

UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY

gauntlet

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CALGARY'S MUSIC FESTIVALS

BATTLE IT OUT FOR THE
SUMMER
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Dastardly dividend

Since the Industrial Revolution, fossil fuels have had many uses. For the past century or so, one of the main uses has been to fuel our motorcars. Unfortunately, years of sustained use of a non-renewable resource have put the world in a bit of a quandary as gasoline prices and CO₂ emissions are much higher than anybody really wants them to be. These two realities have led governments around the world to take action in varying ways.

In Alberta, home of the Athabasca tarsands and a projected \$12 billion budget surplus as a result of sky-high oil prices, government officials have opted not to introduce a formal carbon tax, instead relying upon a surcharge on polluters to trickle through the market. However, their western neighbours in British Columbia have not only introduced a carbon tax on gasoline of 2.5 cents per litre beginning July 1, they've also gone the extra mile for their constituents. Premier Gordon Campbell has instituted a program known as Climate Action Dividends, where British Columbians will be given a \$100 cheque and encouragement to make sound environmental choices with it.

The move by the B.C. government, carrying a price tag of \$440 million, has been met with some harsh criticism. First and foremost, Campbell was elected in 2001 under a platform including tax reductions aimed at

stimulating the economy. By pairing a \$100 pay-out to his constituents along with a tax that will surely be worth more in the long haul, it comes across as a bribe to taxpayers. Even so, this bribe won't even cover a load of groceries or more than a tank of gas. The program also takes \$440 million that could've been used by the government to finance or subsidize environmental causes and puts it into the hands of consumers that may lack the same discipline. Much like a mother giving a child lunch money and hoping it isn't spent on candy, the only thing keeping British Columbians from frivolous spending is good old-fashioned guilt.

If Campbell and his government are really serious about taking action to help the environment, there are much better ways to do it. Providing better baseline funding for environmental programs in the province would be a good step, but even under the umbrella of the Climate Action Dividend plenty of things can be done. This involves changing the program from dishing out dividends to providing rebates. Instead of shelling out money and hoping it's spent the right way, why not provide a fund where citizens making smart environmental choices are given a rebate for doing so? Much of the bureaucratic structure needed to facilitate such a program is already



in place, so it's unlikely much of the earmarked money would be eaten up by overhead costs. Plus, the program would ensure that money is going towards smart environmental choices, such as replacing old fluorescent lights with less wasteful ones, and not towards *Pokémon* cards or new rims for suvs.

When the Alberta government shelled out \$1.6 billion to taxpayers in 2005, the move was met with criticism

that the money could've been better spent elsewhere. Similar comments have sprung up in B.C., but the stakes in B.C. are much higher: instead of being accused of throwing away Alberta's economic prospects, the B.C. government's lack of foresight may be jeopardizing the future of their environment.

Ryan Pike
AP Co-Editor

The Student's Union serves and represents the diverse student body of the University of Calgary. We strive to enhance the academic, cultural, social and personal lives of students. In our continued effort to develop an outstanding workplace and meet the challenges ahead, the SU has an opening for:

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS COORDINATOR



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Alumni go above and beyond

Asma Chaudhry
Gauntlet News

When many Canadians think of Mexico, sun, beach, tans and heat come to mind. But in the case of Dr. Susan Smith, there are different and more important issues that need to be addressed. Smith is one of the recipients of this year's Arch Awards for her humanitarian services in a poverty-stricken Mexican village. Two Arch Awards are given out by the University of Calgary Alumni Association annually to honour graduates. Smith won the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Graduate of the Last Decade Award went to Robyn Hauck for her campaign against public smoking.

Smith, bachelor of nursing '75, PhD '95, was awarded for her selflessness. She has worked in the Mexican village of Tlamacazapa—literally “people who are fearful”—for the past decade. She aided the village's health and nutrition while working towards community rehabilitation for one of the world's most poverty-stricken and diseased villages. Armed with volunteers, Smith founded an organization called Caminamos Juntos para Salud y Desarrollo (Walking Together for Health and Development) that targets issues of health and well-being, environment and water, community education and literacy and income generation—for women in particular. The villagers face toxic water containing harmful levels of arsenic and lead and also suffer from oppression, fear, malnutrition and violence, according to a document Smith's organization released.

“Everyone at the reception was basically sitting there in awe of what she had done and what she's still doing,” recalled Alumni Association past president Dean Brawn.

“Reweaving a Life,” an art exhibition organized by Smith, showcases basket weaving and other art from Tlamacazapa at the Glenbow Museum. The display depicts the hardships faced by the indigenous women of the village and the village's main livelihood, basket weaving. The baskets symbolize the “reweaving” of the lives of



courtesy Alumni Association

Susan Smith (left) and Robyn Hauck (right) with awards in hand.

the village people that inspired Smith.

Smith is not new to aid work as she previously worked in a war zone, the ices of the Arctic and for famine relief in Ethiopia before dedicating herself to Tlamacazapa. She is currently in Mexico and was unavailable for an interview.

The recipients of the Arch Awards do not receive money, but past winners received paintings or prints created by U of C fine arts graduates as a token of appreciation. This year the winners were presented with sculptures produced by U of C fine arts graduates.

“Essentially what we do [is] look for someone who has made a lasting and significant impact in their career,” said Brawn. “There are 130,000 alumni of the University of Calgary and only 31 of them have the distinction of

being awarded the Distinguished Alumni award.”

He noted the awards are a “prestige thing” for the recipients.

Robyn Hauck won the GOLD award for her work against public smoking. She organized a petition that collected 12,000 signatures and, after lobbying city council and devising a media strategy, led Calgary to ban public smoking in 2007—a year earlier than planned.

“I felt quite powerless when I would go out to bars because there were no bylaws in place [while] every other city in Canada had bylaws in place,” said Hauck.

She explained it was not an easy process and taking on city council was difficult. Her biggest challenge was to convince people that banning smoking was the right thing

to do, but she had support.

“When I started petitioning, I found that so many other people felt the same way as I did,” said Hauck. “Then it just fuelled me to push forward. I had an instructor at the U of C that really inspired me to start this campaign and taking his class was the reason why I started this campaign in the first place.”

Over the past years, the Arch Awards have awarded a variety of extraordinary individuals.

“We have awarded everything from astronauts to the inventor of JAVA to doctors and scientists, you name it,” said Brawn. “We've awarded for something they've done, something that would bring pride to the U of C alumni. It's one of our own who has made an outstanding or significant contribution to society.”

Humanitarian comes to Calgary

Courtenay Adams
Gauntlet News

Eighty-year-old Jean Vanier spent over half his life doing humanitarian work for individuals with developmental disabilities. On Thursday, he's asking young adults between the ages of 18–35 to spend one evening listening to him speak about the lessons he learned in the span of his career and the message of peace and hope that can be taken from them.

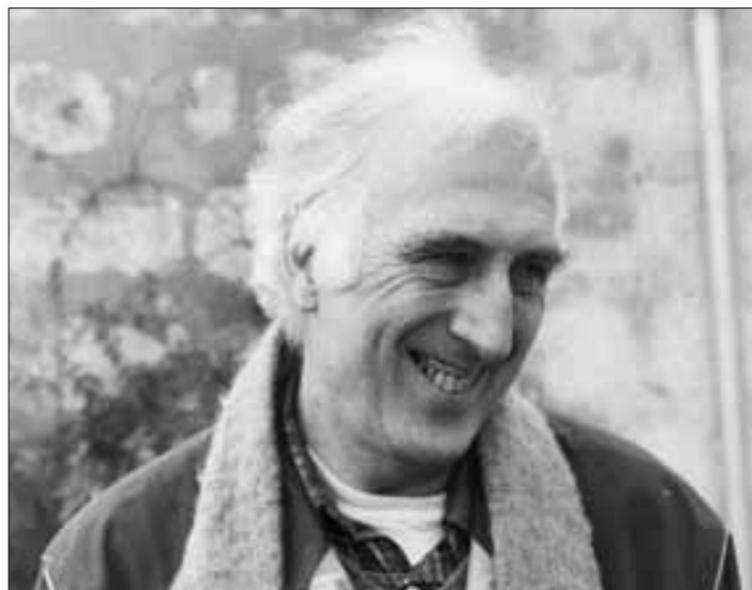
Born in Canada, Vanier is the founder of L'Arche, an organization that helps create an atmosphere of acceptance and self-discovery for people with disabilities. It was founded in 1964 in Trosly, France—the town Vanier has resided in since his 30s. Since its inception, L'Arche has spread to over 36 countries and now runs 135 different communities that

offer growth to both those in need and those running the homes.

Community leader and L'Arche Calgary executive director Peggy Loescher believes the organization benefits the volunteers and staff as much as those they are seeking to help because of the lessons learned from the experience.

