are used to wielding verbs at 100,000 watts with our radio show on KPFT. And we are used to inspiring 30,000 people at a time with our Latino Book and Family Festivals. We talk the talk. And we walk the walk.

NIGHT OWLS PRINT SHOP — FREE PRESS SUMMER FEST SPECIALS

T-SHIRTS
SINGLE COLOR PRINT IN 1 LOCATION. $1 PER ADDITIONAL INK COLOR, $1 PER ADD'L PRINT LOCATION. KEEP IN MIND THAT SOME DARKER GARMENTS REQUIRE AN UNDERBASE WHICH WILL BE COUNTED AS AN ADDITIONAL INK CHOICE. MINIMUM IS 30 PCS. PRICES VALID FOR YOUTH S - ADULT XL. GARAGE SALE TEE COLORS & INK COLORS ARE CHOSEN BY US.

WHITE 5oz. ANVIL 779, GILDAN 5000 OR HANES 5280 TEE - $3.50EA
COLOR 5oz. ANVIL 779, GILDAN 5000 OR HANES 5280 TEE - $4EA
GARAGE SALE 5oz. ANVIL 779, GILDAN 5000 OR HANES 5280 TEE - $3EA (WHILE SUPPLIES LAST)

WHITE 4oz. TULTEX 0202, HANES 4980 OR ANVIL 980 TEE - $4EA
COLOR 4oz. TULTEX 0202, HANES 4980 OR ANVIL 980 TEE - $4.50EA

WHITE 4oz. AMERICAN APPAREL 2001 OR ALTERNATIVE APPAREL 1070 TEE - $6.25EA
COLOR 4oz. AMERICAN APPAREL 2001 OR ALTERNATIVE APPAREL 1070 TEE- $7EA

SCREENPRINTED POSTERS
ON WHITE STOCK. FRONT PRINT ONLY. 60¢ PER ADDITIONAL INK COLOR. MINIMUM IS 30 PCS.

1 COLOR 11x20" POSTER - $100
2 COLOR 11x20" POSTER - $150
1 COLOR 18x24" POSTER - $175
2 COLOR 18x24" POSTER - $275

VINYL STICKERS
PRICE IS FOR 500 QTY. PLEASE CONTACT US FOR OTHER QUANTITIES. AVAILABLE INK COLORS ARE BLACK, RED, YELLOW, GREEN, BLUE OR OR ORANGE PRINTED ON WHITE VINYL STICKER STOCK.

2x6" 1 COLOR - $60
2x6" 2 COLOR - $125
4x4" 1 COLOR - $80
4x4" 2 COLOR - $135
3.75" CIRCLE 1 COLOR - $100
3.75" CIRCLE 2 COLOR - $150

SCREENPRINTED COVERS
PRICE IS FOR 100 PCS AND INCLUDES 2 INK COLORS ON WHITE STOCK. 40¢ PER ADDITIONAL 7" INK COLOR. 55¢ PER ADDITIONAL LP INK COLOR.

2 COLOR GLUE POCKET 7" SLEEVE - $225
2 COLOR GLUE POCKET LP SLEEVE - $275

PIN-BACK BUTTONS.BOTTLE OPENERS.POCKET MIRRORS
MINIMUM IS 50 PCS EXCEPT BOTTLE OPENER KEYCHAINS MINIMUM OF 150 PCS.

1" B&W BUTTON - 15¢EA
1" COLOR BUTTON - 20¢EA
2.25" B&W BUTTON - 30¢EA
2.25" COLOR BUTTON - 40¢EA
2.25" B&W BOTTLE OPENER - 50¢EA
2.25" COLOR BOTTLE OPENER - 60¢EA
BOTTLE OPENER KEYCHAIN - $1.34EA
3" B&W BUTTON - 45¢EA
3" COLOR BUTTON - 50¢EA
3" B&W POCKET MIRROR - 75¢EA
3" COLOR POCKET MIROR - 80¢EA

KOOZIES
PRICE INCLUDES 1 INK COLOR. MINIMUM OF 100 KOOZIES.

