

U N I V E R S I T Y   O F   C A L G A R Y

# gauntlet

VOLUME 49 | ISSUE NO. 10 | AUGUST 7 | 2008



**DAVE TAYLOR**

**MO ELSALHY**

**THE LIBERALS NEED TO REBUILD THEIR PARTY. SO FAR TWO MEN  
HAVE STEPPED FORWARD TO TAKE A RUN AT THE HELM. PAGE 3.**

# Social change in the era of cool

Universities were the hotbed of political activism and social change. These institutions of higher learning were the places where counterculture brewed and young intellectuals fought against the norms of their more conservative elders. As time has gone on, the counterculture has been slowly and insidiously co-opted until it was nothing more than a fashionable choice and a shallow attitude about sticking it to some formless authority figure.

This shallow form of pop culture consumption has infected the attitude of youth. Now universities are full of so-called "hipsters," more obsessed with buying the coolest new print of Converse hi-tops than trying to change the world. The latest *Adbusters* attempts to tackle the selling-out of the counterculture in their latest issue, the cover story titled, "The Hipster: the Dead End of Western Civilization." It's an overwrought and whining attempt at a polemic against the movement, but the backing idea is that capitalism has co-opted and pacified the counterculture since the end of the Cold War and has made rebellion against the status quo a trendy thing to do for the 18-29 set.

Ever since the Berlin Wall fell, the dominant ideology in the world has been capitalism-driven liberal democracy. Very few in university now have ever had to deal with a battle of clearly defined ideologies like those that erupted during the Cold War and have grown up under the

notion that liberalized capitalist democracies are the end all, be all of political systems.

Capitalism has worked its way into every nook and cranny of our society. The market has become the panacea to our economic woes and any non-mainstream ideas have become a simple niche for teenage rebellion and an exploitative source for coolest new clothing trends. This is the first generation of youths who have grown up under the ideology of all-encompassing capitalism and now rebellion is a commodity that can be bought and sold.

Hipsterism is the perfect representation of this movement of capitalism-influenced, wannabe-cultural insurgency. As westernized free enterprise economics homogenizes and dulls the uniqueness of a particular subculture—Avril Lavigne-ing punk rock and Souljah Boy-ing hip-hop—advertisers have a thirst for more and more unique and alternative sub-cultures to co-opt.

But once something becomes too mainstream and is no longer cool, the corporations must find a new source of trendiness to suck on like a vampire. Hipsterism is the epitome of it.

While there are elements of fashion to hipsterism, more than anything it's an entire social phenomenon. It's pseudo-intellectualism at the cost of meaningful content and the desire to party for peace. It's the condescending belief that there's no way to better society, as it's inherently corrupt and how the people in the mainstream are just pathetic "sheeple."

This is where the effect on students comes in.

Much has been made about the lack of student involvement and the apathy that permeates the University of Calgary campus. People are more up in arms about prices of the pitchers of beer at the Den than they are about the Darfur conflict. The lack of credit card payment for tuition is more of an issue than the lack of affordable housing or treatment of women in the workplace.

Students used to be pissed off about important things—then they'd at least try to show a little backbone. Now the only way the Students' Union can get anyone involved is with the promise of free pancakes or some kind of party-atmosphere. Just look at Political Action Week. No one cares. Why should they? There's a sale on at American Apparel.

Jordyn Marcellus  
Gauntlet Staff



# SUMMER DEN PARTY!



## FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

### \$9.75 JUGS OF DRAUGHT & \$2.99 HI-BALLS

### FREE SPOLUMBO SAUSAGES FROM 7PM-9PM

# The race to be leader of the Liberals

**Jon Roe**  
 Editor-in-Chief

They lost seven seats in March, a leader in June and now have six months to pick someone to reorganize and rebuild their party.

The Alberta Liberal Party has had a trying few months. They dropped from 16 seats in the legislature to nine in March's provincial election—even after polls showed Albertans wanted change from the 36-year-old reign of the Progressive Conservative party. They are saddled with almost \$600,000 in debt, and at the end of June, Kevin Taft, party leader since 2004, announced he would be stepping aside.

But both Mo Elsalhy and Dave Taylor, the only two so far to announce their intentions to run in the party leadership election in December, think not everything is as bad as it seems and that the Liberals taking government is not an impossible feat.

Taylor has been an MLA since 2004 in Calgary-Currie and a broadcaster previously. He feels his ability to communicate is why he would make a great leader.

"I think [communication] is a skill we absolutely need if we're going to be successful in explaining ourselves, in building relationships with ordinary Albertans and, hopefully, winning elections," said Taylor.



**Mo Elsalhy.**

Elsalhy was first elected in the 2004 election, defeating a Conservative minister to take Edmonton-McClung before he was unseated in March by another Conservative. He feels being the youngest of the candidates, both declared and rumoured, and his background in business make him a good choice for leader.

"I think [communication] is a skill we absolutely need if we're going to be successful in explaining ourselves, in building relationships with ordinary Albertans and, hopefully, winning elections."

—Dave Taylor,  
 Calgary-Currie MLA and Liberal leadership contender



Katy Anderson/the Gauntlet

Both Calgary MLA Dave Taylor, above, and former Edmonton MLA Mo Elsalhy have put their names into the Liberal leadership race.

"I understand marketing and the importance of one-on-one connections," Elsalhy explained. "I know the importance of building trust and relationships with people. I did it as a health professional and as a small business person."

The Liberal party has not formed a government since the 1920s and in the last four elections have fluctuated between seven and 18 seats, as well as going through five different leaders. Taft was the first leader since Laurence Decore in the late '80s and early '90s to lead the party into more than one election. Similarly, Elsalhy is looking long term.

"I am working towards 2016 and if we could do it by 2012, I would be the happiest person on earth," he said. "Realistically speaking, it takes this long to organize and prepare for the groundwork. This is exactly what the

Saskatchewan Party did and what I hope to do in Alberta."

Mount Royal College instructor of policy studies Keith Brownsey said, regardless of who wins the leadership, the party needs to rebuild in all 83 ridings and put together constituency organizations that a winning campaign can be built upon. He added that the Liberals have a realistic shot at government even as early as 2012.

"The Conservatives actually got 84,000 more votes than they did in 2004," said Brownsey. "Well, why did they get that? They were well organized. They managed to identify their vote and get their vote out on election day. The Liberals failed at this task, which is the fundamental of any election campaign, they failed at this task miserably."

For Taylor, the party needs to

build itself an identity that Albertans can trust and votes will follow. The Progressive Conservatives maintained their dominance of rural Alberta in the last election and the Liberals will have to win seats outside of urban centres in order to have a hope at forming government.

Taylor explained that this comes back to identifying what the Liberals stand for and developing more agricultural policies, an area he admitted the party has been light on.

"There's not a hope in hell of rural Albertans voting Liberal, until they know who we are, until they've had the chance to meet us face-to-face," said Taylor.

Though only Taylor and Elsalhy have officially declared their intentions, there are a handful of rumoured candidates interested in taking the helm of the party. Calgary-Mountain

View MLA David Swann is among the potential candidates, but, according to Taylor, is undecided between running for the Liberal leadership and pursuing a new "united left" political party that would combine members of the Liberals, the Alberta NDP and the Green Party of Alberta—an idea that Brownsey thinks is absurd.

"All the united left movement would do is weaken any opposition to the Conservatives," said Brownsey.