“I think what we learn from them is that when we come to the end of our strength, we begin to discover each other and that we need each other,” said Loescher. “We all have to face our own limitations in front of people and learn such things as patience and finding new ways of helping people do things when there are limitations.”

Loescher also emphasized the need for dedicated individuals willing to help people with disabilities live an empowered life through the establishment and support of daily routines.



courtesy L'Arche

Vanier has spent over 40 years helping the disabled in Canada.

“The biggest challenge is to recognize that it's okay to need support and to have the support of others,

to include them in society, and to show them that they have something to give,” she said.

Vanier's speech will emphasize contributing to one's community to create a more positive environment for all involved. Keeping an eye to the future, Vanier hopes to draw on young adults' enthusiasm, altruism and desire to get more out of life. He will also promote a new line of educational materials called “Choosing Our Future” that feature him in conversation with high school students regarding sensitive issues like bullying, inclusion and living with diversity that youth face.

“Jean is very keen to speak with young people and to give them the message of hope,” Loescher said. “He really believes that people are searching for meaning in their lives. That's the kind of thing he likes to talk about in reflecting on his own life.”

Loescher encouraged students to attend the event, noting it may be Vanier's last visit to Calgary.

Health care gets another boost

Sarelle Azuelos
News Editor

Canadians generally don't think of their health in terms of economic value, but a University of Calgary researcher is proposing that it might be time.

Population Health Intervention Research Centre chair Dr. Alan Shiell recently received one of 14 Canadian Institutes of Health Research national grants to further his research in the economics of public health care.

"I'm an economist and I've always done health economics," he said. "In the past 15 years or so I've specialized in public health—so prevention, health promotion and the like."

Shiell's grant will total \$925,000 over the next five years and will primarily fund his salary. Unlike some researchers at the university, Shiell does not receive income from the school. This grant will free him from teaching and give him an office to work on other research proposals. CIHR's total grant announcement of \$298 million was broken up into 764 health research projects across Canada.

Shiell's recent work includes a chapter in Canada West Foundation's *Alberta's Energy Legacy: Ideas for the Future* titled "An Apple a Day." It was written with colleague Dr. Penny Hawe.

"They asked 11 people to come up with big ideas for how to invest Alberta's energy legacy—the revenue Alberta is generating from its oil resources," said Shiell.

The foundation would use the money to improve the quality of life for Albertans. While Shiell and Hawe focused on public health, other chapters made recommendations for transportation, cultural innovations

and a transfer to green energy.

"Canadians, in general, have a very strong sense of entitlement to health care," explained Shiell. "We're very concerned and we make sure that we get the best quality and the best health care that's available. But there isn't the same kind of drive for health promotion, for preventative services. The suggestion was that we should invest in a system for health promotion much like our system of health care."

Shiell argues that once Albertans compare the care they currently receive with what can be done, there will be a new sense of entitlement for an improved health care system and the government will be forced into action. Shiell hopes to examine which health programs are less effective and determine the effect of transferring the funding to more effective programs. He will make computer models to determine the impact on the incidences of disease, life expectancy and quality of life.

"A lot of economics is doing cost-benefit studies—what do particular things cost and what benefits do we get back out in terms of health improvements," said Shiell. "Which things are more worthwhile doing? Should we be investing in hip replacements or heart surgery?"

Shiell explained people are healthy because of different daily routines, not what happens in hospitals. Work, education and community all affect the standard of living and, therefore, quality of health.

"We know very little about the cost of improving these social conditions or the impact changing them has on peoples' health," said Shiell. "The flagship project is work where we're looking at peoples' neighborhoods and how the characteristics of where you live affect whether you walk or are active or not."



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Shiell will combine economics and health care with help from his new grant.

He hypothesizes the presence of parks, cafés and sidewalks will improve general health and reduce the need for doctors and

emergency procedures. He is hoping the Calgary Health Region and city will work together on these goals.

Stolen fossils returned thanks to U of C prof

Daniel Pagan
Gauntlet News

The efforts of University of Calgary dinosaur paleontology assistant professor Dr. Darla Zelenitsky helped solve the mystery of stolen dinosaur eggs. She assisted the United States

Department of Homeland Security immigration and customs enforcement foil fossil smuggling.

U.S. authorities moved quickly to seize 8,100 pounds of fossilized dinosaur eggs and petrified pinecones and crabs at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show in 2006. It was the largest fossil seizure to date. Homeland Security suspected the shipment was stolen due to an anonymous tip and contacted a paleontologist to help identify the stolen eggs.

Zelenitsky did her graduate and postdoctoral studies at the U of C and worked at the Royal Tyrrell Museum. She worked with other paleontologists in an international collaboration in 2005 that studied the Oviraptorid, the first dinosaur discovered with preserved eggs inside its body cavity. Her 15 years of experience were what led the Smithsonian Institute and Interpol to recommend her to Homeland Security for the case.

Zelenitsky was initially shocked when Homeland Security called her, but recovered quickly and headed to an evidence warehouse in Tucson, Arizona to take a look at the recovered fossils.



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Zelenitsky and a model of an Argentine egg.

"I felt like a detective while working on the case," said Zelenitsky. "I had to solve a mystery—where the stolen eggs had come from—by performing comparative analysis."

Zelenitsky explained she looked at the various characteristics of the stolen fossils and compared them to eggs from South American

countries in a process that took eight months. She eventually confirmed that the eggs came from Argentina.

"Some of the eggs seized by [Homeland Security] were very characteristic of a well-known Argentine nesting site that contains baby Sauropod dino-

sours," said Zelenitsky.

She explained the eggs came from Auca Mahuevo, an Argentine fossil locality.

"This is the largest Sauropod nesting site in the world, where hundreds of nests of Sauropod dinosaurs were preserved with bones and skin impressions of baby dinosaurs," explained Zelenitsky.

She pointed out that fossil poaching is a huge problem worldwide. Thousands of fossils are illegally exported from China and in the process lose valuable scientific information like geological location and fossil age.

Homeland Security special agent Jolanta Armstrong agreed with Zelenitsky on the scope of the fossil smuggling problem. Armstrong explained Homeland Security's mandate to protect the American border gave it jurisdiction to investigate the fossil shipment.

"Collectors pay large amounts to acquire dinosaur fossils so there is an economic incentive for smugglers," said Armstrong.

She added countries are working to protect cultural property, such

see FOSSILS, page 5

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Starving art students no more

John McDonald
Gauntlet News

When summer weather and artistic students collide, almost anything can happen. A massive park sale will be held on campus this month to promote student art in Calgary.

"The park sale is a collaboration between ACAD and University of Calgary students to create an event where students sell their art and promote themselves as designers," said park sale co-ordinator Kara Chomistek.

The park sale will allow artistically minded students from post-secondary institutions to sell their artwork. Students will sell paintings, photos, clothing and jewelry. The event will feature live music, a DJ school, graffiti demonstrations and free popsicles.

"The main idea behind this event provides students with the opportunity to sell their work without having to pay a fee," said Chomistek. "Most art sale vendors need to give a portion of their sales to charity or to the event co-ordinators. We wanted to create an event for artistic students where it wasn't going to cost them any money."



John McDonald/the Gauntlet

A student holds up his art for the world to see.

Many artists become discouraged from selling their work at most art sales because they cannot make enough profit when vendor fees are involved. Chomistek explained that independent artists in the U.S. are starting to host yard sales to avoid these fees.

"I thought it was a neat concept and thought it would be neat to

bring it to Calgary, but with a bit of a twist," said Chomistek. "I wanted to incorporate an artistic side to it and make it more of a student run event."

The sale will run from 1-6 p.m. on June 28 in the field between the engineering complex and ICT. More information is available at www.calgaryparksale.com.

News for the unnewsed

Ryan Pike
AP Co-Editor

Refugee numbers on the rise

The number of refugees leaving their home country exceeded 11 million in 2007, the United Nations announced this week. In a report by the Office of the United Nations high commissioner for refugees, the agency noted the figure is down from 17.8 million refugees in 1992, but up significantly from 9.9 million in 2006. In a statement quoted in the *New York Times*, high commissioner António Guterres cited wars, environmental problems, inflation and bad governance as contributing to world instability and increases in refugee numbers.

Kidnapper sentenced

A woman who took a baby from a hospital was sentenced to five years in prison by an Ontario court this week. Brenda Batisse plead guilty to abducting an hour-old baby

girl from the maternity ward of Sudbury Regional Hospital last November. Ontario provincial police eventually located the child seven hours later in a home 200 kilometres south of Sudbury. According to the National Post, assistant crown prosecutor Len Walker sought a sentence of seven years while the defence asked for a non-custodial conditional sentence of 18 months followed by three years of probation. The defence plans to file an appeal.

