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January 14th - January 28th Volume 13, Issue 1

Goo Goo Dolls Return to Rock

this issue

Spat the Dummy
The Road Less Gravelled
Dan Hill: From Songs to Sentances

Artistic Fraud getting set to launch new show, Oil and Water

coming soon to current

**MYSTERY
RESTAURANT
REVIEWS**



SNAPS!

BLU YEAR'S EVE

STELLAR ISLAND PUTS OFF THE PARTY OF THE YEAR

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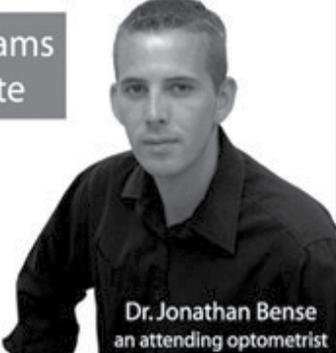

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BY KEVIN WOOLRIDGE



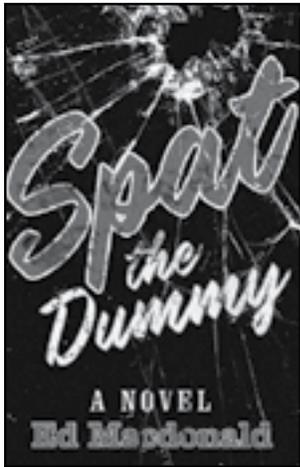
WORD UP

SPAT THE DUMMY

ACTOR, DIRECTOR, AND THIS HOUR HAS 22 MINUTES WRITER RELEASES NOVEL
BY GINA GILL



Ed Macdonald



The new year should be brought in with a bang and there is no bigger literary firework than *Spat The Dummy*, a new novel by Ed Macdonald.

Spat is a middle aged man who has ultimately come to the conclusion that he must expose himself. He does not seem to have much purpose left in life, except to finally reveal

a secret that he has kept to himself for an extremely long time.

Referred to as Spat the Dummy after a nun once called him a big dummy in class, Spat reveals pieces of his past, as well as details about himself in a very honest manner.

Spat's is a self-loathing, self-pitying alcoholic who hates his ex-wife and continuously self-destructs, by making the wrong decisions, simply because he

cannot see any worth or purpose in his own life. He was raised by his father, who was in and out of jail, a Irish mobster who taught him street values, rather than moral ones.

Macdonald is a Canadian screenwriter who has written for seasons two, three and four for CBC's *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. He has also won two Gemini Awards for writing and was nominated many times. He wrote for the series *Liocracy*, sketch comedy *The Bette Show* and co-wrote for *Hatching Matching and Dispatching* - to list a few of his unbelievable accomplishments. He has also acted and directed in various Canadian series.

Macdonald's writing is crass, vulgar and harsh - but that's reality and that is Spat. He is honest, open and hilarious. This novel was not written for anyone of prudish manner. In fact, it is so well described and perfectly realistic, you may take a break from the book to reinvent your own fantasy. Be prepared to except humour and sarcasm every step of the way.

As Spat researches himself and his past, Macdonald keeps readers on their toes with curiosity - what is this secret Spat possesses? You will keep guessing,

but also be proven wrong a few times as the story unfolds.

Throughout Spat's journey, he has vivid memories of his Pop - who is a constant in his life, even though he has passed. Spat also has encounters with a variety of characters that all affect him in a certain manner and sometimes help expose his secret.

Although Spat's inner thoughts are realistic, some particulars of his situation are unfamiliar to the average person. His childhood plays out like a mob movie - the tragic life of the son of a mobster who brought his son to a brothel on graduation, rather than giving him a digital camera of his future campus life.

Spat the Dummy is a masterpiece - and that is not an exaggeration. It's nothing like anything that has been written before and is an extremely intelligent read that everyone can appreciate.

BUSINESS

J IS FOR JULIA

DOWNTOWN KOREAN RESTAURANT GAINING FRIENDLY REPUTATION
BY TRACEY WADDLETON

Julia Kwon studied fashion design and taught at universities in Korea before moving to Newfoundland and Labrador in the early 1990s. Though she had little to no experience in the restaurant business at the time, she saw a gap in the food industry here and became determined to make authentic Korean dishes available to the St. John's population.

"Locally, it is not well known that Korean dishes are very healthy. They do not contain any MSG or grease," says Kwon. "I wanted to introduce them to the people of my second hometown."

J Korean Restaurant opened on May 21, 2010 after an intensive period of renovation and re-design to the



Julia welcomes guests

building Kwon purchased at 194 Duckworth Street, close by the famous Fred's record shop. Already, the place is gaining a reputation for its culinary offerings and for the personal attention patrons receive from the ever-present owner.

Kwon believes in being involved in every aspect of the business. Whenever possible, she is available at J Korean to greet customers, and to assist with menu choices. "I always like to meet and work with others," she says, "and I am very good at remembering things about people I meet; their face, name and things about the meeting."

Though there are a variety of offerings on the menu, a few best sellers stand out to Kwon.

"They are Galbi - barbecued marinated beef rib, Pork Bokum - spicy fried pork and Mandu Tuigim - fired Korean dumpling," Kwon says.

"Another popular dish, especially among vegetarians, is Bibimbab. That mixes rice, vegetables and sauce with or without meat, it was one of Michael Jackson's favorites."

Kwon confirms that the "J" in "J Korean" stands for Julia, an intentional move to give the restaurant an extra personal touch, and though the establishment has open since May, they have not yet had a grand opening. Kwon says this is a possibility in the coming

months.

Visit J Korean Restaurant at 194 Duckworth Street. In addition to eat-in and take-out

services, the restaurant offers catering, personalized party menus and two rooms on the second floor are available for private group functions.



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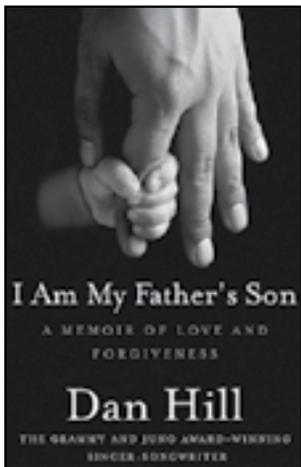
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WORD UP

FROM SONGS TO SENTANCES

DAN HILL TURNS TO PEN PERSONAL STORY

BY TARA LEHMAN



Dan Hill - you know his name, you love his music. The question is, do you know him as the author he'd really like to be known as?

Sometimes When We Touch garnered him lasting fame – the love song he wrote, which seems permanently ingrained in everybody's mind, with enough artists covering it since 1977 to

leave royalties for his great-great-great grandchildren.

His music and songwriting catalogue has become so enviable and vast (what do you expect when you start penning songs for the likes of Celine Dion and Reba) that it inadvertently risks overshadowing his talents as a writer and novelist.

Writing books and articles doesn't place yet another Juno or Grammy on his shelf, but still Dan's literary achievements are nothing short of a sensational re-

discovery of a man people thought they already knew.