It is still early, with six months to go before the Liberal convention, but the race should be interesting, as it's important for Albertans, he said.

"The Conservative government has a number of proposals that will be rather controversial that will be introduced this fall," he added. "The government itself seems to be somewhat adrift. People forget that Mr. Stelmach is a very, very conservative individual."

## Call friends, surf the web, listen to music and . . . save lives?

**Sarelle Azuelos**  
 News Editor

The new 3G Apple iPhone can now add saving lives to its extensive list of features. Dr. Ross Mitchell, a newly appointed industry chair in medical imaging informatics at the University of Calgary is working to let doctors use their phones to diagnose patients faster.

Currently, doctors must be at a \$100,000 workstation to see 3D MRIS or scans of patient's organs. Mitchell succeeded a year and a half ago in building a server that does the same work as these stations and then sends the images in real time to a laptop. Now his team of research associates and graduate students have programmed similar software for iPhones.

"We ran into a problem one day with a

woman who was being treated for stroke in the emergency department at Foothills and it took too long to get 3D reconstructions of the blood vessels in her brain," he said. "As part of the iCORE chair, I got one of these servers in my lab and we wondered, 'If it can drive a web browser, I wonder if it can drive the new iPhone 3G.'"

Mitchell and his server project are funded

by Informatics Circle of Research Excellence, Calgary Scientific Inc. and the U of C. iCORE, founded by the Government of Alberta to fund 31 research chairs, contributed \$750,000 and has helped raise more.

"Mitchell is in a position where he can take computer science and turn it into something of commercial value with his partners

see iDOCTOR, page 5

# Security shenanigans

The 'quiet' summer months have kept campus 5-o on their toes for the school year

Daniel Pagan

Gauntlet News

Campus Security dealt with lost children, a city bylaw sticker hoax, students attempting to climb a crane, break dancers gone wild and a moose during what should be the quietest part of their year. Even with many students gone for the summer, the University of Calgary is still full with conference guests and children attending day camps.

There was a scare in April when a male student received verbal threats and his residence was shot in a drive-by. U of C Campus Security director Lanny Fritz said the shooting led to administration canceling students' exams, while Campus Security and the Calgary Police Service searched the campus. Affected students wrote their exams a month later.

Bermuda Shorts Day came and went with no problems. Fritz applauded the efforts of Students' Union event staff, Campus Security officers and CPS officers in policing the famed campus event. Only one ambulance was called for an intoxicated student.

"Due to the police check stop program initiated after the BSD event, there were no impaired driving charges and no 24-hour suspensions, which is a first in the last 10 years," said Fritz.

He explained that during the summer, Campus Security gets a lot of calls for lost children due to the large number of children attending day camps.

"Out of the 9,000 children on campus during the summer, there is always two or three children who decide to leave and walk home



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

Campus Security safely patrolled the school, dealing with a loose moose, a high altitude dare and a bylaw bathroom hoax.

without telling anyone, which results in several hours of anxious moments for parents and searchers," said Fritz.

Campus Security was called to deal with a sticky situation when someone posted City of Calgary bylaw stickers in Kinesiology bathrooms over urinals and toilets, warning users they were being observed by cameras. Security personnel inspected the area for several days and determined there were no cameras.

"I believe that the stickers placed in the washroom was simply someone's idea of a bad joke," said Fritz.

Campus Security had to talk two students

down from climbing the construction crane in the Dr. Fok Ying Tung International House site. He said he assumed the stunt was done on a dare, but said the students were very cooperative with Campus Security.

They also had to close down a break dancers' show in MacEwan Hall after SU staff made a request for their removal. The dancers wanted to show off their moves and an audience was gathering around, but an event was scheduled in the space.

Finally, the U of C got an unexpected visit from a moose that wandered on to campus and broke through a window in the hallway

near the Reeve Theatre on July 31. Fritz said the Fish and Wildlife Department was called in to deal with the situation. With the assistance of the CPS, Fish and Wildlife officers were able to tranquilize the moose and return it to Bragg Creek.

"This incident ended on a high note, because the moose was returned to its natural habitat," Fritz said. "There were no injuries and there was no disruption on campus."

In April, May and June 367 incidents were reported, at a cost of \$140,280 to the campus due to stolen property, vandalism and other accidents.

## Student says urban natives face similar challenges worldwide

Chris Wanamaker

Gauntlet News

When Diana Barrientos left the small, wintry city of Punta Arenas, Chile to do her masters degree in the thriving Chilean city of Santiago, she was surprised at the discrimination she encountered.

"They laughed at my accent, told me I was different," she said, noting she many faced stereotypes about her life in southern Chile. "They asked me if penguins walked on the street or if I drank frozen beer. I felt intimidated and lonely."

Even with her unique heritage of Scottish and ethnic Huilliche roots, Barrientos said she had never questioned her identity before her move to the city.

However, her studies in history and culture led her to see her identity crisis as a larger societal issue.

Now at the University of Calgary

on a graduate exchange program scholarship to complete her thesis titled "Urban Native Identity," she has discovered indigenous people worldwide encounter the same identity issues when they move to the city.

When she visited her boyfriend's home in Inuvik, Northwest Territories—amazingly similar to her home town in climate and geography—she discovered aboriginal people in Canada often shared her experience. A move to the city in hopes of seeking educational opportunities can mean a loss of the benefits of living in a smaller community.

Barrientos also said she has found very few grants for projects targeting aboriginal people in education, health and tourism in urban areas, something she said she has seen in smaller communities.

Traditional elders do not want to give up their power to urban aboriginals, she said. The gap has widened between aboriginals living on reserves and in smaller communities and urban aboriginals, who have difficulty relating to a more traditional identity that often includes cultural drums, dancing and clothing.

"The city homogenizes culture," said Barrientos. "In the 19th century the idea was created of one nation, one culture, one language. So in both Canada and Chile, urban aboriginal people do not have enough rights."

To avoid the problem of giving rights to one group and not another, Barrientos said that as a political strategy the government recognized the rights of the indigenous and French in their communities, but not in the city.

The resulting homogenization and

lack of rights have had the effect of making many of the social problems experienced by aboriginal people, such as homelessness, alcohol and drug abuse and high incarceration rates, worse. Such problems have not been helped by the failure of research to recognize the impact of city life on the aboriginal experience, she said.

The U of C's Native Centre administrative co-ordinator Cheryle Chagnon-Greyeyes called the discrimination faced by aboriginal students "blatant."

"They are stereotyped as poor, having no talent or gifts," she said.

Students who come from small communities where they have been unquestioningly included can find the systemic discrimination they encounter in Calgary frightening, said Chagnon-Greyeyes. When they encounter larger problems such as affordable housing, food and cloth-

ing, the experience can be harsh.

"Some fall through the cracks, give up their studies and go back home," said Chagnon-Greyeyes. "It leads some to the bottle."

The Native Centre, located in the MacEwan Student Centre, is working on developing a transition program so new students can easily access cultural supports and services. The centre seeks to supplement the experience of students' home communities with cultural events, access to elders, a smudge room, counseling, outreach programs and scholarship information, as well as a service that links graduates with employers, said Chagnon-Greyeyes.