Man caught with handgun at Calgary Airport

A Calgary man has been charged after a handgun and several rounds of ammunition were found in his luggage at the Calgary International Airport. Airport baggage screeners saw an X-ray image of what appeared to be a handgun inside a carry-on item of the passenger bound for Saskatoon on Tuesday afternoon. The motive is still unclear. In a story in the *Calgary*

Herald, security authority spokesman Mathieu Larocque noted that finding a real weapon in carry-on is rare. More often screeners discover what appear to be weapons, but turn out to be toys or facsimiles.

American Midwest largely underwater

Thousands of people have been forced from their homes as a series of storms across the American Midwest have caused widespread flooding. Many residents of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Minnesota and Wisconsin have been evacuated following the storms, which spawned damaging tornadoes and have caused 13 known deaths. The Associated Press is reporting that the most severe flooding in the state of Iowa has moved from the eastern part of the state to the west, threatening areas along the Mississippi River in Illinois and Missouri. The National Weather Service expects rivers in the region to crest late in the week and into the weekend.

Fossils, continued from page 4

as fossils so their heritage does not get pillaged and destroyed. The fossils seized are priceless for both Argentina and the smugglers.

"We estimated the value on the wholesale market to be approximately \$400,000," she said. "The estimations were based on the sale prices at the Tucson Gem and Mineral Show."

Armstrong had strong praise for Zelenitsky, noting she is highly regarded in the international paleontology community.

"An Interpol agent, Tammy Hilburn, who is a paleontologist, referred us to Darla Zelenitsky," said Armstrong. "With no hesitation, she adjusted her schedule, traveled a great distance and was

eager to support our objective of thwarting the international trade of smuggled fossils."

The case has a happy ending. The U.S. returned the fossils to the Argentine minister of culture and the head of the Museum of Geological and Paleontological Artifacts in a cultural ceremony in May.

off the page

YEE HAW
The next printed *Gauntlet* is not until July 17, but **OFF THE PAGE** airs every Tuesday at 6 pm on **CJSW**.

RADIO GAUNTLET CALGARY 90.9 FM
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tuesdays 6 pm | interviews | commentary | analysis
hosted by jon roe and katy anderson | photo by ken clarke

Last week the Students' Union announced in the Gauntlet the winners of this year's **Laurence Decor Awards**.

Unfortunately one winner was inadvertently omitted from this list of winners.

The Students' Union would like to also congratulate Erica Kiemele on her recognition for demonstrating outstanding dedication and leadership to fellow students and to her community.

Every year the SU supports U of C students through student awards. Last year student donations through the peer bursary levy led to over one million dollars in bursaries being distributed to deserving students. The SU provides several awards to outstanding students who excel in a variety of different areas. For more information on awards programs available, eligibility and how to apply please visit the Students' Union web site award page at www.su.ucalgary.ca/awards



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RECRUITMENT ENDS JUNE 30th

Exhibit kicked out of city hall

Katy Anderson
Features Editor

“I was 12 years old and I came from a pretty good home, you know,” said Rebecca, who asked her real name not be used. “I was raised in a middle class family in a really nice community in Calgary. No one wants to pay attention to the fact that it’s happening, they don’t want to know. The biggest misconception is that ‘that would never happen to

The research took the form of a PhotoVoice Exhibit—a technique used to give voice to a marginalized societal group by giving them cameras and asking them to take pictures of their experiences. The images are then shown publicly to share the experiences that mainstream society doesn’t often get to see, explained Hurlock.

“The broadest and most important goal of this project was to cultivate and change social consciousness around the issue of the sex trade and the people involved in it in the hope that we would cultivate that sense of empathy so that people could gain more support for people in the sex trade,” she said.

When Calgary’s city hall agreed to show the body of work in mid-June, the peer researchers—especially Hurlock —were excited the institution would give their project validity. However, the exhibit didn’t last long on city hall’s walls as many complaints were lodged within the first couple hours, said city hall spokesperson Barbara Clifford. Many children visit city hall on a

photo because it was symbolic of a woman not only being piece-mealed physically, “like a fucking happy meal: legs, tits and ass,” but also spoke to the fragmentation of the emotional and spiritual self.

Despite her acknowledgement of the ability of the photos to spark needed conversation, she said when the entire exhibit was taken down, she wasn’t surprised.

“When it comes to the sex trade, it’s the big elephant in the middle of the room that nobody wants to talk about,” she said. “When you start acknowledging it and talking about it, you’re going to be forced to do something about it. Your moral conscience won’t let you deny it’s taking place.”

AIDS Calgary’s Shift program helped with the project, giving advice to the research team as an organization that works on the front lines.

The association provides harm reduction service to sex trade workers, said Shift co-ordinator Roseline Carter.

“The fundamental theory behind harm reduction is realizing that some harm is inevitable and that abstinence isn’t always an option,” she said. “We need to meet people where they’re at.”

Shift is one of the two programs in Calgary that offers support for those in the sex trade. They provide safe sex supplies and knowledge of how to be safe in one of Canada’s most dangerous professions. They also work towards gathering statistics



all photos courtesy Debb Hurlock



me, or that that would never happen to my daughter, or my little sister.’ But it does.”

Rebecca had been abused by a family friend between the ages of nine and 11. At age 12, she met an older man who took her out for dinner, bought her clothes and alcohol and one day, asked for the favour to be returned. She was on the streets at age 15—she had a one-year-old child—to fuel her increasing drug habit. She would stay there until she was 24.

About a year and a half ago when University of Calgary social work researcher and United Way community worker Dr. Debb Hurlock decided to put together a research group of five peer researchers—ex-sex trade workers—Hurlock’s purpose became helping people understand that prostitution exists in Calgary.

“When you start acknowledging [the sex trade] and talking about it, you’re going to be forced to do something about it.”

—Rebecca,
ex-sex trade worker

daily basis and of the 25 pictures that were exhibited, two were deemed offensive. One was of a dismembered Barbie doll and the other of pennies with “whore” written underneath the picture.

Although not her own, Rebecca, said she loved the Barbie doll

about Calgary’s sex trade community, a job that is almost impossible due to the transient nature of the individuals and their wish to remain anonymous, said Carter.

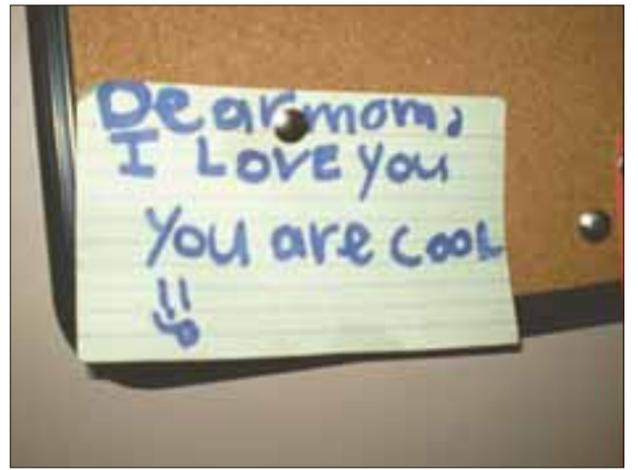
Since word spread of the exhibit being stripped from city hall’s walls, the group has received support throughout Calgary and across the country, said U of C social work dean Dr. Gayla Rogers.

“There’s something about this story that has resonated with people,” she said. “Why? I’m actually not sure. Sex trade workers don’t often experience widespread community support.”

Hurlock is now planning a six-month local tour for the exhibit because many Calgarians have stepped forward to

offer their space. She is even in negotiations with city hall, as they have offered to re-host the display with a couple revisions that keep the message intact while making it child friendly.

“Whether people take this awareness and choose to fight and change policies or use it as a catapult to put resources in—whatever that may look like—I felt like my real purpose was to get people talking about it,” said Rebecca, who is now working in an office in downtown Calgary. “It’s a conversation that people need to have.”



Summer Equipment

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VIRGIN FEST CALGARY GOES ON ITS MAIDEN VOYAGE

Virgin Festival
festival preview

Ryan Pike
AP Co-Editor

Over the years, Calgary has grown from a fort at the junction of two rivers into a thriving metropolis. During the same period, it has also developed from a culturally-limited place to a city chock full of unique instalments and acts to discover. The latest feather in Calgary's musical cap is the arrival of the Virgin Music Festival, quite fittingly located at Fort Calgary.

First held over two days and two venues in England in 1996, the Virgin Festival expanded to venues on this side of the Atlantic Ocean in 2006 with stops in Toronto and Baltimore. Following its expansion to western Canada last year, festival public relations manager Chris Baines notes that Calgary's prominence made it a clear choice for the next festival location.

"We really wanted to bring the Virgin Festivals to other cities and areas within Canada," reflects Baines. "We started to look at balancing where's best to go and

Calgary being such a great place and a fast-growing city with a young demographic, a very popular place to have festivals and a festival-loving city, it seems quite a natural place for us next to go on the Virgin Festival journey."

