



THE LINK

CONCORDIA'S INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1980

SPOOF ISSUE!
An homage to our dearly-departed alt-weekly.
P14-19

EDITORIAL: WE NEED TO MAKE ELECTIONS ACCESSIBLE P23



BREAKING DOWN THE VOTE
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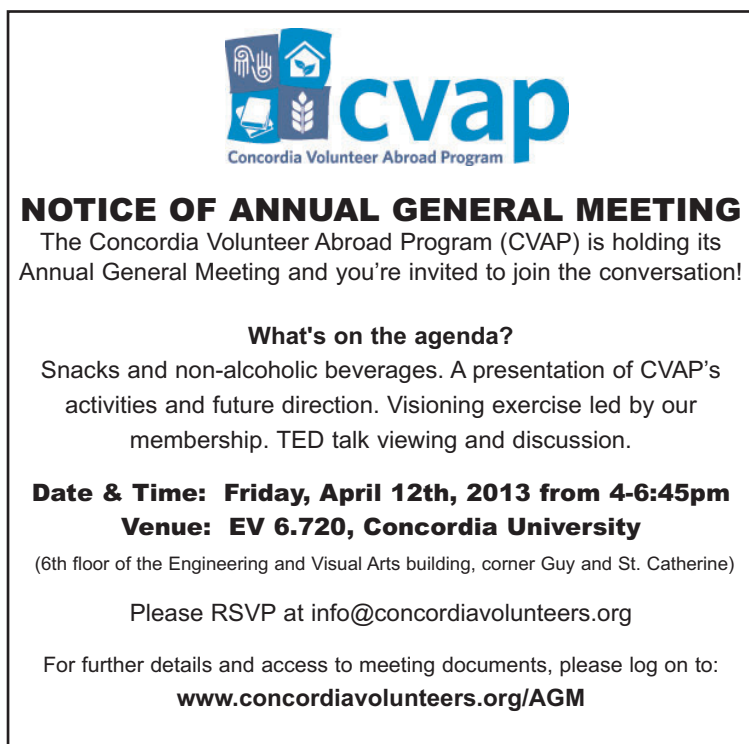
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The Concordia Volunteer Abroad Program (CVAP) is holding its
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Date & Time: Friday, April 12th, 2013 from 4-6:45pm
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For further details and access to meeting documents, please log on to:
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A SEASONAL STRUGGLE

Quebec's Migrant Workers Fight to Unionize

by Geoffery Vendeville
@Geoffvendeville

St. Rémi has all the trappings of a small Québécois town. Walking west down its thoroughfare, Notre-Dame St., you pass a fast-food joint, a dépanneur and a bank before reaching the local church—a handsome, 170-year-old grey stone building with

twin white spires. At this time of year, it's rare to hear Spanish in the street, or spot a sombrero. But in a little over a month, that will change.

Each year, from late spring until early winter, the town of St. Rémi and its environs play host to thousands of seasonal migrant farm workers, mainly from Mexico and Guatemala. Most of them arrive in

May to work in vegetable or berry farms during the *belle saison*, usually for a salary equal to or, if they're lucky, slightly higher than minimum wage. Most come to Canada to provide for their family back home, to whom they send remittances before returning to their country of origin sometime between October and December. It's a cycle that seems to de-

fine life in St. Rémi.

Just a stone's throw away from the church, on the top floor of a nondescript two-storey building that also houses a music school and a bar, is the office of the support centre for migrant farm workers. The centre is funded and co-managed by United Food and Commercial Workers, one of the largest private

sector labour unions in Canada, and its subsidiary, the Agricultural Workers' Alliance. UFCW, which goes by its French acronym TUAC in Quebec, and AWA run a total of 10 support centers across Canada, including two in Quebec, based in St. Rémi and St. Eustache.

► Continues on Page 5

TRANS COMMUNITIES AND FEMINISM

ConU welcomes transsexual author and activist Julia Serano for a talk on transphobia. **P4**

INTO THE SATOSPHERE

A venue with a full-dome theatre hosts the immersive program P3RCEPTION. **P11**

LAST DOSE OF INJUSTICE

Cinema Politica screens final documentaries of school year at Concordia. **P10**

PLANTING A SEED

ConU grad and new head of CIS shares how he plans to keep Canada's top university athletes at home. **P13**

THE SPOOF ISSUE

We needed to let off some steam and you probably do too. Turn to page 14 to have a laugh at all the crazy happenings we put up with at Concordia. It's an homage to a dear, departed alt-weekly. **P14**

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

The relocation of the NDG Food Depot was two months early and couldn't have come at a worse time. **P20**



Photo Jake Russell



Photo Stephen Cutler

THE LINK ONLINE

PEER GYNT

Theatre students bring the Norwegian classic to the university's stage.

TAKING PART IN THE JOURNEY

ARTX 480's year-end exhibition takes over Saint-Henri with It Matters How You Get Here.

ART BLOG

Suuns in concert and Colin Stetson at MAC's Friday Nocturnes.

MANIF—ENCORE?

Montrealers are still reeling after the arrests at the anti-police brutality march last month. Time for round two.

THE LINK RADIO

This week on The Link Radio: the CSU CEO gives elections analysis in-studio and an update on bylaw P-6 protests. Tune in Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon on CJLO 1690 AM.

TACKLING TRANSPHOBIA

Author and Activist Julia Serano Discusses the Relationship Between Feminism and Trans Communities



Julia Serano believes that assumptions about femininity should be challenged so that society can move forward. Photos Anil Ram

by Michael Wrobel
@michael_wrobel

For Julia Serano, the issue of transphobia is rooted in sexism and gender stereotyping.

The 45-year-old author, spoken word performer, biologist and self-declared “bisexual-femme-tomboy-trans-woman” spoke about femininity in relation to feminism at Concordia on March 28.

She noted in particular that feminist discourse can be used to better understand the issues faced by the trans community and vice versa.

The organizers of the event, Concordia’s Women’s Studies Student Association, said many Concordia students identify as trans or queer, but “seldom do these students have a chance to have a speaker present at their university who speaks to their issues and their realities.”

On Nature vs. Nurture

Some people argue that masculinity or femininity is innate. In other words, biology and brain chemistry influence gender expression more than social factors do.

Others, including many feminists, argue that gender expression is a learnt behaviour, acquired from an early age through our socialization when children learn to express themselves as either male or female by internalizing societal conceptions of each gender.

Serano, the author of *Whipping*

Girl: A Transsexual Woman on Sexism and the Scapegoating of Femininity, said this nature versus nurture argument is ultimately unproductive.

“It’s an oversimplification on either side of the debate,” she said. “Biology, culture and individual experience come together in really unfathomably complex ways.

“People have been looking forever to find the biological light switch that turns people masculine or feminine and haven’t found it.”

If we accept that both nature and nurture contribute to gender expression, how we arrive at our gender becomes meaningless, said Serano.

“What is more important are the assumptions we have about [gender] and the meanings we project onto it,” she said.

Feminine Stereotypes and the Transsexual Connection

Characteristics often associated with masculinity include independence, maturity, rationality and practicality—leaving femininity to be characterized by the opposite, lesser qualities of dependence, immaturity, irrationality and impracticality, said Serano.

But perhaps even more problematic is the fact that femininity is often seen through the lens of masculinity.

“In our male-centric culture, the most regular assumption that people make about feminine gender expression is that it’s being done for those who are male,” said Serano.

She noted that men who choose

to dress to impress often go unnoticed, but that’s not often the case for women.

“If you dress very femininely, there’s this assumption that you’re doing it in order to attract or appease or please men or masculine people,” she said, adding that it often contributes to the stereotype that women are artificial.

She said that this helps to explain why there are more public depictions of trans women than trans men.

“If you’re the media, if you’re someone with a very normative sense of gender, you see trans people as fake,” she said, adding that transgender people are often called impersonators.

“If you believe that, then what better way is there to show that someone is impersonating someone than showing trans-feminine people? Because femininity is ‘fake’ and trans-ness is ‘fake’, and together they’re really, really, really ‘fake.’”

To enforce her point, Serano showed the audience several different book covers. Some of them were for books written by transsexual women, while others were for books about the experiences of transsexual men.

The book covers about trans-femininity featured images of trans women applying makeup, whereas the men featured on the covers of books on trans-masculinity were shown as being more natural.

According to Serano, breaking

down stereotypes about transsexual and transgender people also requires a breakdown of stereotypes about femininity.

The Way Forward

Serano believes that both the trans and feminist movements need to challenge “the meanings, connotations and assumptions that people make about femininity” so that society can move forward.

“We need to get rid of the assumption that femininity exists for the benefit of masculinity,” she said. “I would also say that we need to challenge gender-policing more generally, and specifically challenging compulsory femininity for girls and compulsory masculinity for boys.”

Serano added that “compulsory femininity for girls” hurts women who express themselves as more conventionally masculine, but also affects those who are stereotypically feminine.

“Compulsory femininity forces you to try to achieve an ideal,” she said, explaining that it means women are pressured into trying to look and act a certain way.

But challenging the stereotypes of feminine gender expression doesn’t necessarily mean refusing to wear dresses and makeup or not being girly.

In this, Serano distances herself from many other feminist writers who say women shouldn’t partake in behaviours that could be consid-

ered stereotypically feminine at the risk of reinforcing the patriarchy.

Serano is arguing that society should be more open to allowing people to express themselves without the fear of being judged. Her goal is to make gender less oppressive on the whole, so that people don’t have to either conform to or rebel from traditional gender roles in order to fit in.

In an interview with *The Link* following her presentation, Serano said that a lot of progress has been made in the last two decades because of the greater visibility of gender non-conforming people in society.

But things are still moving slowly. “I think we’re really good at getting people to realize that, ‘Hey, that’s sexist, or that’s homophobic, or that’s trans-phobic,’” she said. “People can eventually pick up on that and say, ‘Okay, I won’t use that word anymore.’”

“But a lot of the more subtle things like the assumptions that we make about people or the meanings that we project onto certain types of behaviours, those run really deep. And a lot of times, those fall outside of what people would call out.”

Serano said the perceptions people have of trans people need to continue being challenged. “If [someone is] thinking about you in a way that’s different from how [they’re] thinking of other people, that’s a little more invisible and harder to raise awareness about.”

“LA BELLE SAISON” TO UNIONIZE

Rural Quebec's Labour Cycle & Migrant Workers' Rights Held in Unsteady Balance

by Geoffery Vendeville
@geoffvendeville

► Continued from Page 3

Generally, the centre's mission is to help temporary workers adjust to life in Canada, explained Rachel Heap-Lalonde and Dagoberto Acevedo, two former employees of the centre. In the growing season, employees of the St. Rémi centre lead outreach efforts to inform workers of their rights as well as intervene in labour disputes. However, even with legitimate grievances, not all workers feel comfortable using the centre's services out of fear that they will lose their jobs as a result.

In the off-season, the centre is usually closed, except for Thursday evenings and Sunday mornings when someone is there to answer phone calls and take drop-in appointments. At the foot of the staircase leading up to the centre's entrance is a drop box beside a handwritten sign saying, “Depositar sus documentos.”

Although things are relatively slow at the centre for now, its coordinator, Marie-Jeanne Vandoorne, is bracing herself for what could be one of the most difficult and significant growing seasons in her five-year career in Saint-Rémi.

Embroidered in a protracted and costly lawsuit with Wal-Mart, UFCW is planning to cut down on other expenses this year, Vandoorne explained. For the centre in St. Rémi, that will mean continuing to make due with Vandoorne as their one full-time employee this summer instead of their usual staff of two or three.

In an office decorated with flags of Mexico and Guatemala, photographs of farm workers and old newspaper clippings, Vandoorne's desk is hidden under stacks of documents. She is the only person directly responsible for managing roughly 1,000 dossiers on local migrant farm workers, as well as answering any phone inquiries.

This could also prove to be a very significant year for migrant farm workers and support centres in Quebec in another respect. The latest turn in a complicated five-year legal battle over seasonal migrant farm workers' right to unionize came on March 11, when the Quebec Superior Court upheld an earlier decision by the Commission des relations du travail, which effectively gives temporary workers on farms the right to form or join a union. The ruling nullifies a section of the Quebec Labour Code that had previously prevented workers on farms with fewer than three permanent employees from being able to unionize.

The court's judgment states that the contentious section of the Code represented a “significant hindrance

on their [seasonal agricultural workers'] ability to exercise their fundamental right of freedom of association.”

But Vandoorne isn't celebrating just yet, though, since the decision can still be appealed.

“We're crossing our fingers and we'll see what will happen next. But in the meantime, there are people who have lost hope and others who haven't yet,” she said.

Still, she hasn't lost faith in migrant workers' fight for collective bargaining rights.

“Me? Of course I haven't lost hope!” she said with a smile. “If I had, I wouldn't be here.

“I feel like they should all have the right to unionize—if not in the same form as enterprises open all year, then in a form necessary to adapt to the workers,” she continued.

Ask Vandoorne or former employees of the support centre at St. Rémi about the working conditions for migrants on nearby farms, and they will tell you a few stories worthy of a Steinbeck novel.

“A lot of the time, the workers are afraid of their supervisors,” said Rachel Heap-Lalonde, who worked at the centre for eight months last year. “We've had many cases of workers who were beaten with 2x4s.”

She mentioned one extreme example in which a Guatemalan picker on a local strawberry farm came to the centre to complain that his supervisor had threatened him and his family back home.

“He would say, ‘You work faster,’ or ‘You shut your mouth—because I know where your family lives,’” Heap-Lalonde said, retelling the migrant worker's story at a talk held at Concordia's food co-op, the People's Potato, two weeks ago. Lalonde hastened to add that not all seasonal migrant workers are mistreated by their employers.

“There are a lot of good farmers. We've heard of a lot of farmers who look out for their workers,” she said.

Jill Hanley, an associate professor at McGill's School of Social Work whose research focus includes labour rights and immigration issues, said some of the most common problems facing migrant farm workers are “low salary, less contract security, poor housing conditions, poor health and safety.”

“It's not to say all these employers are bad employers—but when they are bad, it's hard to do anything about it,” she continued.

Hanley argued that migrant farm workers are left vulnerable by flaws in the design of the Temporary Foreign Workers' Program. “The overall structure of the program keeps these workers in conditions that the average Canadian wouldn't accept,” she said.



Photos Fernando Calderón

Citizenship and Immigration Canada, which administers the Temporary Foreign Workers' Program with Human Resources and Development Canada, did not respond to phone or email requests for comment in time for print.

For Hanley, the main problem with the program is that it bars these workers' access to permanent residency. Even migrant farm workers who return to Canada year after year have no pathway to residency and eventual citizenship.

“There's a permanent demand

for this kind of work. [...] I find it really discriminatory to say that we only want this category of worker temporarily and not permanently,” she said.

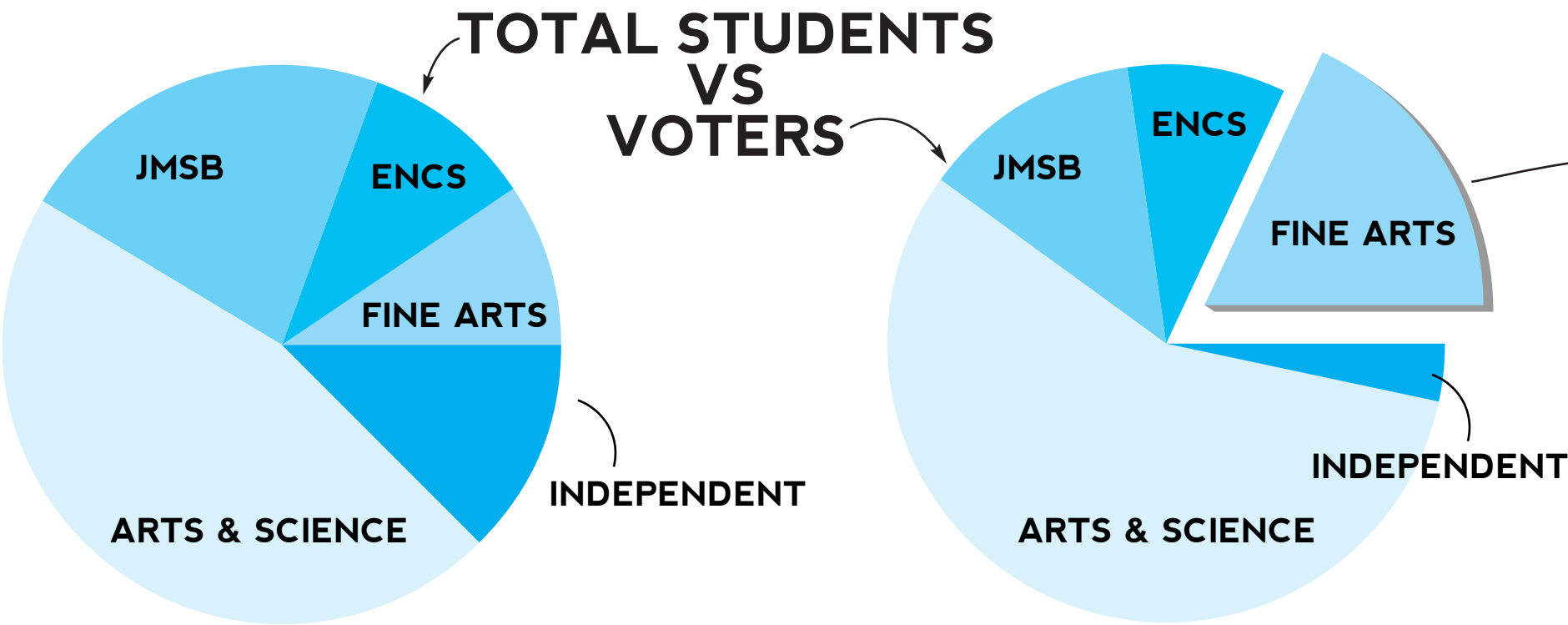
Although their official status reads “temporary,” migrant farm workers are regular fixtures in St. Rémi, and Vandoorne says she's looking forward to their return. According to her, the St. Rémi's atmosphere changes completely when the workers arrive.