It takes guts with a strong dose of not worrying what other people may think to pull off what Dan has in his latest book, *I Am My Fathers Son*.

It is Dan's own story, and he strips himself right down to the core, likely leaving a few loving bruises along the way. Weaving his childhood dreams, delights, traumas and mysteries alongside tales of the music industry that everyone yearns to learn more about, he pours his heart out in a way you wish you could.

There is no arguing that he placed the manuscript aside many times wondering if he could (or should) finish it, as it's a triple loop roller coaster ride that at moments seems like it was a joyous book to write yet with the flick of a page reveals one more story that must have been heart-wrenching for him to tell. It's as if he's written just for himself and it just happened to slip onto the bookshelves at Chapters.

Writing is often a way to discover and heal, and it's likely that is exactly what he was after, whether he



Dan Hill in studio recording his latest album, *Intimate*

realized it at the time or not. This is to say nothing of his countless articles in publications such as *The National Post* and *Maclean's*. Just like his book, he doesn't deliver any nonsense, only real life dramas and lessons in his uniquely humorous yet blunt fashion with the singular goal of helping at least one.

Mark Saturday, January 22 on your calendar. Dan will be at Chapters on Kenmount Road in St. John's between 12pm and 2pm, where he will perform some of his classics as well as hits from his latest CD, *Intimate*, and of course a book reading from *I Am My Fathers Son*.

It promises to be a deeply personal, raw expression of an artist that you will come away admiring more than already do, with a copy of his book and/or the latest CD in your hands or like me, downloaded on your Kobo e-reader.

GAMING

SOURCE STUDIO

PROTOGALAXY

BY GARY MOORE

The digital age has opened the doors for many industries, based on the convenience to network and share information. It's convenience also allows for those in a particular industry to work from wherever they desire, and not have to relocate for the sake of an industry hub. This isn't new, but it's important when learning about Source Studio, an independent gaming developer based in Newfoundland.

"Digital distribution is definitely the future of gaming. Digital game sales are soaring and are getting close to overtaking retail game sales thanks to sites such as Steam and Apple's App Store," says Source Studio CEO, Alex Brown.

Being an independent gaming developer allows studios to work on their own projects and develop games from scratch. Traditionally studios would get hired by a publisher to develop a game based on a preexisting series, or a movie.



According to Brown, independent studios have been behind some of the more creative and unique games, in recent years. Source Studio is doing just that. Combining styles of games from the days of *Space Invaders* and the freedom of modern games such as *StarCraft*, and they have incorporated those influences into their first game *ProtoGalaxy*.

"Games with level editors were also a big inspiration for *ProtoGalaxy*. Games like *StarCraft* and *Little Big Planet* are so engaging because of the user-created content that gets developed by gamers," Brown adds.

Having began work on *ProtoGalaxy* in 2007, the game was officially released in October 2010, on the popular gaming site Steam. To help get the word out on *ProtoGalaxy* a demo was released just in time for the holidays.

"With *ProtoGalaxy* being our first game, it's not easy to get the word out. There are a lot of independent games on the market and there's lots of competition. Being on the website Steam has been a big help in getting our game noticed since it is one of the largest PC gaming networks," explains Brown.

Source Studio is based out of the Genesis Centre at Memorial University, and they are thankful for the opportunity, citing having access to their equipment and knowledge has made *ProtoGalaxy* possible.



Robert Rees, Alex Brown and Andrew Tobin (Business Development Manager) Missing from photo: Albert Claulk - at the Game Developer Conference in San Francisco in 2010

"Being accepted into the Genesis Centre enabled us to get a start with Source Studio and we're really thankful for that."

Source Studio will head to San Francisco at the end of February, for a game developer conference which was a success for them last year. This year they will be attending with goals of reaching a new distribution contact. *ProtoGalaxy* is available for purchase and demo on Steam; <http://store.steampowered.com>.



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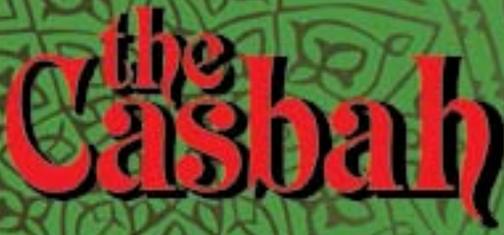
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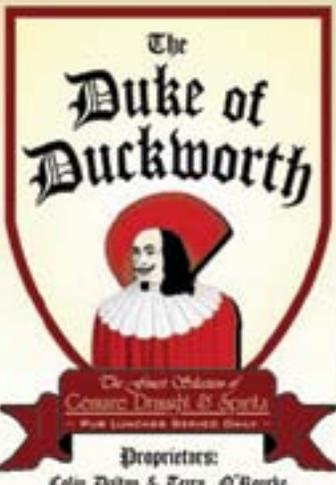
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SOUNDS

MERCY THE SEXTON

SAY IT BACK
BY GARY MOORE



Indie phenoms, Mercy the Sexton ended 2010 with the release of their latest album *Say It Back*, a love inspired title, following up 2008's debut recording, *Another Month*.

Say It Back is equipped with an array of songs; "There's lots of upbeat songs, but there's also some slower ones and quieter moments. Not quite ballads, but getting there," says frontman Luke Major. *Say It Back* says it all for Mercy the Sexton; Keyboards, backing vocals, dance, pop and add duet to that list.

Lyricaly the album is inspired by a few different relationships that Luke was involved with, in the past few years. But there's also inspiration from living in St. John's and making numerous trips to Toronto. "There's lots of plane and travel imagery. And it's inspired by getting older, of course," Major admits.

Mercy the Sexton have matured as musicians, writers and a band. Major admits the studio time was tighter and they were prepared a little better this time around and he chalks it up to experience and maturity.

The biggest difference from *Another Month* was the process of making *Say It Back*. "I think we were more prepared going into the studio. Everything had been demoed fairly carefully. And we are more experienced singers and players now. So it's easier to get things right faster. And the songs are different, maybe even more mature."

The album was produced, recorded and mixed by Canada's East Coast's favorite set of ears, Laurence Currie, whose resume includes brilliant works from Wintersleep, Amelia Curran and The Once. *Say It Back* was recorded in two sessions, the first in January 2010, in Newfoundland and the second session in June 2010, in Toronto.



Mercy the Sexton

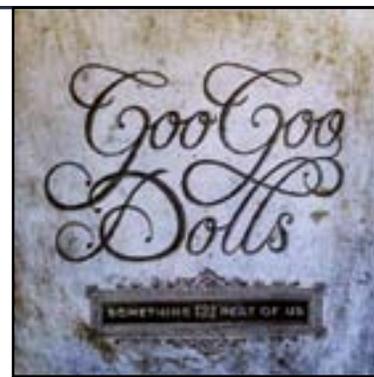
While *Say It Back* has only been released in Newfoundland, Mercy the Sexton are in the early stages of planning a mainland release which will see the band set out on an Ontario tour, possibly travelling into Quebec.

