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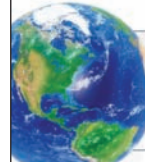
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THE SHOW TRIAL OF DONALD J. TRUMP



IF THERE IS a defining trend of the Donald Trump's political career, it is the constant speculation that whatever latest error or hideous utterance Trump committed, would surely lead to his downfall. Indeed, this began right from the off, when Trump famously declared that people from Mexico coming into the United States were bringing crime and were

rapists. During the 2016 presidential campaign, there were a plethora of moments that were going to finally bring Trump down, perhaps most intensely the *Access Hollywood* video in which he spoke of having his way with Arianne Zucker. Then, of course, the likes of Paul Manafort, Michael Flynn, and Michael Cohen, and the Mueller Report. There was his callous

remarks after Charlottesville, his disgusting treatment of refugees at the border, and most recently, the Ukraine scandal.

On the one hand, President Trump's impeachment trial can be seen as the culmination of a years-long attempt to finally get to Trump. He became the third President in history to be impeached by the House, as Democrats laid out a perfectly solid case as to why he needed to be impeached, and removed from office. However, as the case moved into the Senate, we see the situation more clearly. This is not a nadir for Trump, but rather a zenith. The height of his power on full display. As the minions in the Senate that are in his full control race through nothing short of a show trial, Trump is surely basking over his domination over American institutions of power.

Ironically, this very reality is what many in the Republican Party, at least

gave the lip service of concern toward, as Trump mauled his opponents in the 2016 Republican Primary. By election night, it was clear that the Republican Party was now the Party of Trump. As his volatile and incompetent presidency has unfolded, he's ultimately been shielded from anything like consequences by the brute force of his control, which has given spineless Republicans the perfect out whenever the conscience may attempt to be called. Time and again, pundits have guffawed at Republican office-holders. How can there be no noble people among them? How can they so willingly reject the reality staring right at them? And, it's allowed a lot of pretenders to lean on the notion of political expedience. That they can somehow help to temper this insanity, by being party to it, instead of getting themselves kicked out by Trump's delirious supporters. Yet, still there are those who hold out some sort of deranged hope for someone in this party to 'stand up'.

At the time of writing, the pressing question is whether or not witnesses should be called in the trial. Yes, amazingly, that is up for debate. And, usual suspects like Mitt Romney and Susan Collins are hemming and hawing about what to do. It creates a truly incredible atmosphere. One in which, before this show trial can be wrapped up, and a victory delivered to President Trump, these Senators have to publicly discuss just how showy this show trial should be.

And so, the American system of checks and balances gleefully revels in the fact that it has no clothes. It is fitting that it is precisely the

Republicans in the Senate that must do this dance. It is more telling than a failure of courage, or an abdication of responsibility. Instead, it's a masterclass in self-destruction. The willful surrender of power and authority, to a man who has shown time and again that he holds no loyalty to any of the people who feel that loyalty to him is the best course of action.

Trump aside, this is the inevitable result of a broken political system that has gladly handed more and more power and influence to the executive branch throughout modern American history. The other branches of government simply need the president more than the president needs them. Trump was an accelerator to this end, to be sure, but he has only laid bare that which has been unfolding for a long time now.

There are plenty of people around the world who insist, that despite everything, Trump is somehow a sort of political genius. They point to his manipulation of the media, his ability to make others fall in line, and his ability to escape accountability. But, it seems far less plausible that these characteristics exist due to the acumen of a man who yells about windmills and light bulbs. Rather, Trump is the benefactor of the greater political forces at work. It seems that he can manipulate the media, but in fact it's the media that manipulates itself, at the mercy of profit and sensationalism. It seems that he rules with an iron fist over his party, but rather it's that the party wants to lay down. It seems that he can somehow avoid consequences, but instead it's precisely that there's no consequences to be had. **V**

[C A T C H]

by DON MCLEAN

PIPELINE NOT ABOUT CLIMATE SAYS ENBRIDGE

THE CITY IS intervening in the Ontario Energy Board (OEB) hearing on Enbridge's proposed new fracked gas pipeline across rural Hamilton. Hamilton is one of eighteen intervenors, but Enbridge is objecting to three of those because they are raising concerns about climate change, energy demand and the use of the new pipe to increase exports or imports of fracked gas.

The company is accusing Environmental Defence, Pollution Probe and the Green Energy Coalition of "mischaracterization" of the issues in the pipeline hearing.

"It is not fair or reasonable to rely upon the OEB's review of the application, as it relates to the proposed project, as a venue to interpret and debate government policy related to climate change", declares Enbridge in a January 24 letter to the OEB. "It is incorrect to assert that incremental import or export of 'fracking gas' is a natural consequence of the project."

The city's letter to the OEB also cites "environmental impact including climate change" but so far Enbridge has not objected to that inclusion. A city staff report circulated to councillors says other concerns include possible negative effects of the pipeline and its construction on "emergency response, natural and cultural heritage, municipal infrastructure, source water protection and corridor management, social impacts, contingencies and other related issues."

The new ten kilometre 48-inch pipe would run entirely within the Greenbelt from Kirkwall to just east of Highway 6, between Safari Road and the 8th Concession. It would cross the Beverly Swamp wetland complex, Spencer Creek and Bronte Creek, publicly-owned lands of the Hamilton Conservation Authority and other areas designated by the city as environmentally sensitive.

The company wants a permanent easement equal at least to the width of an eight-lane highway, plus temporary use of a similar amount of land for construction staging,

Extensive bedrock close to the surface will require blasting to carve out a trench at least three metres deep and far enough away from existing gas pipelines to ensure they are not disturbed.

The Ontario Clean Air Alliance (OCAA) says the project will greatly increase the carbon pollution that is causing global heating and that its \$200 million cost should instead be used for conservation measures to help residents reduce their energy bills by several times the price of the new pipeline. The OCAA, which is being represented by Environmental Defence at the OEB hearings, also opposes Enbridge's plan to raise Ontario gas rates by \$120 million to help pay for the pipeline.

OCAA chair Jack Gibbons will be the keynote speaker at a February 13 public meeting in Hamilton's central library. The 7 pm event is organized by Environment Hamilton and the Hamilton 350 Committee. It will focus on objections to the Enbridge pipeline as well as energy alternatives to burning gas to produce electricity in Ontario.

Nine Hamilton organizations and about two dozen individuals have sent letters to the OEB expressing concerns about the project and/or demanding a fully transparent oral hearing instead of the quick written one sought by Enbridge. Those groups include the Hamilton Naturalists' Club, Environment Hamilton, Democracy Probe and the Hamilton Blue Dot Movement.