“It's way more fun. The town just comes alive,” she said.

In June, usually on Father's Day, the centre organizes a party for the workers—many of whom are fathers themselves separated from their families—complete with Mexican and Guatemalan food, music and dancing. At the end of the season, they host another blowout, called the Fiesta de la culture, which coincides with the championship game of their weekly soccer league. A couple months later, they move back home leaving a sedate St-Rémi behind.

That is, until the cycle repeats itself the following spring.

#CSU2013: HOW WE VOTED



by Andrew Brennan and Katie McGroarty @brennamen / @katiecmcg

With only one candidate facing any competition, the entire CSYou team was victorious this year in the Concordia Student Union elections. But that's not the whole story.

Of the nearly 36,000 undergraduates attending Concordia, only four per cent, or 1,428 people, actually voted.

In comparison, voting tallies by *The Link* estimate that roughly 1,500 students cast their ballot last year—and that was amid the student strike.

"With all but one position running unopposed, there was less interest because people thought it was less important to vote," explained CSU Chief Electoral Officer André-Marcil Baril.

Voting at the Loyola campus continued to be an issue, with less than 19 per cent of all votes coming from the campus.

But the numbers also show there higher to voter turnout levels in some student demographics.

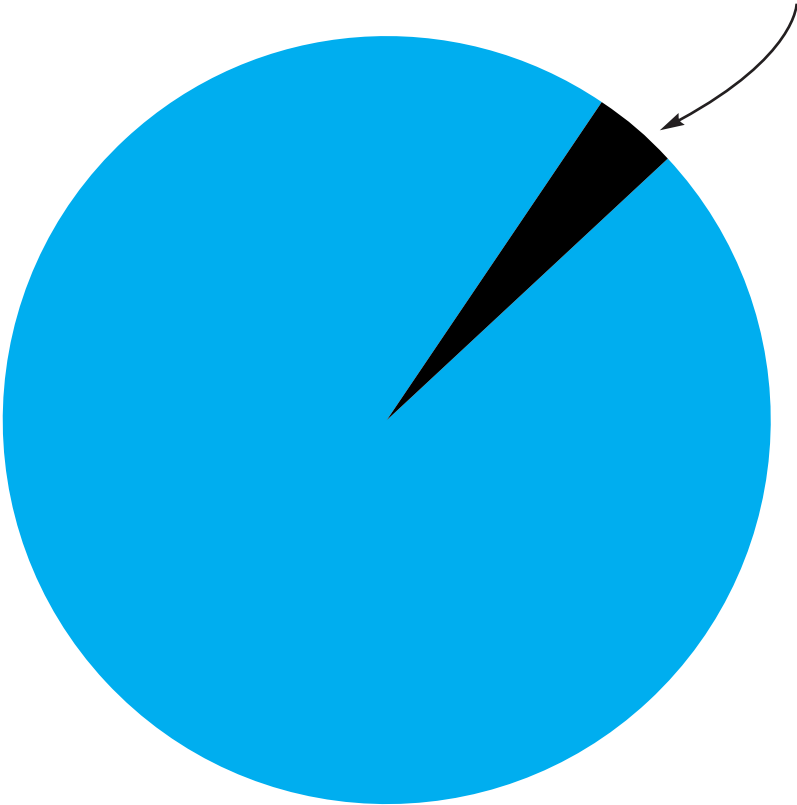
While the Fine Arts Faculty had no candidates running for CSU council or Concordia Senate, the faculty itself had the highest proportional voter turnout.

The elections also saw changes to CSU bylaws I and J carried. Bylaw I, which outlines the structure for collecting fees from students, was amended to be superseded by Bylaw J, which created a fund committee to oversee funds collected for student space and other special projects.

A fee levy increase of \$0.10 per-credit for Sustainable Concordia was carried with an overwhelming majority, as was the creation of a \$0.12 per-credit fee levy for Concordia Greenhouse.

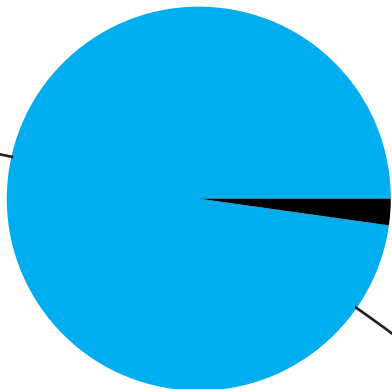
The referendum question for the Concordia Food Coalition, worded "Would you like to see the CSU actively support the new affordable, sustainable, student-run food services initiatives on campus?" also passed by a huge margin.

4% VOTER TURNOUT

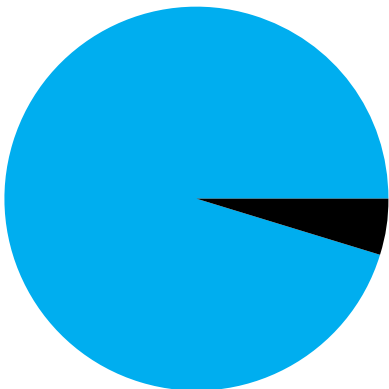


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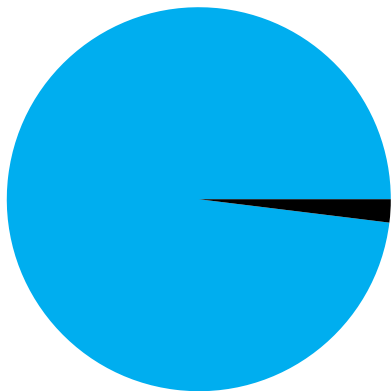
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VP Loyola – Crystal Harrison	Reenaben Patel	Rabia Tbeur	
VP Sustainability – Benjamin Prunty	Francis Boyer	Aaishah Malik	
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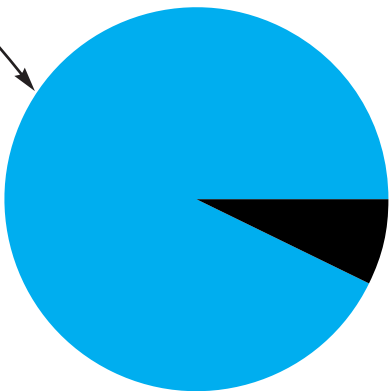
ENCS: 4%



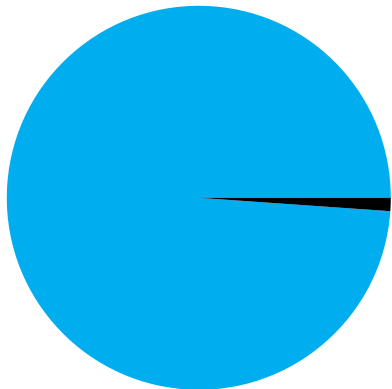
ARTS & SCIENCE: 5%



JMSB: 2%



FINE ARTS: 8%



INDEPENDENT: 1%

FINE ARTS

Despite being the smallest faculty, fine arts students were, statistically, the most interested in this year's elections.

"Maybe that means in the future, more people will be more interested in coming out and actually representing that department, or more activities from the CSU can be geared towards them," said Baril.

At 8 per cent of their faculty showing up at the polls, they had the highest proportional voter turnout—double that of Engineering and Computer Science, which consists of only marginally more students.

But even with the highest proportional voter turnout, fine arts students will see no representation on council—a fate similar to this year, when a string of resignations in the fall semester left the CSU with no sitting fine arts reps.

LOYOLA

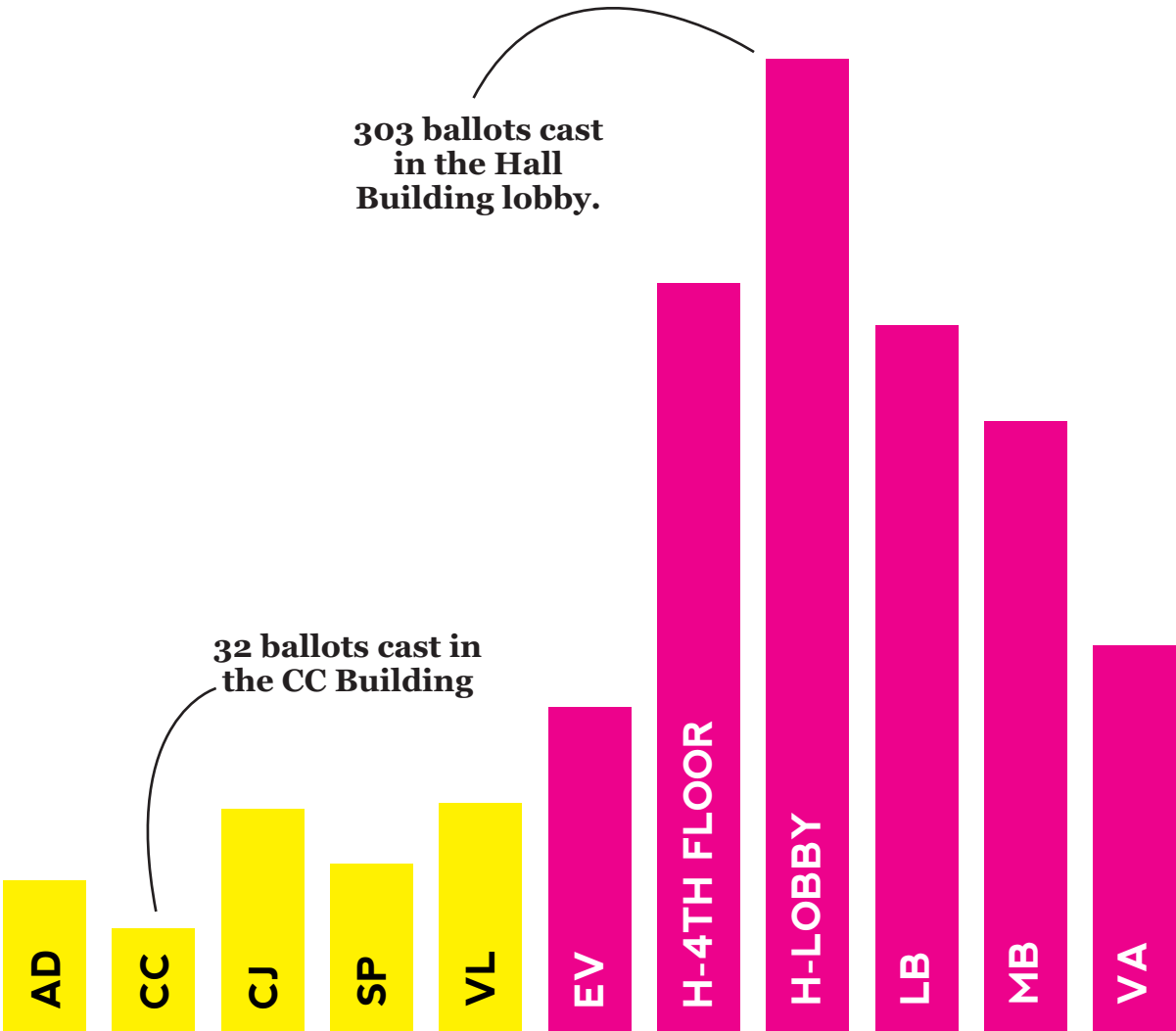
Five of 11 polling stations were positioned around Loyola, yet voter turnout on the campus only accounted for 271 votes, or about 19 per cent, of ballots cast.

According to incoming VP Loyola Crystal Harrison, member associations see a livelier turnout.

"Our MA elections were higher than they have ever been, we actually ran out of ballots because so many people voted," she said.

As to why CSU elections aren't catching on, Harrison said it's a mystery to her.

"They just don't care about anything other than [MA elections] apparently, and it's frustrating because I literally saw people go and vote [in the MA elections], then not turn around and vote in the other one," she said.



NO GOOD FAITH FOR CONCORDIA'S UNIONS

Following Faculty Strike Mandates, TRAC Now Contemplating Their Own

by Elysha del Giusto-Enos
@Elyshaenos

If 1.5 per cent of the students represented by Concordia's teaching and research assistants union go to the annual meeting this Friday, the university's TAs and RAs might be headed for a strike—but even getting those 30 people to show up is a challenge for the Teaching and Research Assistants at Concordia.

The union represents 2,000 people. But the students who work as TAs and RAs are largely unaware of what their rights are and how their union can help them.

Not so long ago before the days of TRAC, these students were sometimes treated like personal assistants. Jobs like making coffee and babysitting weren't unheard of.

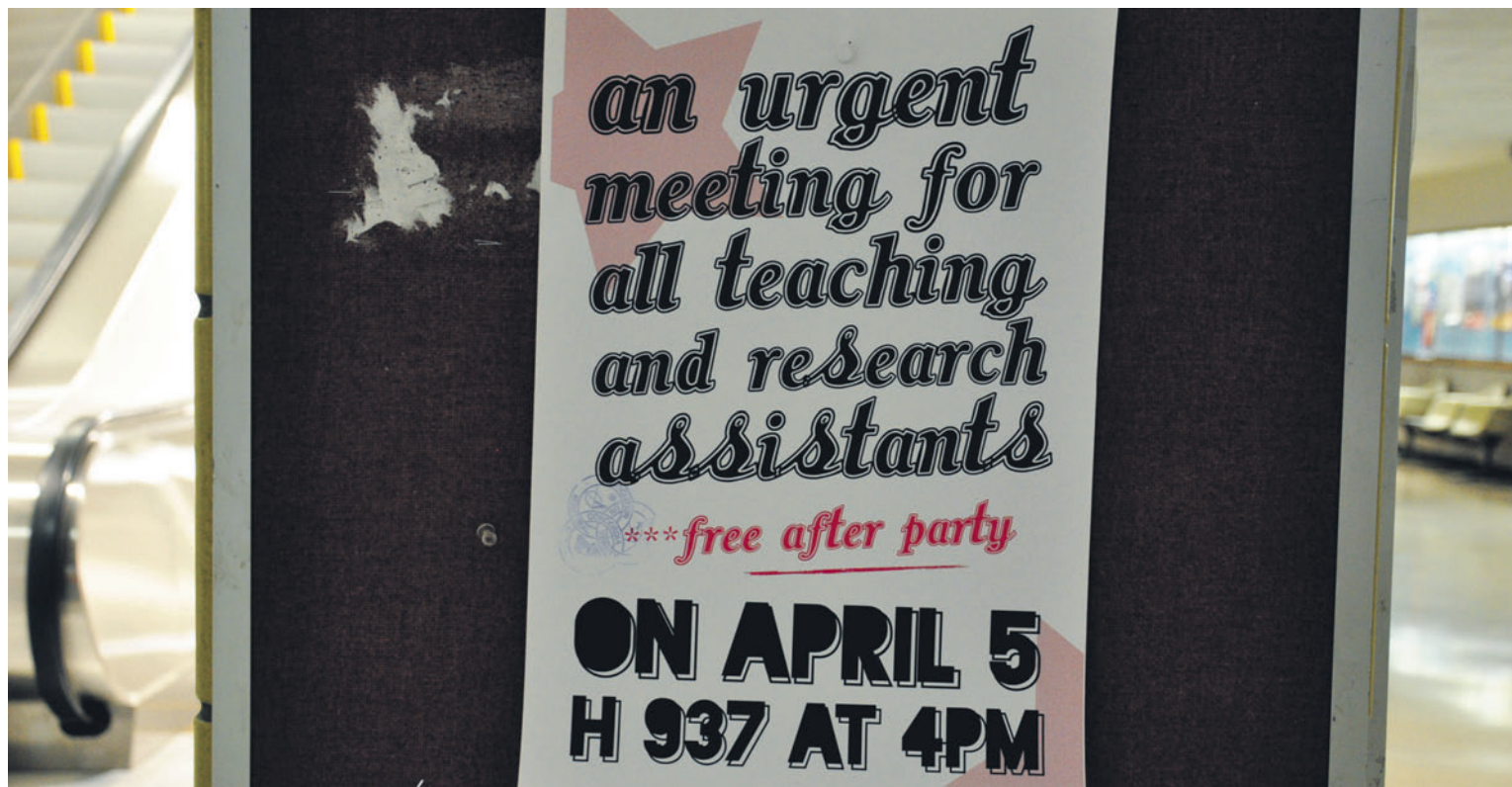
In many cases, the professor a TA or RA works under is the same person who is overseeing their thesis or grad work, something which makes the line between boss and mentor, or job and favour, easily blurred.