100PCS - $1EA
250PCS - 80¢EA
500PCS - 78¢EA
1,000PCS - 75¢EA
5,000PCS - 70¢EA

TOTE BAGS
PRICE INCLUDES 1 COLOR PRINT. 50¢ PER ADDITIONAL COLOR. MINIMUM OF 20 PCS.

1 COLOR, 1 LOCATION - $3EA
1 COLOR, 2 LOCATION - $4EA

SLIPMATS
PRICE INCLUDES 1 INK COLOR. 50¢ PER ADDITIONAL COLOR. MINIMUM OF 20 PCS.

WHITE LP SLIPMAT - $2.50EA

POSTCARDS
DOUBLE SIDED, FULL COLOR POSTCARDS.

2,500PCS - $150
5,000PCS - $180
10,000PCS - $300

SUNGLASSES
80's NEON SUNGLASSES. 1 COLOR IMPRINT.

150PCS - $1.40EA
250PCS - $1.30EA
500PCS - $1.20EA
1,000PCS - $1.10EA

WE PRINT EVERYTHING: HATS, BEACH BALLS, SWEATSHIRTS, FOAM FINGERS, WATER BOTTLES FLASHLIGHTS, PONCHOS + MORE

EMAIL: ORDERS@NIGHTOWLSPRINT.COM / PH:281-741-7285
FREE DELIVERY TO SUMMER FEST / TAX & SHIPPING NOT INCLUDED IN PRICE
NO SET UP FEES / **PRICES VALID UNTIL MAY 18, 2012** / NIGHTOWLSPRINT.COM

WHAT IS NUESTRA PALABRA: LATINO WRITERS HAVING THEIR SAY?

I started Nuestra Palabra: Latino Writers Having Their Say 14 years ago. And we went on to create some of the biggest and best literary events in all of Houston, not just for Latinos, but across all demographic lines.

High Tech Aztec, and Librotraficante Lilo, aka by the FBI as Liana Lopez, have been working with Nuestra Palabra for over a decade. So when we sit down around the table to plan shit, we are all 10th Degree black belts in getting shit done.

I coined the phrase Librotraficante a few years back. We would organize these huge events, but then have to break down the gigs afterwards. So we would be behind the George R. Brown Convention Center, loading up books, at midnight. And I swear we looked like book traffickers. And I would joke that if the cops pulled up, they would never believe that what we were runnin' in the boxes was books. Somos Librotraficantes.

Well, I dreamed up that bad ass name, but I never in my wildest dreams thought we would literally become book traffickers.

SO HOW DID LIBROTRAFICANTE EVOLVE INTO WHAT IT IS TODAY?

At the peak of his fury, High Tech Aztec shot a text at me, then tweeted: The Librotraficantes will be smuggling banned books back to Arizona.

And then all Art broke loose after that. Myself, High Tech Aztec, Lilo, and Librotraficante La Laura, aka Laura Acosta, and Librotraficante Lips Mendez, aka Lupe Mendez, were key in organizing the logistics. Together we have 55 years experience of getting shit done. Real shit.

In just 2 months, we organized the Librotraficante Caravan to Tucson with stops in 6 cities. We inspired 36 brave, free-thinkers to commit a week of their lives to the cause-without fully knowing where we would sleep or eat. We got 1,000 books donated by folks from across the country. We opened Under Ground Libraries in Houston, San Antonio, Albuquerque, and Tucson. We put on an $80,000 caravan on $15,000 worth of donations. Thousands of Librotraficantes organized not just along the Southwest, but also New York, Ohio, even Alaska!

But we aren't finished-because Ethnic Studies is still prohibited in Tucson.

That's what's really fucked up.

I can't believe more Americans aren't outraged about this.

The Fascists in Arizona have used evil genius to make it seem as if this is just about Mexican Americans. But if we all allow Arizona House Bill 2281 which prohibits Ethnic Studies to stand, other states will copy it just like other states copied Arizona's racist immigration laws. Then states will say they won't have to institute Asian Studies because-it's against the law. And at some point, they will get rid of African American Studies because-it's against the law.