The 600-member Naturalists' Club thinks "the pipeline would have a serious detrimental impact on an area dominated by the Beverly Swamp, one of the largest and most environmentally significant wetlands in Ontario, and the headwaters of major streams including Spencer, Fairchild and Grindstone creeks." It pointedly notes that the club "has repeatedly given monies to help the HCA to secure ecological sensitive lands and has a right to expect that those lands will be permanently protected." **V**

CATCH: CITIZENS AT CITY HALL Stories are summarized from CATCH News, a service of Citizens at City Hall available from CATCH@Cogeco.ca. More information can be found at www.hamiltoncatch.org



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OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS

Joe DiPietro's *Over the River and Through the Woods* is a by-the-numbers kind of play: the script follows a number of predictable beats, tells swaths of familiar jokes, and arguably keeps going past the point the story should end. Nonetheless, in the hands of director Tamara Kamermans and her more than capable cast, Dundas Little Theatre's presentation of the show is a charming, funny, and heartwarming, if somewhat predictable piece of entertainment.

Nick has been raised by both sets of his Italian grandparents and, while pursuing a marketing career in New York, still crosses the Hudson every Sunday for family dinner. One Sunday, he comes bearing

news of an offered promotion — and an accompanying move to Seattle, far from his grandparents. The quartet then goes about trying to determine how best to keep Nick from leaving — whether he wants to stay or not.

Family is the core of the show, and fortunately, Kamermans' assembled ensemble feels like a family, comfortable with each other, each with their own preferred seat in Peter Lloyd's lovingly-decorated set. Their energy together is infectious, their banter natural, and their interactions with each other and with Nick will rekindle in their audiences fond memories of actual family dinners with grandpar-

ents — in particular, a scene involving a game of Trivial Pursuit, which is comedy gold. Admittedly, much of the humour in their genuinely clever dialogue is reliant on familiar tropes and jokes — the Italian grandma who's always offering food, the stubborn grandfather who won't relinquish his driver's license, any number of jokes based purely in the fact these people are old — but the cast delivers them with such gusto, you can't help but laugh along.

That said, the jokes can sometimes run a little too long, a flaw partially reflective of an overall pacing concern. Too frequently, actors break away into a separately light (invariably, to the same particular corner of the stage every time) to deliver a monologue to the audience — not necessarily a problem, except that it too often interrupts the story for exposition or narration, telling instead of showing — and these interruptions are especially awkward when the actors in question aren't alone onstage to deliver them, the shift in Jonathan Bello's lighting barely enough to isolate them. Not to say they aren't well-performed, nor that Kamermans hasn't done her best to keep things flowing organically when they crop up, but it means that the cast's strong energy begins to drop — a drop made more noticeable as the story takes a more serious turn in Act Two.

Again, the cast remains fantastic regardless, with all four grandparents sharing phenomenal chemistry. Ruth Flynn as Aida is near-constantly chipper, maintaining a bouncy, flighty physicality from start to finish, yet manages to ground herself long enough for her more serious moments to land effectively. As Frank, Peter Lloyd nails both the delivery of numerous sardonically dry barbs, and the heart-wrenching stillness to captivate attention during a tale of Frank's youth; Rose Pye's Emma is big and boisterous, yet consistently sweet and caring; and in a scene-stealing turn as Nunzio, Erik Peters is equal parts raucously hilarious and quietly

heartbreaking.

As Nick, Alex Tessier definitely shows potential: his comic timing and reactions to his co-stars are excellent, and you can tell from his facial expressions and body language that he's got all of Nick's emotional states down pat, from frustration to affection, and all the conflict in-between. A little more confidence in his line delivery may be beneficial, as little is conveyed beyond the words themselves; and though his growing frustration during one key scene is palpable, it plateaus far too early, leaving him nowhere else to go performance-wise.

Meanwhile, poor Caitlin Wieringa is wasted as a nurse roped in by Emma as a prospective fiancée for Nick. Sadly, as DiPietro's written the character, she isn't really a character in her own right, so much as she is a plot device to advance the story, meaning Wieringa only has so much to work with. Still, work she does — she's warm and pleasant, and though her chemistry with Tessier was limited opening night, it showed room for growth.

Nevertheless, whatever hurdles the script has put in the path of its director and cast, *Over the River and Through the Woods* earns a recommendation based on a strong familial core that manages to largely bypass those hurdles to deliver a worthwhile evening at the theatre. **V**

OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS

Written by: Joe DiPietro

Directed by: Tamara Kamermans

Playing at: Dundas Little Theatre

(Garstin Centre for the Arts, 27 Market Street, Dundas)

Showdates: January 31, February 1, 6, 7, 8 @

8pm; February 2, 9 @ 2pm

Box Office: 905-627-5266



Photo by:
Tara Smith

ORDINARY DAYS

WITH ITS OPENING performance already sold out, Hamilton Theatre Project's production of Adam Gwon's *Ordinary Days* runs over two weekends starting January 29th at The Staircase Theatre. This will be the Hamilton premiere of the 2008 musical comedy, described as a 'moving and intimate piece of contemporary theatre.'

The story centres around four big city dwellers searching for meaning

and happiness in their lives amid feelings of love, loss, and loneliness. 'Jason' and 'Claire' are trying to navigate a romantic relationship, while chance circumstances bring 'Deb' and 'Warren' into each other's lives. It's about finding beauty in the everyday, and of 'appreciating simple things in complex places.'

Directed by Hamilton's Luke Brown and with musical direction by

Ancaster's Kate Boose, *Ordinary Days* is performed by a local quartet of performers that includes Vicktoria Adam, Jeff Giles, Amber Mills and Nick Settini.

"The play is sweet with a tightly wrapped statement about how as much as we want each day to be something exciting, sometimes the days when nothing happens can be the most exciting," says Settini.

He plays Warren, a struggling artist who finds Deb's lost thesis notebook. "As a performer, a lot of what Warren asks in the play I have asked myself in real life," Nick explains. "How to fit in in an ever changing industry; keeping myself known when new artists are being found everyday; and, in the end, what do I want to have remembered about me?"

Nick Settini is a versatile actor with a raft of TV, film, and theatre credits to his name, many with Drayton Entertainment and Theatre Aquarius. He's a big fan of a fabulous villain or a smart and irreverent story. "My favourite role...was 'Ursula' in *The Little Mermaid*. I was the first man in Canada to get to play the role, so that was super exciting and nerve wracking as well." His dream role would be 'Elder Cunningham' in *The Book Of Mormon*.

Settini says that *Ordinary Days* is not your 'stereotypical musical theatre.' The writer and composer has created "a very challenging score for four people to sing," he explains. "Gwon's

melodies are very unique and because it's an only two instrument show (voice and piano), he has to fill in the sound more with the piano; we may have to sing something completely different that isn't even hinted at in the score. He also loves to play with different dynamics and unconventional tempo changes, which to the ear keeps you very engaged and interested in what will come next."