You can buy *Say It Back* at Fred's Records, O'Brien's Music, CD Plus and digitally on iTunes.

COVER

GOO GOO DOLLS A GO

LONG TIME ROCKERS TAKE AIM AT ST. JOHN'S; GRAND FALLS
BY CHRISTOPHER GORDON



As Newfoundlanders, most are familiar with shows and events being canceled due to weather or circumstances relating to the island factor. Rarely however do those acts make good on a promise to return in the near future; or in the case of the Goo Goo Dolls, go above and beyond that promise.

After the threat of a major hurricane put a stop to last years *Rockin' the Upper East Side* concert, (the ferry crossing that would have been traveling with the band's production and stage gear, was canceled) many fans believed they'd missed their chance to see

the grunge-turned-mainstream crooners. But while many had lost faith, they had no idea the band and concert promoters were already working diligently on a cross-island concert series to kick off a new World Tour, right here.

The trio from Buffalo, NY have been entertaining the masses for over two decades with their unique blend of powerful lyrics and unforgettable melodies. Songs like *Name*, *Iris*, and *Slide* among others have propelled the group to international stardom and helped sell over 10 million records worldwide. And the band has plenty of bragging rights besides that - with 14 consecutive #1 and Top Ten hits including one that spent 18 weeks at the top, the Goo Goo Dolls have certified their place in the rock and roll history books.

Leading the promotion of their new album *Something for the Rest of Us* is John Rzezniak with his unforgettable vocals, co-founder Robby Takac on bass guitar, and Mike Malinin

as their long time drummer. This will mark the first time the group has played in not only St. John's but also Grand Falls-Windsor. Together the trio plan to bring one huge sound to both venues over three unforgettable nights.

Just don't let the small venues fool you - if you are expecting a relaxing acoustic show, think again. Show promoter David Carver Concerts promises the unique locations will be an intimate and exhilarating way for fans to get up close and personal with the long time rockers. Expect big stadium sound in an exclusive 1,000 person capacity setting with both all ages and 19+ areas.

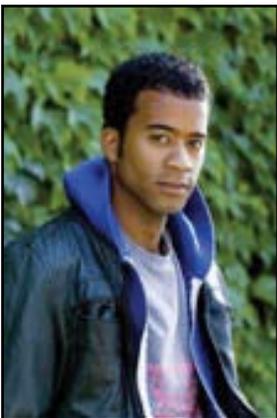
Tickets go on sale for the second St. John's show January 15 at 10am which will be at the Delta Conference Centre on Monday, February 7 at 8pm. Tickets are \$49.50 plus taxes for all shows, with the February 8 Delta show sold out. Limited tickets are also still available for the Grand Falls show at Joe Byrne Arena Stadium on February 9. For more information visit <http://www.davidcarvermusic.com>.



STAGE

ARTISTIC FRAUD'S OIL AND WATER

LATEST PRODUCTION BRINGS HISTORY TO LIFE
BY DEBBY WINTERS



Ryan Field

Artistic Fraud of Newfoundland's latest work - *Oil and Water* - premieres this February at the LSPU Hall.

This special production is based on the true story of Mr. Lanier Phillips and his life changing encounter with the residents of St. Lawrence on the Burin Peninsula in Newfoundland.

A son of the racially segregated south, Phillips joined the US Navy in part to escape the brutal racism of his youth. But life in the Navy offered him not much more. It was only when he was shipwrecked near the community of St. Lawrence, did Phillips discover a different world - one that would change his outlook and his life forever.

In the snowy pre-dawn of February 18, 1942, a convoy of three American ships travelled up the North Atlantic toward Newfoundland. The destroyers Truxton and Wilkes escorting the supply ship Pollux were under radio silence to protect their position from the threat of German U-boats.

The weather of the North Atlantic brought about one of its most deadly storms just off the coast of St. Lawrence. All three ships were grounded, one managed to refloat but the other two were battered and splintered to pieces against the cliffs by high waves and winds.

There were 8 men from Lawn and most of the community of St. Lawrence on the cliffs that day with ropes and first aid supplies. Two hundred and three souls were lost that day but one hundred and eighty-five survived. Of the 46 survivors from the USS Truxton, one was African American. When Phillips was rescued by residents of St. Lawrence they treated him the same as they treated the Caucasian survivors. This experience galvanized the Navy Mess Attendant to fight racial discrimination within the US Navy. He later became the Navy's first African American sonar technician.

Oil and Water tells the story of that African American survivor and how the community of St. Lawrence changed his outlook and his life. In a recent television interview, Phillips explains; "Like Dr. King said once, when a child is exposed to racism and hatred, he is wounded in mind and soul for the rest of his life." He adds, "I was wounded in mind and soul. But the people of St. Lawrence healed that wound and now I have hatred for no one."



Featuring a full southern gospel and Newfoundland folk tune inspired vocal score by composer Andrew Craig, and a multi talented cast from Newfoundland, Toronto, Nova Scotia and the US, *Oil and Water* promises to be an incredible look at one of the most beautiful and tragic moments in our history.

The cast includes Alison Woolridge, Clint Butler, Edouard Fontaine, Jeremiah Sparkes, Mark Power, Neema Bickersteth, Petrina Bromley, Ryan Field, Sean Panting and Starr Domingue.

Tickets can be booked online <http://www.rca.nf.ca> or by calling the Hall at 709-753-4531.

For more on Artistic Fraud go to <http://www.artisticfraud.com>.

SNAPS!

NIGHT LIFE

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EVENT

FAMILY LITERACY DAY

PLAY AND LEARN TOGETHER

BY DEBBY WINTERS

Our lives are filled with words. Everything from street signs, menus, package contents to schoolwork and magazines. Have you ever thought about what your life would be like if all those words were nothing but squiggles and lines? What if you could not read? Family Literacy Day, sponsored and promoted by ABC Life Literacy Canada, takes place annually on January 27 to celebrate adults and children reading and learning together, and to encourage Canadians to spend at least 15 minutes enjoying a learning activity as a family every day. This year, Canadians will "Play for Literacy!"

Parents – do you want to help your children improve their literacy skills, but find it difficult to engage them? Make literacy fun! Literacy is more than reading and writing – there are so many fun games that you can play together as a family to help everyone improve their skills, and spend quality time together! You can learn more and download some great activities at <http://www.familyliteracyday.ca>. There is a colouring contest taking place throughout January, the picture is available on line or as part of a downloadable Family Activity Literacy Day Activity book.

ABC Life Literacy Canada is giving away a Family Literacy Day Hasbro prize pack every week during the month of January. It is easy to participate! Just

follow them on Twitter and Facebook and answer their questions or tasks when posted. Be sure to brush up on your gaming knowledge! A new challenge will be announced each Monday. Each online challenge will be different and you have the full week to participate.