Native Centre student advisor Carole Tucker said the centre has two binders full of scholarship information from organizations such as Health Canada, Shell Canada and

see MODEL, page 6

# CJSW volleys for world music record

## DJ plays 103 songs in just one hour in basement of the U of C's Mac Hall

**Jordyn Marcellus**  
Gauntlet Staff

The lads and lasses down at CJSW have sent out a new campus radio challenge across North American airwaves. CJSW librarian and host of the Tuesday night show "Each One Teach One" Devin Friesen has set an unofficial record for the most songs played within an hour-long period last week.

"The initial idea was started by an EP I own by a band called Parts and Labour," explained Friesen. "It has 50 songs in 29 minutes. I've played the band on my show a couple times, but I began to wonder how I could play the songs from the EP. I figured that I could probably play 10 or 11 in a row, then said, 'Why don't I just have a show full of these kinds of songs?'"

One hundred and three songs later, the goalposts have been set. With songs by local favourites like the now broken-up Sudden Infant Dance Syndrome and the still-thriving Women, like all programming on CJSW, the show had a distinctly local flair. Station manager Chad Saunders said that while the challenge was all in good fun, it showed how much more freedom campus radio has to do something different than their corporate peers.

"It's a cry for attention," laughed Saunders. "Not on Devin's behalf—we're asking people to listen to CJSW. Our friends in commercial radio probably play 100 songs a week, we're doing 100 in an hour. We've got more musical diversity in an hour than any commercial radio in the country in a week."



Katy Anderson/the Gauntlet

CJSW station manager Chad Saunders said the record-setting feat showcases the freedom of independent radio.

Friesen explained it would be almost impossible for him to normally play all 103 tracks—on both vinyl and compact disc—in the DJ booth and so he had to turn to other means to get the show off the ground.

"I prepared everything on my computer using multi-track recording software to mix

everything together and pre-produce most of it before the show," he said. "There were a handful of things I played regularly, but for the most part, I just had to press play and watch the volume levels."

Competition from other campus radio stations is already beginning to heat up. Saunders

said Jersey City and Winnipeg have attempted to beat the record, but there was an especially cheeky message coming out of Vancouver.

"CITR in Vancouver told us, 'Okay Saunders, the battle is on,'" he added. "[Music Director] Luke [Meat] and I will try and one up you. Consider yourself served."

## iDoctor, continued from page 2

at Calgary Scientific," said iCORE president Dr. Randy Goebel. "He's an instance of someone who has been able to create things in a laboratory and clinical setting that actually make a difference in reality."

iCORE has committed \$80 million in the last 10 years to public research. Calgary Scientific provided \$1 million and the U of C \$375,000 to Mitchell.

After the server was up, making it iPhone compatible was relatively inexpensive. Senior research associate Mark Simpson wrote most of the software.

"It was about two months of work compressed into four weeks, a lot of late nights," he said, pointing out the phone could just barely run the complex program. "Right now they have to transport the patient to the machine or they just don't show the patient the scan, but with this, the doctor can take the scan right to the patient bedside and show them."

Mitchell ensured patients that no personal information would be saved



Paul Baker/the Gauntlet

on the phones and very strict security protocols were followed.

"Some of [the physicians] came to

me and said it could be equivalent to the stethoscope, something they all carry in their pocket," he said. "It

just gives them easy access to critical data wherever and whenever they want."

Mitchell explained the switch from conventional processors to graphics cards in the server will make the technology more accessible. Some of the workstations will be replaced with servers that run on \$200 to \$600 graphics cards.

"The gaming industry is a multi-billion dollar industry and that's where millions of dollars go into the development of the gaming cards," said Mitchell. "We're leveraging this inexpensive and ubiquitous computing power and trying to use it for medical purposes rather than just first-person shooters."

Simpson's next project involves virtual biospying, which would allow doctors to use scans to diagnose cancers instead of more invasive procedures.

"Every time you drill a hole into somebody there are complications like infection," he said. "My grandmother had a stroke, my father had

cancer and these things help people. I'm just trying to make things a little bit better."

LSAT MCAT  
GMAT GRE

Preparation Seminars

- Complete 30-Hour Seminars
- Convenient Weekend Schedule
- Proven Test-Taking Strategies
- Experienced Course Instructors
- Comprehensive Study Materials
- Simulated Practice Exams
- Limited Class Size
- Free Repeat Policy
- Personal Tutoring Available
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

OXFORD SEMINARS

1-800-269-6719  
604-683-3430  
www.oxfordseminars.ca

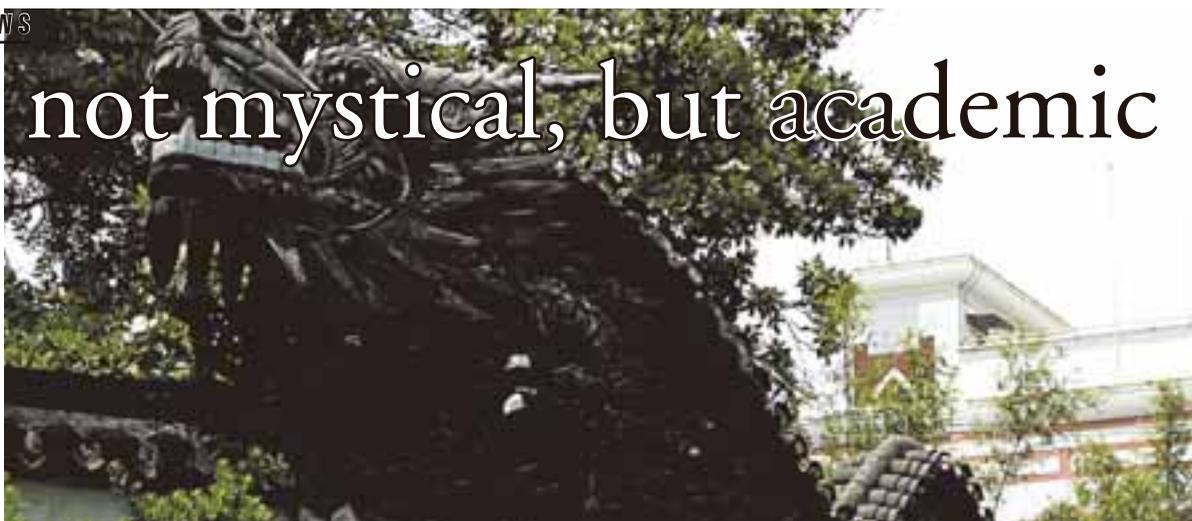
# Dragons: not mystical, but academic

Asma Chaudhry  
Gauntlet News

The Royal Alberta Museum is in the midst of an exciting summer exhibition that draws on people's fascination with dragons in a fun yet academic way. Running until Sept. 14, the series opened mid-June and is showcasing an exhibition that originated in the Natural History Museum of Paris and travelled around the globe. The museum has a mandate for dealing with both natural and cultural history, which makes the dragon—living in both of those worlds—the perfect creature to explore.

"[The series] covers the entire range of everything to do with dragons—the cultural aspects, the natural history aspects, subject matter that might appeal more to adults, subject matter that appeals more to children," said Royal Alberta Museum director of communications Chris Robinson.

The *Dragons, Between Science and Fiction* exhibit has strong French roots and is presented in both English and French, something



courtesy Creative Commons

The Royal Alberta Museum is presenting an exhibit called *Dragons, Between Science and Fiction*.

visitors have asked for, Robinson said. International exhibitions have been brought to the Albertan museum for the past 20 years.