He lauds Kate Boose, "our incredibly talented and gracious musical director [who] will stun the audience with how beautifully she has mastered this complex score." Additionally, Settini says that the staging of show has required a lot of careful decision making by director Luke Brown to channel the audience's focus toward the unfolding action while the other actors remain onstage at the same time.

Nick Settini says preparations for the run have been challenging yet rewarding for the entire cast. "With four people in the show and only a piano as our source of music, it is super intimidating and extremely vulnerable as performers. In bigger musicals you have ensembles, secondary and third storylines to follow, and downtime off stage to rest before going back out, but this show is only us onstage the whole time for 82 minutes straight with all [the] music." He says finding the right balance of energy and stamina is crucial to sustaining the performance over the long haul.

"Dynamically, it's very exciting. It's what I like to call a cannon show! You get blasted out right at the start with the opening number, and then it goes and does not stop till the end."

New York reviewer Adam Feldman has called *Ordinary Days* 'heartfelt and clever,' with lyrics *The New York Times* termed 'crisp, fluid, and funny.' The Dramatist has previously named its composer and playwright, Adam Gwon, one of '50 to Watch,' and his musicals have now been seen on six continents, translated into at least as many different languages.

"*Ordinary Days* has a simple and universal message that I think everyone can resonate with," Settini says. "Whether it's love, loss, or figuring out what your purpose is, you can connect with one or multiple stories that will be shared in this beautiful show." **V**

ORDINARY DAYS

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SWEAT



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BACK WHEN I first started watching Theatre Aquarius productions, as a teenager, way back in the early nineteen eighties, it was fairly easy to predict the plays that would be programmed by artistic director Peter Mandia, based upon whatever scripts had been successful on Broadway, or in London's West End, in any given season.

On average, it took about three years, for Aquarius to get the performance rights to them, but I still recall with some nostalgia, seeing plays like, Peter Shaffer's *Equus*, Susan Hill's *The Woman in Black*, Ira Levin's thriller *Deathtrap* or Athol Fugard's powerful racial drama about apartheid, *Master Harold and the Boys*, which seemed to follow this pattern.

These were entirely local productions, produced in Hamilton with professional actors, and it is my opinion, that they were just as good, as anything seen in New York, although admittedly with actors with less name recognition, perhaps. In 2020, with Ron Ulrich as Artistic Director, this no longer seems the case quite as much, as it once was, that a hit play, will automatically end up staged at Aquarius.

But still this historical pattern does

come to mind, in thinking about American playwright Lynn Nottage's 2017 Pulitzer Prize winning drama, *Sweat*, which begins a two weekend run at the Dofasco Centre, this week. The same play, although with a different cast and production team, just opened last weekend in Toronto at CanStage, making it a real possibility to see both of the two different professional productions of the same play, on offer in our area.

Lynn Nottage, is one of four playwrights, although the only woman, to have twice won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, putting her in a select company of writers such as, Thornton Wilder, Tennessee Williams, Edward Albee, and August Wilson. Nottage, who teaches playwrighting at Columbia University, did a massive amount of research to tell this story, making many trips to Reading, Pennsylvania, over two and a half years, to interview people there. It's a documentary style play, in that it was based upon the testimony of real people, who shared their experiences with the playwright.

Sweat is set in a "blue collar" bar, in Reading, between the years 2000 and 2008. It focuses on the friendship between three working class women, two

white and one black, whose relationship unravels when they all apply for a middle level management job, for US Steel.

It also, follows the fate of two young Reading, Pennsylvania men and their families, whose lives are upended when changes come to the local steel-tubing factory which has long employed the town's residents. It's a stark, honest, and very human portrait of desperation and despondency in contemporary America.

Directed by Ron Ulrich, with Set and Costume Designs by Doug Paraschuk, the cast for this Theatre Aquarius version includes, Nehassaiu deGannes, René Escobar Jr., Allison Hossack, Randy Hughson, Jeff Lillico, Laurie Paton, E. B. Smith, and Tenaj Williams.

Nottage has said in interviews that her motto while writing the play, was "to replace judgment with curiosity." It is easy to recognize, that America is more polarized politically than, it has ever been in its history, particularly after the 2016 election that elected Donald Trump, and the current impeachment scandal, that the President, finds himself embroiled in.

"For about two and a half years, I went back and forth between New York and Reading, Pennsylvania to interview people, because I was really interested in the ways that economic stagnation was influencing American cities, in particular cities that had once been industrial powerhouses. In the midst of doing the interviews, I came across a group of locked-out steel workers who I thought had a really compelling story. It's something I knew on an intellectual level was happening in the world, but really didn't strike me until I sat down with them — the extent to which these things were happening to people in America. And these were people who were, by and large, middle-aged white men who had thoroughly bought into the American Dream and didn't expect that overnight their lives would change so drastically."

Hamilton, Ontario and Reading Pennsylvania, are both "post industrial"

cities, in that the core industries, such as steel making, that supported the community for years, are now in decline. So the play asks specifically, "how do citizens adapt to the death of a steel industry?"

Something that remains important here too, for Hamiltonians, particularly after US STEEL bought out STELCO, in 2007, to shut down the Hilton Works, and move production to the USA. Thankfully the company has reorganized, and is on a sounder footing these days, although the Hamilton plant remains shuttered.

I would ask, is theatre a medium by which unions, and the left, can to do a better job about selling collective action to the general population, in particular since the rise of Populist right wing politicians, like Doug Ford, in our current political reality.

Nottage was commissioned to write a play about "an American Revolution" by the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, which led to a first production at Arena Stage in Washington in 2015. But the immediate prompt for the script, was an email she received from a middle class friend in 2008, who was in desperate financial straits and felt helpless in the face of losing her job, and home.

"One evening I got an email from a friend sharing the fact that for a period of time she had been completely and absolutely broke. She was someone I knew quite well and saw regularly. I felt horrible that I had no idea she was struggling. The next morning, we had a long conversation that coincided with the beginning of the first week of the Occupy Wall Street protest against economic inequality. So, these two middle-aged women went down there and chanted. Nothing changed, but at least she knew she was not alone. To me, Occupy Wall Street raised a lot of questions that were not answered. That put me out on the street, to figure out how economic stagnation was shifting the American narrative and how so many people who had so thoroughly invested

in the American dream found themselves broadsided."

When rents in Toronto are hitting \$2500 a month, and 7500 people are living in shelter beds for the homeless, how do we, as citizens, fight back against the tiny privileged section of society, who seem to be determined to hoard all of the wealth and political power?

"*Sweat* hit the stage at a very different time. "It came to New York during and after the 2016 election. I felt that at that moment, the play felt vital and urgent and in conversation with the culture." Because of these factors, she was not surprised by its reception, adding "that *Sweat*, went on to have more regional productions."