This is about Censorship. This is about Freedom of Speech. A great nation does not fear young kids reading books. A great nation guards against fascists.

Arizona was used to bullying Undocumented Children and Families.

But now they fucked with Anchor Babies. I'm an Arizona Legislator's worst nightmare. I'm an anchor baby. So I can't be deported. And I have a Master's Degree. So I can read between the lines.

And, I am a novelist. I understand how words created reality. And I have the audacity to create.

In fact, the Arizona fascists were unlucky because I had just finished writing my novel THE CHILDREN OF THE LOCUST TREE, just before I heard about how they were bullying our young.

My Aztec Muses are powerful, but demanding. And they had just fed on the oral histories that had been passed down by my father, and my mother, and the stories I had read about the first Mexicanos in Texas and Chicago. My parents were migrant workers in Texas. And if they had stayed in Texas, the world would be different. Instead; my father took a chance and, again, left a world he knew to try his luck, and test my family's fate in the concrete jungle of Chicago.

I'm glad he had the guts to do it. And I'm glad he had the broad shoulders and broader imagination to thrive in the hard scrabble streets of the South Side of Chicago.

There are many legends in my family about why my dad made the move. He is now deceased. And because I am the scribe for the tribe, I get the last word.

Having said that, my father gambled with his life and was not afraid. He had guts. I revisited that fury, that energy, that audacity, that hunger, in my book. And I called upon that to lead the Librotraficantes in the first Phase in our battle against the fascist legislators of Arizona.

You need to know that all of our Civil Rights are on the line-right now. At this second, there are powerful forces lining up against you.

We are drawing a line in history.

There is no in-between.

There is no room for mediocrity.

And we will win.

Arizona legislators should never have fucked with freedom of speech.

Arizona legislators should never have fucked with our books.

Arizona legislators should never have fucked with writers.

We writers create reality. And we are writing a glorious end this story. FPH

aqua
hand car wash & detail

Basic Wash - $15 · $18 · $22 · $28
Hand wash & dry, vacuum, windows, tire dressing

Basic Plus - $25 · $30 · $35 · $40
Hand wash & wax, interior shampoo, interior protectant & shine, leather conditioning, aroma deodorizer, chrome & trim shine, tire & wheel clean

Super Clean - $40 · $45 · $50 · $55
Hand wash & wax, interior shampoo, interior protectant & shine, leather conditioning, aroma deodorizer, chrome & trim shine, tire & wheel clean, high-speed exterior buffing

Hand Wax - $50 · $55 · $65 · $70
Basic wash, exterior hand wax with liquid carnauba wax
add $20 for silicone and carnauba high gloss wax

Interior Detail - $70 · $80 · $90+
Basic wash, complete interior detail & shampoo, mats, carpets, seats, trunk, interior protectant, leather conditioning & shine

Complete Detail - $120 · $135 ·$150 · $165
Hand wash & wax, interior detail & shampoo, mats, carpets, seats, truck, interior protectant & shine, leather conditioning, polish wheels, chrome & trim. **ADD $20 FOR SILICONE AND CARNAUBA HIGH GLOSS WAX**

Supreme Detail - $195 · $215 · $230 · $245
Hand wash & wax with silicone & carnauba high gloss exterior correction compound, light defect & scratch concealor, interior detail & shampoo, exterior chrome & trim shine

1013 Montrose Blvd Houston, TX 77019 | 713-523-2082 | aquahandcarwash.com

Pay your rent
Work for the earth
Hold corporations and
politicians accountable
Change reality
Don't watch it on tv

We are hiring.