"It's nothing new for us to bring in feature exhibitions," said Robinson. "We have a couple of galleries dedicated to these travelling exhibitions that people enjoy seeing and might not see otherwise."

Unique to the Royal Alberta Museum exhibition is a special lecture series Sunday afternoons called "Here be dragons . . . and other creatures" that will be running until Sept. 7. The 10 topics lectured on include *The Role and Symbolism of Dragons*

in the *Harry Potter Series* by Edmund Kern to *Dragons and Cryptozoology* by Loren Coleman. Dr. Paula Swart gave a talk about mythical creatures in different cultures of Asia, including the dragon—which she says is regarded as a symbol of wisdom, power and goodness.

Noticing an important theme after looking at First Nations and Inuit art depicting water spirits, Swart directed her talk towards water and the importance of fertility to cultures rather than the importance of creatures. Creatures, such as dragons, represent various aspects of water or weather that revolve around the

agricultural cycle in Asian cultures. Illustrators made drawings of images she was showing during her talk and proved to her the interest held by her audience.

"If we talk about these mythical creatures, we think, 'Oh well, this is something from the past,'" said Swart. "But it's alive and well in Asia. We see it in theatre, in story telling, in the art, fiction, these creatures are everywhere. You can't dismiss it as something from the past, it's right here around us, which I find fascinating."

Tickets with valid student ID cost \$7 at the door.

## Model, cont'd from page 4

CIBC, but some remain untouched because students don't know about them or don't apply.

Recognizing the systemic nature of the problem, Barrientos sees the Inuvialuit and Gwich'in's successful achievement of land claims and self-government in Inuvik as a model that urban aboriginals in both Canada and Chile can use.

In Inuvik, Aurora College has served as a focal point for groups to meet, communicate and effectively organize. Similarly, the U of C could help urban aboriginal groups unite and focus their efforts, she said.

"It's absolutely possible for aboriginal people to combine a new urban identity with traditional culture," she explained.

Barrientos said she's excited that some aboriginal groups have achieved the right to draft affirmative action policies and control their own research noting that indigenous peoples in Chile could benefit by following their lead.

# Feeling *stressed* about your finances?

## Apply for the Bookstore's *Book Loan Program!*



UNIVERSITY OF  
**CALGARY**  
BOOKSTORE

For students in 2<sup>nd</sup> year or later.  
Applications due by  
Sept. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008

For more info check out:

[www.calgarybookstore.ca](http://www.calgarybookstore.ca)





# Choose Yer Own festival presents all possibilities to its patrons

## Choose Yer Own festival preview

Jordyn Marcellus  
 Gauntlet Staff

In the summer of glitzy, ginormous music festivals, the Summerwood Warren is bringing something completely different to the table. Instead of needless swag, sparkly wristbands or fancy laminated badges for people who drop thousands of dollars so they can get access into the VIP lounge, they deliver the goods with jubilant events like a bicycle obstacle course, vegan potlucks and even an opportunity to make your own robot costume—with a bit of light robot play fighting right afterward.

Laura Leif and Neil Moignard, two of the numerous co-organizers of the event, describe how the community collaboration aspect of the Choose Yer Own festival worked while sitting at the Weeds café in Capitol Hill. Leif explains the major difference between this event and numerous others that have run throughout

the summer and how they avoided meticulously and rigidly planning out the events.

“It’s not [the Summerwood Warren] programming it,” she says. “The community is programming it. We just had an open call for submissions, so anyone who was interested was able to do whatever they wanted. We’re really trying to make sure we don’t have to say ‘no’ to anyone. We make sure that everything is legal and follows the guidelines we put up on our website, but that’s the only level of intervention that we really had for the events.”

Where Virgin Fest pushed buzz about their “greening” of the festival, the Summerwood crew—thanks to a partnership with the Good Life Bike Shop—have ensured that all their events are within an easy bike ride of the C-Train stations around town, making for a lack of carbon emissions that puts Richard Branson to shame. The greater artistic community is also attempting to experiment with some new and innovative ideas that couldn’t find a home in a typical festival setting.

“We’ve got really creative performance and interactive events,”

explains Leif. “People are bringing out projects that they don’t have a venue for that would be interesting to see. There’s a breakfast at someone’s house where they’ve invited their landlord and they’ll answer questions to the public. It’s called, ‘Ask Our Landlord Ken Lee: Breakfast Cereal Edition,’ where

shows and concerts throughout the city. These projects, like the festival, are often a creative and entertaining blend of youthful exuberance and inclusive interaction between the artists and the audience. Anyone who has been to a show can’t help but leave with a smile and the warm fuzzies tingling up their spine.

“There is a sort of mutual awareness of other people that you live around, what they do and what they create.”

—Neil Moignard,  
 Choose Yer Own festival co-organizer

people can ask whatever questions they have about anything to a landlord. We’ve also got a drum circle for people with drum kits too.”

While Summerwood is most often associated with the bevy of young local bands like Knots, the Consonant C and the Neighbourhood Council, the collective has also been involved in numerous multidisciplinary art

The group’s inclusionary attitude is a testament to the idea of establishing a creative community for new and emerging artists, where they can share ideas and their creative enterprises. Moignard explains the artistic community in the city is there and thriving, but needs to be fostered.

“We’re a very large city with few centres,” he says. “The artistic com-

munity is just a microcosm of the city. It’s hard to bring everybody together and to make people aware of what kind of things are going on around the city. The community, in the way that I see it, is having people understand what is going on, being connected in a way that you talk to a neighbour. There is a sort of mutual awareness of other people that you live around, what they do and what they create.”

In a place where most people seem to think—at least when it comes to the artistic identity of the city—that the grass is much greener all over the country, the Summerwood Warren’s Choose Yer Own festival is filling an entirely different niche than what other Calgary festivals provide. Nowhere else in Calgary will you see a bike parade, lemonade-fuelled dance party or watch the meteor shower underneath the stars with a live violin serenade by Woodpigeon’s Foon Yap.

The festival runs from Aug. 7–10 all around town, with intro sessions at the Good Life Bike Shop near the south end of the Eau Claire Market. Check out [www.summerwoodwarren.com](http://www.summerwoodwarren.com) for more info and a full schedule of events.

# Calgary's indie music babies

The Neighbourhood Council spreads its wings to embark on new musical adventures

## Neighbourhood Council

festiva l p r e v i e w

Jordyn Marcellus

Gauntlet Staff

Calgarians all across the city will soon know the sadness of an empty nest as local indie darlings the Neighbourhood Council leave for Montreal in the fall. In one short year, the band has burst into the consciousness of music fans with the release of their *Set Pieces* EP and their recent mention in the "Bands to Watch" column on music blog Stereogum. As the perfect culmination of this whirlwind year in Calgary, they will have one last epic farewell party at the Artlife Gallery on Tuesday.

"Austin [Tuft] has this idea that, by the time we're done university, we'll do a world tour and take the world by storm," laughs Council member Katie Lee. "We're pretty much taking [our lives] day by day. We all have our own personal goals we want to accomplish. We don't have a set plan. The only set plan, really, is to play music with each other for as long as possible."



courtesy Marc Rimmer

There must be something pretty interesting outside, by the looks of it.