German playwright Berthold Brecht, argued that all theatre is inherently political one way or another, in that it deliberately sets out to challenge the status quo, or if it doesn't, then it reinforces the current political reality of the moment.

Nottage agrees with this: "It's really important that we reflect what we're seeing in culture at large, in ways that are truthful, raw and honest, and that we resist the critics, who want us to be gentler in the ways that we confront the things that trouble us. For a generation, there's been a lot of pushback against plays that are political or grapple with issues in real time, in favour of plays that explore culture in metaphor. There are times that demand a very direct conversation. I think we're in that moment now." ▽

SWEAT

by Lynn Nottage

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JAUNT



JAUNT'S "NOSTALGIA FOR THE PRESENT MOMENT"

SOME TWO YEARS ago Jaunt was being lauded as one of the buzz bands in Ontario by the national underground media but their long roots in indie rock confirmed they weren't an overnight sensation. In fact, the band included members of Hamilton's New Hands, Burlington's Sandman Viper Command and Oshawa's Viva Mars and while they didn't sound like any of their other bands, people were taking note for the band's inventive electronic fused experimental pop that some called on the cutting edge of yacht rock.

It's been nearly two years but this year, Jaunt promises their long awaited full length debut with a new song to commit to that. With a new single to start the New Year, Jaunt's warbled new track blends contemporary and classic influences like Tame Impala taking on Harry Nilsson is a pre-cursor from the new album set for release later this year. Their local return for the first time in a year marks a collective of sorts and a semi-reunion for New Hand's Pat O'Brien and vocalist Spencer Newell with their new outfits as well as a local, Dan Edmonds, that seems to be ripping from a similar songbook with his latest effort.

"Jaunt started while I was still in Hamilton and New Hands had its day, that band was over but I'd been a fan of singer and guitarist Thomas Helliwell and we were starting to make music but without an official band really," recalls Jaunt guitarist Pat O'Brien. "I'd actually been talking with Brodie [Schwendiman] and we decided to book a show so we kind of had to decide we were in a band for that show. The name came from my father, who has a way with words and he remarked about me going to visit one of my friends in the neighborhood one day. He said that I was going on a

short jaunt and that kind of stuck with me and it seemed appropriate for the band name.

O'Brien and Helliwell would settle in Toronto and enlist former Sandman Viper Command's Daniel Reardon on keyboards as well as Duncan Hood on drums, Nick Nausbaum on bass and latest official addition Caitlin Woelfle O'Brien on vocals. With two EPs available on the band's bandcamp.com website, a long sold out cassette release and 7-inch have been released but the band has been performing on the strength of their internet presence. A new single has recently been released as a precursor to the new long awaited full-length album.

Influences from Steely Dan, Michael McDonald, Christopher Cross and other bands perhaps more associated with people listening to it on yachts in the '70s or '80s is where this musical term gets its origins as of late. Twenty somethings are finding their own influences regardless of any cool factor and right now, those influences are hot in particular circles. And while O'Brien and company won't deny an influence, there is a lot more going on with Jaunt.

"When we came together as a band, there weren't any rules or ideas for the music we wanted to create," says O'Brien. "We were open to just going for it. There are things that we're pretty passionate about musically and we had similar through lines to the music we liked so it had a natural sound but we didn't aspire to be any particular genre or box ourselves into any one idea. As a band, all the members have a lot of different influences and they get filtered through a lot of different lenses and it ends up what it is.

"We take it seriously but we make music we enjoy and hopefully that comes through in the music," adds O'Brien. "Because we're independent, we have a lot of control in the creative vision and that is what fuels the

music. There are reviews that have called us yacht-rock or yacht-folk and more but while we've had a lot of media attention, it's nice but it's not what we're thinking about when we're making the music. Our music grows when we play it live more as well — the music can get loud but it is what you might call relaxing. It's not really yacht rock but I can say we do like a lot of yacht rock so it's not totally wrong."

The band does like to play but O'Brien admits that over the last two years live shows haven't been plentiful. While the band hasn't played O'Brien's old hometown in some time, they return this weekend for a special showcase with some old friends while they are in the midst of a novel tour.

"It's not that we don't like to tour, but maybe we're more selective with the shows that we play," says O'Brien. "I'm a huge fan of the Dirty Nil but they are touring so much everywhere and I don't think that I could handle that. For us, we're more selective with shows where we know that people are kind of already interested in the music. With that being said, we do have a pretty extensive tour planned for later this year. Maybe I'll end up loving it and become a road hog.

"I'm really excited to play this show in Hamilton and we chose Dan and Spence to play because we're such big fans of them and their music," adds O'Brien. "I am such a fan of Dan and his new album *Softie* and we're doing several shows across Ontario with him in Ottawa and Toronto. And Spence has a new band Essen so it's great he's doing his own thing working with Scott Orr producing his stuff. I'm happy for the guy and I'm liking what he's doing so it's great we can have two former New Hands guys on this show. We've got a new song to showcase but we've got a full show and I think overall, people should come out for all three acts. For our show, I think it's pretty accessible music but I don't

think we're going to bore you. It's quirky easy listening — you might think it's a little weird, you might also love that, ultimately it won't be too hard on your ears. It'll be a swift night with lots of great music and anyone and everyone should come out."

Jaunt plays this Saturday February 1 at the Rock on Locke otherwise known as Church of St. John the Evangelist (320 Charlton Ave W) with Dan Edmonds and Essen opening. Doors are at 7:30 pm and tickets are available via [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) for \$15 or if available at the door for \$17. Click on thebandjaunt.com

SHARI AND JONNY'S PLAY IT FORWARD - THE GREAT SONG SWITCH

A musical duo well known on the local stages across Hamilton and southern Ontario, offers a novel musical night with songwriters celebrating songwriters. Shari Dunn and Jonny Kerr began performing together some eleven years ago, offering up their own originals and a wealth of covers for a show that keeps them playing most nights of the week including their longtime Sunday night residency at the Lionshead. While I'd love to be interviewing the duo about their own album or originals, they admit they're 'perfectionists' and that long wait may still be a while.

But we do get to chat because over their decade plus run in Hamilton, they've met a throng of other like minded singers and songwriters, working near nightly to pay the bills and get their music heard and often without a lot of fan fare. With a novel night to offer some accolades and focus on local songwriters, the Play It Forward — Great Song Switch event has started and now in its third year, has become a much talked about event for audiences and performers.

"The idea came to us years ago but it took us a while to get it started and now it's really taken shape over the last four years," says Kerr. "The idea is for a songwriter to submit one of their songs and then someone else is randomly given that song with the help of our friends Paul Vermaat and Melanie Olds. They help us organize it and it's a secret who is going to cover which song and people only know who got whose song — it's only made known on the night of the show. It's kind of like a secret Santa for songwriters.