After settling on holding the festival in Calgary, organizers tackled the unique challenge of finding a venue suitable to the festival's size and scope. Baines says that Fort Calgary was chosen for many reasons.

"We looked at a potential site," Baines says. "The one that instantly came up that was popular for us was the Fort Calgary site, mostly because it's very accessible and also because it's quite unique and a historical area. We always try to pick sites such as that for our Virgin festivals."

Arguably, the most challenging aspect of planning the festival is rounding up an entertaining and diverse array of artists during the summer music season. The Calgary edition of Virgin Festival contains big-name acts such as the Tragically Hip, Stone Temple Pilots, Matthew Good and the Flaming Lips along with local acts like Secret Broadcast, Michael Bernard Fitzgerald and the Summerlad.

"Every time we do a Virgin Festival it's all about getting a mix," says Baines. "A mix of

A-list artists and also dynamic, up-and-coming artists and Canadian or local talent."

Festival-goers will have a challenge of their own: trying to cram in as many acts as can be fit into two days. To combat the scheduling problems that plagued earlier incarnations, this year's Virgin Festival features a mostly staggered line-up that aims to maximize audience enjoyment.

"That's the great [thing] about the festival, there's so many bands playing," remarks Baines. "Sometimes you've got two great bands playing on stages roughly at the same time and it's difficult to run over to the other. Like with Virgin Festival Calgary, there are 30 bands playing over two days, plus there's heaps of other things going on at the festival. We try as much as we can to give the best opportunity to experience nearly everybody."

Summertime in Calgary is a veritable buffet of great music and the Virgin Festival is adding yet another plate to the feast. With the prospect of the festival moving to a different city next year, festival-goers could be enjoying a once-in-a-lifetime musical experience.

Virgin Fest runs at Fort Calgary on Saturday and Sunday. You can find reviews and photos from the festival next week on gauntlet.ucalgary.ca

LOCAL BAND HITS IT BIG AT VIRGIN FEST

Fast Romantics
music interview

Jon Roe
Editor-in-Chief

Unlike headliners the Stone Temple Pilots or the Tragically Hip, who will be moving on to more concerts in exotic locales, as much heroin as Scott Weiland's pencil-thick body can take and brandy glasses full of brown M&Ms after Virgin Fest hits Calgary June 21-22, the Fast Romantics will likely go back to a life barely balanced between family and friends, day jobs and making music. After winning the right to open up the festival Saturday through X92.9's Xposure contest though, that may change for guitarist Matthew Kliewer and the rest of the Calgary-based ensemble.

"We know what we want to achieve," Kliewer says. "We want to quit our day jobs and take the music seriously. We're all in this for life, right?"

Kliewer, vocalist Matthew Angus and bassist Jeffrey Lewis have learned a lot since

their first attempt at quitting their day jobs. The trio achieved some radio success as the Mood and cracked ChartAttack's Top-40, but didn't tour to capitalize on the airplay. Kliewer calls it the "stupidest thing we've ever done."

"We knew what we wanted to do, but we didn't know how to get there," he adds.

Since then, the band has dissolved and then reformed as the Fast Romantics, adding drummer Alan Reain. This time, they will organize a tour to support their full-length album, likely to be released early August and hopefully use any airplay their single gets. This kind of timing is typical for most artists, but it's a lot easier to accomplish when backed by a label. The Fast Romantics are fully independent and self-managed and will be mailing all the copies of the CDs to the radio stations themselves, while booking their own shows.

They've carried over experience from their days as the Mood, but Kliewer admits the process is time-consuming and adds plenty of stress. He believes the reward will be more valuable at the end.

"We have friends that will help, but we want

to keep this as independent as we can," says Kliewer.

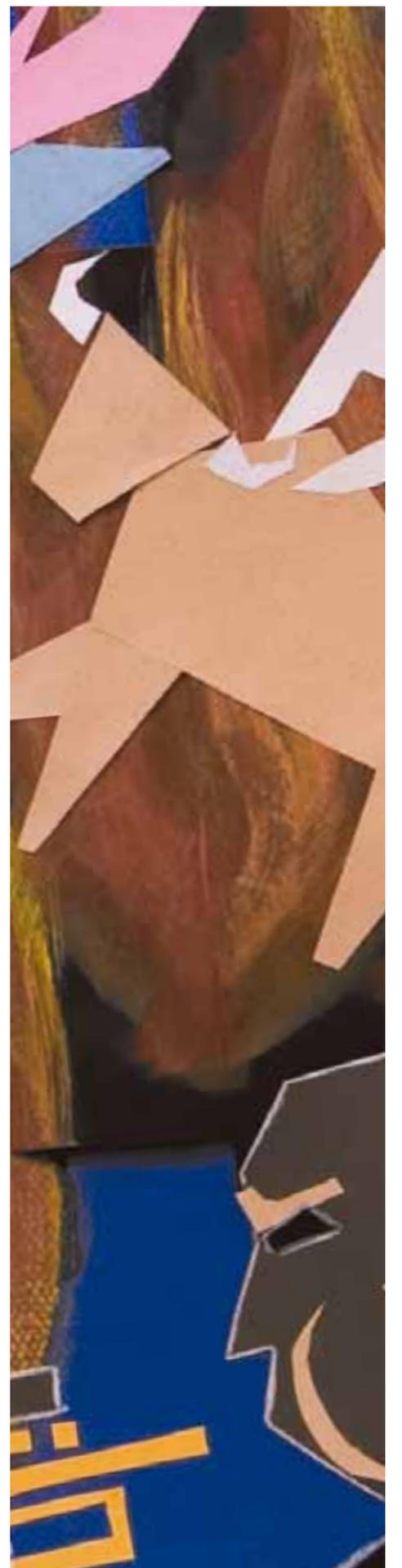
The dream may be quitting their day jobs, but the Fast Romantics have few places to look for inspiration in Calgary. Kliewer admits it's hard to be a full-time musician.

"Yeah, I don't know any," laughs Kliewer. "Despite having lived here for 12 years and, I don't know, I seem to know a lot of musicians here, but I don't know anyone that's really full-time at it."

For the band's upcoming Calgary shows, at Virgin Fest on Saturday and at Sled Island at the Legion on June 27, Kliewer says he's excited. The band is feverishly preparing for the opening slot Saturday and though the band has played few live shows as the Fast Romantics, he doesn't find kicking off Virgin Fest too intimidating.

"We're just really focused on letting the music do the talking," says Kliewer. "We want to sound as good as we can. It all comes down to lots of rehearsing. We really want the music to speak for ourselves."

The Fast Romantics play Virgin Fest on Saturday at 12:40 p.m. and Sled Island at the Legion on June 27 at 10:50 p.m.



Wednesday

Rich Aucoin
music interview

Amanda Hu

Entertainment Editor

In 1973, Pink Floyd released their infamous album, *Dark Side of the Moon*. Soon after, claims surfaced that one could listen to their offering along to the cinematic classic *The Wizard of Oz* and the songs would have uncanny synchronization to the film. The band denies, to this day, that the phenomenon was intentional, popularizing the notion of apophenia, the experience of seeing patterns or similarities in unrelated data.

Halifax indie music machine Rich Aucoin was a young boy when he discovered the album and its connection to a seemingly-unrelated movie. Rather than hoping for coincidence, he set out to sync up his first album, *Personal Publication*, with the children's classic *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. While the notion of making an album that works as a stand-alone piece of art as well as an accompaniment seems like a great undertaking, things fell into place for the laid-back Haligonian.

"When I started to think about making this record, I went around the video store and looked at possible movies that would be cool to sync it up with," he says. "I wanted to make a record that started and ended with the film it synced up to, so I had to

look in the kid's section for a shorter film. As soon as I sat down and started playing the songs while watching it with the sound off, I knew it was going to work really well."

Aucoin manages to achieve a do-it-yourself yet orchestrated sound to his work. Though he proudly notes all the instruments were played by him and all recorded with one microphone, the result is anything but scattered.

"You have to be really mindful [with the parts]," he says. "If you're making it on a midi keyboard and you're just playing it out like a keyboard part, you're making the instruments do what doesn't come to them naturally. I let the arrangements flow out the way I would normally play the instrument if I was that particular person accompanying the rest of the band.

Aucoin's diverse musical ability comes from years of school band classes where he learned to play nearly every instrument they had to offer as well as a stint in his brother Paul's percussive, audio-carnival experience, the Hylozoists. He says recording his album was not unlike some of his days in the band room and some of the album's grooves even came from the multi-instrumentalist spending time in Dalhousie University's percussion department, playing rhythms on every drum he could find.