Concordia views these jobs as a form of financial aid. But it's only secure for the first year of studies—after that the assistants are tasked with finding their own funding.

In other words, if students come to Concordia to complete a PhD, which could take seven years to finish, their job as a TA is only guaranteed for the first one.

"If you want the next contract, you don't want to be seen as a problem, so you don't want to complain too much," said Robert Sonin, current president of TRAC. "You could be working for the supervisor who could be looking over your thesis. So you are in a pretty vulnerable position."

This was the reality for Ryan Conrad, a TA during the 2011-2012 academic year, whose complaints



TRAC will hold its annual meeting on April 5 and will discuss the possibility of a strike. Photo Erin Sparks

allegedly cost him his next contract. Conrad attempted to assert his rights when he found out that a TA in another faculty was making \$8 more an hour than he was.

Because he was working through the Faculty of Fine Arts, he was being paid \$1,000 less than what the position had advertised.

However, as part of their contract TAs are required to deal with the university in "good faith" negotiations without escalating the situation to other groups. So after months of trying to resolve the issue through the appropriate channels, he filed an official grievance.

It resulted in a meeting between TRAC, Dean of Fine Arts Catherine Wild and members of the Faculty of Fine Arts, where it was decided that it was illegal to

pay workers differently for the same job, meaning Conrad was owed the discrepancy in pay.

To counterbalance losing the extra money, the department would have to cut a position. Conrad lost his job. He had been hired in April and was told in June that his job no longer existed—already too late to find another position.

"It feels like [the situation was] malicious but I think that's giving them too much credit," Conrad said of the hundreds of hours of wasted time the department caused before making a decision.

"I do think I was singled out in that meeting where they decided, 'Yes, we do owe this person money but we're going to take away their job.' That was malicious, there's no question about that."

Conrad said that TRAC was incredibly useful in how they worked to help him while he was dealing with this issue. But he added that the university in general does not take the union seriously.

"The full-time faculty voted to threaten to strike, and that's finally when the university decided to get their heads out of their asses," Conrad said, referencing the Concordia University Faculty Association's recent vote for labour action.

"I just have a feeling that it's going to have to come to that for TAs too. No one should go into good faith negotiations with the school, because the school has none. The school doesn't listen, and doesn't listen to TRAC," he continued.

Sonin said that if more people

participated in the union the university would take them more seriously. The union works to get better contracts and pay for its members but he said that it needs the support of its members to do so.

"People need to come to show the university we have solidarity. If not we get the pat on the head 'Oh, you're students, you're so cute,'" said Sonin. "It seems people come out when they're angry at something. What we're trying to say is that these are big issues."

TRAC has been setting up posters all over campus and aims to call each of their members to remind them to attend. The annual meeting is scheduled to take place on April 5 in the Hall Building, where TRAC will be discussing points like bargaining and a strike.

CITY BRIEFS

by Erin Sparks @sparkserin

Hells Angel Arrested

Frédéric Landry-Héту, one of Quebec's top 10 most-wanted criminals was arrested on March 30 at a chalet north of Montreal. A member of the Hells Angels, Landry-Héту currently faces a total of 22 counts for murder, as well as a number of other charges that span from drugs to conspiracy to commit murder, *The Gazette* reported. The arrest of Landry-Héту is part of an ongoing sweep by Sûreté du Québec officers that has led to the

arrest of 144 gang members since the beginning of the SQ's operation in 2009. Landry-Héту is scheduled to appear in court on April 5.

No Tweets Go

Montreal courtrooms will soon be free from the sounds of people texting or tweeting, as the Quebec Superior Court has banned the publishing of information on Twitter and the sending of emails, unless permitted by a judge, according to CBC Montreal. Effective April 15, the new rules also require members of the public to turn off

all of their electronic devices. Twitter has been used frequently by journalists to relay information to the public, and the move to ban tweeting has been criticized by Brian Myles, president of the Quebec Federation of Journalists, who called the move a step backwards for the justice system.

Yes to Street Food

Summer in the city will be a bit tastier this year, with food vendors set to return to the streets of Montreal. A recent commission on economic and urban development has

decided to lift the 50-plus year ban on street food vendors, but don't expect a flurry of activity just yet—the commission wants to move slowly, creating a pilot program rather than placing dozens of carts on the streets right away. The commission has also created a "no junk food" rule in the hopes that the food served on the street will reflect the quality of food Montreal offers in its restaurants.

Moisson Montreal Running out of Time

Moisson Montreal, the city's largest food bank, is running out

of time to collect the \$80,000 they had set as a goal for their annual spring fundraiser. According to *The Gazette*, at the end of last week the food bank had only reached 10 per cent of its total target. Every month around 21,000 children receive aid from the food bank. Moisson Montreal relies on the fundraiser to lend support to lower-income families and to bring in money for food—specifically for toddlers or infants. The fundraiser runs until April 7, and all proceeds will be donated to the Great Food Drive for Children.

NOT MUSICAL TOURISM

A Trip Down the Rabbit Hole with Suuns Drummer Liam O'Neill



Suuns drummer Liam O'Neill (right) sees the band growing tighter than ever on *Images du Futur*.

by Colin Harris @ColinnHarris

Suuns make the kind of music that will burrow inside your head, nesting in your subconscious only to emerge when you least expect it.

They toe the line between drone and dance, often falling into one or the other. Their dark, at times alienating, synthy, slippery sound comes more from a feeling than a theme, one that drummer Liam O'Neill worried they wouldn't be able to recreate for their sophomore effort.

As a band, they had more at stake in their new *Images du Futur* LP. And far more people were listening, too.

"At first I thought we wouldn't be able to do it again, or that it would sound completely different," says O'Neill. "But it seems the more we work together the more we sound like us."

"We're a live band, so the development of this record is just about to start."

O'Neill is at work at a café in the McGill ghetto during our interview, as the band prepares for the

first leg of their *Images du Futur* tour—a few dates in small Quebec cities before showcase spots at the South by Southwest and Canadian Music Week music festivals.

The album will have been out for a month before the Montreal release show at Sala Rossa.

But that gap is good for the band, allowing for the industry stuff to be done first so they can begin to flesh out the murky ideas of *Images du Futur* before starting their own tour across North America and Europe.

"They're necessary chores; you get on and nobody really gives a shit, but you've got to do it," he says of the showcase gigs. "But it's also good to hone your skills as a performer under pressure, and I think our band thrives on that."

Images du Futur

The follow-up to 2010's *Zeroes QC* has been mastered since last November and was recorded this past summer at Breakglass Studios in Villeray, also the birthplace of the debut LP.

But while the environment was

the same, their approach to the new record was anything but. *Zeroes QC* was something of a dumping ground for songs they'd played live for three years; *Images du Futur* was carefully curated—and its tracks written in a much smaller timeframe.

They were also more accustomed to the style of producer Jayce Lasek of The Besnard Lakes, who knew what sound the band was going for this time around.

"It's hard to tell what the aesthetic trajectory is when you're just recording drums and bass," says O'Neill. "We're just a lot more mature. Now we know what's worthwhile to pursue, what will lead us down the rabbit hole."

That trip becomes all the more apparent on the second half of the record, where the club haunt of "Bambi" and the syncopated minimalism of "Edie's Dream" begin to take hold, pulling you into the kind of fully-formed songs that barely existed on their debut LP. It's a product of all four members gelling together earlier on in the songwriting process, although the "nucleus" of the song usually comes from singer/guitarist Ben Shemie.

Doing it Live

"I like the sound of an electronic base, with loose percussion around it. For me it saves its direction from becoming Ableton music," says

O'Neill of his drum style, referring to the popular music production computer program. "I like that loose feeling you inevitably get with the human element."

It's that human element which sets Suuns apart from their more electronic contemporaries. Three of the four bandmates studied jazz at McGill, something that O'Neill says has allowed him to execute whatever pops into his head.

"We were all trained as performers first, playing acoustic instruments," he says. "These days there are a lot of bands that weren't musicians when they were young, that grew up reading magazines or music blogs and then decided they wanted to play music."

The strongest parts of *Images du Futur* are the tracks that the band allowed to rise from primordial jams—tracks like "Sunspot," where the bass line would feel at home under today's Radiohead, or "Edie's Dream," which emerged as-is from months of improvising during sound checks.

"As soon as I started playing it on the drum kit, which is growing to be a less and less fashionable sound these days, the song was much more natural feeling; it gave our ideas room to grow," says O'Neill.

They keep the electronic aesthetic but still execute nearly everything live—a testament to their training as performers.

"There's a certain alchemy that happens after you play a song for that long. You start communicating better, a pheromonal connection," he says. "They become more gamey, more fragrant somehow."

Their latest work is an exercise of restraint—nowhere on *Images du Futur* will you find the explosive moments like in the *Zeroes QC* standout track "Armed for Peace."

The new record ebbs and flows, slipping into climactic moments at a much more gradual pace.

"A lot of people say our first record was all over the place, which in some ways I agree with," he says.

"But also that's why I love this band, I feel like we can do anything and still be us. We try and bring our presence towards whatever we're working on."

And so far that ethos seems to hold true, even when collaborating with performers such as Arabic Psych artist Radwan Moumneh, who plays under the name Jerusalem in My Heart.

"We tracked a record with him in January, and it doesn't feel to me like musical tourism or some strange academic experiment. It still sounds like our band in that scenario," said O'Neill.

Suuns (w/ Technical Kidman & Rat Paws) / April 4 / Sala Rossa (4848 St. Laurent Blvd.) / \$10.00 advance, \$12.00 door)

"There's a certain alchemy that happens after you play a song for that long. You start communicating better, a pheromonal connection." **Liam O'Neill**

DEVIL'S GOLD AND THE CRIMSON ROAD

Cinema Politica Hosts Final Two Screenings of School Year

by Margaux Loper @LoperJune

Cinema Politica is screening its last two films of the year at Concordia in the upcoming weeks: *Land in Revolt: Impure Gold* and *The Scarlet Road*.

Land in Revolt: Impure Gold, directed by renowned Argentinean filmmaker Fernando Solanas, denounces the activities of the Canadian mining industry in Argentina.

It places its crosshairs on one particular company, Barrick Gold, documenting its exploitation of the territory and its people, from social injustice to environmental devastation.

The film holds poetic and meditative testimony, illustrating struggles of Argentineans battling against a seemingly invincible corporate giant to regain power over their land, and maintain their cultural identity.

Barrick Gold is holding its annual general meeting on April 24 in Toronto. By screening this film in Montreal and Toronto, the members of Cinema Politica hope to raise awareness among Canadians on this mining company's activities abroad.

"We like to showcase artists from the Global South who tackle issues of social injustice in their own communities," Ezra Winton, founder and programmer of the Cinema Politica Network, said of the movie.

"By showing the film here, we hope to implicate Canadian audiences, including ourselves, and compel everyone to get involved.

"Canadian mining companies have the worst human rights and environmental records on the planet," Winton added.

Argentina holds the sixth-largest mineral reserve in the world, assessed at over USD\$200 billion, and Barrick Gold is active in one of the largest copper gold projects in the Bajo de la Alumbrera copper-gold mine.

"They saw their animals die because of contamination, they saw bulldozers run over houses and farms and decided to leave," laments Solanas during a panoramic shot revealing the desolate landscape of the area.

The environmental impacts of Barrick Gold's actions are devastating: 300 tons of rock are blasted every day and are then ground by a machine that uses energy equivalent to that of an entire city.

Metals are then separated using cyanide and other substances in a man-made lake extending over 30 hectares, consuming over four million litres of water per hour, adding up to 88 million litres a day.

The leaks and acid rain, resulting from the mountain being cut open and exposed to air and water, will continue to pollute all the surrounding river sources for cen-

turies, according to the filmmaker.

The parallel between the film and the struggles of the Idle No More movement in Canada fighting to stop the exploitation of tar sands and the construction of the Keystone Pipeline is a natural one to make for Winton.

"We're living in an increasingly connected world and we need to take action against Barrick Gold and other exploitative mining companies, in solidarity with not only the people in Latin America but with the indigenous cultures here," Winton insisted.

The Road to...

Treating an entirely different topic, Cinema Politica's final film screened this year at Concordia is *The Scarlet Road*, which explores the life of Australian sex worker Rachel Wotton, who has the particularity of working with people suffering from disabilities.

Director Catherine Scott offers a different perspective on the profession of sex workers, showing the positive impact they can have on the lives of disabled people.

The documentary reveals how sexuality is an essential part of what makes us human. Without the help of sex workers, a large portion of people with disabilities, who are already highly marginalized, would be denied their sexual rights.

"It's a very powerful, moving and sensitive portrayal of this complicated relationship between Rachel and her clients because some of them have important ability issues," Winton said.

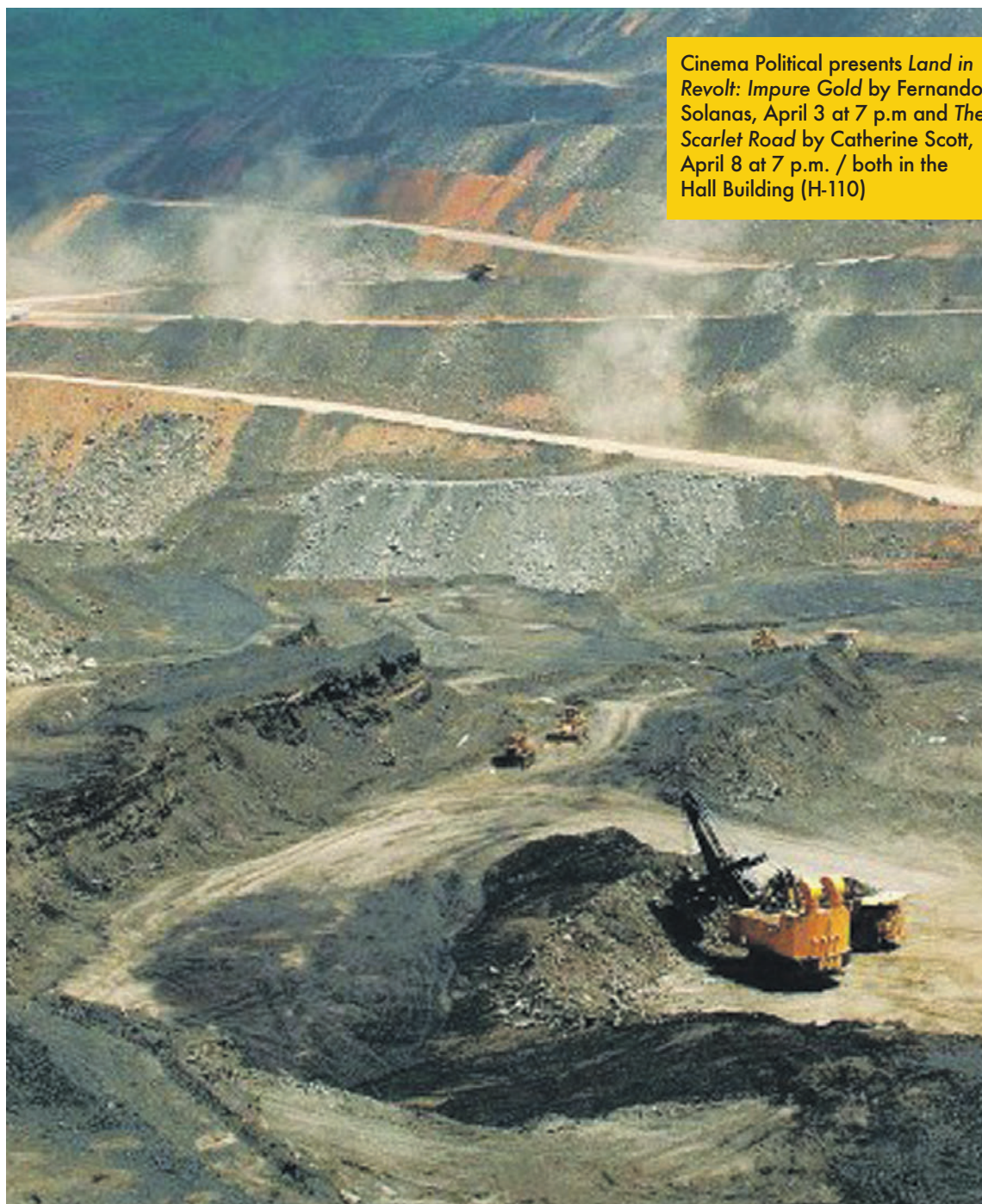
"What really comes through in the film is how neglected this area is, in terms of people living with various disabilities. The idea is that they need and want sex, and that sexual experiences are part of what makes us whole."