ABC Life Literacy Canada is a non-profit organization that inspires Canadians to increase their literacy skills. They connect and mobilize business, unions, government, communities and individuals to support lifelong learning and achieve our goals through leadership in programs, communications and partnerships. ABC Life Literacy Canada envisions a Canada where everyone has the skills they need to live a fully engaged life.

Locally on Family Literacy Day there are two events listed. The Ross King Memorial Public Library in Mount Pearl will be having a story time session with stories, rhymes, activities and word games for young children and their families. The event starts at the library at 10:20am. For more information, contact Yvonne Gillard at 368-3031. In St. John's Brighter Futures will have games and books for all to enjoy. They will provide information on Family Literacy Day and "Play for Literacy" to all the families, our partners, and the community. For more information, contact Deborah Capps at 739-8096

GAMING

METROID: OTHER M

AVAILABLE ON WII / PUBLISHED BY NINTENDO

BY BLAIR FARRELL

Samus Aran was reintroduced to consoles in 2002 with the release of Retro Studio's Metroid Prime. With it came a bold new perspective: first-person. The title was well received and longtime fans enjoyed the outing, but many still craved a new Metroid game in the vain of the series most well regarded title, Super Metroid. Like most things, people should be careful what they wish for.

For years players played as Samus Aran and learned a little about her life prior to her first encounter with the Metroid species on planet Zebes, but now were finally privileged to Samus' long last past, for better or for worse. Metroid: Other M is the most story intensive entry in the series. The story is in two main parts: The first is Samus responding to a distress signal from a seemingly abandoned space station, then subsequently running into her former Galactic Federation squad mates - in particular their commander Adam Malkovich whom series followers will remember from Metroid Fusion for the GBA. The second deals with Samus' life prior to becoming an intergalactic bounty hunter, and her brief time with the galactic federation.

The former is fairly interesting, and will certainly keep you going. The latter is where problems arise. For the first time in the series Samus has something to say, and boy will you ever wish she never had the chance. The delivery of her lines is monotonic and boring, and she's always prattling on about being naive or

pinning over Adam. There's no problem with Nintendo delving into Samus' past, but at this junction in her life, she has saved the galaxy, blown up planets, and eradicated entire alien species. Does her character in Other M fit with someone who accomplished these feats? The answer is no. The cut-scenes themselves are well done and transition well into gameplay, but the acting and writing just isn't quite there. The greater emphasis on story also damages what is so great about it. Metroid is all about feeling a sense of isolation and finding new powers that help you traverse the environment better. Other M has this, but with caveats. Metroid: Other M is played only by holding the Wii-



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FamilyLiteracyDay.ca



Remote horizontally and this works surprisingly well given you only have about three buttons to perform a complex series of actions. This can be a major problem for more advanced techniques. Given that most games on the Wii have several control options, it would've been nice to have at least one alternate in Other M. Unlike past entries, there isn't a lot of incentive to fight unless you really have to. Score: B-

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FILM

THE KINGS SPEECH

STARRING COLIN FIRTH, GEOFFREY RUSH AND HELENA BONHAM CARTER

BY TIM CONWAY



Guy Pearce

118 mins.
*** (three stars)

It seems that if he had his druthers, Lionel Logue would be perfectly happy living out his days on a stage somewhere in London, delivering the centuries-old lines of William Shakespeare to appreciative audiences.

From what's observed during an audition, this Australian-born son of a brew master is unlikely to fulfill his dream, but whether he accepts this or not, there is no indication that he is otherwise dissatisfied with his life. It is obvious that his family means everything to him, and that he is quite content with his day job, offering speech therapy sessions out of a couple of rooms adjoining his residence.

It is here where Logue encounters Mrs. Johnson, who has come inquiring about his services in the hope that he can help her husband. The spouse is unaware that his wife is here, since he has sworn off any further attempts to address his debilitating speech impediment. Still, the woman informs Lionel that her husband is in a position where he has to speak publicly with frequency. His immediate response is that changing jobs would offer the easiest solution, but she replies that he cannot. This remark is the high point of a great piece of dramatic irony, since the man at the centre of the discussion cannot change the fact that he is the son of King Edward V, and second in line to succeed him. Moreover, as most are aware, Prince Albert is about to change jobs, but as his older brother will demonstrate, even that one isn't mandatory.

Apparently, *The King's Speech* was originally conceived as a play, but managed to find itself on a much quicker

path to development as a feature film. Considering its current favour with film critics and audiences, it shouldn't be too long before plans are accelerated to launch a version on stage. Independently produced during tough economic times, with a modest budget and few exterior shots, this motion picture hasn't strayed too far from its roots, so adapting it for live theatre is sure to pose fewer logistical challenges than the current efforts with *Spider-Man*.

It's good to remind yourselves that, although based on actual events, with a few of the details juggled about for dramatic effect, the story doesn't offer anything new. Whether it's *Pygmalion*, its musical sibling, *My Fair Lady*, or *The Miracle Worker*, you've been down this road before. In this case, however, the unique circumstances of the time and people involved, add a whole new element of interest to otherwise familiar material. *The King's Speech*, then, tells a good story, is well presented, and features a solid supporting cast, although Timothy Spall's Winston Churchill seems better suited to sketch comedy. Michael Gambon is a scene-stealer as King Henry V, and Guy Pearce does a marvellous take on Prince Edward, although one scene in particular, immediately following the death of Henry, is a tad bizarre.

The highlight of the production, however, is the outstanding work by Colin Firth as Prince Albert, and Geoffrey Rush in the role of Lionel Logue. Both players seem to have found a spot between drama, melodrama,



Colin Firth and Helena Bonham Carter

and comedy to plant their respective characters, and manage to maintain this precarious position throughout the film. Separately, each moves through a scene effortlessly, commanding attention, but when sharing the screen, they engage in what is as much a brilliantly choreographed dance with one another, as it is anything else. While, on its own merits, *The King's Speech* is not an exceptional motion picture, it offers a rewarding movie experience thanks largely to the performances of these two gifted actors.



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YES, THIS AD IS UPSIDE DOWN

DATING

(E-)MAIL GOGGLES

GOOGLE APP CONSIDERS THE DATING SINGLES

BY TARA LEHMAN

Glass of wine in hand along side a friend, discussing how Christmas Day went, she blushes profusely and says "Tara, I drank and dialed." When one of your best friends is the local matchmaker, it is perhaps an even worse admission to make. Well, other than if it were to her family, who surrounded us in fits of laughter, and undoubtedly the ex she dialed at 3am for who a drawn out, gushy voice mail was left for.

So the response? "Wow, do I wish I wrote an article about this before the holidays when everyone started to over-drink."

This brought about the topic of the Google app called *Mail Goggles*. This is a brilliant tool that all singles (and some non-singles) should enable on their computers. By default, *Mail Goggles* is active only late at night on the weekends when most people are prone to sending out the type of e-mails they will regret come morning. You know the ones. They come in many hideous shades such as the rambling e-mail to your ex saying you never should have left them. Or the angry e-mail telling them off for leaving you. The tearful message saying you can't live without

them. A revenge e-mail saying you've met someone better. An e-mail confessing your love because you don't have the guts to say it in person. At least with a drink and dial you can pretend it never happened, however e-mails taunt you from your 'Sent' folder as proof to your idiocy.