"In grade eight, I started learning the bass because my best friends played the drums and guitar and they were like, 'If you want to hang out with us and to be in the band, then learn



courtesy Matt Atkins

Rich Aucoin is going to be doing a lot more running on his tour this year.

the bass," he recalls. "It's really nice once you're a percussionist because the whole world of mallet instruments opens up to you. Working on this record reminds me a lot of those percussion classes, where you're playing those things all together."

His project to record with various artists at each stop of his tour and his various charitable works adds another dimension to Aucoin's allure. In an apparent attempt to one-up himself after last year's bike tour, he will be running a marathon in every city, despite not having the time to physically train before heading out on his cross-Canada trip.

"I've always really enjoyed going to shows that I knew were raising

money for people in need because it's such a win-win, feel-good situation," he says. "You're having fun at the show, being entertained and having a cultural artistic experience and at the same time, there's stuff being done for medical research for people who are sick or giving food to people who need it."

It seems that Aucoin's synchronized music isn't the only thing that goes beyond accident. With the musician's aptitude for his art and the projects that he's taking on, his rightful acclaim seems to be rolling in and that's no coincidence.

Rich Aucoin opens for Dan Deacon at the Warehouse at 10:30 p.m.

Amanda's artist picks:

Grizzly Bear (Central United Church, 8:45 p.m.), Rich Aucoin and Dan Deacon (Warehouse, 10:30 p.m.), Christen Hanson and the Autistics (Underground, 12 a.m.)

Jordyn's artist picks:

Tetraktys (Ship and Anchor, 7 p.m.), Japan-droids, Snic and Fake Shark-Real Zombie! (Amsterdam Rhino, 9 p.m.), Mae Shi (Broken City, 11:30 p.m.)

Art, film, comedy:

MTV doesn't play music videos anymore, but the Indie Music Video Festival at Broken City sure does. It's on from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Shary Boyle, Paulo Whitaker and Terence Koh have art shows at the Illingworth Kerr Gallery on Tuesday, starting at 5 p.m. until 9 p.m.

Get your daily dose of minerals with *Heavy Metal in Baghdad* at the Plaza at 9 p.m.

Friday

Wet Secrets
music interview

Jordyn Marcellus

Entertainment Assistant

Lyle Bell has all kinds of secrets, most of them dry. He's in three Edmonton bands, including the Juno-nominated Shout Out Out Out. He has a fiancée. He also can't grow a moustache, something that would disappoint people who might listen to the lead single off the Wet Secrets' debut album *Rock Fantasy* titled, "Grow Your Own Fucking Moustache, Asshole."

"Man, I grow such a terrible moustache," laments Bell, who fronts the group and plays lead bass. "My main tip is to give it 100 per cent effort. There's a great little festival that the [Edmonton-based] Night Gallery puts on called Moustache Rock. We would plan our moustaches out six months in advance. I have tried man and my moustache is pretty piss-poor."

Bell, on the phone from Toronto, is sitting on a patio before the Wet Secrets play their showcase at the North by Northeast festival. With



courtesy Six Shooter Records

24 band uniforms for \$20. What a deal!

laughter and playful chatter all around him, he explains what some of the differences between the Wet Secrets and other Bell bands, Shout Out and the Whitsundays.

"The whole point of the Wet Secrets was some of us getting together and doing whatever happened," laughs Bell. "Playing and writing stuff spontaneously, getting drunk, writing songs and not really thinking about the end product. It was sort of an experiment in forming a band and doing something fun."

Their origin story reads like a

cry for an intervention. Formed in an Edmonton bar in 2005, the group drunkenly signed-on to a gig. Forgetting about the gig until a sudden reminder from the booker—the group only had one week to put everything together—they wrote material that eventually landed on their first EP, *Whale of a Cow*. The band has evolved in the three years since, gaining more members, a horn section and tightening up the entire act from its boozy beginnings.

"When we started, it was just this whimsical thing," explains

Bell. "[Bell's fiancée] Kim [Rackel] and Donna [Ball] hadn't played horns since high school and Trevor [Anderson] is an actor. He's the first guy to say that he's an actor and not a drummer. Trevor practicing and getting better at drums really helped and it tightened everything up. Adding to that, our keyboardist Doug Organ is a joke. He's this ridiculously talented jazz keyboardist and he's just slumming it in this band."

One of the immediate things about the act is their image. Unlike most bands with their tight jeans and t-shirts, the Wet Secrets wear a full set of marching band uniforms. Some may roll their eyes at the self-indulgence factor, but with tracks like "Chinball Wizard" and "Get Your Own Apartment," you can't wear the typical t-shirt and jean ensemble.

"Trevor was in a marching band in Red Deer," laughs Bell. "They're the old Red Deer Rebels marching band outfits. Trevor's mom, who's extremely supportive of Trevor's projects, found out that they were selling these outfits and brokered this deal where we got 24 of the outfits for \$20. As soon as we saw the outfits, we knew that they were perfect. It kind

of went with the ridiculous absurdity of singing about teabagging yourself and heavy cans of paint."

In a genre of music that can be overly ponderous and full of pretension, the Wet Secrets are the drunken uncle at the family reunion with the lampshade over his head. They're doing it for fun and lack any of the self-consciousness of the more grim-faced bands.

The Wet Secrets play the Mewata Side Stage at 8:15 p.m.

Amanda's artist picks:

RZA as Bobby Digital (The Grand, 10:30 p.m.), The Secret Machines (Royal Canadian Legion, 12 a.m.)

Jordyn's artist picks:

CBC Radio-3 Presents series (Pumphouse Main Theatre, 5 p.m.), Dragon Fli Empire (Palomino, 12 a.m.), Fucked Up (Vern's, 1 a.m.)

Art, film, comedy:

The opening reception for Jackson 2 bears' *The Stand-off* is in the New Gallery at 7 p.m.

The opening reception for Dave Dymen's *Call and Answer* takes place in the Truck Contemporary Art Gallery starting at 8 p.m.

Don Coyote is an art and musical showcase that takes place at the Glenbow. Matt Master and Terrance Houle will be in attendance.

It's the Island way of living

Guntlet music nerds Amanda Hu and Jordyn Marcellus have searched high and low to give you the haps on Sled Island, Calgary's hipster-haven festival. We've got interviews with awesome people, Team Entertainment's artist picks and the down-low on the festival's visual arts, film and comedy components. Check out more on page 11.

Thursday

Ghost Bees music interview

Amanda Hu
Entertainment Editor

The subject of death and dying is often a road less traveled. The notion of stepping into the astral plan can conjure up feelings of loss, pain, pride and uncertainty, leaving the entire concept of dying and the connections we have to those who died as certainly an unsettling one. Despite this—or maybe because of it—there seems to be an undying fascination with what can be described as the final phase of typical human development. Sari Lightman of the Halifax outfit Ghost Bees sees death as just that.

"It fascinates everyone because we've never personally experienced death first hand—I've never died before—so I think there's a fascination and a terror and a fear and a response to it," she says. "It's not

unnatural to be conscious of it and for it to be at the forefront of your daily life."

Lightman and her sister Romy, along with Calgary native Amber Phelps Bondaroff, are taking on some of their spiritual exploration through musical means. Their first offering, *Tasseomancy*, is a melancholy, sadly sweet and sometimes poetically morbid effort with soul-melting, lamenting vocal harmonies inspired by the stories of their great-great-grandmother, Clara, and of infamous dictatorships throughout history, as well as many others.

"I think that a lot of what we're singing about is embedded in us," Lightman says. "There's a lot of heaviness and a lot of guilt that's fed to you unconsciously throughout your ancestry and lineage and when we sing those songs, it comes out. By singing about these things and acknowledging history and recognizing your own past, it's not a burden or a suf-

fering, but can be liberating."

While the sisters seem to share an uncanny bond to each other and their ancestry—something apparent in the music—it is their contrasts that often produce the most spine-tingling material. Lightman is hesitant to condense their complicated personalities into a simple comparison, but explains that their intrinsic differences may come from beyond this lifetime.

"Whenever we go to see a psychic or intuitive, they've told Romy countless times that she has a really old soul and that she wasn't supposed to come back this time around," she explains. "She has such an ancient soul and there are very few souls on the planet that are as old as she is and I don't have that. Sometimes, when I think about a day that we're not working on the same wavelength, it's because Romy's got an old soul and I'm a lot younger than that."

Though the music of *Tasseomancy* was so close to the Lightmans given

its subject matter and execution, bringing Phelps Bondaroff into the mix was far less taxing than it would appear at first glance. Lightman cites the two families' similarities in personal lineage as a common bond.

"I feel like we were all back in a village somewhere," she says. "I think that she can definitely relate to it. When she is playing music with us, she recognizes that she is not necessarily emotionally involved in it, but she works in a supportive role because she knows where we're coming from."

The emotions evoked through Ghost Bees' music is undeniable, a testament to the group's ability to tap into the most grim and raw elements of history. With their flavour of audio imagery, both Lightmans could be seen as the 21st century's answer to the bards and allegorists of the past, as they take the role of the storyteller—in a traditional sense—and make the shift towards more musical inclinations.