The call out is made in January and performers have a month to study the song that perhaps they didn't even know previously, perhaps not even they didn't know the performer and it's that novelty and awareness that underscores what Dunn considers some of the magic for this show.

"The cool thing for me about this — we're all supportive of each other in this Hamilton music industry —

we're all good friends and we support each other but because we're not huge stars, you don't hear your songs being covered," says Dunn. "As good as your songs might be, or as recognized by your peers — someone might say I love that Sarah Beatty song or that Ginger St. James song is so good, but it's not covered by anyone because you're not in that place, yet. This show is the opportunity to have that feeling of someone else interpreting something that you've created and hearing another beautiful version of your artwork. The night is charged with emotion and energy and it's pretty incredible."

This year's contributors include Shari and Jonny as well as the Dunlop Brothers, Alfie Smith, Greyhound, Steve Sinnicks, Deeps, Adam Cooke, Ginger St. James, Sarah Beatty, Shawn Brush, Ryan Morrison and Cory Mercer but demand has been so high that not all the performers that wanted in were able to be included. With such interest from songwriters, the audience is always presented with a novel kind of night and the event is growing in popularity with audiences every year as well.

"Our first year, Sarah Beatty covered one of our fast funky tunes and she changed it to be slow and heartfelt — I was just in awe of what she did — but I think each artists kind of feels that way about their song," says Dunn. "It's so flattering to hear that coming from someone you respect and it's such a different way to pay tribute to your pals and celebrate their talents," interjects Kerr. "We're celebrating Hamilton singers and songwriters and in a very special way."

"All year, we get asked by people, 'when are you going to do the Song Switch again?'," says Dunn. "The concept is unheard of so the people that have learned about it are really excited about seeing it again because each time it's always different. And with every show, we like to give back and we like to support an important friend and Hamilton musician so a part of the proceeds will be going to the Brian Griffith Guitar Bursary to support that cause happening in May.

"This is going to be the best night ever for any local music fan but that's the cool thing about this because people will come out as a fan of one particular performer but a lot of them leave learning about other cool singers and songwriters in Hamilton," adds Dunn. "It's a fantastic night, full of amazing music and a bunch of great people and I think anyone who comes out is going to have a good night."

Shari and Jonny's Play It Forward - The Great Song Switch happens this Wednesday February 5 at This Ain't Hollywood. Doors open at 8pm and it's a \$10 or pay-what-you-can cover with a portion of proceeds going to the Brian Griffith Guitar Bursary. Click on brian-lee-griffith-guitar-bursary.com

REDWAR



REDWAR'S "I WANT YOUR EYES PIG"

The cinematic quotes that begin each track on Redwar's *I Want Your Eyes Pig* offer a brief unsettling introduction to the pummeling to come from the thrash songs of this novel new name on the local club scene.

While a new name, Redwar is made up of a group of scene veterans from the hard rock, punk rock, thrash and metal communities that have been making music locally for a couple of decades in various incarnations. Guitarist Scott Biggley (who has made the column as bassist of the internationally acclaimed Haymaker) gathers up his brother Cory 'Red' Biggley (bass) as well as Scott Daley (drums), Mike Gall (guitar), Henry Araouz (vocals) to form Redwar and they're happy to be part of a growing underground loud rock scene in Hamilton.

"I've been in Haymaker for almost twenty years but the guys in this band — we've been making music since the early '90s," offers Scott Biggley. "There were bands like No Comply and another called Withdrawn — we've been doing music for a long time. The five of us have known each other since the '90s but we've never played in the same band together. We were all doing our own thing but the five of us only got together about eighteen months ago and we've only done five or six shows in the last year. We all grew up with the same influences — back in the early '90s we were listening to tons of Sepultura, tons of Helmet and old school shit like that and obviously those bands had a huge influence on us for this

band. We want to make it hard, make it fast, make it dirty and most important, we want to make it fun for everyone. Haymaker comes and goes when that band does something I'm there but our last record was over a year ago and I couldn't tell you what's happening next with that band. That is what it is but when I'm not doing that, I still love playing music, having some beers and having some fun and that's what this band is about.

"We're here to play lots of shows and have lots of fun but it's a different feel from Haymaker," adds Biggley. "With Redwar, we still want to make quick and aggressive songs with a little bit of punch and breakdowns where you can punch somebody in the face, throw your beer at your buddy and kick 'em in the nuts and it'll be done. Henry's lyrics — when he has something to say he will but overall we just want to have fun and offer a little bit of danger in there with the sound."

Self-produced in Biggley's basement, *I Want Your Eyes Pig* is solid sonic thrash, performed meticulously and introduced with the ominous movie quote soundbites. Once you get in on the humorous side of things the soundbites can kind of become funny when you realize all the songs on the 6-track EP have quotes from Sylvester Stallone's 1986 *Cobra* film.

"I was just being an asshole and I love that movie so much, it's so awesome, so I added the samples to start each of the tracks," says Biggley. "With this band, there is something in the lyrics and it's absolutely aggressive but we want to make sure everything we do is also just about having fun, drinking beer, swearing and fucking shit up. We don't want old school

politically driven hardcore music even with the band name. Cory's been called Red since we were kids and we ended up calling him Redwar — when we started this band, we've all known each other for thirty-five years, we're like fuck it, we're going to call the band Redwar but it's just a name."

With sixteen new songs being prepared for a potential new full length later this year, Biggley and Redwar have one goal — focusing on the thrill of performing some of the loudest, fastest, heaviest and funnest music.

"When we started this band, it was so fucking easy to call up all of our old buddies to set up shows because there are so many good bands to work with — Hamilton is so fun and easy to play cool hardcore punk shows," says Biggley. "There are great bands like Sick of Shit, Laid To Rest and lots more. We were excited to hear about these bands from Montreal and Ottawa coming to Hamilton and when we heard their music, we knew we would have a good time playing on this show. We want to be a part of every fucking crazy show and support any band from anywhere — we just want to be a part of it because it's awesome. The bands we're playing with should be awesome but we're going to fucking kill it, that's what we're going to do with Redwar." **V**

Redwar plays this Sunday February 2 at Doors Taco Joint and Metal Bar with Ottawa's Held In Secret, Montreal's Suicide For A King and Hamilton's experimental, deathcore hip hop outfit Despised Masses. Doors are at 8pm and \$10 gets you in. Click on redwar.ca