So, how does *Mail Goggles* work? It presents you with a few math questions to verify, and if you're drunk, the hope is you won't solve them correctly, which then prevents your e-mail from being sent. This gives you more time to consider your actions and hopefully you don't keep trying to answer them until your e-mail finally hits the digital surf. When downloading the app, be proactive and set the difficulty level a little higher than you normally would, as you would anticipate that drunk or not, many would still know that $5 \times 5 = 25$.

The best line of defence is to delete your ex's contact information in the first place. This way there will be no pleading text messages, no teary, hard to understand voice mails, or undesirable replies to your misguided e-mails. If you can't say or type how you feel while

sober, don't say it at all. In fact, this is a good time to point out that far too much communication takes place via e-mail and texting these days, and you should really try to embrace the sound of each others voices and power of speaking in person more often. Call it old-fashioned.

Drinking and dialing. Drinking and texting. Drinking and e-mailing. It's all one in the same and to those who fell victim to this over the holiday season, remember that you aren't the first, won't be the last, and rest assured, the whole mess will be forgotten sooner than you think.

Tara runs a dating service in St. John's called *D8 Night*. She arranges speed dating events, blind dates and more. Reach her at 740-3733, on the Facebook Group: *D8 Night* or www.lovediva.ca



STAGE

THE ROAD LESS GRAVELLED

NEWFOUNDLANDER BRINGS HER STORIES TO THE LSPU HALL

BY DEBBY WINTERS

Storytelling and listening to stories is a of Newfoundland and Labrador's heritage. Who hasn't enjoyed Poppy, Nanny or Uncle John recount a story from the old days? In *The Road Less Gravelled*, Wanda Carroll brings the fine art of storytelling to the stage as she brings you back to her childhood in Conche on the tip of the Northern Peninsula during the 1970s. A time when the outports are being modernized and the old ways are being left behind; a new gravel road connects Conche to the outside world for the very first time. *The Road* also tells the story of a little girl named Wanda growing up in this changing time; as one world is lost to her, another is just beyond her reach. Wanda shares her excitement at seeing her first bathroom in *The Bat'room Story*, and her love for the CBC in *I loves the CBC*, and of her disappointment in her first encounter with exotic fruit in *The Protestant Pineapple*.

Carroll explains how the show came into being; "*The Road less Gravelled* was more of a process than a simple a-ha moment. I took some creative writing

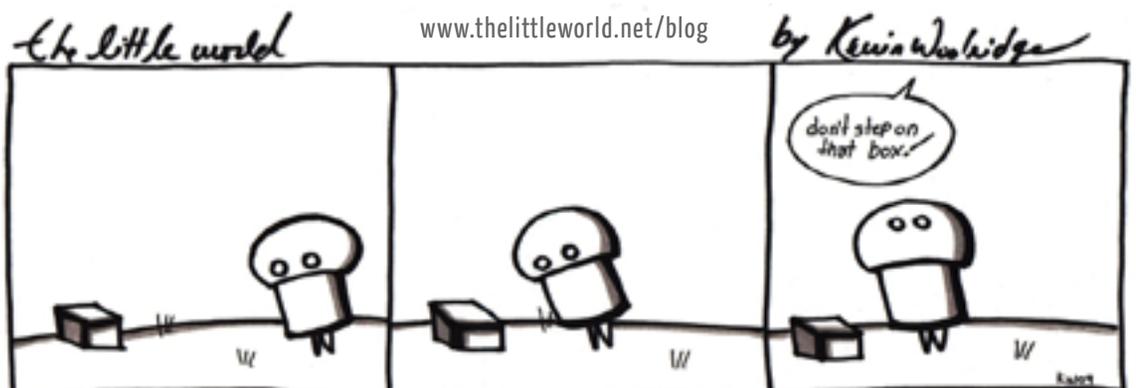
classes and wrote a lot of stories about growing up in Conche. As I continued, I studied all of these different forms of expression... clown, improv, acting, storytelling, I even went to comedy school. As are most Newfoundlanders, I'm a natural storyteller, so the classes I took really helped me to shape 'kitchen table Wanda' to 'stage Wanda'. I then started doing some of my stories at open mike nights in Toronto. People really liked my stories and always seemed to want more. I had seen some one-woman shows in Toronto and thought, I can do this. The show is storytelling at its best, just a table, a chair and me. With these simple tools, I create Conche in the 1970s. Some people have told me it is like a living history of a time gone by. One of the most popular responses I get from the audience after a show is, 'I feel as if I have just been to Conche'."

Since it was first workshopped at The Drake Hotel in Toronto the fall of 2004, *The Road Less Gravelled* has played too sold out houses across Canada. It was one of the top selling shows at the 2007 Atlantic



Fringe Festival in Halifax. In 2008 it won a 'Best in Fest' award at the Winnipeg Fringe Festival. It was also a sellout at the 1st annual WTF!

The Road Less Gravelled is playing at the LSPU Hall on Saturday, January 22 at 8pm. Tickets can be booked online <http://www.rca.nf.ca> or by calling the Hall at 753-4531.



LISTINGS

WHAT'S ON!

CHECK OUR LOCAL EVENTS CALENDAR

FRIDAY, January 14

Club V: Dr. Drake & DJ Sina
Greensleeves: Nothing Fancy
Loft 709: Kid Cue
Quidi Vidi Brewery: Happy Hour 'till 8
Shamrock City: Connemara
Spin: Funktastic Friday w/Leo van Ulden & Kid Cue
Stanley's: Karaoke
Turkey Joe's: Triple Threat Fridays w/ DJ Scrappy

SATURDAY, January 15

CBTGs: The Newish Klezmer Band, Juicer and the debut of Rebecca South
Greensleeves: Nothing Fancy
Spin: Mike the Tailor
Stanley's: Karaoke
Turkey Joe's: Sexual Saturdays w/ DJ JayCee

SUNDAY, January 16

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson
O'Reilly's: Traditional Jam Session w/ Elizabeth Siegel
Turkey Joe's: Ladies Night, first 50 get 3 free drinks

MONDAY, January 17

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
Grumpy Stump: Open Mic
Loft 709: Martini Monday's w/DJ Diamond
O'Reilly's: Sing-a-long Jam Sesson
Turkey Joe's: Manic Mondays: Happy Hour All Night

TUESDAY, January 18

Bella Vista: (8:30PM, \$5) Sizzlin Salsa Tuesdays
Greensleeves: Damian Follett
Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
Shamrock City Pub: Connemara
Turkey Joe's: Two for Tuesdays w/Carl Peters & Dave White