M - F 2:00 p.m - 10:30 p.m.
Pay: $400/week +bonuses, benefits
3100 Richmond Ave. Suite 290 Houston 77098
713.337.4192
jobshouston@texasenvironment.org

TEXAS CAMPAIGN FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

www.texasenvironment.org

design by: trevor@tpiperemdia.com

Space City BEAT BATTLE™

EPISODE VI: EMPIRE STRIKES BACK

FITZGERALD'S
8P-1A
houston, tx
LIVE MUSIC SINCE 1977

2706 WHITE OAK BLVD
HOUSTON, TX. 77007

SAT MAY **26**, 2012

www.**spacecitybeatbattle**.com

Follow us on Twitter **@SCBeatBattle**

#scbb6

LIVE MIXING BY
iPod Ammo
+ DJ Arsnik



FPH FAME PRESS HOUSTON · day & a dream DOT COM www.dayandadream.com · MEDIATECH INSTITUTE · Standard www.istandardproducers.com

news



One thing our city lacks…is public spaces that are used. They're very few and far between and public spaces are important. Public spaces are where people who otherwise don't know each other get together--they congregate; they disseminate ideas; shit moves forward.
- Omar Afra, Free Press Houston weekly podcast #38, April 23, 2012

We are not lacking in millionaire-donated hospital pavilions and art museums, but in those gestures that would help bring the city itself together as a work of art.
- Phillip Lopate, "Pursuing the Unicorn: Public Space in Houston," Cite, Winter 1984

A RECENT EPISODE OF THE FPH PODCAST reminded me that I wanted to write a summary of Phillip Lopate's seminal 1984 article from Cite magazine. Lopate opens with words of praise for our fine metropolis, but quickly moves on to say "Nevertheless, Houston…has an almost sensational lack of convivial public space… those in-between spaces, such as squares, fountains, monuments, parks and promenades… where people congregate on their own for the sheer pleasure of being part of a mass."

Lopate lists many excuses people offer for "deficiencies of urban design in Houston," such as "the weather; the lack of zoning; the too-rapid boom in population," etc., but he debunks each one. Cities in South America are even hotter than Houston for longer portions of the year, yet they "abound in outdoor plazas." He notes that our climate is actually fantastic for eight months out of the year, which is comparable to many far more pedestrian-friendly cities like New York, San Francisco, and New Orleans, but Houston is designed for the four worst months rather than the eight great months. "It seems paranoid," Lopate writes, "to plan only for the difficult few months."

He laments the razing of movie theaters and street-level businesses downtown in the 1960s, and notes that the downtown tunnel system has "leeched an entire economy from ground level and taken much of the street life and energy of downtown with them."

"Houston's streets give off the blunt message: Don't' bother walking. It's not worth it. Take the car."

And he's right—how many times have you seen a person walking on the shoulder of Highway 6 or even outside-the-loop Westheimer and thought, "What the heck is this person thinking???" Lopate offers North and South Boulevards near Rice University as attractive examples of what Houston streets could conceivably look like. (Shade is essential.)

But why all this talk about streets and sidewalks and walking in an article about public space? Because "[t]he most basic unit of public space is the street." Both Omar and Lopate note that while Houston does indeed have some great public spaces (Market Square, Tranquility Park, Memorial Park, Hermann Park/Miller Outdoor/zoo, a host of smaller neighborhood parks, and now even Discovery Green) they are underutilized. This is because, Lopate notes, "great plazas and squares do not bloom in a void; they are fed by the rich pedestrian life of the neighborhood streets around them."

Think of Mexico City's Zocolo, or Manhattan's Washington Square Park, or San Francisco's Dolores Park. These are destinations, even for locals from other parts of those cities, but the whole neighborhood becomes the destination--not just the square but the surrounding blocks, as well. Why haven't local real estate developers caught on to this?

The way you traverse the space between your home and the park makes for an entirely different experience! There is a huge difference between walking from your front door to your car (i.e. your private space) and driving to a parking lot at Hermann Park and then walking to a patch of shade beneath a tree, on the one hand, and arriving there by foot or even by bicycle or bus or train, on the other hand. We think our cars give us freedom, but we're so much freer to window shop or stop at cafes or daydream or run into acquaintances when we're on foot--even riding a train, you can get off one stop early to stop by your favorite deli and then walk the rest of the way--there's just so many more possibilities. When you drive, you are in private space until you arrive at your destination. If you get there by foot or bike or bus or train, you are in the public sphere from the moment you step out your door--and there's so much more chance for randomness and magic in the public sphere.