"I think that the role of the storyteller manifests itself in a lot of different ways," Lightman says. "There's still the role of the storyteller in films, television and books, but that really intimate, personal exchange between the storyteller and the audience is definitely in its most potent form with a songwriter being at a performance."

Ghost Bees play at the Pumphouse Small Theatre at 7:30 p.m.

Amanda's artist picks:
Ghost Bees (Pumphouse Side Theatre, 7:30 p.m.), Chad VanGalen (Telus Science Centre, 10 p.m.)

Jordyn's artist picks:
Women (Broken City, 10 p.m.), Mother Mother and Okkervil River (Central United Church, 8 p.m.), Elliott Brood (Royal Canadian Legion, 12 a.m.)

Art, film, comedy:
Noam Gonick and Luis Jacob have a talk on the Wildflowers of Manitoba at the Glenbow starting at 6 p.m.
The Upright Citizens Brigade presents *Horatio Sanz and the Kings of Improv* in the Plaza Theatre at 8:30 p.m.

Saturday

Jose Gonzalez music interview

Jordyn Marcellus
Entertainment Assistant

Modern folk music is dominated by the acoustic guitar. It's so emblematic of folk that Bob Dylan was called Judas in the Manchester Free Trade Hall because he dared to switch to the electric guitar. Unlike the traditional singer-songwriter, Jose Gonzalez replaces the acoustic guitar with the nylon-stringed classical guitar. Walking on the streets of his native Sweden, he explains the decision to use such a seemingly non-traditional western folk instrument.

"When I was young, it was the only instrument we had at home," says Gonzalez. "It was kind of natural to play the Spanish guitar. Then I started playing the Spanish classical—it's been the instrument I've been most used to."

With classical guitar in hand, Gonzalez has found a bit of a niche covering a diverse range of

conventionally un-folky artists like the Knife, Massive Attack, Low and Kylie Minogue. While electronica and pop music may not always lend itself to a straight-up cover by a classical guitarist, Gonzalez's soulful re-imaginings allow him to make music that doesn't have to go through his finicky songwriting process.

"When I started playing guitar, I started playing the Beatles and bossa nova on my classical [guitar]," explains Gonzalez. "Instead of trying to sit down and write your own song, you can pick out one song you like and figure out the finger picking. Then it'll be done, which is kind of nice."

Lesser folk singers seem to churn out easily-produced, overly-melancholic heartbreak songs meant to make teenagers weep, but Gonzalez's lyrical focus is different. His first record, *Veneer*, was released in 2003 and it wasn't until 2007 that he finally launched his second full-length album, *In Our Nature*. In a music industry where four years is the entire career for

some bands, that same amount of time between albums can be an artist's undoing.

"I'm always saying about myself that I'm a slow songwriter," says Gonzalez. "I tend to be very picky and self-critical. That's one of the main reasons it took so long between the two albums. I've been trying to avoid the usual relationship songs. At the same time, I wanted to have this feeling of frustration that's found in songs that are about philosophical and political issues, without being too specific. In a way, I'm trying to get that feeling that political songs give you without singing about the political stuff."

With the constant touring that musicians inevitably have to do to support themselves and their albums, this slow songwriting has been further exacerbated. Returning home for a bit of time to rest and recharge his batteries has given him the opportunity to reflect on what's been missing in his life—sun, friends and the ability to sleep in his own bed.

"I've noticed that when I'm

home for long periods of time and I'm able to play music in a more relaxed situation than on tour, it's easier," explains Gonzalez. "I feel that I've been touring too much these last couple of years. Now that I'm home, it's sunny and I'm hanging out with my friends, I'm enjoying that. Touring can be nice too, but when you do too much of one thing you start missing the other stuff."

Jose Gonzalez plays the Mewata Main Stage at 11:50 a.m.

Amanda's artist picks:
Main stage performances (Mewata Main Stage, 12 p.m.), Katie Stelmanis (The Marquee Room, 11:30 p.m.), The Dodos (The Royal Canadian Legion, 12:30 a.m.)

Jordyn's artist picks:
Bend Sinister (Broken City, 11:30 p.m.), SIDS (The Royal Canadian Legion, 12 a.m.), Wet Secrets (Underground, 12 a.m.)

Art, film, comedy:
Daniel Barrow performs *Every Time I See Your Picture I Cry* at the Royal Canadian Legion at 6 p.m.
Get a double helping of Horatio Sanz with *Horatio Sanz and the Kings of Improv* Pumphouse Main Theatre. The first show starts at 7 p.m. with the second one at 9 p.m.

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Calgary jazz swinging into full gear

Jazz Festival
festival preview

Courtenay Adams
Gauntlet Entertainment

It's summertime and the living is easy. Cats are scating and the beatniks are high. The saxes are sweet and the pianos are cooking. The jazz is raging, so festival season must be nigh. It's time for Calgarians to reacquire themselves with the city's live music scene as the Calgary Jazz Fest rolls into town June 24. This year, the festival welcomes such legends as Dave Brubeck, Wynton Marsalis and Maceo Parker and stirs in some incredible local talent.

Executive director of the event Patrick Maiani explains that the relationship forged with Jazz Festivals Canada, an organization operating in several of Canada's major cities, helped attract acts.

The organization arranges concert dates and transportation for a plethora of jazz acts, large and small, that wish to tour the country. Maiani says the network provides new blood to an already well-established festival and opportunities for Calgary's undiscovered talent.

"Now that we're working with [the network] more, we can get some of our local guys touring in the other festivals," he says. "They get more radio airplay, they sell more CDs. We try and be a catalyst and support the scene in making these things happen or in helping to promote what is happening so that it is successful."

Calgarians Allistair Elliott, performing with Naturally 7, and Johanna Sillanpaa, performing with Beady Belle, are just some of the festival's

budding artists. Maiani notes that when local artists are able to perform with such internationally acclaimed performers, the benefits run both ways.

"[Allistair] has a good following and Naturally 7 has a good following, so put the two of them together, it makes them stronger," he explains. "Johanna Sillanpaa is another example. She's playing with Beady Belle, her idol, but she brings her audience to the Beady Belle show."

The mix-up of legend and local offers

"I think we've actually got a little bit of everything and that is fairly representative of Calgary's jazz culture."

**-Pat Maiani,
Director, Calgary Jazz Fest**

eclectic musical styles, to say the least. Maiani acknowledges that, though the hardcore older fans would likely show up for the well-known and highly revered fast-finger frenzy of pianist Brubeck, the event is by no means limited to any narrow notion of what jazz is or should be. In fact, he says, the notion of attending live jazz music is often falsely stereotyped as something more attractive to an older crowd.

"In some ways, parents know these musicians because they grew up with them," he says. "Back in the '50s, jazz was the bad boys' music. You had the white kids going to the black music clubs to hear this music in [the black boys'] part of town."

However, this bad boy nostalgia, he notes, is bound to reassert itself in the younger genera-

tions since trends cycle. The festival is hoping to draw a younger crowd, and turn skeptics into jazz fans, by playing on some generational gaps of cultural understanding.

The range of venues also suggests an attempt to accommodate a variety of schedules and students certainly haven't been forgotten. With several shows at SAIT this year, as well as at a smattering of locations in the core, the festival is readily accessible to anyone with a transit pass.

Availability of tickets, however, may be more touch-and-go. Many of the headliners are already sold out, though festival passes are still available—passholders can get into any show depending on available seating 15 minutes prior to showtime. However, festival organizers are eager to keep last-minute jazz whim-chasers satisfied by having several concomitant shows in areas surrounding the big acts.

In the end, there is no reason to skip out entirely on Jazz Fest 2008 and many reasons to attend. At the very least, according to Maiani, attending the festival is a move towards understanding the evolution of Calgary's jazz culture on the whole.

"I think we've actually got a little bit of everything and that is fairly representative of Calgary's jazz culture," he says. "There are people doing avant-garde stuff and people doing mainstream stuff and people doing the standards, people doing a lot of their own writing and contemporary music, going in a lot of directions."

The Calgary Jazz Festival runs from June 24-29. Check out www.calgaryjazz.com for information on artists, venues and tickets. You can find our reviews of the festival online next week at gauntlet.uccalgary.ca.

Burgeoning theatre company runs off-Broadway hit

Almost, Maine
theatre preview

Nicole Dionne
Gauntlet Entertainment

Wistfully remembering snowy days spent wrapped in a warm blanket in front of the fire place? In this warm weather, it's hard to recall the winter with any sense of nostalgia. Still, while the grass certainly is greener, the only real way to thaw the cockles of your heart is a cup of cocoa. In this sunny heat, a group of actors are bringing just the thing as Jeezum Crow's production of *Almost, Maine* will certainly make anyone's heart just as warm as the weather outside.