WEDNESDAY, January 19

Greensleeves: Kronik
Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
Headquarters: Adam Baxter
The Fat Cat: Chris Kriby (acoustic)
The Martini Bar: Acoustic Trio Wednesday with Stixx and Stones
The Ship: Folk Night
Stanley's: Karaoke
Turkey Joe's: Draft Wednesdays w/ Radio Suitcase

THURSDAY, January 20

Greensleeves: Unlisted
Headquarters: Noise Terror Thursday
Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson & Arthur O'Brien
O'Reilly's: Acoustic Punters
Shamrock City Pub: Middle Tickle
Turkey Joe's: \$1.75 Thursdays with DJ JayCee

FRIDAY, January 21

Greensleeves: Denielle Hann & Fred Hiscock
Stanley's: Karaoke
Turkey Joe's: Triple Threat Fridays w/ DJ Scrappy

SATURDAY, January 22

Greensleeves: Denielle Hann & Fred Hiscock
Loft 709: Dance League Saturday w/ DJ NuRock
Spin: Seamless Saturday w/Mike the Tailor
Stanley's: (10PM) Karaoke
Turkey Joe's: Sexual Saturdays w/ DJ JayCee

SUNDAY, January 23

Greensleeves: Damian Follett
Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
Kelly's Pub: Fred Jorgenson
LSPU Hall: 10th Annual Young Folk at the Hall Concert
O'Reilly's: Traditional Open Session w/ Elizabeth Siegel
Shamrock City Pub: Arthur & Con O'Brien
Turkey Joe's: Ladies Night, first 50 get 3 free drinks

MONDAY, January 24

Grumpy Stump: Open Mic
Greensleeves: Damian Follett
O'Reilly's: Larry Foley & Patrick Moran
Shamrock City Pub: Anthony MacDonald & Ronnie Power
Turkey Joe's: Manic Mondays - Happy Hour All Night

TUESDAY, January 25

Bella Vista: (8:30PM, \$5) Sizzlin Salsa Tuesdays
Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
Greensleeves: Damian Follett
Shamrock City Pub: Connemara
Turkey Joe's: Two for Tuesdays - "2 for 1" w/Carl Peters & Dave White

WEDNESDAY, January 26

Greensleeves: Kronik
Grumpy Stump: Karaoke
Headquarters: Adam Baxter
The Martini Bar: Acoustic Trio Wednesday with Stixx and Stones
The Ship: Folk Night
Shamrock City Pub: The Navigators
Stanley's: Karaoke
Turkey Joe's: Draft Wednesdays w/ Radio Suitcase

THURSDAY, January 27

Greensleeves: Unlisted
Headquarters: Noise Terror Thursday
O'Reilly's: Acoustic Punters
Turkey Joe's: \$1.75 Thursdays with DJ JayCee

What To Do? (For Artists)

Call for Nominations - NLAC Arts Awards - The Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council is accepting nominations for the 26th annual Arts Awards. Members of the public may submit one nomination for each of the following: Artist of the Year, Arts Achievement, Arts in Education, Emerging Artist, Hall of Honour, and Patron of the Arts. The deadline for nominations is January 31, 2011. For more information or to request nomination forms contact the Newfoundland and Labrador Arts Council: 726-2212, Toll Free (NL only) 1 (866) 726-2212, nlaacmail@nflid.net or visit www.nlac.nf.ca

Talented female lyricist/poet for semi-pop song writing collaboration (ie: Joni Mitchell, Sarah McLaughlin Paul Simon etc. Singing/instrument an asset but not essential. Email aewpik@hotmail.com

Anna Templeton Centre (Duckworth) contact for info re: adult and youth classes, workshops

Clay Cafe (39 Commonwealth Ave, Mount Pearl 745-2345): open til 9PM

Devon House Clay Studio - open studio times, contact for info

GALLERY LISTINGS

Leyton Gallery - Info: www.theleytongallery.com or 722-7177.

The Craft Council Gallery (Devon House, Duckworth Street; www.craftcouncil.nf.ca)

Eastern Edge, An Artist-Run Gallery (72 Harbour Drive). Open Tuesday to Saturday, 12-5pm. For info on exhibitions and events visit www.easternedge.ca or call 739-1882)

The Rooms: (www.therooms.ca) Wednesdays 6pm-9pm are Free, 9 Bonaventure Ave. 757-8000).

SPECIAL EVENTS LISTINGS

ARTS BIRTHDAY WITH ANDY JONES (Eastern Edge Gallery, Jan 16 noon-3pm). Join us for cake and drinks

at the gallery in celebration of "Art's Birthday," a day for recognizing the role of the arts in our lives marked by galleries and artist-run centres around the world. Andy Jones will be in attendance as part of his month-long artist residency at Eastern Edge themed around The Abbie Table Project, a collaborative installation that illuminates the life of a Newfoundland family engaged in the salt fishery from the 1920's to the 1950's.

WORDS IN EDGEWISE WITH ANDY JONES (Eastern Edge Gallery, Jan 20 at 8pm). Andy Jones, one of Newfoundland's most well-known actors and writers, reads from the personal memoir of Abbie Ellis Whiffen, Growing Up, Up in Cove. Narrating the life of a Newfoundland family engaged in the salt fishery from the 1920's to the 1950's, this story has been inscribed on a 10' x 4' table which has been "illuminated" by several dozen artists and is on display at Eastern Edge from January 10 through February 19.

FAMILY LITERACY DAY (Eastern Edge Gallery, Jan 27 noon-5pm). Eastern Edge is marking Family Literacy Day with the rest of Canada with an afternoon of family-friendly activities. Visit our Facebook group or contact the gallery for more details: 739-1882 or easternedgegallery@gmail.com.

The Holy Heart of Mary Class of 1990 20th Anniv. Reunion Planning Committee is looking for grads of the Class of '91. We have started planning for the Holy Heart of Mary 20th Anniversary reunion and want to ensure all graduates are aware. The dates will be August 5 and 6, 2011. Email HHM1991reunion@gmail.com for info.

Botanical Gardens Fall Hours start Oct 1; Open daily from 10am - 4pm with reduced admission

CLUB DU SAMEDI - FALL 2010 If you plan to register your child on site on Saturday morning, please arrive by 8:45. The Club du Samedi meets on Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. for fun-filled French activities for children aged 5-14 - language-based activities, arts and crafts, music, gym, drama and more! The spring 2010 session begins on October 2nd and continue for 10 weeks. For more information, visit www.acfsj.ca/club

Mile One Centre 2010-11 ice skating season! Public skating has started with a variety of skating sessions offered - Parent & Tot, Senior, Adult, and Family - plus Lunch Time sessions each weekday from 12:15-1:45pm. For a complete list of skating sessions, visit www.mileonecentre.com

Early Bird Watch (MUN Botanical Garden, every 2nd Sunday, 8am) Meet in the parking lot, free, call 737-8590

Tango on the Edge (Every Thursday, RCA Bldg., 8:30pm) Social Argentine tango. An interest in tango is all that's required. For details and info, visit www.tangoontheedge.ca

Comic Jam (Hava Java, last Monday of every month, 7PM, free)

St. John's Farmers' Market end-of-season and Special Holiday Market (Dec 18, Lions Club Chalet, 9am - 2pm) The market returns in 2011, Saturdays, June 4 - Dec 17, 9am - 2pm, Bonaventure Ave.