Even though Tuft jokes about taking the world by storm, the possibility of seeing these kids as a headliner at a major outdoor European festival in five years—fans as far as the eye can see, soaked in mud—is not far-fetched. To some, their music is an explosion of pop joy with an eye to the experimental, an absolutely delicious mix of noise that can sound like the roaring surf at dusk or as delicate as a porcelain ballerina attempting a pirouette.

The first rumblings about the band surfaced after member Raphaëlle Standell-Preston won the youth songwriting competition in 2007, back when the band was a quintet instead of the current four. Losing a member to McGill University, their sound evolved into their current incarnation. With this small boost, doors started to open for the band to meet people involved in the local scene, giving them an opportunity for shows and even more chances to make connec-

tions in the community.

"Raffi [Standell-Preston] winning the songwriting competition at Folk Fest helped us a lot," explains Lee. "Meeting [Woodpigeon's] Mark Hamilton has done a lot of things for us—he helped get us into Sled Island. We just kept going to shows, meeting a bunch of local acts around town and having them ask us to play."

The buzz the band has received isn't just puffed-up hype either. Much has been said about their young age, but they wear maturity and humility on their sleeves, which helps to explain their willingness to work hard to get where they want to go.

Tuft explains the ethos the group had when it came to becoming established in Calgary, a testament to the best kind of bootstraps mentality that dominates the city.

"If you work your ass off with the few shows you get, then when people see your performances

and what you put in, they just keep asking for more," he says. "It was kind of nice to see how well we were received. Every time we'd play a show, we'd get [asked to play] more and it would snowball from there. The more shows we went to, the more shows we played, the more people we met. It just resulted in us expanding our connections."

Anyone who has looked at the list of shows the band has played can see how well-connected they are in Calgary and beyond. They've played with Azeda Booth, opened for Woodpigeon and even got a shot to play with internationally renowned bands like Deerhunter at the Sled Island festival. It has allowed these young adults a chance to see other people's creative processes and given them further motivation to write truly great tunes.

"We're listening to them and playing with them," Tuft says. "It's mind-opening in the sense that you

get to see all the different creative processes around town. Azeda Booth, Woodpigeon, Women all have a different process and they're all different than our own. Being really good friends and playing with them all the time allows us to see into their creative process and it's really interesting to see how other people do it."

"They've helped inspire us to write awesome music," adds Lee.

Like a mother crying over her baby son finally leaving the safety of a small-town life for the big city university, the Calgary indie music scene will definitely feel loss over the departure of the Neighbourhood Council. But don't shed a tear—they'll continue to play music. For now, it's time for one last great party in the name of the Neighbourhood Council.

The Neighbourhood Council plays with Knots and Azeda Booth at the Artlife Gallery on Tuesday at 8 p.m.

## Teach English Overseas



TESOL/TEFL Teacher Training Certification Courses

- Intensive 60-Hour Program
- Classroom Management Techniques
- Detailed Lesson Planning
- ESL Skills Development
- Comprehensive Teaching Materials
- Interactive Teaching Practicum
- Internationally Recognized Certificate
- Teacher Placement Service
- Money Back Guarantee Included
- Thousands of Satisfied Students

OXFORD SEMINARS

1-800-269-6719/604-683-3430

www.oxfordseminars.ca

# WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH \$1.4 MILLION?

Do you have a great idea about how to spend the **Students' Union Quality Money**? Past Quality Money allocations include a \$55,000 Library Improvement Grant and \$206,000 for the Class Size Reduction Program. Proposals must be submitted by November 21, 2008.

[www.su.ucalgary.ca/governance/quality-money](http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/governance/quality-money)



# Of singing, stereotypes and sex

**Fringe Fest**  
festival review

**Amanda Hu**

Entertainment Editor

The Calgary Fringe Festival is in full swing and there are many productions to choose from, spanning from one-person show to musical, to puppet show and beyond. Here is the *Gauntlet's* look at some of what the festival has offered so far.

## *Use Me: An Undead Musical*

There's a first for everything. In the case of *Use Me: An Undead Musical*, there was a first-time musical director, first-time musical playwright and some first-time composers. The result is a chuckle-worthy production that has some noticeable jitters to work through.

As the audience moves through the story of incomplete dead looking to rest, Alex Plouffe shines playing Alistair, conveying the emotions of his character with great skill, but misses the mark in the musical interludes, wavering in and out of key unpredictably. Playwright Jeff Kubik's words feature a marked wit, but rush through some moments and the overarching message he's trying to express comes off slightly muddled and hard to decipher.

As for the music itself, it does well

portraying the production's wanted cabaret style, but fails to exhibit anything other than that, leaving it a little lackluster and cliché.

Overall, *Use Me* shows the inklings of talent in all areas and acts as a fantastic jumping point for future musicals.

## *Pussy Sushi*

The exploration of stereotypes abounds in this two-woman show about moving from the trailer parks of small-town Alberta to the glowing lights of Calgary. The problem is Emiko Muraki and Laura Whyte don't work to explore anything new, resulting in an hour-long cliché fest that doesn't deliver in innovation.

There are some laughable moments—a lingering picture of an octopus "pleasuring" an anime girl and a strategically placed clip of a Japanese Hulk Hogan ad, among others—that could be honed into a more workable show in the future, but barring that, the audience is left with many haphazard scenes that were not useful to developing any sort of message or adding real entertainment value.

*Pussy Sushi* scratches the surface of a workable commentary, but definitely needs some refinement and focus if it wants to stand out from redneck-mocking one-liners and Japanese game show spoofs.



courtesy Anna Chan

*Use Me's* Alex Plouffe (r) acting outweighs his singing.

## *Les Ms.*

*Les Miserables* is an undeniable cult sensation that has its place in pop culture history. That said, one should think twice about embarking on a production paying tribute to the play because their friends said it was funny when they did a scene in the basement one time.

This was the inspiration for Robyn Lamb and Lisel Forst's offering at Fringe. The tribute, with its sort-of endearing doing-a-play-in-your-basement feel does, if anything, act as a good synopsis of the original work. Unfortunately, the humour of Lamb and Forst's production comes mainly from one-off, "Remember when this happened?"

jokes poking fun at the original, like a friend who recites lines from a well-known sitcom and thinks they're funny for doing it.

Both women are ferociously talented singers—as they work to point out in Lamb's very oddly placed, somber rendition of "Bring Him Home"—and do a lot of justice to the songs they sing, but after watching *Les Ms.*, they should focus their talents on their voices and keep their

tributes in the basement.

## *Debbie Does Dallas: the Musical*

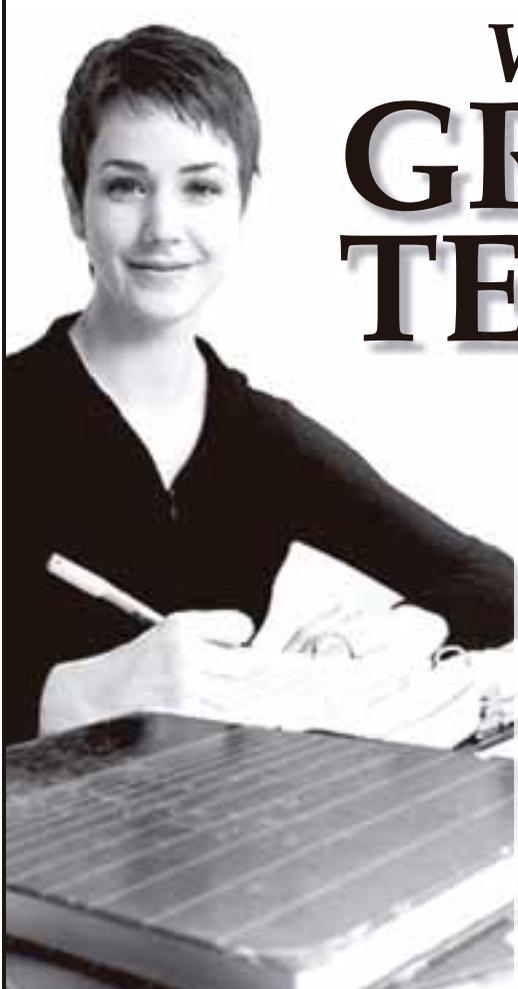
Cheerleader Debbie's quest to become a Dallas Cowgirl started in porn and moved to musical in 2001 for the New York Fringe. Director David Gallant's version of the infamous story features some innovative shifts that manage to add to a story about whoring out your teenage body for money.