Cars and freeways create some ironic tension, of course. "[I]f ever increasing density and utilization are marks of successful public space," Lopate notes, "then our highways are a hit." We may be surrounded by thousands of people on the freeways, but we're still all alone in our sad little cars.

Lopate's article is over 27 years old, so of course parts of it no longer apply, but it's remarkable how much of it holds up. The highlight of the article, for me, is when he discusses the areas surrounding the sports stadiums of that era--the Astrodome and the Summit (later renamed the Compaq Center and now home to Lakewood Church). Here, again, he emphasizes that keyed-up fans have no choice but to track down their cars in the immense void of the parking lot and drive home, rather than gather in neighborhood bars and restaurants or share a train ride home with a gaggle of rowdy fans, i.e. fellow citizens, i.e. neighbors, i.e. potential friends.

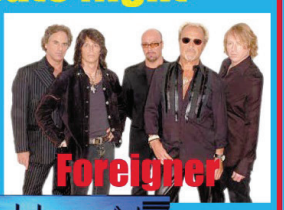
Interestingly, one of Lopate's (and my) favorite public spaces is Bell Park, which is right across the street from the space that we were discussing on the podcast--Grand Prize Bar. I suggest you print Lopate's article out from the Cite magazine archive (works best on 11" x 17" paper) and walk down to Bell Park and read it for yourself. It may be 27 years old but it might still give you a new perspective on our city as well as ideas for urban design-oriented solutions. **FPH**

The full article can be found here:
http://citemag.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/PursuingTheUnicorn_Lopate_Cite8.pdf

Saturdays Are Just Too Much Fun At The Concert Pub - North!!!

Tribute Night

Foreigner and Van Halen Tributes Presented by Double Vision and Unchained





Saturday, May 5

Tribute Night



PAT BENATAR AND HEART TRIBUTES Presented by BENASTAR and SPARE HEART

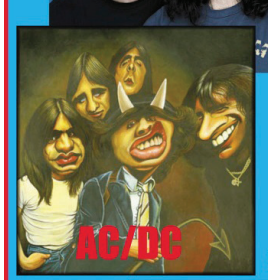


Saturday, May 12

THE CONCERT PUB

Saturday, May 19





RUSH TRIBUTE BY SUBDIVIDED

AC/DC TRIBUTE BY HIGHWAY TO HELL

Saturday, May 26



2470 FM 1960 W. • 281-583-8111

ELECTRIC CARS FOR ANY BUDGET!



HIGHWAY AND CITICARS!

HIGHWAY LITHIUM E-CARS, 100 MILE RANGE FROM $14.5K

NEW, USED, & CONVERSIONS!

AVERAGE 245 MILES PER 'GALLON'

TEST DRIVE ONE TODAY AT HOUSTON'S ONLY ALL E-CAR DEALERSHIP

HOUSTONELECTRICCARS.NET

713.237.9100 | 1005 ST. EMANUEL #7, HOUSTON TX 77003

NIGHT OWLS PRINT SHOP

HOUSTON INDEPENDENT PRINT SHOP

FREE PRESS SUMMER FEST 2011 SPONSOR

A LITTLE BIT OF WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER:

T-SHIRTS + SWEATSHIRTS + ZIP-UP HOODIES
TANK TOPS + POSTERS + RECORD COVERS
STICKERS + KOOZIES + 1”-3” BUTTONS
TOTE BAGS + SLIPMATS + SKATEBOARDS
HATS + POCKET MIRRORS + COFFEE MUGS

...AND SO MUCH MORE!



ORDERS@NIGHTOWLSPRINT.COM
NIGHTOWLSPRINT.COM

PH:281-741-7285
FAX:281-741-7032

DELI & BAR Katz's SINCE 1979 NEVER KLOSES

CLASSIC NEW YORK COCKTAILS?

WE GOTHAM!