Free Internet: Love of Learning offers free internet and computer use for resilient youth between 15 & 35, noon to 6pm, weekdays, Gower Street United Church. For info, www.fortheloveoflearning.org or call Darcy at 722-8848.

Hurling & Gaelic football training ongoing weekly. Contact Brendan at GAA_SJ_NL@yahoo.ca for details, or see St. John's GAA Club on Facebook

Avalon Wesleyan Church meets every Sunday Morning, 10 AM @ The Rabbittown Theatre (106 Freshwater Rd.) Join us for a casual atmosphere, current music, and coffee. www.avalonwesleyan.ca or 576-6937.

For The Love of Learning (weekdays, 12pm-6pm, Free to youth 15-35): 99 Gower Street. Classes in world religion, philosophy, folklore, art, theatre, resume-building. Free lunch at 1PM (722-4846)

Mall Walkers' Club: (Avalon Mall, Thursdays, 8:45am) (737-2333)

The Pottle Centre: (323 Hamilton Avenue, social and recreational programs for users of mental health services) 753-2143

Seniors Bridging Culture: (Seniors Resource Centre, Thursdays, 2pm) Tea, guest speakers, and conversation (737-2333)

Seniors Friendship Club: (Seniors Resource Centre, Fridays, 2pm 737-2333)

Shambhala Meditation Group: (Billy Rahal Fieldhouse, rear Elizabeth Towers) Free meditation practice. Call 576-4727 or visit http://stjohns.shambhala.org

Traditional Latin Mass: The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in the Extraordinary Form (Traditional Latin) celebrated on Sundays, 5:15PM at St. Pius X Church, Latin-English Missals & resources provided. For info or a free Visitor's Guide to the Latin Mass call 722-4842 or unavoce.sopc@gmail.com

St. John's City Council Meeting: (City Council Chambers, 4th Floor, Mondays, 4:30pm) Public welcome, see agenda www.stjohns.ca, posted Friday afternoons

Overeaters Anonymous: If your eating habits are making you unhappy and putting you at risk for serious health problems, you can do something about it. Call 738-1742 or www.oa.org

It's never too late to Quit Smoking Are you planning to reduce or quit smoking? Ask about a personal or group presentation. Participants receive a Coping Kit. Call Paula at 800-563-5599

ThyCa Newfoundland and Labrador Monthly meetings 4th Sat. every month, 10:30 - noon, Conference Room "C" Eastern Health Admin. Offices 306 Waterford Bridge Rd. Go to: http://www.thyca.org/sg/nf-lab.htm for info.

MY MESSY BEDROOM

THE BARE FACTS

NO ONE MAKES A CORRELATION BETWEEN THE SIZE OF A WOMAN'S NOSE AND HER CLITORIS

BY JOSEY VOGLES

Let's start the new year by dispelling some myths when it comes to sex.

Myth: You can't get pregnant if you do it standing up/ if you douche with coke, jump up and down, take 20 aspirin or sneeze afterward/if it's your first time/if he pulls out before ejaculation/if you're on your period.

Truth: You all know better than to believe any of this, right? So why do these myths keep making the rounds? Standing up or jumping up and down or sneezing will not make sperm fall out. Sperm is taught to defy gravity. You've heard the term "good little swimmers" haven't you? Taking 20 aspirin is just plain dumb but not nearly as dumb as douching with Coke. The stuff has been known to corrode metal and you wanna squirt it up there? And never mind that you'd probably just help push those little guys higher up, you shouldn't be douching anyway. It can upset the natural chemical balance of your nether regions and land you with a nice yeast infection. As for the bizarre myth that you won't get pregnant the first time you have sex, don't you watch the movies? Women are always getting pregnant after one sexual encounter. Yes, even if he pulls out before he ejaculates. Boys dribble before they ejaculate (its called pre-cum) and just like regular old cum, it's full of sperm. And if you think you're safe from pregnancy because you're on your period, think again. Sperm can live in your body for up to five days. Just because you aren't ovulating while you have sex, doesn't mean you won't while the sperm is still in your body.

Myth: You won't get pregnant or contract any STDs if you have sex in water (hot tubs included).

Truth: Wrong-o. As long as you're having intercourse, in water or on the moon, you can get pregnant or contract STDs. In fact, having unprotected sex in water can put you more at risk for STDs because women tend to dry up in water making sex less, um, smooth than on dry land. As a result, her vagina can develop tiny tears making it more receptive to bacteria and STDs. Using condoms in chlorinated water is risky because the chlorine can weaken the condom and cause it to break. Oh, and while on the sex in water thing, no, you can't get stuck together in water.

Myth: Men reach their sexual peak at age 18, while women reach it in their 30s.

Truth: Sorry ladies. While this makes for a great pick-up line with the young hotties, hormonally, men and women reach their sexual peak in their late teens or early 20s.

Myth: Women can experience multiple orgasms.

Truth: Okay, the truth is women (and men) can actually experience multiple orgasms but only in the true meaning of the word, that is, more than one. It is not, as many have been led to believe, a series of rapid-fire orgasms, one right after the other. People sometimes confuse the natural aftershocks of orgasm with multiple orgasm. Because women need less down time between orgasms

then men, it can be easier for them to have more than one orgasm per lovemaking session but each orgasm still requires the same build up to climax any other orgasm does. Masturbation Mistress Betty Dodson prefers to call them "serial orgasms."

Myth: Simultaneous orgasms.

Truth: As a comic once put it, there's another word for simultaneous orgasm: "coincidence."

Myth: You can tell how well endowed a man is by the size of his hands, feet, or nose.

Truth: Funny, no one ever wants to make a correlation between the size of a woman's nose and her clitoris. Noses, feet and penises develop from entirely different embryonic tissue. And, while on the subject, studies have shown that the difference in size between black and white penises is, on average, minimal.

Myth: "Blue Balls" can be dangerous.

Truth: Men would like to keep this myth going but, boys the bubble has to be bursted. When a man doesn't ejaculate during sex, he can sometimes feel heaviness, aching, or discomfort in the testicles because he hasn't cleaned the pipes and his genitals are engorged with blood. Because the blood looks bluish under the skin, the slang term for this "condition" is called "Blue Balls." It goes away, even if you don't get off.

\$3 BILL

BUGS DOES DALLAS

THE MOUTH OF THE SOUTH GREETES THE MOUTH OF THE NORTH

BY RICHARD BURNETT

While being driven to the Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza in Dallas – best known as the Texas School Book Depository where Lee Harvey Oswald shot President Kennedy – the guide trashed the nearby conspiracy museum where visitors can ride a replica of JFK's limo. "That museum is a disgrace, nothing but a tasteless amusement park!" my guide fumed. To which the reply came, "I should've worn my pink dress!" But lesson learned – notably over lunch with Dallas mayor Tom Leppert the next day – that in Dallas the assassination of JFK is no joke.