The show incorporates some of the other Fringe artists as well as improv moments, some of which are done surprisingly well, and manages to flow in and out of the scripted content with some ease.

Erin Ward does a fair job as the title character, effectively portraying a signature ditzy attitude. Her singing voice, also of note, did, however, face some problems synching with the track, leading to some precarious moments in the musical interludes.

This silly, over-the-top production works well in conveying Calgary Fringe's community attitude.

Fringe Fest runs until Aug. 10. Check out [www.calgaryfringe.ca](http://www.calgaryfringe.ca) for schedules and tickets.



## We're looking for GREAT TEACHERS

You love to teach and at Sylvan that's what you get to do. Right now, we have **part-time after school** employment opportunities for teachers of all grades in **READING, WRITING, MATH and MATH HOMEWORK SUPPORT**. Our programs were developed by educators and our 3:1 student: teacher ratio gives you experience working on an individual basis with your students, something a teacher rarely experiences. Lesson plans are prepared for you and we offer flexible schedules, assigning students to your availability. **We have openings in SILVERSPRINGS NW, MIDNAPORE SE and AIRDRIE**. If you are interested in a unique teaching experience, please email [phlackerman@hotmail.com](mailto:phlackerman@hotmail.com) or fax resumes to: (403) 777-4964. We look forward to hearing from you.



## TEACH ENGLISH OVERSEAS

*Your Adventure Starts Here...*

- Get TESOL Certified in Five Days
- Study In-Class, Online or by Correspondence

**OVERSEAS JOB GUARANTEED!**

**1-888-270-2941**

Come to our **FREE** Info Seminars:  
**MONDAYS @ 7 PM**  
U of C, Social Sciences Bldg., RM 117

[globaltesol.com](http://globaltesol.com)



## off the page



See you  
at the  
Blues Fest!

**RADIO GAUNTLET — TUESDAYS — 6 PM**  
hosted by Jon Roe and Katy Anderson  
interviews—commentary—analysis  
photo by Ken Clarke

CALGARY 90.9 FM  
**cjsw**  
106.9 CABLE

**OFFTHEPAGE@GAUNTLET.UCALGARY.CA**

# MFA graduates become the masters of their art

## MFA Exhibition art preview

Daniel Pagan

Gauntlet Entertainment

Culmination can mean different things for different people. It can relate to reaching a high peak, astronomy or arriving at the final stage of a journey. For artists involved in the Master of Fine Arts Thesis Exhibition, it means coming to the end of a long academic endeavour. As they prepare to leave a mark on the Nickle Arts Museum, there is reflection, joy, sadness and, of course, art.

The exhibition showcases varied inspirations in painting and print-making in the seven graduate students' theses, like Jennifer Forsyth's painting and props to display mankind's impact on materials. Marnie Blair was unconventional with the creation of her metal sculpture, oxidizing the steel pieces to display how the human condition plays a role in the process of creation.

"Normally, my steel piece sculpture is not really appealing due to its poor shape and its short lifespan," she says.



Daniel Pagan/the Gauntlet

MFA artist Marnie Blair stands by her work, "Models (for the Imaginary)."

"The rust on the surface has been flaking off and many museums can not accept it, due to their duty of preserving artifacts."

Forsyth took a more sustainable route by painting her entire collection of snapshots onto diskettes resembling Polaroids, displaying people's desire to collect. She collected and painted boxes with shipping labels and mark-

ings so they resemble moving boxes to show the human compulsion to order their things. She also painted roadside memorials and graffiti on metal with oil to show how people leave marks on purpose.

As the liaison between the Nickle Arts, the fine arts department and graduate students, Forsyth gets to explore her interest in the working of

museums and curatorial practices.

"There are several ways a museum can engage with the people and its space, such as preserving archives and how art can engage with the museum in different ways," she explains. "After being put in museums, an object can have a 'second life' in a museum context, like how people and their loved ones have a different

interpretation of one memorial."

Forsyth explains that there was no common theme in the artists' work, save for the fact that all of them came to the U of C to work toward a common goal: the completion of their MFA degrees. Culmination seemed like an apt theme.

Blair agrees, adding that all the artists also learned that things can change quickly—she was planning on making prints when she started, but ended up running a rust factory out of her studio. She says that experiences like this have greatly benefitted the artists.

"Initially, the word held little meaning to me, but as I was working on my thesis, I realized that this isn't just the climax of my undergrad and MFA work, but also a new beginning," she says. "After graduation from the MFA program, there are many possibilities such as pursuing PhDs, teaching, being a studio technician, going into administrative work in the field and then there is the starving artist route. Seriously though, there are many emerging artists in Calgary making a good living selling their art."

Culmination: MFA Thesis Exhibition runs Aug. 8 to Sept. 13 at the Nickle Arts Museum.

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

MORNING JAZZ

ROOTS MIX

AFTERNOON MIX

LATE NIGHT MIX

CJSW is Calgary's only campus/ community radio station. We broadcast 24 hours a day, all year. Our signal can be heard as far as Banff on the FM frequency, at 106.9 cable FM, and on Real Audio at www.cjsw.com. • We offer: • A choice to choose: Music and ideas that can't be heard on commercial radio — Music of all genres — radical not recognizable • Spoken Word Programs: social, political, environmental • A&E programming • Women's Issues & Music Programming • Gay / Lesbian / Bisexual Programming • Over 12 different multicultural programs • To volunteer at CJSW, come down to our offices in MacEwan Student Centre at the U of C (room 127). Fill out a volunteer application form. Ask Office Coordinator, ADRIENNE LEE, when the next training session begins. Learn about the ins and outs of how CJSW works. You don't have to be a student to join. For more info call 403.220.3902.

▶ STATION MANAGER: chad saunders  
▶ INTERIM PROGRAM DIRECTOR: sonja bloomer ▶ MUSIC DIRECTOR: myke atkinson  
▶ ph: 403.220.3902 ▶ fax: 403.289.8212 ▶ 24 hour request line: 403.220.3991  
▶ email: cjswfm@ucalgary.ca ▶ online: www.cjsw.com  
▶ SONNY RHODES photo: ken clarke



MIXED BLOCK  
SPECIALTY MUSIC  
NEWS/SPOKEN WORD  
MULTICULTURAL

# Songstress breaks down the barriers

Calgary's Lindsay Ell proves that girls can kick it with the cool blues cats too

**Lindsay Ell**  
music interview

**Amanda Hu**  
Entertainment Editor

The world of blues music has the old boys club set-up perfected. The genre is defined by hardened hands picking at tattered strings that belong to a weathered man who knows the ways of the world. Despite this, up-and-comer Lindsay Ell is taking Calgary's blues scene by storm.