616 WESTHEIMER 713-521-3838 ILOVEKATZS.COM

May theatre preview: the Doldrums

by Alex Wukman



WHEN PATRONS AND ARTISTS TALK about how vibrant the Houston theatre scene is they obviously don't mean the month of May. Since most of Houston's theatre companies are winding down their seasons May is a month left almost entirely to small, community theatres. Sadly the schedule reflects a certain lack of adventure in the offerings. This May a Houston theatre patron can choose from two different productions of Cinderella along with Goldilocks, Wizard of Oz, and Beauty and the Beast. For more 'adult' fare there is West Side Story and Chicago.

Not there's anything wrong with children's theatre or old musicals—we devoted space last year to previewing a children's show based on a Neil Gaiman novel as well as a revival of Moulin Rouge—it's just sad when so many of Houston's theatre companies decide to do uninteresting plays at the same time. Out of the dozens of shows being performed from Galveston to Brenham this month barely a handful seem worth the drive, and three of those are revivals.

Richard III
April 26 – May 13 (Previews April 21, 22, & 25)
Main Street Theatre
Chelsea Market, 4617 Montrose Blvd
713.524.3622 / www.mainstreettheater.com

There's not much to say about Richard III that hasn't been debated for centuries. Shakespeare, English Civil War, ascension to the throne, the phrase "Now is the winter of our discontent." Evil repulsive man who wants to be the King of England and the drama that ensues as he tries.

Magdalene
May 4 – May 20
Obsidian Arts Space, 3522 White Oak
832.889.7837 / www.obsidianartspace.org

Aspiring playwright, and University of St. Thomas Center for Faith and Culture student, Sara Kumar has hooked up with Paragon Theatre to bring her new show Magdalene to the stage. Kumar's script interweaves the story of Mary Magdalene with the divine drama of Jesus Christ. According to the promo material Kumar tackles the story of one of the most misunderstood people in Christendom by showing how Mary Magdalene left her family home in Bethany at a very young age to move to the town of Magda. Once there her "poetic artistry and beauty are loved by the many who flock to see her." In a story that is as old as time—and so new that it still hurts—Mary Magdalene's "reckless habits, numerous love interests, and dangerous emotional swings threaten to destroy her."

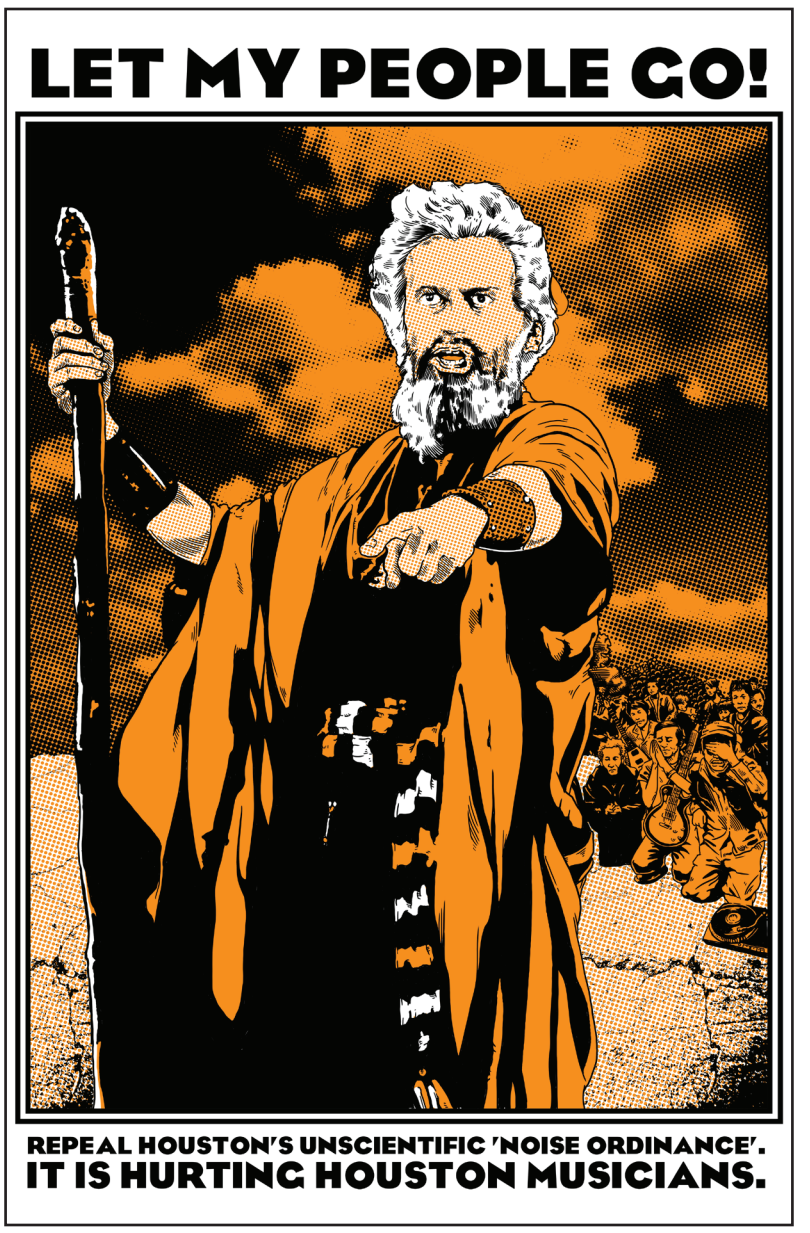
King Hedley II
May 5 – June 2
Ensemble Theatre, 3535 Main St.
713.520.0055 / www.ensemblehouston.org