The incredibly respectful and educational Sixth Floor Museum is the biggest attraction in Texas, and sombre visitors, nearly a million each year, can look out the window Oswald aimed his rifle from at JFK. From that vantage point, it was difficult not to think Oswald had to be one hell of a good shot. "Why do you think we're hesitant of marketing the white elephant in the room?" a veteran journalist from the Dallas Morning News asked over lunch as Mayor Leppert listened. My suggestion was that because for most folks Dallas is a city frozen in time. "Dallasites don't want people to think the Dallas of today is the Dallas of 1963."

Mayor Leppert then said, "The people who make up this city are no longer the J.R.s." Leppert was, of course, referencing another man also best known for being shot, oilman J.R. Ewing of the famed TV series *Dallas*

(tourists can even get a guided tour of the Southfork Ranch outside the city). But Dallas is no longer the Texas mythologized in Hollywood epics like *Giant*. Nothing exemplifies this more than the city's incredibly organized, deeply political and integrated gay and lesbian community, which boasts several fabulously huge nightclubs (Texans love everything big), two of them even called – wait for it – J.R.'s and Sue Ellen's.

Favourite's were the Hispanic disco *Kaliente* in Little Mexico and the massive country-western *Round-Up Saloon*, where the boys love wearing denim and their 10 gallon Stetsons on Saturday night. The *Round-Up*, incidentally, is owned by business and life partners Gary Miller and Alan Pierce, who actually got married in Montreal in 2006. Dallas also hosts a couple of really great drag bars. The *Rose Room* is so beautiful it could host a symphony orchestra.

As influential as the queer community is in Dallas – a very blue metropolis in a red state – Dallas's ambition to distance itself from its cow town past is best illustrated by the city's vibrant arts community (including four gay theatre companies!) and new multibillion-dollar downtown arts district (17 full blocks) that includes the *Margot* and *Bill Winspear Opera House*, so named because the *Winspears* donated \$42-million cash to build it. Another 117 Dallas millionaires and billionaires – including *Ross Perot* and *Boone Pickens* – have donated at least \$1

million each to build the new Dallas Center for the Performing Arts.

In Dallas, money really does grow on trees. This is a city practically untouched by the recession and sub-prime mortgage disaster. Even President George W. Bush – former part-owner of the local Texas Rangers MLB baseball team – moved back to Dallas when he left the Oval Office two years ago.

Dubya is also building his presidential museum in Dallas. "In comparison to Bush, [Texan] Lyndon B. Johnson was loved by the people here," Dallas Voice publisher Robert Moore shared over lunch in Dallas's intimate House of Blues (where upcoming concerts include Robin Trower, Rapahel Saadiq, Arlo Guthrie and Trombone Shorty). "LBJ was [also] a sonuvabitch, but people had no illusions of what he was."

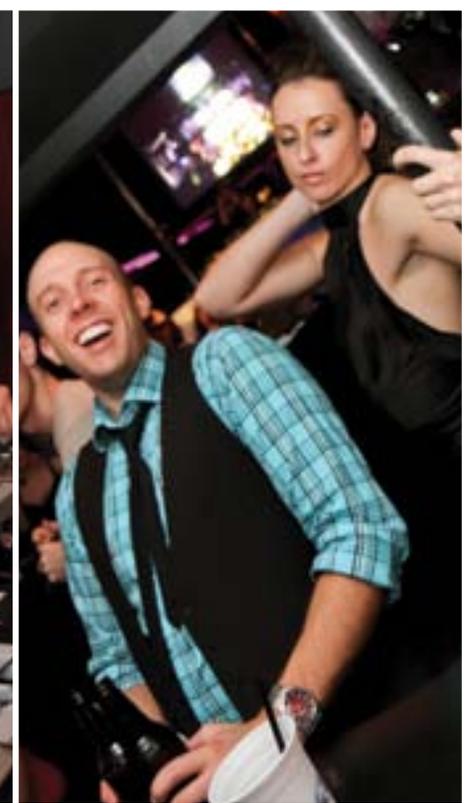
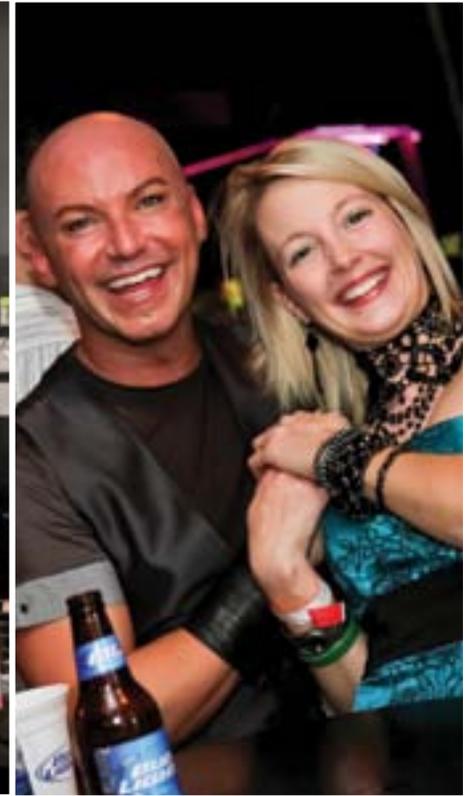
But it can't be expressed enough how delightful it was to learn that Dallas is everything Calgary aspires to be, right down to Dallas county sheriff Lupe Valdez, the first woman, first lesbian and first Latina to hold that position. After meeting her... Valdez was living proof that the new Dallas is the American dream. "When I first ran for office there were no Hispanic role models," Valdez said. "It was the good old boy system. I don't feel like I'm a role model, but [young people] tell me I am. And so I think it's important to be a role model and I'm thankful."

SNAPS!

BLU YEAR'S EVE

STELLAR ISLAND PUTS OFF THE PARTY OF THE YEAR

PHOTOGRAPHER: CHAD SHARPE

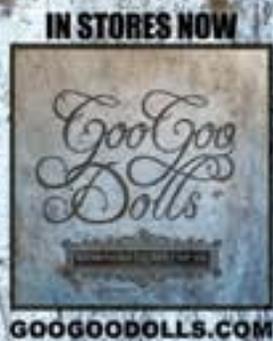




Goo Goo Dolls



2011 WORLD TOUR



Feb 7th - St. John's Delta Conference Centre
All ages area and licensed bar area.

Feb 11th - Halifax Rebecca Cohn Auditorium
SOLD OUT

Feb 8th - St. John's Delta Conference Centre
SOLD OUT

Feb 12th - Charlottetown Trade Centre at the Civic Centre
Restricted to 19 & older

Feb 9th - Grand Falls Windsor Joe Byrne Memorial Stadium
Balcony open to all ages. Floor restricted to 19+

Feb 14th - Saint John Trade and Convention Centre
All ages with bar service

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