In this light, the subjects of the film escape judgment and reveal themselves, Rachel especially, as people here to serve altruistic purposes. Her occupation appears indispensable in a well-functioning society.

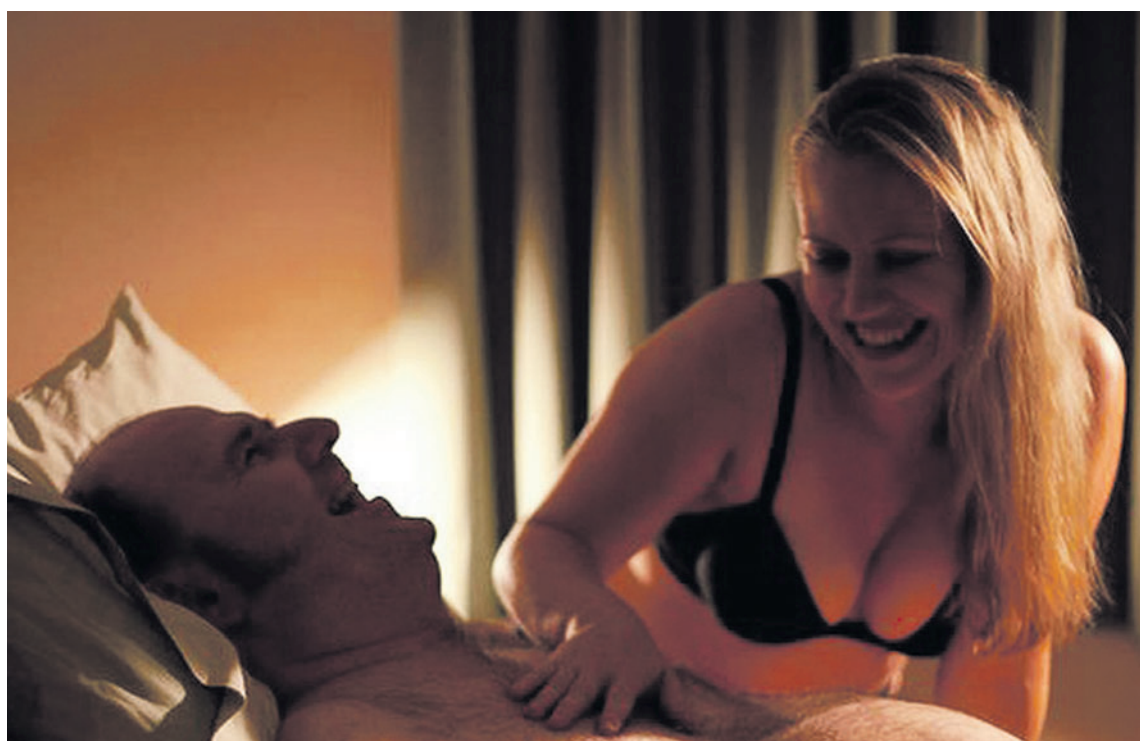
"These are two groups in society that are extremely marginalized. A lot of assumptions are made, and a lot of laws are made on their behalf," said Winton.

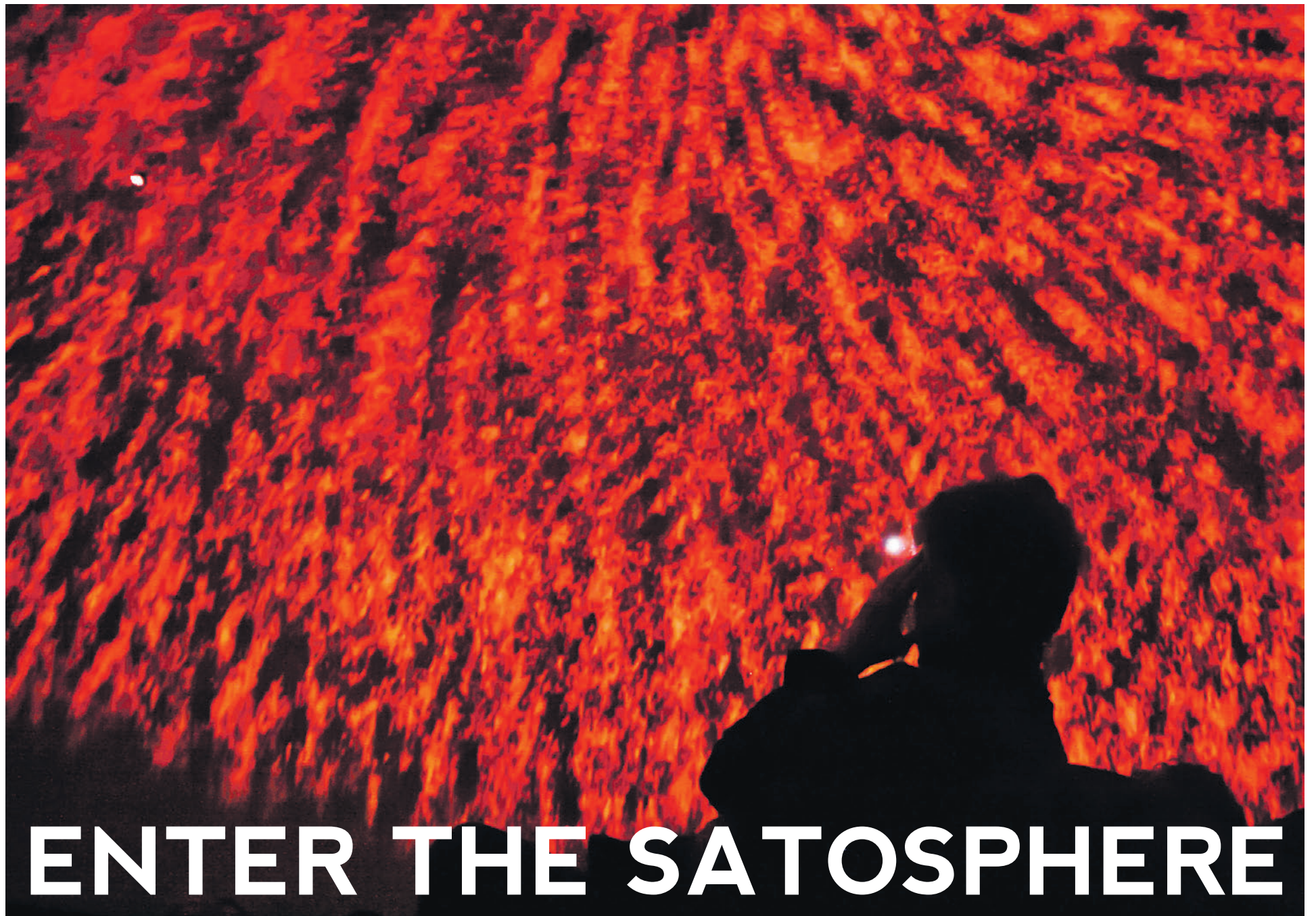
"Social norms form without people really getting to know either group [...] and what you come away with is how intensely human this interaction is and how there's nothing immoral about it," Winton said.

Rachel Wotton will be present at the screening where she'll be speaking about these issues alongside members from local sex worker advocacy group Stella.



Cinema Political presents *Land in Revolt: Impure Gold* by Fernando Solanas, April 3 at 7 p.m and *The Scarlet Road* by Catherine Scott, April 8 at 7 p.m. / both in the Hall Building (H-110)





ENTER THE SATOSPHERE

New Exhibition *P3RCEPTION* at La Société des Arts Technologiques Takes Montreal for a Ride

by Jake Russell @jakeryanrussell

As children, we all loved going to the planetarium and experiencing the awe-inspiring, almost magical dome theatre: submerged in an inky blackness with booming soundscapes, being transported through the cosmos by mystical celestial projections of fathomless depths.

This show is for those who want to re-capture that sense of wonder.

La Société des arts technologiques has brought the planetarium's dome concept into the art world with its SATosphere, a colossal full-dome theatre that hosts a variety of immersive multimedia art pieces for Montreal art lovers—and inner children.

The upcoming program to be presented in it, *P3RCEPTION*, features three experimental works that focus on total immersion and shifting of perspectives and perceptions.

"What's great about it is you usually have boundaries of a canvas, especially in video when you have a rectangular shape you're composing in," said Diana Reichenbach, one of the *P3RCEPTION* artists of the unique dome format.

"When you're in the full dome, it's like it's endless. It's really quite unique."

The specs of the dome are striking. The projections are at 4K resolution, utilizing internal mapping of the sphere with eight HD projectors to produce dazzling spectacles of 80,000 lumens. To put that into perspective, your average household lamp emits between 1,500 and 1,600 lumens.

The sound system is made up of 157 speakers in clusters of four around the perimeter of the dome, giving a surround sound of 39.4 channels as opposed to the traditional home theatre set-up of 5.1.

Constructed in October 2011, the SATosphere shares a floor with Foodlab, the SAT's gourmet restaurant.

"The idea behind it was to create a 'sensorium' to reach all the senses," said Louis-Philippe St-Arnault, director of Production and Immersive Development for the SATosphere.

"In the immersive space we get the audio-visual reaches, and in the Foodlab we get the smell-taste reaches."

The first film in *P3RCEPTION* is "o.1.," pronounced "oh-one," by Los Angeles-based animator Diana Reichenbach. The eight-minute piece fuses the natural with the digital and creates a "hybrid poetic environment" through engagement of the two ideas.

"The idea behind the film is

that you're in a naturalistic setting, using the medium to make people feel like they're sitting in the woods. But it's a reveal that it's really something digital that you're experiencing, and it's not natural," said Reichenbach.

"The point is trying to express that the reality of the world as we experience it, through our senses, is also in conversation with digital media. How we see everything is really influenced by that."

"o.1." uses a panoramic photo of a forest as its base; a composite of 38 high resolution images to create a single forest-cape. Live-action elements and digital animation are then used to make the transition into the digital realm.

The second film in the series is "Carbon-X," an experimental other-worldly collaboration by renowned visual FX designer Eric Hanson and Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence's sole artist-in-residence Charles Lindsay.

Hanson has created digital environments for films such as *The Day After Tomorrow* and *The Fifth Element*, and was also Reichenbach's professor at the University of Southern California while she was working towards her M.F.A. in animation.

"The dome community, as you can imagine, is not very big," she joked.

Lindsay has an impressive resume of trekking around the world for his work, from the Arctic to the southeast jungles of Asia, and is the first artist-in-residence at SETI.

"Carbon-X" attempts to open new dimensions and transport viewers to alien worlds. It uses techniques of CGI photogrammetry and particle dynamics to achieve geometric patterns and spaces, and was originally produced for the *Getting Off the Planet* artistic celestial exhibit in New Mexico—home of Roswell, the alleged UFO crash site.

Hemisphere, the final piece of *P3RCEPTION*, first premiered at the SATosphere in May 2012 and was created by German composer and multimedia artist Ulf Langheinrich.

The piece uses fractal algorithms as its audiovisual base and employs stroboscopic effects to further stimulate the senses.

"It's a really intense experience," said St-Arnault. "It's not only about the visuals, it's about your state of being when you're in there. Towards the end I was asking myself, 'Am I still grounded? Am I still really here?' A very strange feeling is produced.

"I was like, 'Ok, I didn't take any drugs,' but I was still asking myself that question," St-Arnault continued. "It's totally effective. Ulf is a master at that kind of thing."

Hemisphere is 20 minutes long, and something St-Arnault describes as a "dense, textural, physical experience."

P3RCEPTION hopes to emphasize the immersive qualities of the full-dome theatre and take advantage of the exceptional medium.

"With a show like *P3RCEPTION*, we're expressing another kind of concept. It's a more contemplative, un-narrated experience that you can just live in. Because it's a spherical environment, you're in it; you're in the experience. It's very physical," St-Arnault said.

"I think the [dome format] medium needs more exposure, and there's been a struggle in getting in art content outside of science," Reichenbach said. "I feel really honoured to be a part of it, and I hope there's more screenings like this in the future."

P3RCEPTION / Satosphere, La Société des arts technologiques, (1201 St. Laurent Blvd.) / April 2 – April 26 / 7 p.m. / Film \$15.00, Film + Dinner \$45.00

FRINGE CALENDAR

APRIL 2 – APRIL 8

by Michelle Pucci and Jake Russell
@michellempucci / @jakeryanrussell

THEATRE

1 *Peer Gynt*
April 4 - 6 at 8:00 p.m.
April 6 - 7 at 2:00 p.m.
D.B. Clarke Theatre (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. H-0050)
\$5.00 students / \$10.00 regular

An epic in every sense of the word, *Peer Gynt* was originally written in 1867 by Norwegian dramatist Henrik Ibsen and features trolls, flying bucks and a plot that spans an entire lifetime. With an original running time of five hours, the play is rarely performed onstage, but Concordia theatre instructor Peter Bataklijev is up to the task.

MUSIC

2 MAC's Friday Nocturnes – Colin Stetson
April 5
Musée d'art contemporain de Montréal (185 Ste. Catherine St. W.)
5:00 p.m.
\$8.00 students / \$12.00 regular

3 Jonah Nepon Memorial show
April 6
Casa del Popolo (4873 St. Laurent Blvd.)
2:00 p.m.
PWYC

A memorial concert for one of Montreal's well-loved independent music enthusiasts, Jonah Nepon is remembered fondly as a dedicated music promoter, manager, volunteer and more who helped make the Montreal music scene legendary. Play Guitar, Asthma Camp, Wax Mannequin and others will perform sets in his honour.

LIT

4 The Al Purdy Party
April 2
Casa del Popolo (4873 St. Laurent Blvd.)
7:00 p.m.
\$10.00 students / \$15.00 regular

5 EXPOZINE Awards Gala
April 7
Divan Orange (4234 St. Laurent Blvd.)
8:00 p.m.
Free

FILM

6 Cinema Politica: *Land in Revolt: Impure Gold*
April 3
Hall Building (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. H-110)
7:00 p.m.
PWYC

7 CJLO FUNdrive – R. Kelly's *Trapped in the Closet*
April 4
Le Cagibi (5490 St. Laurent Blvd.)
7:00 p.m.
PWYC

CJLO Radio is hosting a week's worth of special events across Montreal for the second annual FUNdrive, starting with a screening of R. Kelly's hip-hop saga *Trapped in the Closet*, a series of music videos with a consistent narrative of one-night-stands, lies, sex, deceit and other gangster-ish topics.

8 Cinema Politica: *Scarlet Road*
April 8
Hall Building (1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. W. H-110)
7:00 p.m.
PWYC

VISUAL ARTS

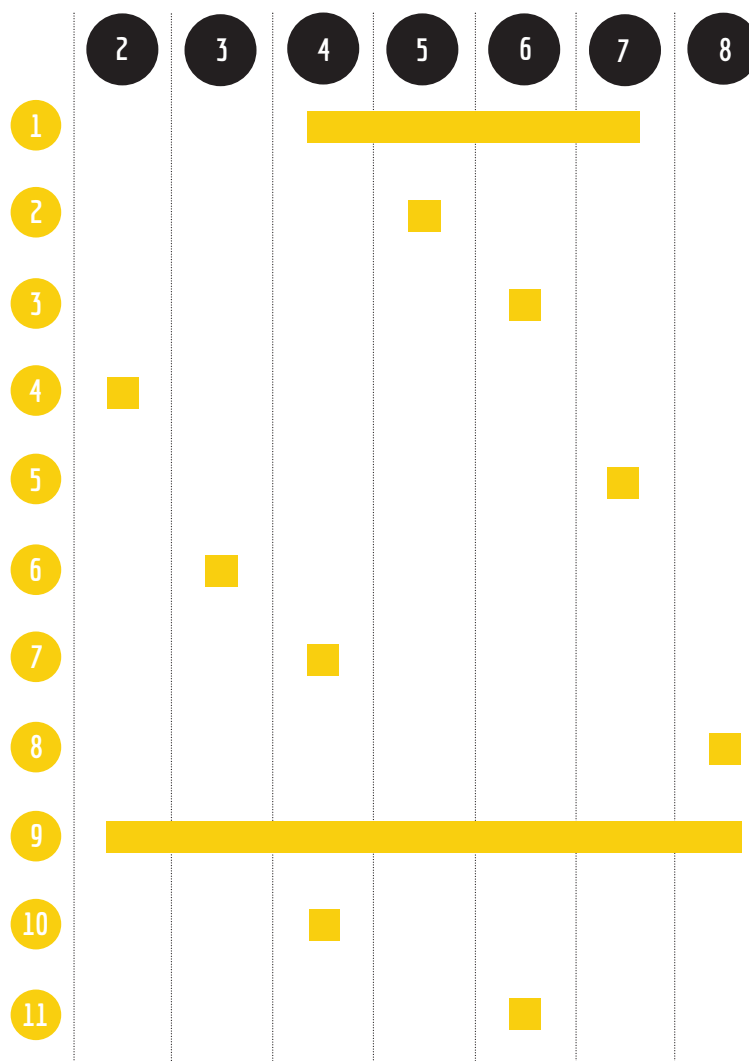
9 It Matters How You Get Here by ARTX 480
April 2 - 9
4619 Notre-Dame St. W.
Free

10 Milutin Gubash + Damla Tamer – Vernissage
April 4
Darling Foundry (745 Ottawa St.)
5:00 p.m.
Free

OTHER

11 International Pillow Fight Day: Montreal
April 6
Phillips Square
3:00 p.m.
Free

This urban playground movement has reached its 5th year, and on April 6 citizens around the world will enter the global war for pillow supremacy, with dozens of cities participating worldwide. Montreal's Pillow Fight is hosted by Kigurumi Canada, maker of silly Japanese animal-themed onesies—the preferred armour in one of the softest and most fun fights known to humankind.