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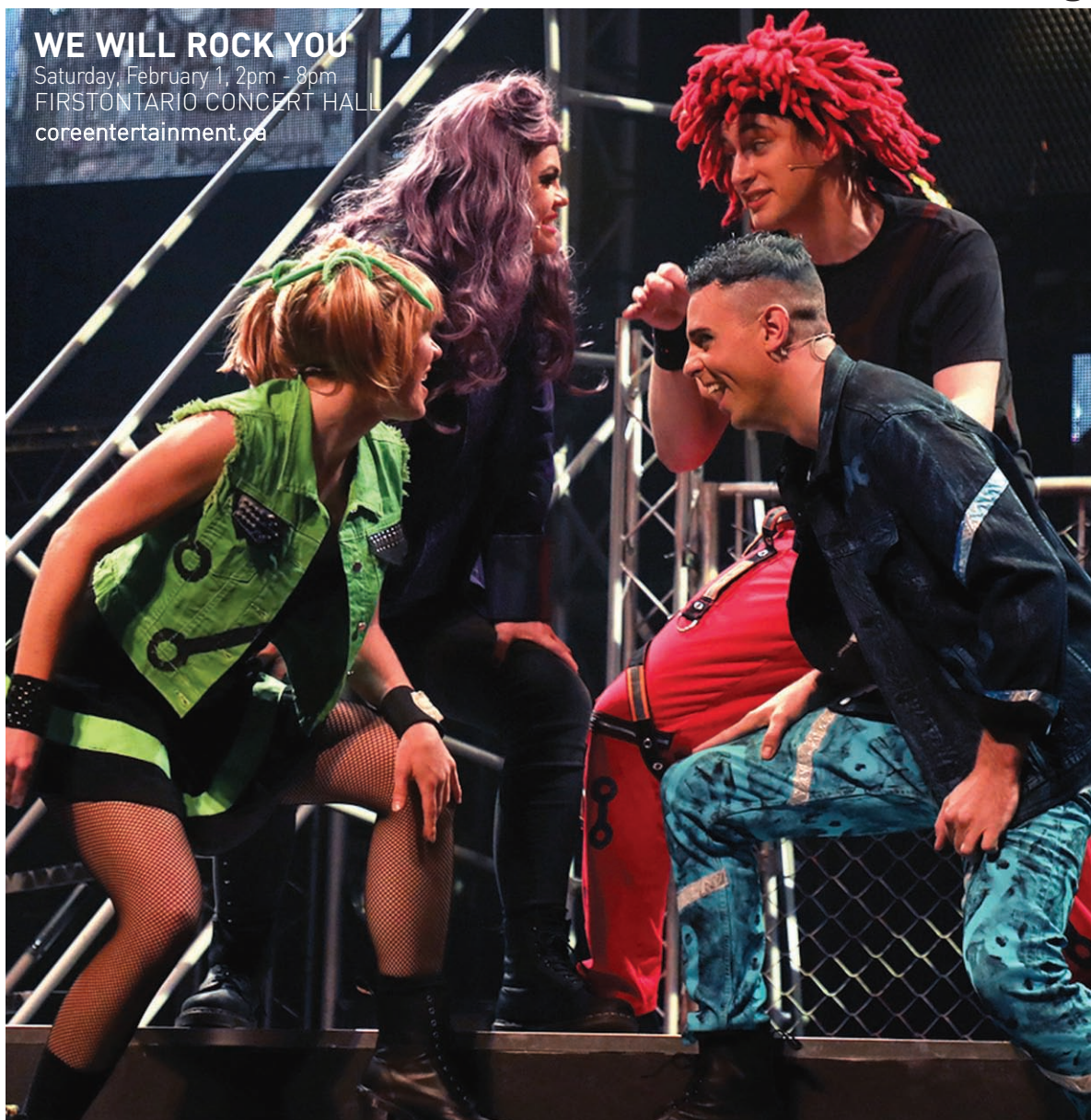
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THURSDAY 30TH

ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY

ARMY & NAVY CLUB Big John & The Night Trippers [3PM]
CARRIGAN ARMS Jam Night [8PM]
CASBAH-MAIN HALL Midge Ure, Basil Donovan and Friends [7:30PM]
CAT 'N' FIDDLE Shari & Jonny [9:30PM]
COACH & LANTERN Open Mic [9PM]
FOX & FIDDLE Mark Gunn [7PM]
LAZY FLAMINGO Vinnie & Vaughn
LOU DAWG'S Chris Chambers Group [8:30PM]
MAX'S Chris Ayries
PHEASANT PLUCKER Johnny Ancient [10PM]
POWERHOUSE The Ending To This Story [6PM]
REBEL'S ROCK Irish Session w/Ann Gorman McKinney & Guests [7PM]
SOUTHCOTE 53 Tyler Wilson [6PM]
WATERDOWN LEGION Fiddlers Jam Session [1PM], The Blue Grass Jammers

JAZZ | BLUES | CLASSICAL
GEORGE HAMILTON Open Jam w/Tim Ninehouse and Mr. Jay [9PM]
MASQUE Judi Rideout [8PM]

DJ | ELECTRONIC | HIP HOP
AUGUSTA HOUSE DJ Rob Hamilton [10PM]
CASBAH-LOUNGE Hosted By Gordon Levertton [8PM]

FRIDAY 31ST

ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY

AUGUSTA HOUSE The Music Factory [10PM]
BLACK BULL Tomi Swick, Joel Guenther [6PM]
BLACK SWAN Crosstown Traffic [9:30PM]
BROWN BARREL Mike Blackborrow
CARRIGAN ARMS Acoustic Duo [5PM]
CAT 'N' FIDDLE Fry Truck [9:30PM]
CORKTOWN East Coast Kitchen Party [6:30PM]
DICKEN'S Decade 80 [10PM]
DOOR'S Lost Soul Caravan, Greyhound [9PM]
DUNAS VERDES Open Jam w/Steve Collett [9PM]
ENDZONE 5 Foot Nothing
FIRTH'S Glen Groves
GATOR TED'S Mixed Tape Band [9PM]
LAZY FLAMINGO Robin Benedict
HAFU Mudmen [7:30PM]
LOU DAWG'S Sound Parade [10PM]
MAX'S Sarah Mills
MILL ST. & 5 Quietly Violet [9PM]

POWERHOUSE Rock of 80's [10PM]
PUB FICTION The Rockets
SLYE FOX Retrorocket [8:30PM]
STONEWALLS No Show Smith Band [8PM]
33 BOWEN All Natural Flavours [10PM]
THIS AIN'T HOLLYWOOD The Human Race, Brennaugh Burns Band, Ron Baumer Band [9PM]
UPTOWN SOCIAL HOUSE Dueling Pianos [9PM]
VICARS VICE Tyler Wilson [7:30PM]
YE OLDE SQUIRE-FENNELL Adam O