It's rare that a company gets to do an entire cycle of plays. While Main Street did just finish the Coast of Utopia trilogy and Catastrophic is currently working their way through Beckett's catalogue. Ensemble has been plugging away at August Wilson's 10 play Pittsburgh cycle. And the performance of King Hedley II marks the completion of that cycle. Eileen J. Morris' direction also marks a worldwide historic first—with this show Morris will become the first woman in history to direct eight of the 10 plays in the Pittsburgh cycle. Wilson wrote the 10 plays that compose the Pittsburgh cycle while living in Steel City's Hill District during the mid-1980s, a time when poverty, unemployment and violent crime were tearing apart the very fabric of society. Like many artists throughout history, Wilson wondered what would happen if someone left the problems of urban society behind and tried to live a simpler life. To explore this idea Wilson sends Hedley out into nature to try and start a new life with nothing but a few seeds. Hedley soon realizes that humanity's needs from society are very similar to those of his seeds. Or as the promo material puts it, "just as a garden needs fertile soil to grow, social conditions need to be supportive in order for mankind to flourish."

What We're Up Against
May 11 – June 10
Alley Theatre, 615 Texas Ave
713.220.5700 / www.alleytheatre.org

After catching the attention of audiences and critics alike Theresa Rebeck is coming back to the Alley with a brand new black comedy. The author of Mauritius, Bad Dates, and The Scene returns with What We're Up Against which explores, as Variety noted, "how sexism remains well entrenched in the work-place, not least when pitting women against each other in a boys' club atmosphere." In addition to having perhaps this year's best example of synchronicity—War on Women anyone?—Rebeck is the creator of the hit NBC series Smash. FPH


www.theconcertpub.com
HULK HOGAN'S
MICRO CHAMPIONSHIP
WRESTLING
Coming
Sunday,
June 10
THE
CONCERT
PUB
North
2470 FM 1960 West
281-583-8111


LET MY PEOPLE GO!
REPEAL HOUSTON'S UNSCIENTIFIC 'NOISE ORDINANCE'.
IT IS HURTING HOUSTON MUSICIANS.


713Tattoo.com
Since 2002
seven
one
three
tattoo parlour
Quality★Finest
1533 Westheimer 713.533.1239

BE COOL
BE CAREFUL

B CLEAN™

BE COOL. BE CAREFUL.™

ITS NOT ABOUT LUCK

B-CLEAN PRODUCTS FOR INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL TOXIN REDUCERS

#1 IN DETOX

B-CLEAN FORMULA
Works in one hour, effective up to five hours.
In Hawaiian 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 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 PRODUCTS *At Your Favorite Smoke Shops!*