"It's about love and it's endearing from start to finish," says actor Jonathan Purvis. "Right from the beginning we just really enjoyed it. We just wanted to share this play with people. It was this great off-Broadway smash in the States so we thought, 'This is great! We need to share this with the Calgary people.'"

Purvis joined on stage by actors Cam Ascroft (Hidden in this Picture, Lunchbox Theatre), Karen Johnson-Diamond (Writer's Block, Ground Zero Theatre), and Cheryl Olson (Flop!, Quest Theatre) as well as Ruby Dawn Eustaquio, who stage manages the production. The group met while touring a piece of children's theatre in Alberta.

"The production we did together in the fall was my first time working with them and the Quest shows are quite a good tell of how you get along with people," Purvis says. "We're in a van together for weeks on end going to schools all over the province. We just fell in love with people and work together really well."

Almost, Maine will be the first production put together by the group, whose moniker Jeezum Crow Theatre was inspired by a colloquialism used frequently in the play. Set in the fictional town of Almost, the play was written by John Cariani, who grew up in northern Maine and follows the stories of 19 different characters.

"Each scene is individualistic, each of the characters is different from scene to scene, except for the prologue," Purvis explains. "Other characters will be mentioned, but each scene is unique. Together, all these scenes are supposed to create an overarching feeling even though they aren't tied together."

Like a good ol' fashioned quilt work, the design of the production is much the same, coming together out of a collective contribution.

"It was great to tackle stuff that was different," Purvis says. "I did some set design work, which was fun to do. Cheryl took on costumes, Cam did sound and Karen helped me with set design. It was still a collective because not everyone could be a single resource."

With the charm of a warm cup of cocoa on a snowy day, the quaintness of a small Maine town and the feel of a well made quilt—what more could you want?

Generational differences make for good music

David Braid
music interview

Darren Young
Gauntlet Entertainment

Combining generations of musicians with varying degrees of experience in one group can sometimes spell disaster. Different levels of experience means different levels of ability, and different levels of ability within a group can impose limitations on the music. The Davidson/Murley/Braid Quintet, on the other hand, is, by all accounts, an exception to this statement. Pianist David Braid attests that even though the three names leading the group are separated by years, their compatibility is undeniable.

"It's an interesting cross-section of a couple of generations—almost three generations—of musicians," explains Braid. "The three leaders are drawing heavily from three different periods and three contrasting background sources. Therefore, each leader is bringing something completely different to the table."

The other two leaders, saxophonists Mike Murley and Tara Davidson, represent the opposite ends of the experience spectrum. Murley is one of Canada's foremost jazz saxophonists, an instructor at York University and has played on nine Juno Award-winning recordings. Davidson, conversely, is still in the early stages of her career and at one point studied under Murley. Between the teacher and the student



courtesy David Braid

They all look awfully young for a three generation difference.

sits Braid, who describes himself as being the middleman of the group.

"In this group we have a veteran and one of the greatest saxophone players in our country," says Braid. "[Murley] has been established for a very long time. Tara, who is Mike Murley's student, is in the spring of her career. You can hear how her playing is derivative of Mike's playing and how it's become different. I'm coming into that middle level now—pre-veteran, post-newbie?"

Braid has been actively touring for almost a decade and is well past his musical puberty. He did not begin experimenting with jazz until he was in his 20s, focusing more on classical music in his late teens. His first introduction with jazz may have been late, but he has more than compensated for it ever since.

"My high school band teacher told me to investigate jazz music," says Braid. "That could have been the first time I heard jazz, really past the formative years of musical education. I think my playing exploits a lot of qualities in classical music that have not come to prominence in the jazz idiom."

Braid's classically-informed jazz music is but one selling point of the incredibly talented Davidson/Murley/Braid Quintet, not to mention the highly-skilled rhythm section of Jim Vivian on bass and Ian Froman on drums. Impressive as each member is in their own right, together they form an ensemble worthy of much praise—three leaders, three generations, one great band.

The Davidson/Murley/Braid Quintet plays at the Cantos Music Foundation on June 26. Doors open at 9 p.m.

Almost, Maine runs at the Motel Theatre in the Epcor Centre from June 17-28 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 except for the pay-what-you-can performance June 23.

Sled Island cont'd from page 9: Thursday

Young and Sexy music interview

Jordyn Marcellus
Entertainment Assistant

Lindsay Lohan is young and still sort of sexy. Zac Efron is young and ridiculously sexy. Vancouver baroque-poppers Young and Sexy aren't really like their namesake, despite the attempts of a ravenous press to make them seem like it.

Before Young and Sexy existed as a band, vocalist Lucy Brain and singer/guitarist Paul Pittman were in a relationship. They've been broken up for almost 12 years now, yet Pittman says that it's one of the most frequently asked questions by the press, much to the group's chagrin.

"People tend to focus on our past relationship because of the culture we're living in," sighs Pittman. "People are interested in that kind of tabloid headline, which is unfortunate. It does get a little bit boring to answer that question, because we've been answering that question since day one."

With a recent shake-up in the band's line-up, the group's dynam-



courtesy Mint Records

These stares are neither young nor sexy.

ics have significantly changed from their early days. Together for the last four years, there's been a more collaborative approach to the act. With a tighter sound and a hint of morosity, the group is finding its sea legs in the wide independent music ocean.

"The new line-up has been together for four years now," he says. "In the last band, I would bring a song to the band and everybody would add their part. It was a bit more simplistic. Now I bring a song

to the band and we work together. There's more interplay between the band this time around."

Young and Sexy's latest album *The Arc* alternates between moments of pop lightness and a bleak melancholy. The interplay between these diametrically opposed elements is not always found in pop music, but Pittman explains that it's the by-product of everyone in the band wanting to find something.

"We're just trying to explore different avenues and find something that

interests us," he explains. "There's a lot of songs that start off more traditionally poppy. It's not that we're trying to be depressed, but we want to find something that interests us. If it's depressing sounding or poppy sounding, that's great."

With *The Arc* in record stores now, the band is excited to get out on the road. They have a show at North By Northeast under their belt and the next stop in their summer touring season will be in Calgary for Sled Island. Pittman suggests that, more than anything, they're always looking to play a show to promote their album and the band itself.

"We're so excited to play Sled Island," says Pittman. "It's going to be such a great lineup and we're totally excited to play with Chad VanGaal. It doesn't get any better than that."

With the band playing at the Telus Science Centre, there is one primal concern that some of the more beer-soaked patrons might have—what is the beer situation? Pittman knows these worries all too well.

"I told my sister who lives in Calgary that we were playing at the science centre," laughs Pittman. "She said, 'You're playing there? Is there going to be beer?' Her son in the background, says, 'I don't think

there's going to be beer there, ma!' But I think there'll be beer there, so it's going to be okay."

"It's all ages," interjects Brain from the background.

"It's all ages?" asks Pittman. "Oh. Maybe there won't be beer then."

Young and Sexy open for Chad VanGaal at the Telus Science Centre at 9 p.m.