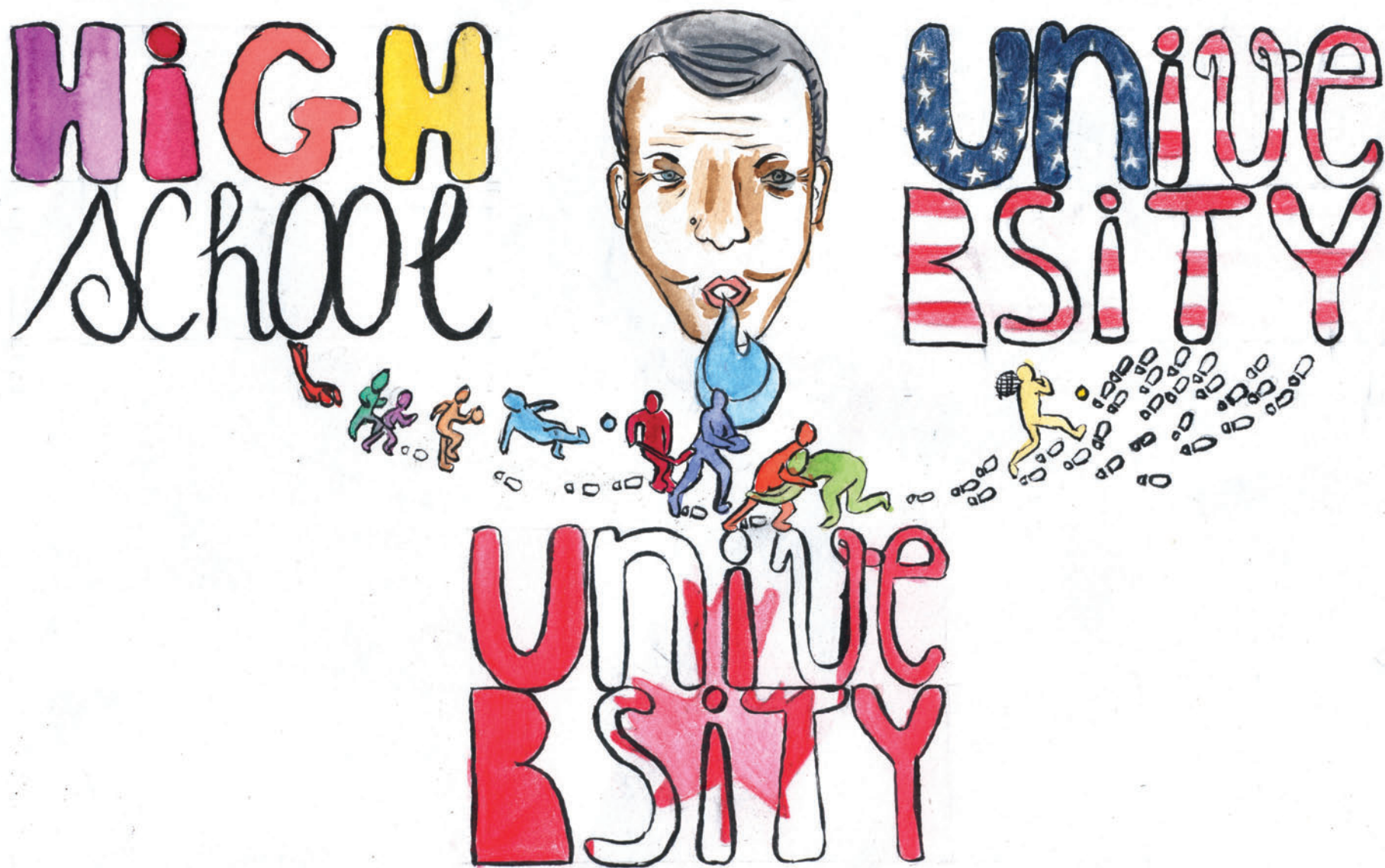


MUTEK

FRINGE GIVEAWAY

Want a free pass to the MUTEK digital creativity & electronic music festival? Pick up next week's issue to find out how to win.

► MUTEK - May 29 - June 2, 2013



As the CIS's new CEO, Concordia grad Pierre Lafontaine's top priority will be figuring out how to keep Canadian athletes from taking athletic scholarships to play for American universities. Graphic Flora Hammond

BUILDING A BRAND

ConU Grad Brings Grassroots Vision to CIS

by Justin Blanchard @Jblanch6

Pierre Lafontaine has never been one to shy away from a challenge.

At just 16 years old, he began giving swimming lessons for the Pointe-Claire Swim Club in 1972 before becoming a full-time coach there in 1976, a job he continued through university.

Upon graduating from Concordia with a biology degree three years later, the Beaconsfield native went on to coach swim clubs in Calgary and Phoenix, Ariz., as well as the Australian Institute of Sport before returning home to become chief executive officer and national coach of Swimming Canada in 2005.

After conquering those challenges with relative ease, turning Swimming Canada from barely competitive into a powerhouse and leading dozens of Australian, American and Canadian swimmers to Olympic medals, Lafontaine is ready for his biggest challenge yet—heading the Canadian Interuniversity Sport, the country's governing university

sports body.

"I'm a big believer in what our student athletes can be and [how] they can help the country, so I put my name in the pan and I got lucky enough to get the job," said Lafontaine, who was announced as CEO of the CIS in January after former 12-year boss Marg McGregor resigned last May.

At first glance, the title may seem like a cushy one—but that's before you consider all the hurdles the CIS faces.

Perhaps the biggest one is the growing number of Canadian student athletes accepting scholarships to play university sports in the United States, where the National Collegiate Athletic Association—the U.S.'s governing university sports body—dwarfs the CIS in terms of size, exposure and money.

One might assume the best course of action for Lafontaine and the CIS to keep Canadian athletes home is to adopt the NCAA's business-heavy approach to student athletics, but Lafontaine has a different vision.

"We're never going to be the NCAA—we shouldn't be," says

Lafontaine. "I think we should be the CIS."

But what the CIS is, exactly, still has yet to be defined.

"I think we need to build a brand in the CIS," Lafontaine said. "Not just the CIS as a sporting organization, but the CIS as being one million students in Canada helping inspire a campus, inspire kids."

Building that brand means reaching out not only to today's university student athletes, but to those of tomorrow too.

"I think we have to go down to the grassroots, which is high schools, and make the CIS the destination of choice for Canadian athletes," says Lafontaine. "I think our world-class athletes need to see that there's a place for them in the CIS—that you can win in the Olympics and be a student athlete in Canada."

Of course, no grassroots approach is complete without accounting for the community.

"We need to highlight not just the guy who scored three goals, but the guy who goes and helps

kids in the community and is proud to wear the Concordia jerseys, proud to represent the school at the national championship," said Lafontaine.

But pride from student athletes isn't all that's important—pride from the student body as a whole is needed as well, and is sorely lacking at most of the 54 universities that span the country.

The difference in attendance and school spirit displayed at NCAA basketball championship tournament March Madness compared to Canada's own university basketball championships is proof enough.

With time, however, Lafontaine is confident the CIS can tighten the gap.

"I think the athletic programs need to give a reason why you want to go see the hockey game, or why you want to be at the basketball game—I think we need to build the experience for the student," he said, listing the likes of having more on-campus promotion, making more events out of games and garnering more sup-

port from within athletic departments as ways to do so.

As for the student athletes, Lafontaine plans to get them more exposure with a new TV deal, start getting them involved in the Canadian government's non-profit organization ParticipACTION and have as many possible take part in the annual Terry Fox Run this September.

But one month into his job after officially taking over as CEO on March 1, Lafontaine admits he's still in the preliminary stages of turning his lofty goals into feasible tasks.

"We're in the process of rebuilding the strategic plan for the organization," he said. "I've gone to every Canadian championship that I've been available to so I could meet coaches, organizers, presidents of universities, athletic directors; I've talked to a lot of people about what the CIS can become and not what it's not."

But if his past successes are any indication Lafontaine is a man that produces results—sooner, rather than later.



THE FRONT

Radical Libertarian CSU President Calls Do-Nothing Year “Unmitigated Success”

Doing Nothing Was Plan All Along, Woodsman Claims

by DIRT SHASTY

The Concordia Student Union spent an unprecedented two months this year without a president.

For some, it was the drowning gasp of an organization that for months had been floundering in a sea of infighting and bad management.

But for outgoing CSU president and radical libertarian Lambert Woodsman, everything went according to plan.

“There’s no government like no government, and by that standard I think we did a heck of a job,” Woodsman told *The Broken Mirror* in an exclusive interview last week.

“At first, the plan was to get elected, fire everyone, strip the union for parts and sell anything that wasn’t nailed down, then cut each and every student a cheque to refund their dues,” Woodsman said.

But after winning the election, the scheme faltered.

“Bylaws. Damn bylaws,” he said.

That’s when he enacted his backup plan, Woodsman claimed. “We had to destroy the union to save it. Every one of those executives was hand-picked to do one

job—filibuster themselves,” he said.

Marathon council meetings, bylaw and procedural SNAFUs, relentless bickering and occasional eruptions of blind rage—this year’s governmental woes were the result of Woodsman’s “nuclear option,” he said proudly.

“Think about it. What did we do this year? Nothing. Not a damn thing. Even the website was designed to be completely useless. Beautiful. If it were up to me, we’d run the whole country like this,” he said.

Seated on a crate of .30-06 rifle ammunition inside a dimly-lit basement apartment somewhere in Pointe-Saint-Charles, which Woodsman calls his “bolt-hole,” the former CSU president said he agreed to the interview because he wanted to “set the record straight” on his controversial term.

“I knew what I was doing the whole time,” he insisted. “Unions are a communist cash grab, and if it were up to me, we wouldn’t have one at all,” Woodsman said.

“Most services would be better provided by enterprising students operating in the free market,” he added. “The government’s way too

big as it is, and I’ll be damned if I’m going to be a part of it. As a good citizen it’s my job to help choke the life out of it as much as I can.”

The housing and job bank, which helps students find work and stable housing, is unnecessary, Woodsman said.

“Why should I pay to help you deadbeats find a job? If you’re too lazy to get work it’s your own fault, hippie,” he said.

The union’s counselling and advocacy centre would have to go, too. “Need a friend? Get a dog,” Woodsman said. To the legal services clinic, “Get a gun.”

Woodsman, who had traded his usual tailored suit for a camouflage ball cap and a ragged “Don’t Tread On Me” T-shirt when he met with *The Broken Mirror* last week, said he was happy to have left the union mired in distrust and political deadlock.

“They’ll be cleaning this up for years,” he said with a satisfied chuckle as he uncapped a jerry can full of moonshine and poured himself a glass.

“The landlord keeps gettin’ after me for cooking this stuff up

in the back, but I’m sure he’ll be knocking on the door for a taste when I’m the only guy after the crash who’s got any liquor. Country boy can survive, know what I mean?” he said, offering this reporter a swig.

“History will judge me favourably. If we’d let the CSU keep on governing, who knows where it would’ve stopped?” Woodsman asked, downing the glass in one gulp.

“First they try to tell you what to do with your own money—buying a student centre or something. Then it’ll be no more stockpiling ammo and growing your own tobacco in university res, and next thing you know there’s black helicopters everywhere and no one’s allowed to take a piss unless the United Nations says so,” Woodsman said, his voice rising.

“Listen, I’m not saying [former CSU president] Gillian Jacobs is a shape-shifting Indonesian Muslim reptile creature sent from the future to take away our rights, but I think the facts speak for themselves,” he said.

“Wake up, sheeple. Ron Paul 2016.”

Find more spoof content online at thelinknewspaper.ca

The Shocking Truth About CSU Meetings

ConU President Alan Pastor has Suspicious Rug that Looks Like a Stuffed Flowy

Lone Concordia Student Remains on Strike: “I Was There, Man”

No One at Concordia Actually a Student

CSU Council Prorogued until \$1,000 Per-Gram Truffles Served by Robot Butlers

Librarians Get Electric Whip to Enforce Blue Zone

CSU President Resigns From Resignation

Concordia Chief Financial Officer Patrick O’Ceallaigh is something of a gold mine for colourful quotes. He has a certain flair for metaphors and a love of similes. In that spirit, we’ve created a Patrick O’Ceallaigh quote generator on our website for your spoofing pleasure. Only a select few are actual quotes, the rest—well, let’s just say things got a little weird. Head on over to thelinknewspaper.ca to waste hours of potential study time, giggling in the library like a school child. You know you want to.

CSU PRESIDENT RESIGNS BECAUSE HEAD STUCK IN HONEY JAR

“Oh Bother”

by WULIA WABBIT

Concordia Student Union President Lambert Woodsman resigned Monday afternoon after a particularly bad bout of “honey head.”

Woodsman spent most of his morning trying to free himself

from the egg-shaped jar, which he claims seemed much smaller than it had been the day before.

But, he admitted, it was hard to be sure.

“The more I try to remember,” he mumbled through a jar during a press

conference, “the more I forget!”

Woodsman added that when one is “made mostly of fluff,” these things are much more complicated than they might appear.

Woodsman said he tried everything to get out, a claim that was

confirmed by his VP External, Tiger Sauzon, who claims attempts to “bang every bump and to bump every bang” were made, to no avail.

Not to be outdone, Sauzon stuck his head in two cookie jars, while shouting that he is “truly a

wonderful thing.”

Woodsman made a plea for students, his council and most importantly his tummy, to understand that resigning was the most logical option given the circumstances.

“What’s a bear to do?” he sighed.



BEST OF MONTREAL

The Broken Mirror’s Guide to What’s Hot & Hip in Montreal

Best of Hall Building:

1. Out of service escalators
 2. Cockroaches
 3. Asbestos
- Honourable mentions: Overcrowded elevators, getting trapped in them when they break

Best Place to Vomit:

1. Behind Andrew’s Pub after film screenings
 2. The Reggie’s terrace on Thursdays
 3. Seventh-floor bathroom in the EV Building
- Honourable mentions: Guy-Concordia Metro station, Le Gym

Best On-campus Study Space:

1. The SSMU Building
 2. Berri-UQAM Metro station at 8 a.m.
 3. McGill’s library (but actually)
- Honourable mentions: the 105 bus, Reggie’s

Best University:

1. Concordia
 2. Concordia
 3. Concordia
- Honourable mentions: McGill, UdeM, UQAM.....Concordia

Best Panhandling Sign:

1. Too Ugly for Prostitution
 2. Need Beer/Weed Money
 3. “The Link”
- Honourable mention: Change cup dangling on fishing line in the faces of businessmen

Best Metro Artist:

1. Guy-Concordia puppeteer
 2. The guy with a single bongo drum
 3. Your iPod
- Honourable mention: The sound of water dripping

Best Place to Have Sex:

1. The Concordia Greenhouse
 2. That giant “C” at de Maison-neuve Blvd. and Guy St.
 3. The Concordian’s office
- Honourable mentions: Café XXX (while planking), Vanier library

Best Free Stuff

1. Reggie’s beer glasses
 2. Hall Building furniture
 3. Food poisoning from the Hall Building cafeteria
- Honourable mentions: Random event flyers, guilt from Red Cross canvassers

PRANKLINE™

THIS WEEK: Sex, drugs and a piss stain in the elevator!