JAZZ | BLUES | CLASSICAL
BARBARA CAFFE Kelly and Heather Del Fiacco [6PM]
CAVALLO NERO The Henry Strong Duo [6:30PM]
MASQUE Rock & The Renegades [9PM]
MATTSON & CO. Alfie Smith [7PM]

DJ | ELECTRONIC | HIP HOP
ABSINTHE Country Night-Top 40 & Classic [10PM]
CLUB 54 DJ Keith
CORKTOWN Hyland & Kawai, Ruznek, Kevin Holmes, Strang3, Tim Fillups, Dustin May [10PM]
FOX & FIDDLE Trenz Soundcrew
SHAOLIN UNDERGROUND DJ BigTRBL [10PM]
SOUS BAS ESP, Skcratch Bastid

SATURDAY 1ST

ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY

AUGUSTA HOUSE Fat Tony [10PM]
BRASSIE Aubrey Boothman [9PM]
BROWN BARREL Daybreak
CARRIGAN ARMS Peter Graham [2:30PM], Blues Hammer [8PM]
CASBAH-LOUNGE Martin Verrall [7PM]
CAT 'N' FIDDLE Feverish Lemons [9:30PM]
CORKTOWN Diesel Dog, Zuffalo [10PM]
DICKEN'S Say Uncle [10PM]
DOOR'S Trauma Lanes, Hollow Core, Bayonet, Cause For Alarm [7PM]
ENDZONE Tonight's Office
FIRSTONTARIO CONCERT HALL We Will Rock You
GATOR TED'S Bliss [9PM]
HONEST LAWYERS-FENNELL Meanbones [9PM]
HONEST LAWYERS-KING Detour [9PM]
INNSVILLE Jasmine Tea [8PM]
MAX'S Sarah Mills
MILL ST. & 5 Chris Sedore [9PM]
POWERHOUSE Whiskey & Fruit [10PM]
PUB FICTION East Coast Kitchen Party [1PM], Hailee Rose & The Midnight Rockers
REBEL'S ROCK Mickey Molnar [8PM]

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SLYE FOX REPEATLES [3PM], SOUTHPAWZ [8:30PM]
STONEWALLS THE ROCKETS [8PM]
33 BOWEN FICTION [10PM]
THIS AIN'T HOLLYWOOD CATL, HIROSHIMA
HEARTS [9PM]
UPTOWN SOCIAL HOUSE JAMES ANTHONY BAND
w/GUESTS [2:30PM], DUELING PIANOS [9PM]
VICARS VICE NATHIAN BURKE [7:30PM]
WATERDOWN LEGION SOUND MINDS BAND
WINCHESTER ARMS THE RAMBLERS [8:30PM]
YE OLDE SQUIRE-FENNELL MATT KING

JAZZ | BLUES | CLASSICAL
CAVALLO NERO THE HENRY STRONG DUO [6PM]
CLIFFORD BREWING CO. CHOPPED LIVER, GOLDEN
HORSESHOE REVIVAL [7PM]
MASQUE MIKE WILLIAMS BAND [9PM]
MATTSON & CO. TIFF & THE TWO FIVES [7PM]
PEARL COMPANY PENA LATINOAMERICANO [8PM]

DJ | ELECTRONIC | HIP HOP
CASBAH-LOUNGE DJ JASON X [9:30PM]
CASBAH-MAIN HALL DJ DMURK!, DJ MARK
[10PM]
CLUB 54 DJ KEITH - MAIN ROOM [10:30PM], DJ
CESAR - LATIN ROOM [10:30PM]
CLUB 77 SHAUN FRANK
SOUS BAS JEROME HILL

SUNDAY 2ND
ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY
BLACK SWAN ACOUSTIC JAM NIGHT [7PM]
CARRIGAN ARMS MARK LAFORME [2PM]
CASBAH-MAIN HALL THE STARSHIP EXPERIENCE,
CANDY HANGOVER, SEA OF TROUBLES, THE SUN
JUNKIES [8PM]
CAT 'N' FIDDLE MARCUS STARR [4:30PM], STEVE
COLLETT [10PM]
CLIFFORD BREWING CO. LUCAS STAGG [2PM]
DICKEN'S BRAD SUMAK, MIKE OLIVIERI [10PM]
DOOR'S HELD IN SECRET, SUICIDE FOR A KING,
REDWAR, DESPISED MASSES [8:30PM]
LIONSHEAD SHARI & JONNY [10:30PM]
MAX'S SARAH MILLS
REBEL'S ROCK PAUL'S OPEN MIC [4PM]
33 BOWEN THE JAMES ST NORTH [1PM]
THIS AIN'T HOLLYWOOD UNION THUGS, BACK
BREAKERS, FALLOUT, BARBED WIRE BRACES, THEY
CALL IT CHAOS [3PM]

JAZZ | BLUES | CLASSICAL
LOU DAWG'S ALFIE SMITH [2PM]
MASQUE WAYNE JANUS & GUESTS [5PM]
PEPPERWOOD BISTRO MICHAEL MCGUIRE [11AM]

DJ | ELECTRONIC | HIP HOP
ABSINTHE ZUBES [10PM]

MONDAY 3RD
ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY
CAT 'N' FIDDLE NEW REBEL WESTERNERS [9:30PM]
INNSVILLE REPEATLES [6PM]

TUESDAY 4TH
ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY
ALE HOUSE OPEN STAGE w/BOOM BABIEZ [8PM]
CASBAH-LOUNGE PROOF OF GHOSTS, DARRYL
GOULD, BELL HOLLOW & THE PINEY GREENBACKS
[8PM]
CAT 'N' FIDDLE THE TREBLECASTERS [9:30PM]
CORKTOWN IRISH JAM [8:30PM]
CULANTRO'S OPEN MIC w/DAN CIAVARELLA [7PM]
DICKEN'S OPEN MIC w/JIMMY DEE & CHUCK COLES
[9PM]
LAZY FLAMINGO OPEN JAM
RADIUS SHARI & JONNY [6PM]
THIS AIN'T HOLLYWOOD TUESDAY CHOIR [8PM]

WEDNESDAY 5TH
ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY
AUGUSTA HOUSE ACOUSTIC OPEN MIC w/ANTHONY
VAUGHN [8PM]
CASBAH-LOUNGE OPEN MIC w/HEATHER VALLEY
[7:30PM]
COACH & LANTERN SINGALONG WITH JUDY
CORKTOWN OPEN MIC JAM w/DAVE GOULD
LAZY FLAMINGO KRISTIN NICHOLLS
MASQUE TY PRICE EXPRESS [9PM]
REBEL'S ROCK PAT KING & FRIENDS [7PM]
THIS AIN'T HOLLYWOOD FIREPLACE HUDDLE OPEN
JAM [3PM]

JAZZ | BLUES | CLASSICAL
CAT 'N' FIDDLE JAZZ JAM [9:30PM]