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cjsw on-air guide

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat	sun	
6 am	her royal opinion	breaking the tethers	jazz stairs/ lush life	morning joy	jazz for quantum cats/ pound cake jazz	sunlight theory (continued)	mental brain thoughts (continued)	6 am
6:30								6:30
7 am	BBC WORLD SERVICE NEWS weekday mornings at 6, 7, 8 and 9 am							7 am
7:30						democracy now!	alternative radio	7:30
8 am						bunte welle <i>german</i>	counterspin	8 am
8:30							eritran radio	8:30
9 am	cold smoke jazz	canadian music centre presents	bella musica	the soap box derby	the two and a half hour coffee break		hrvatski radio <i>croatian</i>	9 am
9:30								9:30
10 am		deconstructing dinner				calgary vietnamese radio	radyo pilipino <i>filipino</i>	10 am
10:30								10:30
11 am	cjsw news	from the vault	alternative radio	democracy now!		helenic melodies <i>greek radio</i>	buscando america <i>latin & south america</i>	11 am
11:30	counterspin <i>(media watch)</i>	so SU me <i>students' union</i>			who shakes <i>city calendar</i>			11:30
12 pm	sister sister	beet farm <i>sponsored by the drum & monkey</i>	mind grapes	pillage the village / failed pilot	fantastic plastic <i>sponsored by beat route</i>	audio verse <i>sponsored by bird dog video</i>	let's get baked with mat & dave <i>vegan baking from cklou</i>	12 pm
12:30							level the vibes	12:30
1 pm								1 pm
1:30								1:30
2 pm	the banshee beat	electric company <i>sponsored by the inner sleeve</i>	the ok ship lights	my public shame <i>sponsored by melodiya records</i>	my allergy to the fans <i>sponsored by tubby dog</i>	bikesheviks <i>sponsored by cadence coffee</i>	mental illness <i>sponsored by the coup</i>	2 pm
2:30								2:30
3 pm								3 pm
3:30								3:30
4 pm	pop beats and cigarettes	jane & tasya's guide to everything <i>sponsored by broken city</i>	halfway home <i>sponsored by the liberty lounge</i>	alternative to what? <i>sponsored by kerfmusic.com</i>	road pops <i>sponsored by fwd weekly</i>	caribbean link-up <i>sponsored by fwd weekly</i>		4 pm
4:30								4:30
5 pm								5 pm
5:30								5:30
6 pm	french transe en danse	off the page <i>gauntlet</i>	mezza l'una <i>italian</i>	writer's block	musiquarium <i>everything from jazz to jungle sponsored by giant 45</i>	voice of ethiopia	breaking techniques	6 pm
6:30								6:30
7 pm	south louisiana gumbo	artslink	the blues witness with reverend ron <i>sponsored by calgary dollars</i>	folkcetera <i>sponsored by the marquee room</i>	full moon funkalicious <i>the latest & greatest in breaks & house</i>	oh africa!	desi vibes	7 pm
7:30		tombstone after dark <i>sponsored by the palomino smokehouse & social club</i>	lift the bandstand	film clips		the nocturntable	speaking in tongues <i>world music</i>	7:30
8 pm	reverb							8 pm
8:30	yeah, what she said <i>womyn's programming</i>	each one teach one <i>sponsored by the marquee room</i>	queertopia / urban sex <i>lesbian / bisexual / gay</i>	noise <i>experimental music</i>	dirty needles <i>the best in funk, soul & hip hop</i>		the hit chat	8:30
9 pm	aubrey's shindig!							9 pm
9:30								9:30
10 pm	katharsis	rack power	good character requirement / turing radio	fat beat diet	remote emissions <i>hard hitting jungle & drum 'n bass</i>	megawatt mayhem <i>metal</i>	tokyo eye patch	10 pm
10:30								10:30
11 pm		what will the neighbors think	am i right?				translucent dreams <i>ambient, trance etc.</i>	11 pm
11:30								11:30
12 am	bass ackwards	twilight banter	radio frankenstine / blue collar bravado	post-everything	dna <i>hardcore techno</i>	the sarcastic triangle / attention surplus disorder	sunday night groove school	12 am
12:30								12:30
1 am								1 am
1:30								1:30
2 am	bad dub	late night	pardon me for keeping you up	rage cage	sound champion showcase			2 am
2:30								2:30
3 am								3 am
3:30								3:30
4:00								4:00
4:30								4:30
5:00								5:00
5:30								5:30

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Summer sports shorts spectacular

Bekkering and O'Neill at Stamps camp, golf research gets the shaft

Brad Halasz
Sports Editor

Swim team strengthens champion squad

As the excitement over the University of Calgary swim team's Canadian Interuniversity Sport championship year still lingers, the club announced this year's team would continue to make a splash in the pool.

CIS coach of the year Mike Blondal has picked up some strong talent, most notably Mike Brown, who won a gold medal in the 200-metre breaststroke at the Commonwealth Games in Australia in 2006. He also qualified in the same discipline in Athens at the 2004 summer Olympics.

Brown will join the team after making an appearance at the summer Olympics in Beijing this August. He used his first year of eligibility with the University of Minnesota Golden Gophers before coming to Calgary.

Bekkering back to basketball

Superhuman athlete Henry Bekkering decided to hang up his cleats and throw the high tops back on as the U of C basketball phenom bowed out of Calgary Stampeders training camp four days in.

The Taber native was drafted in the fifth round in the 2007 CFL draft based on his athletic ability, rather than his football background.

According to the Stampeders website, "his size and athleticism showed great potential and were making the adjustment, he admitted his heart wasn't ready to make the necessary investment."

Bekkering stated he could not make a full commitment to football and that basketball was his chosen sport. He said he will turn his focus from football to his

last year of eligibility on the Dinos basketball team and pursue a spot on the Canadian National team before heading over to Europe to play pro if the opportunity presents itself.

O'Neill steps up at Stamps camp

Dinos football star Tim O'Neill has made it through Calgary Stampeders training camp after signing with the club March 12.

After playing every snap with the Dinos last year as a centre, he became a 2007 CIS first team All-Canadian.

According to the Stamps website, O'Neill is fighting for a spot on the backup roster, but head coach John Hufnagal was impressed with his play during day 10 of training camp.

"We didn't have a lot of men out there on the offensive line and Tim really stepped up," said Hufnagal on the Stamps website. "He played every snap and did a nice job for us."

O'Neill is no stranger to the CFL lifestyle, he was drafted by Edmonton 22nd overall in the 2005 draft and spent the 2006 season on the practice roster before coming back to the Dinos in 2007.

Golf gets the shaft

Ever wonder why you're so terrible at golf? Could it be that you don't practice enough? Maybe it's the dozen beers that go along with your round, or maybe you're too distracted by the cart girl selling said beers. These are problems that can be easily fixed. For the more serious golfer, it is finding the proper equipment that can be the difference between par and a birdie.

Kinesiology researcher Jay Worobets has set out to learn the



Gauntlet file photo

Bekkering (#15) left Stamps camp to pursue his hoop dreams.

subtleties of a golf club and help fit players with the proper shaft.

Using the TaylorMade golf swing analysis system in the Human Performance Lab of the Kinesiology building, Worobets found that some larger men responded better to flexible shafts marketed for women and some women performed better with stiff shafts, usually reserved for men.

Worobets' research won him the Golf Digest Alastair Cochran Equipment and Technology Award at the World Scientific Congress of Golf in Phoenix, Arizona in March.

Dinos football returns to Shaw

The Dinos football team will have the added pressure of being on television during their first road game of the season against the University of Saskatchewan Huskies as Shaw announced their 2008 television schedule.

Calgary will be featured against the Huskies Aug. 29. They will host University of British Columbia Thunderbirds on Sept. 27 and visit the University of Alberta Golden Bears on Oct. 25.

This season marks the second year of a three-year contract Shaw has with the Canada West Universities Athletic Association.

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TOP 20 for the week of
JUNE 16.08

- * Denotes Canadian Artist
** Denotes Local Artist
- 1 **CLINTON ST. JOHN****
Black Forest Levitation (Indie)
- 2 **THE GRUESOMES***
Tyrants Of Team Trash (Rockabilly)
- 3 **THE RAMBLIN' AMBASSADORS****
Vista Cruiser Country Squire (Indie)
- 4 **GHOSTKEEPER**** Children Of The
Great Northern Muskeg (Saved By Radio)
- 5 **SPIRITUALIZED**
Songs In A & E (Sanctuary)
- 6 **THE GANG** Zero Hits (Absolutely Kasher)
- 7 **HARDTAILS**** Ready For A Fight (Indie)
- 8 **J.R. SHORE****
An Impeccable Shine (Indie)
- 9 **VARIOUS****
The Greatest Underground Show
On Earth Vol. 2 (Cyclone)
- 10 **OKAY** Huggable Dust (Absolutely Kasher)
- 11 **ISLANDS*** Arms Way (Indie)
- 12 **THE CONTRAST**
Perfect Disguise (Wicked Cool)
- 13 **NO AGE** Nouns (Sub Pop)
- 14 **THE MAG SEVEN**
Knife To A Gunfight (Indie)
- 15 **LAURA BARRETT**** Ursula (Indie)
- 16 **HEY ROSETTA!** Into Your Lungs (Indie)
- 17 **THE GERTRUDES***
The Gertrudes (Apple Cider)
- 18 **SOUTHSIDE STALKERS**
Sound Of Speed (Truckland)
- 19 **GREENBELT***
Our Homes (Greenbelt Collective)
- 20 **PORT O' BRIEN**
All We Could Do Was Sing (Indie)

HIP HOP/SOUL/FUNK

- 1 **D-SISIVE*** The Book (Dutch)
- 2 **PETER PROJECT***
Peter Project (Fuzzy Logic)
- 3 **RAASHAN AHMAD**
The Push (Indie)
- 4 **ELI "PAPERBOY" REED
& TRUE LOVES** Roll With You (2-Division)
- 5 **RADIO RADIO*** Cliché Hot (Bassland)

WORLD

- 1 **POR POR**
Honk Horn Music Of Ghana
(Smithsonian Folkways)
- 2 **DUBMATEX*** Renegade Rocker (T-Ace)
- 3 **VARIOUS**
Singing For Life: Songs Of Hope,
Healing, And HIV/AIDS In Uganda
(Smithsonian Folkways)
- 4 **THE SABRI FAMILY**
5 Ragas: Sarangis & Tabla (ARC)
- 5 **ORCHESTRA BAOBAB**
Made In Dakar (World Circuit)



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