HELLO? My name is Blake and I’m a freshman at McGill and I think I’ve wandered too far off campus. It’s getting cold out and I haven’t eaten in like two, maybe three hours. What time is it? The sun sets to the west right? There’s a dog that’s been following me for like three blocks. I’m pretty sure he knows I’m super high right now. **[CLICK!]**

What’s up with all these fuckin’ hippie types on the seventh floor ‘round noontime, bro? Fuckin’ Tupperware n’ shit... pssh. **[CLICK!]**

Hello...? Is this thing on...? Peter? Can you hear me? Stupid thing. It’s Wormsworth. They took my precious. Damn kids... Stuck me away in a broom closet. I just want my monies back. Peter? Can you sign for my snacks? **[CLICK!]**

Yo, what’s the deal with washroom stalls without hooks? There’s nothing more frustrating than having to hold in your deuce because there’s no hook for your jacket, backpack, or whatever. Sometimes, you gotta find an entirely different washroom, or different floor! Do people actually steal those hooks??? Shit’s weak, brah. **[CLICK!]**

This is to the guy at Irish Embassy who asked me ‘what’s your problem dude?’ My problem is you, Kimosabe. So step off bro... what? What? I thought so. The only reason I didn’t say that at the bar is cause I thought you said ‘I have problems dude’ so, naturally, I said ‘I’m sorry man, just leave me alone please mister’ and then looked at the floor and walked away, quickly. But now I’m calling you out, esse. But I’ll be in Toronto for a few months and then I’m getting rotator cuff surgery so, realistically, if you wanna go in like one or one-and-a-half years, let’s go, brah. I’ll start shit ‘cause I don’t give a fuck. **[CLICK!]**

Hello? You’ve caught me at a bad time. I’m rather high on speed and listening to John Frusciante. But I need more bass and the lo-fi MP3 file is not doing justice to Dr. John’s brilliance. I require more audiophilia. I hope that’s still legal... it’s legal to marry your cousin, so I guess there’s hope. Yes, there’s your rant, PRANKLINE. Dr. Zhivago, OUT!” **[CLICK!]**

I gave him mono. Sorry, CSU. **[CLICK!]**

Ahem. To the asshole janitor who leaves a puddle of piss each night in the Hall Building elevator: The anointed baby Santa-Jesus once said, ‘thou shalt not leave puddles of thine own pee to sop itself into a carpet spread.’ If not, remember: Febreeze that shit. Especially if it’s shit. The smell is somewhat ambiguous. But if so, see: Fiber One. **[CLICK!]**

YOU KNOW? Maybe it’s the booze, but after six hours of a CSU meeting, you guys get pretty darn attractive. Screw Robert, and his rules. **[CLICK!]**

Okay, so there’s this administrator who had this tie and I swear he wore it to every Board of Governors meeting for a year. It had roosters and alarm clocks and sunrises in it. What the hell? You’d think if you were a vice president of a company that sounds effectively like it should be run by 1960s comic book super villains you’d be able to find something a bit more appropriate. Honestly, what gives? If you are reading this, go buy a new tie. **[CLICK!]**

Do you like drugs?! Have I got a deal for you! Starting today, I will be launching SketchyDuRag, my new illicit substances distribution service!

Business open from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m., Sunday to Thursday, except for Pessah, Shavuot, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hanukkah and Boxing Day. Find me at the rear entrance smoking area of the Webster library. Shalom, biotch! **[CLICK!]**

Concordia: where you pay for a “real education for the real world,” but only get a real education once in the real world. **[CLICK!]**

I voted yes for the greenhouse. Why? Have you ever fucked in the greenhouse? Me neither, but losing that option would be a travesty. Think about it. **[CLICK!]**

So the janitors have this zamboni that they use to clean the floors at Concordia. It’s really selfish of them. This privilege should be on a rotating, volunteer basis. I don’t have a car and I think driving something would be fun. Also, I’d be contributing to society without having to deal with poor people. Just me and the open road. Or hall, as it were. **[CLICK!]**

IMPEACH LEX GILL! Wait. What year is this? Where am I? Damn it. **[CLICK!]**

The Presse Café next to Guy-Concordia [metro station] is the worst place in the world. Putting aside that it’s a shitty link in a crappy coffee shop chain, but that can be forgiven. No, the worst part is that they have something akin, in this day in age, to bell-bottom pants, white guy ‘fros or overt racism—Wi-Fi that you have to pay for. What the fuck? My great-great-grand uncle didn’t die in World War II for this shit. **[CLICK!]**

To the guy in the metro who plays the accordion: You’re awesome, man. You make me feel like I’m living in the movie *Rat Race* or something, and that fucking rules. That movie was terrible as all hell, but it makes my commute a bit more lively, so keep on keepin’ on with your sweet jams. **[CLICK!]**

This is for all the girls who have to deal with that goddamn broken hand dryer in the fourth-floor Hall bathroom. What the hell is up with that thing? It just starts and stops and starts and stops over and over again and you always think it’s gonna start working but nooo, it never does. And then you’re standing there looking like an idiot who can’t figure out something as basic as a hand dryer, when really it’s not my problem man, I’m doing the best I can. **[CLICK!]**

Hi. I just wanna say, I’ve been skateboarding for 11 years; it’s my passion. My lifeblood. The whisky to my Ron Swanson. Now that the sun is out again and the snow has melted, I’m hyped. But skating to class down the de Maisonneuve bike lane earns me many angry glances from y’all. To the haters I say, S on my D. I get it, it’s loud. A rumble increasing in volume as I shred past you. Skating on the gravelly, pot-hole terrain that is the streets of Montreal results in that. Not my fault, old lady with her dog barking bloody murder at me. All I’m trying to say is, don’t hate, go skate. And if you yell, “Do a kickflip,” or anything involving Tony Hawk at me, you are a tool of the highest calibre. Probably a rollerblader! **[CLICK!]**

Hello? Can anyone hear me? I’m stuck in the Hall Building stairwell and I can’t get out! Too sweaty to open doors. Panting... losing breath... please, I just need to make it to the 12th floor to hand in my poli sci paper... fading... fast... REALLY, HOW HARD IS IT TO FIX THE ESCALATORS??? **[CLICK!]**



Graphic Paul Marsden

ARCHITECTURE

Hall Building Ceilings Lined With Cash, Not Asbestos

“Flowy’s Gold” Discovered, Concordia Looks to Close Funding Gap

by JIB RONI

Concordia folklore has it that behind the ceiling tiles of our decrepit Hall Building lies enough asbestos to effectively wipe out all 40,000 Concordia students through debilitating respiratory illness.

As a result, the tiles are to be left untouched.

However, a series of documents that have been slipped under the door at *The Broken Mirror* over the past two weeks suggests otherwise.

Written in a delirious scrawl across 14 pages of the first package are the words, “THERE’S ALWAYS MONEY IN THE HALL BUILDING.”

The document is signed “DJ Flowy,” a name coined by two-time former Concordia President Frederick J. Flowy.

Another package delivered several days after the first contains a map with the title “Flowy’s Gold” etched into the top left corner.

On the reverse side of the map is a long letter detailing the supposed history of the wealth lining the walls of the Hall Building.

Nearing the end of his first term, Flowy describes that he “felt the dogs closing in,” and that he had to hide what money he could before it was too late.

“That old wench was eyein’ me ship, an’ I knew what would happen if she got her hands on the treasure,” explains Flowy in his letter, referencing his predecessor Wormsworth, though clearly suffering from

some mania. “Me an’ the fiddlers three chose to stow away the booty till ol’ Wormsworth was gone, yarr.”

Letters have since stopped coming, and Flowy is nowhere to be found.

The Hall Building has been locked since last week, though a large black flag brandishing the Jolly Roger appeared atop the building last night.

Sources close to university administration have suggested that the money will be considered to help in closing the funding gap created by government cuts to universities across Quebec.

In an emergency Board of Governors meeting called to address the issue, Concordia President Alan Pastor could be seen winking at board members and mouthing the word, “Jackpot.”

Pastor erupted in an uncharacteristic show of enthusiasm while leaving the meeting, throwing his arms in the air and shouting, “Mange ma bite, Polly!” before being hauled away by Concordia spokesperson Tina Meta.

In a letter to the community the following day, Pastor expressed his regrets.

“I’ll be the first to admit that I got a bit carried away back there,” wrote Pastor in the letter, which was also distributed to media. “It’s all the French I know.”

The board will decide on “Flowy’s Gold” in a closed meeting next Friday. ■

NEW CSU CAMPAIGN SEEMS JUST RIGHT

“Idle All the Goddamn Time” a Resounding Success

by Alan Zheiterovac

Inspired by the politically active climate they’re surrounded by, the Concordia Student Union launched a branding campaign that will encompass all of its activities: Idle All the Goddamn Time.

“We originally wanted something more proactive,” said former President Lambert Woodsman, who was not only the inactive force behind the initiative, but also its inspiration. “But fuck it. That seemed hard.”

Originally, the CSU execs had vowed to complete a variety of projects, ranging from booking a huge star at the orientation concert to kick off the year, to revitalizing the conversation around student space. But eventually they ran into a wall—and they figured they’d just stop there.

“It really culminated around the student space project,” said Woodsman, who was wearing a bathrobe, boxer shorts he appeared to have been wearing for several days and a T-shirt that read “Party Naked” and was covered with prominent mustard stains at the time of this interview—which was 2 p.m. on a Wednesday.

“I mean, could we have educated ourselves on the phenomenally corrupt and wasteful past of that portfolio and adjusted our strategy around it? Hell, yes. But again, that would have required work. And we soon realized work is tough,” he said.

“So, you know. Whatever.”

Under the tenets of Idle All the Goddamn Time, the CSU offices have begun resembling the shambolic aftermath of a large-scale garbage strike, with piles of refuse accumulating and a smell not unlike the sour stench of curdled milk circulating in most offices.

Several executives were seen yawning while languidly scratching sensitive parts of their anatomy.

“Yeah, it’s pretty gross around here,” said Woodsman with a touch of pride. “Really representative of our job thus far.”

Woodsman acknowledged that Idle All the Goddamn Time is a new project, but has deep roots, going all the way back to the fall Orientation concert, which after years of such notables as Snoop Dogg and Stars performing, featured a band nobody had ever heard of.

“Would we have liked to have a band not named BADBADNOTGOOD, which provided you guys with easy punch lines?” asked Woodsman. “Sure. But look, Idle All the Goddamn Time is a way of life. That being said, we did get off our asses to help next year’s CSU. We already booked next year’s Orientation act!”

When pressed for details, Woodsman acknowledged that the bands lined up are Fucked Up, Bad Company and Bad Brains.

HOORAY FOR POLITICS

PREMIER MORRIS ANNOUNCES FRENCH LANGUAGE IS SECURE

OQLF to Turn Attention to Protecting English



Graphic Paku Daoust-Cloutier

by JEAN-GUY AVALLÉE

Quebec Premier Polly Morris announced on Monday at a Westmount ice cream shop that the French language is thriving in the province.

"The French language is secure," she said, standing in front of a large banner reading "Mission Accomplished" and emblazoned with the Quebec flag.

"We do not know the day of final victory, but we have seen the turning of the tide," she added, parroting the words of former U.S. President George W. Bush, whom she admitted she "admired."

Morris entered the ice cream store and tried to order two scoops of the rum and raisin flavour, but the owner—a unilingual anglophone—couldn't understand what she was saying.

"I never hear French accents around here," said Margaret O'Brien, whose store Delicious Ice Creamz sells 50 varieties of the cold treat. "Her accent was so thick that I had to ask her to repeat herself in an English accent."

Morris also tried to pay for the \$3.00 ice cream cup with a corporate credit card embossed with the company name Giovanni Construction Ltd., but the cashier said the store only accepted cash.

In a press release, Morris denied accusations that she had taken a bribe from the construction company, which was recently awarded a \$3-billion contract to build a new subway line to Montreal's West Island suburbs.

Given that the Parti Québécois government now believes the French language is no longer under threat in predominantly English-speaking North America, the question now arises as to what to do with the Office québécois de la langue française.

The OQLF is the government organization tasked with enforcing the province's language laws.

Morris said the OQLF would not be shut down, mainly because it was part of her Economic Action Plan. She said the job losses that would result from closing the agency would slow economic growth.

Jacques-François Lassé, the minister responsible for anglophone relations, suggested that the OQLF now be tasked with the protection of English instead of French.

"You know, with all the text messaging that anglophone children are doing these days, the quality of the English language is suffering," he said. "What is this 'LMAO' and 'LOL'? Queen Elizabeth would never approve of such distortions to Shakespeare's language."

Prime Minister Stefan Herper welcomed the news that the English language will now be protected.

"I never understand what my children are saying anymore," he said. "And the music they listen to! All of these pop singers' lyrics should follow proper grammar rules."

He also congratulated Morris and the PQ government for succeeding in unilaterally saving the language of Molière.

"Now there are people in Alberta speaking French," he said. "It's really wonderful. I might have to learn the French words for cowboy

boots and cowboy hats, because the next time I go to a store ahead of the Stampede, I might have to speak French to the store clerk."

Lassé credited the Liberal government of former Premier (wait, what's his name again?) with most of the legwork.

"By introducing intensive English classes in the sixth grade, they showed young francophone children just how beautiful their language really is," he said, implying that English isn't as eloquent. "Now they only want to speak French, whether they're out in public or at home."

The nationalist Société Saint-Jean-Baptiste said it would award its annual Patriot Award to the former Premier this year.

"We thought we might give it to the mayor of Westmount for his work in advocating for Quebec's interests, but we decided that it was more important to honour another great man who saved the French language," the organization wrote in a press release.

"Vive le Québec libre." ■

**DERANGED CONU
LIFER HIJACKS
CAMPUS MEDIA,
USES STUDENT
FUNDS TO FINANCE
EAST-END
"MEDIA EMPIRE"**

by JIB RONI

After months of bad press, public embarrassments and conspiracy theories, Community University Television went quiet.

But despite cleaning house and restructuring management, save for the lone cameraman live-streaming CSU council meetings through his MacGyvered tape-cassette camera set-up, the TV station seems to have piped down once again.

Or has it?

While all remains quiet on the campus front, a new arm of the station is rising up in the east—sort of.

The station's former self-described "Supreme Leader" Rafe Aloof staged a coup on the station last month and has since stolen what was left of the station's funds—roughly \$10 million in fee levy funds and excavated Hall Building gold—and has deposited them in an offshore bank account nestled within the Cayman Islands.

In a recent video broadcast from "headquarters," Aloof described the need for a "popular uprising of new media under my supreme guidance."

"We will create here a citizen media empire that will rival and ultimately destroy the vile, lame-stream media," said a disheveled Aloof, in reference to media outlets he doesn't like. "Far from the clutches of the equally biased corporate student press, too."

Aloof was last spotted near the Pie-IX metro station with a live-stream backpack strapped to his shoulders, carrying grocery bags full of wires, a microphone and a camera.

"He seems to think that he can run the station on his own," said a concerned staff member who asked not to be named, admitting his fear of Aloof's seeming instability made him weary to speak out.

"It's really weird. Last I saw him he was chasing a police officer on a bicycle down de Maisonneuve, screaming about brutality and waving on imaginary comrades."

Aloof has since holed up in an east-end loft and over the past two weeks has begun producing short videos documenting the "rebirth of the station."

In one such video, Aloof can be seen caressing his camera in a dimly lit room, alone and muttering, "don't shoot the puppy" and "my precious."

In a recent interview, Aloof appeared deceptively calm and explained that the station was doing great, funds were pouring in, and that he and his team were projecting a \$80-million profit and CRTC licensing by September. ■

Just Fight the System

New CSU Electoral Reforms Put the “Blood” in Bloodsport



by **LAUREN IPSOM**

In a last-ditch attempt at combating student apathy, the Concordia Student Union has reformed its electoral process once again.

The walls sweated in the dimly lit corner of a secret room at Concordia Thursday night, where candidates proved their worth with no shirts, no shoes (6) and a newfound love for soap making.

Instead of bothering with polls and ballots, our student representation is now decided at the CSU Fight Club.

“This is direct democracy,” said Chief Electoral Officer Andy “Dre” Paulson, while grinning, despite having lost a few teeth in Thursday’s excitement.

“The last candidate standing is our next president—what could be simpler than that?”

This decision was made after months of careful policy planning by various committees and subcommittees were wiped out by the resurgence

of a mysterious Y2K bug that had deleted Concordia’s grades database 13 years ago.

Left with little other choice, everyone seemed to agree beating each other senseless would be the best way to get anything done.

There was a general consensus that representatives would need this kind of stamina to make it through regularly scheduled council meetings.

“Only the strong survive,” said one councillor-elect. “And sure as shit I’m a survivor.”

The councillor-elect, who couldn’t remember his name due to temporary brain damage, said this is just the kind of election he’d been training for—having spent most of his undergrad in the Hall Building boiler room beating slabs of concrete with his bear [editor’s note: not a typo] hands.