The 19-year-old has struggled with the preconceptions surrounding blues for her entire young but growing career. She prides herself on guitar-driven tunes and soulful lyrics chronicling her experiences, something not always associated with someone so young or even with the female musician.

"The typical thing is, 'Oh, you play guitar? You play electric guitar? That's so interesting,'" she says. "It's a really important thing to me to make a strong case that girls can play guitar too. I feel like [females in blues] are becoming more prominent with people like Bonnie Raitt and those inspirations behind us. There are more and more girls picking up guitar and not only playing singer-songwriter choruses, but getting into the music, which is what I really focus on."

Many who have seen Ell in action have picked up on her talent. Most notably, former Guess Who and Bachman Turner Overdrive mem-

ber and Canadian music forefather Randy Bachman saw Ell's skills as so formidable that he took her under his wing and is now producing her work. Ell says Bachman's involvement has been an invaluable experience for many reasons.

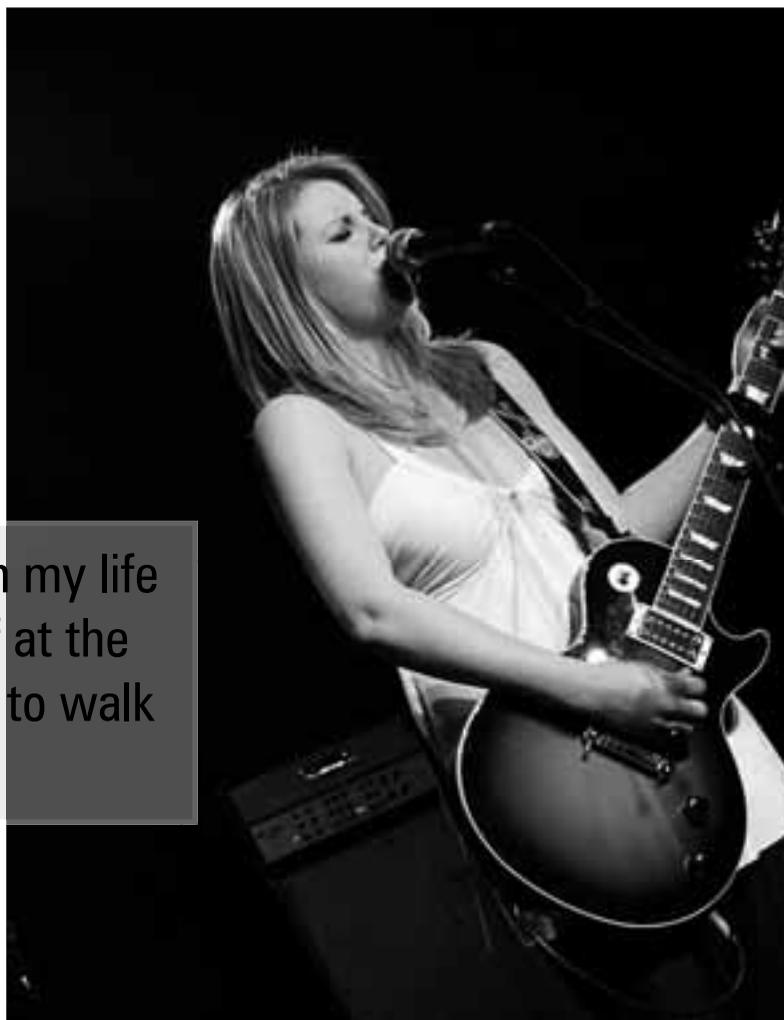
"With Randy having 40 years of experience, he points things out to me that I normally wouldn't see within a song," she says. "Sometimes, simpler is better. We all say it and know it, but when you're heavy into a song, you sometimes forget that. He'll shorten up lines to make them more concise and really pound out

"Music is a huge focus in my life right now and I'm kind of at the point where I've decided to walk down this road."

that hook. It's just little things here and there, but the little things make all the difference."

With the new songs and the recent attention at this year's Juno stop in Calgary, buzz around the musician is starting to come to a head. Ell says the experience not only enriched her place in the city's growing blues scene, but fostered music in general.

"All these festivals like Folk Fest and Blues Fest have been going on for years and years and years, but recently, with the Junos being in Calgary, I think the music scene is seeing a significant change," she explains. "It's going to be so nice because the Junos and Junofest told everyone that it was okay to go out



courtesy Dustin Rabin

Not only does she pose with a guitar, but she plays it well too!

and see live music again and there are so many venues that opened up and so many other bands playing live shows weekly now."

With a stronger community to play in and develop with, Ell is looking forward to a long future in the music industry and the world of blues. While she's already accomplished a lot in a short time, she still hopes for further growth in

the coming years in her music and with that change, more success.

"Music is a huge focus in my life right now and I'm kind of at the point where I've decided to walk down this road," she says. "It's in my heart and my passion and what I want to do for the rest of my life."

Lindsay Ell kicks off the Calgary International Blues Fest on Aug. 7.

# VOX

CALGARY 90.9 FM  
**cjsw**  
106.9 CABLE

**TOP 20** for the week of  
**JULY 28.08**

\* Denotes Canadian Artist

\*\* Denotes Local Artist

- LUCID 44\*\*** *Co mah coal* (Tonto Is Jesus)
- AGNOSTIC MOUNTAIN GOSPEL CHOIR\*\*** *Ten Thousand* (Shoutin' Abner Pim)
- BONNIE "PRINCE" BILLY** *Lie Down In The Light* (Drag City)
- THE FAMINES** *Black Sea* (indie)
- ABE VIGODA** *Skeleton* (Post Present Medium)
- ME FIRST & THE GIMME GIMMES** *Have Another Ball!* (Fat Wreck)
- THE REVISIONISTS** *The Revisionists* (Loveless)
- VARIOUS** *You Don't Know: Ninja Cuts* (Ninja Tune)
- DRAGON FLI EMPIRE\*\*** *Intermission EP* (Make Believe)
- BENT SPOON DUO\*\*** *Out There In The Sea* (Bug Incision)
- JONATHAN RICHMAN** *You Can Have A Cell Phone That's OK But Not Me* (Vapor)
- DAEDELUS** *Love To Make Music To* (Ninja Tune)
- SILVER JEWS** *Lookout Mountain, Lookout Sea* (Drag City)
- JOSEPH ARTHUR** *Crazy Rain/Vagabond Skies/Foreign Girls* (Lonely Astronaut)
- CORY WEEDS QUARTET\*** *Big Weeds* (Cellar Live)
- ELLIOT BROOD\*** *Mountain Meadows* (Six Shooter)
- KING KHAN AND THE SHRINES** *The Supreme Genius Of King Khan And The Shrines* (VICE)
- MY BRIGHTEST DIAMOND** *A Thousand Sharks Teeth* (Asthmatic Kitty)
- CHRIS DADGE** *I'd Drive Your Ass Across The World, If I Had To* (Bug Incision)
- VARIOUS** *PDX Pop Now!* (indie)