Election night went late as usual, but instead of it being due to the usual

ballot-counting SNAFUs, it was because the fights went as long as they had to (7).

“They want a 30-large salary paid by us?” asked one engineering student with a newfound passion for student politics. “Well then they should expect some permanent nerve damage.”

The most brutal of the fights was of course for the position of VP Finance, where both candidates had spent months training at the exclusive Coors Light School of Cash-Money ULTRA-Gym located in an undisclosed location at the downtown campus. Both candidates, however, faced penalties for refusing to remove their Armani suits before the fight.

The business school had hoped to run a referendum question to separate from Concordia this year, but upon hearing about these new electoral reforms they quickly decided to stay on for another few months.

The improvements in student participation are already showing. The elections overflow room filled past capacity early in the night. While no recording devices were allowed, fine arts students prepared gruesomely realistic frescos of the action to be mounted in the CSU’s offices.

“They need to understand where they’ve been to know where they’re going,” mused one of the artists. “Also, space.”

Concordia politicians of yesteryear stopped by to see the action, too.

“Politics at Concordia is a bloodsport,” said former CSU President Gillian Jacobs, who made an appearance at Thursday’s brawl to show her support.

“At first I thought that needed to change, but now I get it. We’re a bunch of goddamn animals and we need to accept that.”

Concordia’s pacifist community picketed the event, saying that brains, not brawn should de-

cide the students’ representation, and that the funding of the whole event was highway robbery of student funds.

The fight club fee levy was passed last year with a referendum question that was vague, to say the least.

“Do you like to have a good time?” read the question in the 2012 general election.

More than just pacifists are expressing concern about these reforms, however.

First-year students in residence have reported that, since talk of the CSU Fight Club began, the mandatory rez-soup tastes like even more like urine than usual.

Many undergrads have also been spotted shaving their heads in the hallways. Some fear a resurgence of the Red Square Crime Syndicate.

What’s most surprising, though, is that even with the new fight club system we won’t know the results until after an extensive recount. ■

RULES OF FIGHT CLUB

1st RULE: You do not talk about CSU FIGHT CLUB.

2nd RULE: You DO NOT talk about CSU FIGHT CLUB.

3rd RULE: If someone says “stop,” goes limp, taps out the fight is over.

4th RULE: Only two candidates to a fight.

5th RULE: One fight at a time.

6th RULE: No shirts, no shoes.

7th RULE: Fights will go on as long as they have to.

8th RULE: If this is your first night at CSU FIGHT CLUB, you HAVE to fight.

SPVM’s New Rewards System

Protesters to Earn *Kettle Miles* for Every Arrest

FIRST TIME

2-5 KETTLES (BRONZE)

5-10 KETTLES (SILVER)

10-15 KETTLES (GOLD)

>15 KETTLES (PLATINUM)



You get a standard plastic zip-cuff, some poetry read by a riot squad officer and a free ticket to visit the Montreal courthouse!



You’re a regular customer, and the officers call you by your first name!

You get to be interviewed on TV, exactly like in Real Housewives, with a delightful officer asking you questions ranging from “What’s your name?” to “Where do you live?”



You now have your favourite spot on the STM magic bus, and you get to experience the virtues of the world-renowned “zip-cuff-blood-stopping” therapy. Your bladder capacity has expanded by 150%!



You’re almost there!

You can choose your own cell in one of the 15 police stations, with your own toilet (but still no toilet paper).



You’re now part of the family!

An officer will be waiting with custom-made steel handcuffs, with your initials engraved on it. No “Special” STM bus for you, you go straight into the SPVM’s spanking new turbo charger cars! Aaaand you can split the payments of your 15 fines in 12 months, all of this interest-free!



Hey Concordia,

The student centre is finally coming...

...on paper!

The
Pos(t)er.

A union's
natural environment.

The
Pos(t)er. LOL Concordia
Student Union

CSU executive criticized for throwing parties, throws party to "Rebrand parties"

by HUNTER S. GONZO with files from ATTORNEY MOLSKI

After receiving criticism for their most recent party, the Concordia Student Union attempted to redeem themselves by hosting a party at The Hive to "rebrand parties."

The initial party that sparked the need for rebranding parties was advertised as an "educational experience."

The event immediately came under fire for being more of a lesson in acute sugar and alcohol intoxication rather than the informational session it was promised to be.

This was confirmed by multiple attendees, who told *The Broken Mirror* that the candy-to-information ratio was disproportionately in favour of the former.

"We feel as though our parties have recently taken a lot of heat, so we thought it was time to rethink what parties can be, and really just open up students' perceptions," said VP Hybrid Lexus Toyota.

"So, we thought we'd go straight to the nervous system with some more, well, potent compounds. As we all know, it can be difficult to induce paradigm shifts without first dissolving the ego."

Wary of both the union and university's stance against substance abuse, however, the union's designers turned to fractals and geometric patterns instead of text to relay their message.

Despite ambiguous advertising being one of the previous party's weak points, the posters for the new party are devoid of meaning altogether.

Instead, posters featuring brightly coloured, abstract geometric shapes and patterns, and something to the effect of "Lucy being in the punch." Whatever that means.

"Ambiguity is what you make it, you know? We just thought we'd let the infinitely self-repeating nature of fractals speak for itself," said Kheena Brinnes, CSU's graphic designer.

To facilitate ego dissolution and perceptual expansion, the event's venue was complete with strobe lights and glow-in-the-dark paint.

It seems to have been a winning combination for some.

"I've never even been so far as to do look more like than this party!" exclaimed one sweaty, bug-eyed student.

In response to a request for the party's budget and expenditures, the executives explained that the financial documentation was inevitably unavailable due to the nature of some of the expenses.

"Our guy only deals with cash and doesn't do receipts," said VP Finance Lenny Dodo. ■

President pastor really a robot

Hardware malfunction uncovers ConU prez

by WULIA WABBIT

Critics of Concordia President Alan Pastor had long claimed the mild-mannered president was too good to be true. Turns out, he was just too calm to be human.

Students and faculty were shocked to discover Tuesday that Pastor's easy-going nature is not a personality type, but rather a reflection on the current limits on artificial intelligence.

Created in the robotics lab at McGill, Pastor was sent to Concordia as a high-tech spy to root out secrets and destroy the school from within.

"To be honest, there were signs," university spokesperson Tina Meta said. "I mean, he shows almost no emotion, snacks on spare bolts and is absolutely terrified of water, but I just always figured that was an American thing. I mean, they do weird stuff down there."

The school first noticed something was off at one of the university's Senate meetings when Pastor's circuitry malfunctioned, causing the president to show rare signs of distress.

"At first we thought maybe he was just emotionally engaged in the discussion," said graduate student Senator Robert Bobin. "But then we remembered this is Pastor we're talking about, there had to be another explanation."

When concerned senators at-

tempted to approach him, Pastor backed away, repeatedly shouting, "No disassemble!"

He eventually collapsed on the floor, twitching occasionally.

Assuming the man had just passed out, Bobin attempted to remove Pastor's Concordia-logo tie, which he is never seen without. Once he got the tight tie loose, however, Pastor's head came right off.

"Pop! Just like that," Bobin said. "It was some freaky, Men in Black shit."

Inside Pastor, the senators found wires, electronics and a hand scribbled note from McGill's outgoing President Meather Bunroe-Hum that read: "Suck it, Stingers Scum."

Bunroe-Hum was unavailable for comment, but McGill Spokesperson Doug Mean suggested that Pastor was not the only AI robot roaming the university halls.

"I mean, have you met Mick Mullier?" Mean said. ■

TIMING IS EVERYTHING

NDG Food Depot in Jeopardy Just When it's Needed Most

by Kurt Weiss

Montreal is down one food bank for now, after the NDG Food Depot was kicked out of their building on the corner of Oxford St. and de Maisonneuve Blvd. last week.

Though the food bank has found a temporary home at River's Edge Church and is expected to re-open April 15, their problems aren't over quite yet.

The April 1 deadline came as a surprise to staff, putting the food bank on an even tighter deadline than originally thought.

"We had a verbal agreement to stay in place until the end of June," intake coordinator Peter Butler told Global News last week.

But there is more to it than just that.

The bigger problem lies not only in the eviction of a fixture in the Notre-Dame-de-Grâce community over the past two decades, but in the growing demand for food banks and the rising poverty rate in Montreal.

According to a recent joint report by World Vision and Citizens for Public Justice, the number of people using food banks in Montreal has gone up 32 per cent since 2008.

An average of 167,200 people, including 46,500 children, received monthly income support in 2012, according to the report. That accounts for one in 10 Montrealers who rely on social assistance for support.

The food bank helps 700 people each week and has been in the same location for 20 years, helping the less fortunate feel less socially isolated.

The timing of the depot's forced relocation could not be worse.

It is a huge slap in the face not

only for the NDG community but also for the issue of poverty in the city. Yet the interests of the food depot's landlord and of the developer apparently come ahead of the city's persisting poverty problem.

The construction of the McGill University Health Centre's nearby hospital increases the demand for high-priced condos, like the ones that are already built right across the street from the NDG Food Depot.

Some staff at the depot speculated that the construction of the new hospital played a role in the surprise eviction, as property values will no doubt rise, making it a prime location for new development.

Where is the government in all of this? They have responsibilities through many social assistance programs and community resources, especially in major urban centres like Montreal.

And yet, the problem is getting worse, not better.

There has already been a petition asking Montreal Mayor Michael Applebaum and NDG councillors to intervene. If cases like these continue to surface, the next step will be asking the province for help.

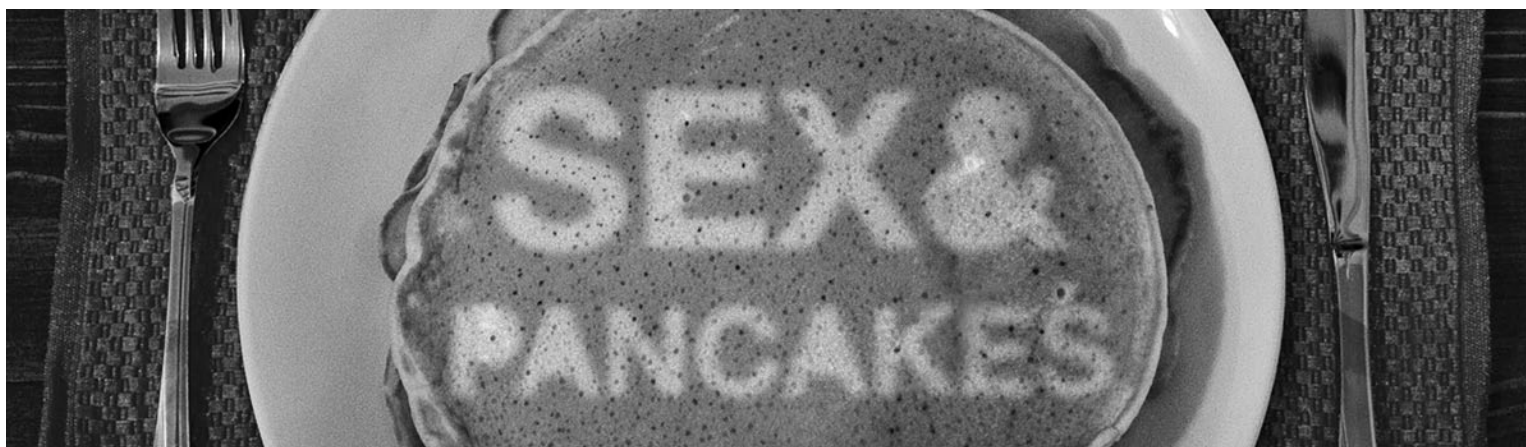
The public can only do so much in lobbying their councillors and other politicians to increase social assistance funding—at some point the government must take up the initiative.

Spending priority must come down to prioritizing the essentials of life: food, water and shelter. Employment and education also need to be included in these "need-to-dos" and the "nice-to-dos."

As the demand for food banks grows, will the supply follow suit?



The NDG Food Depot was forced to leave their Oxford St. location two months early. Photos Stephen Cutler



LETTERS@
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We Love Yu-Hui

WHAT'S THE DEAL WITH HICKIES?

What do you think of hickies? Are they bad, are they tacky, should they be hidden, are they healthy? I'm curious.

-Nervous Necker

by Melissa Fuller @Mel_full

I really can't think of hickies without being reminded of a somewhat traumatic teenage memory. My ballet teacher had a not-so-fun ritual for when any of us showed up to class with a hickey: we'd have to stand alone in the centre of the room while everyone watched and do whatever jumps she requested while "Love is in the Air" played.

Needless to say I only made that mistake once.

The neck is one of the most accessible erogenous zones and a hickey can be a sort of sexual status symbol, so it makes sense that they would be pretty popular among teens.

I remember hickies being an expected thing teens got out of make out sessions. Parents and adults never even seemed really shocked by them and, unlike anything else remotely sexual, I don't remember them ever being associated with a sense of shame.

I think the teenage association

is also where some of the stigma around them in later years comes from though because there's an implication that they're something you're supposed to grow out of.

People don't just tease you or make you do a silly dance in a room full of smirking girls like they used to. The older you get and the more professionally geared your life may be, the less socially acceptable visible hickies become.

Still, despite any negative perceptions, the neck is an erogenous zone with lots of sexy nerve endings, so it's bound to feel awesome when someone caresses, licks, bites or sucks on your neck at any age.

In terms of whether or not they're healthy, hickies are really just bruises caused by the bursting of capillaries—the smallest blood vessels under the skin. They're often not even as bad as a bruise you would get from something else, since these vessels aren't actually that hard to burst.

While it may not be the best

idea to cover yourself head-to-toe in them daily, you're not doing any significant damage by getting a few hickies now and then.

Whether they should be hidden or not really depends on if the person wants them to be seen. Sometimes part of the pleasure comes from the mark left behind and from someone else knowing you were getting hot and heavy.

Hickies can be a sort of trophy, a reminder of what you did the night before—the same way some people who enjoy more aggressive sex like showing off the bruises or marks they get from it. I think if someone feels that way about their bruises and/or hickies then they should show them off and feel no shame.

Some people may also like the feeling of getting a hickey but not the hickey itself, so there are some ways to speed up the healing process. The most obvious is doing what one usually does when hurt—ice the spot.

Some people also recommend

what's called "the toothbrush method," gently rubbing the hickey with a hard-bristled toothbrush to break up the pool of blood and stimulate circulation. I suggest just covering it with makeup or a scarf and patiently waiting out your weeklong love bite.

Finally, I don't think hickies are tacky, but maybe you do, and really neither of us is wrong. Like many sexy things, hickies are simply a matter of personal preference and people should feel free to do what they want without any shame!

Submit your questions anonymously at sex-pancakes.com and check out "Sex & Pancakes" on Facebook.

Need some extra help? You can always contact Concordia Counselling & Development at 514-848-2424 ext. 3545 for SGW and ext. 3555 for Loyola.

Got a quick health question? Call info-sant  at 8-1-1 from any Montreal number.

To whom this may concern,
In response to two articles printed recently, "A Vacant Executive" [Vol. 33, Iss. 24] and "CSU Councillor Resigns Over Conflict Of Interest" [Vol. 33, Iss. 21], we on the CSU executive would like to clarify, put some context to and apologize for any misunderstandings on statements regarding our executive administrative assistant Yu-Hui.

Yu-Hui is awesome. Without her hard work, her unbelievable dedication to the smallest details and the years of knowledge and experience she adds to the CSU as an organization year after year, we'd crumble like a poorly built Lego tower.

It lacked context, but this is referred to in "CSU Councillor Resigns," when temporary position hiring was mentioned. If a process is not clearly defined, we often rely on precedent, union reference, past documents and experience.

In this, employees are invaluable resources of experience and Yu-Hui is a tremendous help when we lack the knowhow. And to be clear, hiring protocol is entirely the hiring committee and the executives' responsibility.

In the case of our IT issues discussed in "A Vacant Executive," apologies go out for misstating that "Yu-Hui is taking care of [the IT project]." This is not her responsibility, but that of the executive.

Yu-Hui's knowledge of the CSU and our services has been instrumental in assessing our needs on the project and the time she has contributed to it has been vital and very much appreciated.

The Information and Technology system overhaul has been and continues to be one of the most important projects we deal with this year and we're committed to getting as much done as possible, while training the new executive to ensure its taken to a successful end.

We hope this clarifies the situation and we encourage anyone with questions or concerns to be in touch with the executive at any time, as well as send some love to Yu-Hui because she's great.

—The CSU Executive

HOAXES & PRANKS



Graphic Flora Hammond

by Liana di Iorio @MsBerbToYou

Across

1. This documentary-turned-TV show attempts to unite people in on-line relationships after its filmmaker's brother realized his gorgeous online girlfriend was really a middle-aged woman from Michigan.

3. Sacha Baron Cohen owes much of his fame to pranking others under the disguise of characters like Ali G, Bruno and this Kazakhstani journalist.

5. Place this chocolate-looking substance in your roommate's food, a la *Dumb and Dumber*, and watch them become very close friends with the bathroom.

7. Host and prank mastermind of MTV's *Punk'd*. (2 words)

8. The producers of this 2007 film played a prank on movie audiences everywhere by claiming this supernatural thriller was a recording of real events. (2 words)

9. Ellen Degeneres often pranks

unsuspecting customers of this giant coffee chain by directing one of its employees to sing, stumble and, of course, spell your name wrong.

10. This day is celebrated worldwide as a day to play practical jokes and hoaxes on each other. (2 words)

Down

2. The film that launched Macaulay Culkin's career and inspired many kids to turn their house into one big booby trap. (2 words)

3. This iconic skateboard-riding Springfield dweller has been a prankster for 23 seasons but is still only 10 years old. (2 words)

4. Orson Welles fooled radio listeners with his news broadcast-like adaptation of this H.G. Wells novel, adapted for the big screen in a 2005 film starring Tom Cruise. (4 words)

6. Trying to find a friend after a crazy night in Vegas is the premise of this movie. Spoiler Alert: He's on the roof. (2 words)

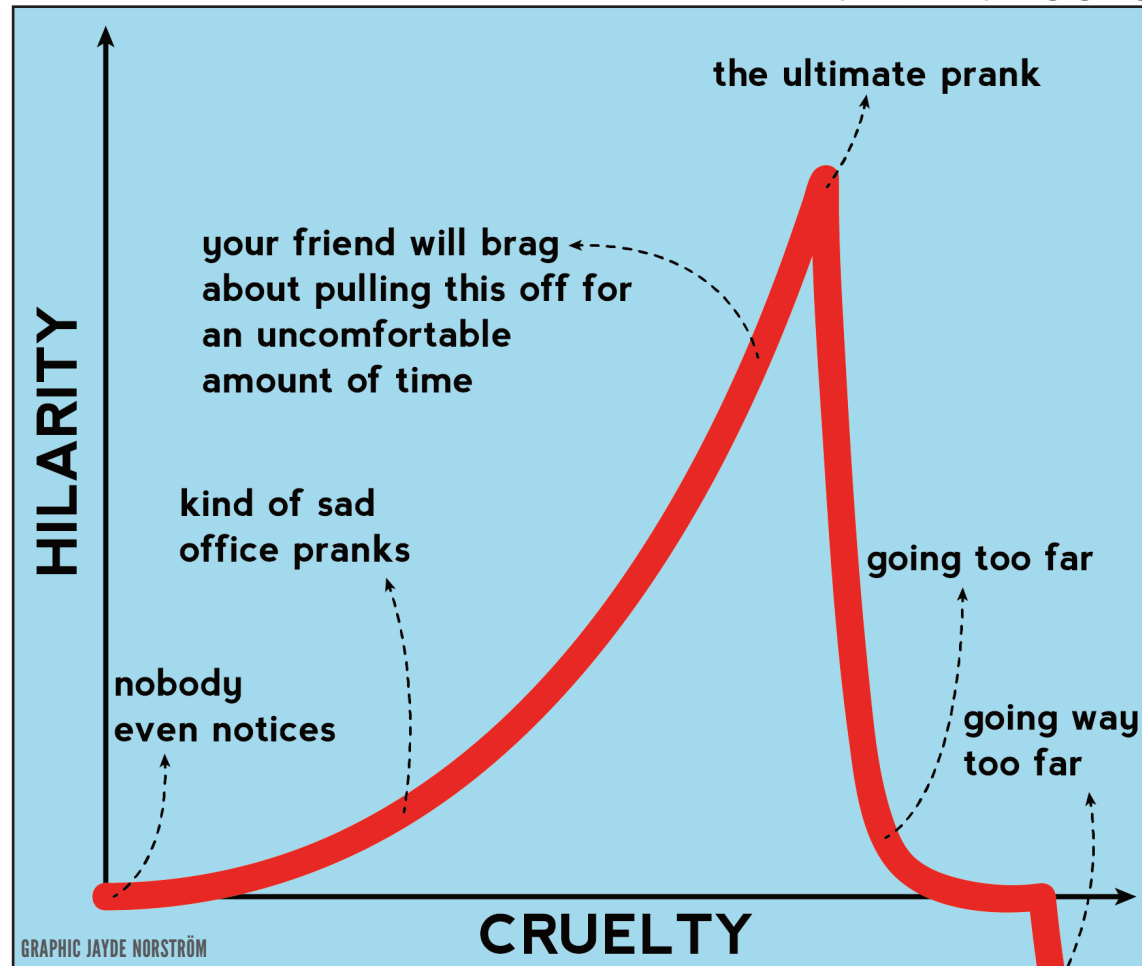
BARTON FLATS

COMIC JONATHAN WOODS



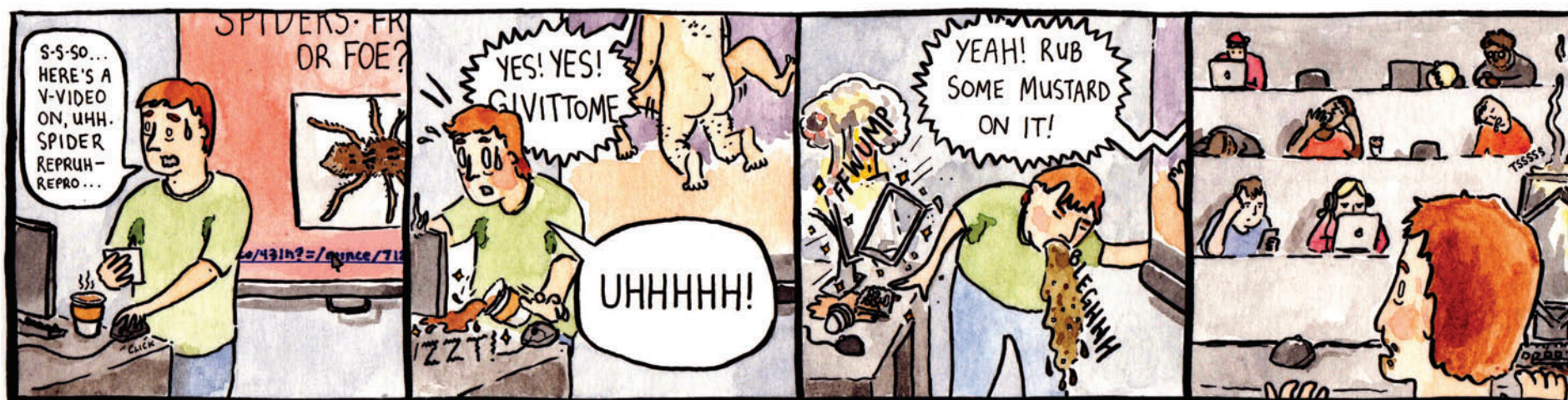
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PITY THE (APRIL) FOOLS



FALSE KNEES

COMIC JOSHUA BARKMAN



NAH'MSAYIN?

Silly Craigslist

I like to think I'm sort of on top of my life occasionally, and I've been on the job hunt safari in the deep, twisted jungle of Craigslist. After a few weeks of extensively trolling the Internet, I have one thing to say to the people of Craigslist: if you're posting an ad asking people to hire you, you're doing it wrong.

More often than I'd like to admit, I come across some hopeful, fresh-faced individual who, amidst all of the ads calling for part-time dishwashers and the always creepy "young waitress" or "masseuse" posts, has put up an ad vaguely detailing their experience working as a busboy/social media strategist/cat wrangler, asking anyone who wants to interview them to get in touch with them at their email, sk8erboi45@hotmail.com.

Don't get me wrong, I'm all for people being go-getters, but it seems so counterintuitive to post an ad asking people to hire you when the space you're posting in is literally filled with hundreds upon hundreds of other ads looking to hire people for the exact job you're posting about. This is the Internet-intellectual equivalent of asking the name of a song on a Youtube video, when it's right there in the description.

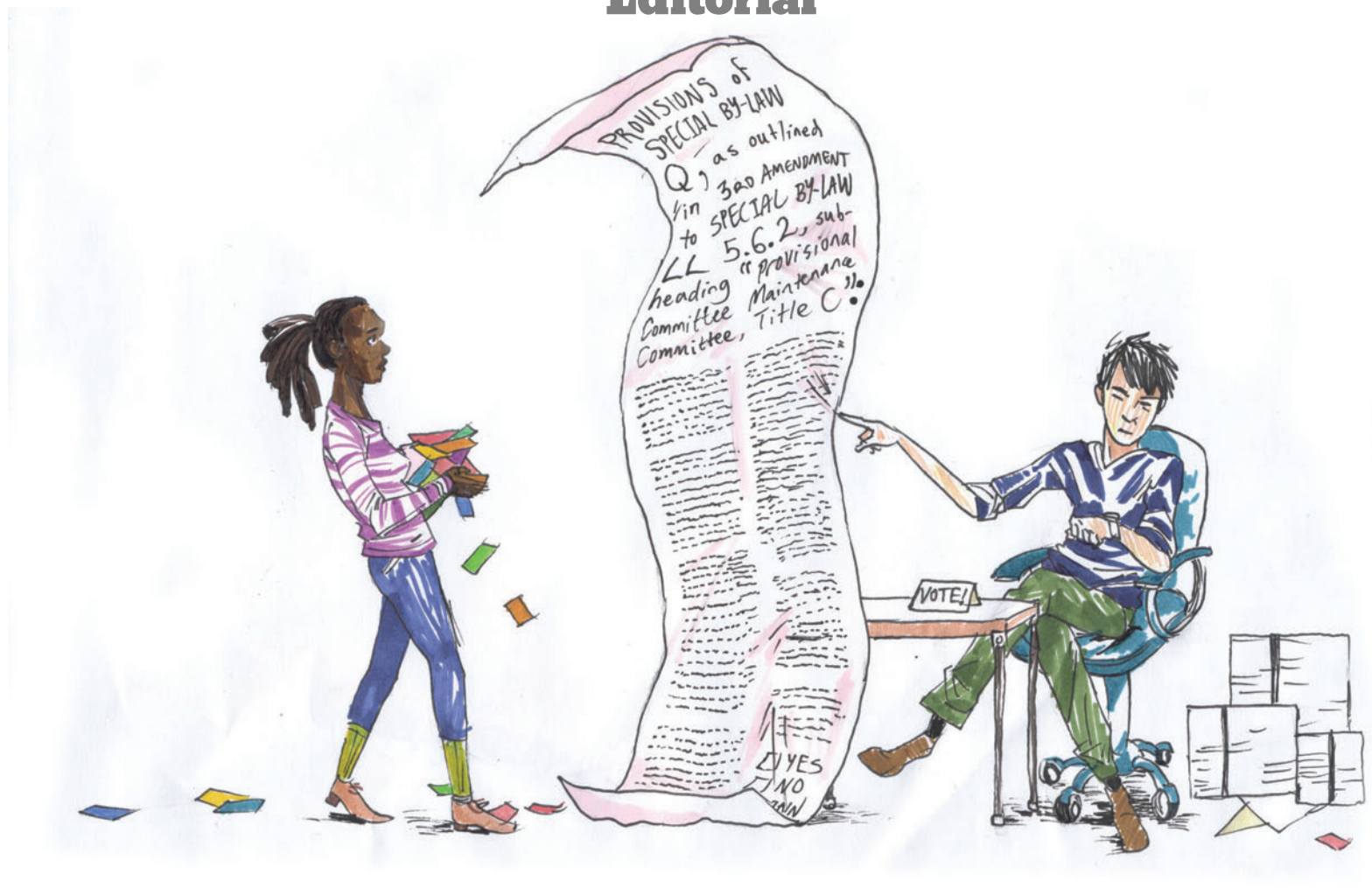
Just respond to one of the ads that are already there. It's probably easier than making your own an ad in the first place, and hey, you might even get a job out of it.

—Erin Sparks,
Managing Editor



Graphic Joshua Barkman

Editorial



WE NEED ACCESSIBLE ELECTIONS

The Concordia Student Union and the university's political culture have flat-lined.

We don't want to harp on the tired cliché that the student body is apathetic—we know that already. We know that nobody gives a damn.

What we need to concentrate on is why.

This year, 1,438 undergraduate students cast at least one ballot in the Concordia Student Union elections.

That's four per cent of the entire undergraduate student body.

Last year, *The Link* calculated that approximately 1,500 students went to the polls.

That low voter turnout was blamed on an unfortunate mix of bylaw changes and the tumultuous environment on campus caused by rolling student strikes.

So, what's the excuse this year?

When campaigning period started and it was announced that only one slate of eight individuals plus one independent candidate were running for the CSU executive positions, anyone who cared scoffed.

When we asked CSU President-elect Melissa Kate Wheeler before the elections what she thought about this, she said it was "bad for democracy."

She and others close to the union agreed that so many positions were left uncontested due to the embarrassingly awful year the CSU had just endured. Students were turned off to student politics, they said.

But Wheeler shook it off and said that her slate was going to campaign just as hard as they would if contested. They were

going to get students to care.

Well, so much for that.

Wheeler and her executive—just like the rest of the CSU, both old and new—have an affinity for slogans, as well as making promises they ultimately cannot fulfill.

When we asked students one-on-one if they even knew that there was an election going on, the majority said "no."

Did they know who was running in the election? "No."

Recent bylaw reforms made running in the elections more accessible to students-at-large and ultimately more democratic. The reforms took away the slate system, and as one former CSU president put it, took the power away from CSU "dynasties."

But we have to wonder: Were

students-at-large left behind? Maybe democracy alone just isn't sexy enough.

Granted, the CSU is an anomaly of sorts.

There's an old saying that when you're doing a good job, nobody notices, but when you're doing a bad job, everybody does.

The opposite is true for the CSU.

If the CSU isn't a vocal force, then people forget they exist. It makes it all too easy for them to ignore an executive taking home tens of thousands of dollars of their tuition money as salary and making decisions that really do affect student's time spent at this institution.

The point is that too many students went to the polls without understanding what to do once they were there.

When students went to vote they were handed 16 multi-coloured ballots and told to shuffle sideways behind a three-paneled poster board to take part in the democratic process.

Many of them selected a few that they understood and returned the rest untouched. Others complained about waste, chose a few ballots and handed back the rest.

Others still became completely disinterested in voting at all—subsequently walking away.

This cannot keep happening.

So, to the new CSU, congratulations on making quorum. Congratulations on your new positions as well. You have a long road ahead of you and a lot of work to do.

But we implore you—set a new trend. Make good on your promises.

Graphic Graeme Shorten Adams

THE LINK

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In "Mr. Everything' Moves on to New Things" [Vol. 33, Iss. 27], Hernst Laroche was reported as being Evens Laroche's older brother. He is actually his younger brother. *The Link* regrets the error.

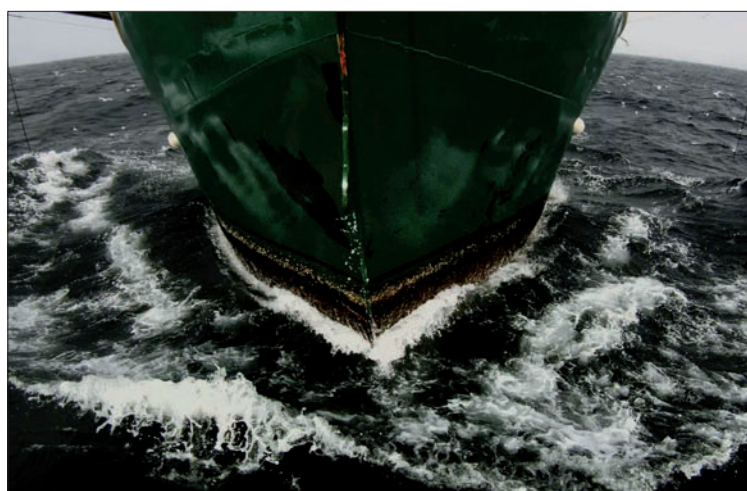
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Leviathan
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"Likely to be one of the most talked about art films of the year."
 - The New York Times ★★★★★

"MINDBLOWING. Some of the most astonishing footage ever captured."
 - Mike D'Angelo, LA Weekly ★★★★★

"You ain't never seen a documentary like this."
 - Erica Abeel, Huffington Post ★★★★★

Special screening for students on Friday, April 5th, 5pm.
 Filmmaker Lucien Castaing-Taylor will be present.

In Theatres Friday EXCENTRIS 3536, Boul. St-Laurent (Subject to classification) filmswelike.com

thelinknewspaper.ca

GOOD LUCK WITH YOUR EXAMS!

Good luck with your exams and final projects.

After exams, enjoy the summer break.

If you are graduating, I look forward to seeing you at spring convocation.

Alan Shepard

Alan Shepard
 President