## FOLK/ROOTS/BLUES

- AGNOSTIC MOUNTAIN GOSPEL CHOIR\*\*** *Ten Thousand* (Shoutin' Abner Pim)
- VARIOUS** *Classic Piano Blues From Smithsonian Folkways* (Smithsonian Folkways)
- WATERMELON SLIM & THE WORKERS** *No Paid Holidays* (Northern Blues)
- THE WARPED 45s\*** *The Warped 45s* (indie)
- THE AVETT BROTHERS** *The Second Glean* (Ramseur)

## WORLD

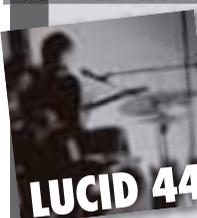
- OUANANI\*** *Vote etnik* (Ouanani)
- RICHIE SPICE** *Gideon Boot* (VP)
- PUERTO PLATA** *Mujer de Cabaret* (IASO)
- DUBMATIX\*** *Renegade Rocker* (7 Arts)
- VARIOUS** *Putumayo Presents: Café Cubano* (Putumayo)

## MYKE'S PICKS

- CASTLEMUSIC**
- YELLOW SWANS**
- ZOZOBRA**
- SAUL WILLIAMS**
- HUMAN HIGHWAY**



## SPOTLIGHT ON CALGARY



Mr. Leslie Mark Markus Marcus Overland has hit the mark on his new Lucid 44 record. The desperation in his voice, the strangled guitar, the pure passion and totally defunct-ness of it

add up to a sad bastard record at its finest, and not just on a Calgary level. This record is perfect!

[www.myspace.com/lucid44gutterawl](http://www.myspace.com/lucid44gutterawl)

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

**SAT. AUG. 16 7 - 10 PM**

**FREE!** @ OLYMPIC PLAZA

with **HONEYBEAR,**  
**FOREST TATE FRASER**  
and **KRIS ELLESTAD**

## RADTASTIC!

**YOUR GUIDE TO ALL THINGS MUSIC AT CJSW 90.9 FM**

To be added to the email list, contact Myke Atkinson, Music Director at [cjswfm@ucalgary.ca](mailto:cjswfm@ucalgary.ca)



# FREE AD SPACE

## ON NUTV TELEVISIONS IN MAC HALL

As a university society, NUTV is funded in part by the students at the University of Calgary. As such, we offer a wide array of services to student groups and clubs such as free advertising for your organization or event on our closed circuit televisions in MacEwan Student Centre.

If you would like more information about advertising with NUTV, please visit our website and follow the advertising link, or follow the address below.

<http://www.nutv.ca/advertise.php>

**NUTV**

Watch us at  
[www.nutv.ca](http://www.nutv.ca)  
or find us on

Shaw Channel 94  
Sat. @ 7:30 pm

U of C Campus  
Channel 17

U of C  
Mac Hall

U of C  
Dining Centre

# Family ties flourish at this year's Blues Fest

**Johnson Family**  
music interview

**Ken Clarke**

Gauntlet Entertainment

This year, the Calgary International Blues Festival is adding a family connection to its musical one. One featured artist on the lineup is a familiar name to local blues lovers—Calgary-based Donald Ray Johnson. Internationally renowned for his deep blues vocals and power-driven drumming, Johnson will be musically reunited with his singer-songwriter daughter Panzie Johnson. A celebrity in her own right, Texas-born Panzie has made countless concert and television appearances and has toured for 14 years as a backing vocalist for Stevie Wonder. Now focusing her solo career on southern-based gospel music, Panzie will be performing a separate solo set at the Blues Festival and will be joined by her father on drums. The *Gauntlet* spoke recently on the phone with Donald in Calgary and was joined on a second line from San Antonio with Panzie.

**Gauntlet:** Have you worked much with your father?

**Panzie:** I've done a lot of work with my father and it's been an honour. All of the times I toured with Stevie, he'd give me pointers. It's been an awesome experience and I'm very fortunate.

**G:** Did the two of you make music together when you were a child?

**P:** Absolutely. My father was always there and a lot of the things we did together were, of course, gospel.

**G:** When was the last time you were in Calgary?

**P:** Believe it or not, this visit will be my first. I'm thrilled and am looking forward to it.

**G:** Touring with Stevie must have been a real eye-opening experience.

**P:** It was. He was very open with sharing things that, as artists, we needed to know. I know this sounds weird, but I didn't start at the bottom. God allowed me to start off with a legendary icon. I learnt a lot from a man at the top of his game. I'm now doing a lot of writing and getting ready to go back into the studio. I toured with Stevie for 14 years, so I felt like I needed to change my course and concentrate on Panzie.

**G:** What motivated you to pursue gospel music?

**P:** For me, it's the love of Jesus



Ken Clarke/the Gauntlet

Donald Ray Johnson at last year's Blues Fest. Johnson plays with his daughter at this year's event.

Christ. I like to sing about things that people can feel and leave a positive impression on someone's life.

**Donald:** Down in Bryan, [Texas], where we're from, we all grew up in the church. Panzie's grandma was an evangelist. Her mom's an evangelist. Somehow down the line, I'm kind of thinking that my baby girl's probably going to end up being a preacher too.

**G:** I suppose in a way she already is.

**D:** Oh yeah, she's spreading the good news.

**P:** And I enjoy every minute of it! It's a joy to do something and see the lives of so many people change because of maybe one word or a line in one song. It cuts to the core of your heart. Even if I never got a dime, I'm so happy to see someone's life change for the better.

**G:** That's a refreshing attitude, because the music industry is not always about that.

**P:** No, it's not. If you're going to preach, talk and sing about it, you should at least be about it. There's a passion behind what I do and that's the love of God.

**D:** Told you she was gonna be a preacher.

**P:** I thank God that He gave me an opportunity to be a vessel.

**G:** I get the feeling that's all you've ever wanted to do.

**P:** All I've ever wanted to do is allow God to use me. I can be true to who I am.

**G:** Does it bother you that other people in the music industry don't necessarily share your viewpoint?

**P:** I'm used to it. It doesn't bother me because I know God for myself. I do see the impact I make on other people.

**G:** I know you have a new CD coming out in September. Are you planning to tour?

**P:** I would love to tour the United States and Europe, and Canada for the opportunity to see my father.

**G:** I'd love to hear the two of you record together. I think your voices would really compliment each other.

**D:** We both feel strongly about

that. It's just a matter of choosing the songs. This whole thing, as far as I'm concerned, is to introduce Panzie to Canada. I'm sure that Canada will embrace her just like

they embraced me.

Donald Ray Johnson plays the Calgary International Blues Festival on Aug. 9 at 9:30 p.m. Panzie Johnson's set is Aug. 10 at 12 p.m.

## UNDERCONSTRUCTION

Please excuse the work being done as we create a new and improved Wellness Centre.

Our primary focus is centered on students. Urgent care is available for faculty and staff.



Services Available to Students, Faculty and Staff:

### CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES

• Regular Chiropractic Care • Acupuncture  
• ART and Graston • WCB Accredited

### MASSAGE THERAPY

• Therapeutic • Relaxation • Sport Massage

### PSYCHIATRY

• Students Only

### NUTRITION

[www.ucalgary.ca/uhs](http://www.ucalgary.ca/uhs)

Room 370, MacEwan Student Centre

Phone **220-5765**

weekdays 9 am to 4:30 pm



**Wellness Centre**



**UNIVERSITY HEALTH SERVICES**