DJ | ELECTRONIC | HIP HOP
ABSINTHE MOTOWN WEDNESDAYS [10PM]

THURSDAY 6TH
ROCK | FOLK | COUNTRY
ARMY & NAVY CLUB CITY KIDS [3PM]
CARRIGAN ARMS JAM NIGHT [8PM]
CASBAH-MAIN HALL THE CHERRY GARCIA BAND,
CAM DE LAAT [8PM]
CAT 'N' FIDDLE DAVE POMFRET [9:30PM]
COACH & LANTERN OPEN MIC [9PM]
FOX & FIDDLE MARK GUINN [7PM]
LAZY FLAMINGO VINNIE & VAUGHN
LOU DAWG'S CHRIS CHAMBERS GROUP [8:30PM]
MAX'S CHRIS AYRIES
MILLS HARDWARE GIRLFRIEND MATERIAL, PONY
[8PM]
PHEASANT PLUCKER DAVE MILLAR [10PM]
POWERHOUSE TYLER WILSON [6PM]

REBEL'S ROCK IRISH SESSION w/ANN GORMAN
MCKINNEY & GUESTS [7PM]
SOUTHCOTE 53 DEREK PALANGO [6PM]
THIS AIN'T HOLLYWOOD RAE BILLING & FRY
TRUCK [8PM]
WATERDOWN LEGION FIDDLERS JAM SESSION
[1PM]
JAZZ | BLUES | CLASSICAL
GEORGE HAMILTON OPEN JAM w/TIM NINEHOUSE
AND MR. JAY [9PM]
MASQUE JUDI RIDEOUT [8PM]

DJ | ELECTRONIC | HIP HOP
AUGUSTA HOUSE DJ ROB HAMILTON [10PM]
CASBAH-LOUNGE CURRENT FANTASY, SOUND OF
SEPARATION [8PM]

KARAOKE & TRIVIA
ABSINTHE LAST CALL KARAOKE w/BLAKE PRINCE.
JAN. 31. 19+. [10PM]
BARTON TOUCHDOWN PUB KARAOKE FRIDAYS
w/HELENA QUINN [9:30PM]
BLACK SWAN KARAOKE SATURDAYS w/MARK O.
[9PM], TRIVIA WEDNESDAY [7PM]
BOSTON PIZZA-BARTON TRIVIA MONDAYS w/HUB
OF THE HAMMER. [7:30PM].
BOSTON PIZZA-MAIN ST. W. TRIVIA SECOND
WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH w/HUB OF THE HAMMER
[7:30PM]
BRASSIE PUB KARAOKE SUNDAYS HOSTED BY "RUBY
KARAOKE"[8:30PM], TRIVIA TUESDAYS HOSTED BY
"RUBY PUB TRIVIA [8PM]
BROWN BARREL KARAOKE WEDNESDAYS AND
THURSDAYS
CALEDONIA LEGION KARAOKE FRIDAYS w/DJ
SHELLEY
CARRIGAN ARMS KARAOKE FRIDAYS w/RANDY AND
VICKI [9:30PM], TRIVIA MONDAYS w/KEN OAKLEY
[7:30PM]
CASBAH-MAIN HALL KARAOKE CABARET w/THE EYE
OF FAITH. 2ND & 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH [9PM]
CAT 'N' FIDDLE TRIVIA TUESDAYS [7PM]
COACH & LANTERN TRIVIA TUESDAYS [7PM]
DICKENS KARAOKE THURSDAYS [9:30PM]
ELECTRIC DINER OSCAR NIGHT w/HUB OF THE
HAMMER FEB. 9 [7PM]
END ZONE KARAOKE THURSDAYS w/DJ V & BIG STAR
KARAOKE [8PM]
FIONN MCCOOL'S-UNIVERSITY PLAZA TRIVIA
THURSDAYS [7:30PM]
5 WEST TRIVIA WEDNESDAYS w/JIMMY THE
QUIZMASTER [7:30PM]
GLENDALE PUB KARAOKE FRIDAYS w/SEÑOR WES
[9:30PM]
GOWN & GAVEL KARAOKE WEDNESDAYS w/DJ
SHELLEY D [6:30PM]

GRAIN & GRIT TRIVIA THURSDAYS [7PM]
**HER MAJESTY'S ARMY AND NAVY VETERANS
SOCIETY** KARAOKE SATURDAYS w/GEORGE [4PM]
HONEST LAWYER-FENNELL AVE. KARAOKE
WEDNESDAYS [7PM]
HONEST LAWYER-KING ST. KARAOKE THURSDAYS
[7PM]
LEVITY COMEDY CLUB & LOUNGE Simpsons
Trivia first Monday of every month [7:30pm]
LOU DAWG'S TRIVIA TUESDAYS w/HUB OF THE HAMMER
[8PM], LIVE BAND KARAOKE w/SOUND PARADE FRIDAYS
[10PM]
MOSAIC TRIVIA WEDNESDAYS [7:30PM]
NOBODY'S PERFECT KARAOKE w/MIKE,
WEDNESDAYS [7PM], SATURDAYS [8PM], SUNDAYS [6PM]
ODDS TRIVIA SUNDAYS [3PM]
PLUCKER'S TRIVIA WEDNESDAYS [8PM]
PRIME TIME KARAOKE THURSDAY JAN. 23. [8PM]
PUB FICTION TRIVIA MONDAYS HOSTED BY "RUBY PUB
TRIVIA" [8PM]
R.H.L.I. KARAOKE THURSDAYS w/HARRY. [7:30PM]
RUMAK KARAOKE SATURDAYS [9:30PM]
ST. LOUIS BAR AND GRILL KARAOKE SATURDAYS
w/DONNY OSBORNE [10PM]
SLYE FOX TRIVIA WEDNESDAYS [7:30PM], KARAOKE
THURSDAYS [8:30PM]
STONEWALLS PUBSTUMPERS TRIVIA WEDNESDAYS
[7PM]
TAPS KARAOKE FRIDAYS [9PM], KARAOKE SUNDAYS
[6PM]
TRACIE'S PLACE KARAOKE EVERY NIGHT [5PM-2AM],
WITH JACKPOT TUESDAYS. KIDS WELCOME UNTIL 9PM
TWISTED TAPS KARAOKE THURSDAYS [10PM]
UPTOWN SOCIAL HOUSE TRIVIA MONDAYS
[7:30PM]
WEST END KARAOKE WEDNESDAYS [10PM]
WINCHESTER ARMS TRIVIA MONDAYS w/HUB OF
THE HAMMER-GENERAL KNOWLEDGE. [7:30PM]
YE OLDE SQUIRE-MAIN W. WEDNESDAYS
PUBSTUMPERS TRIVIA HOSTED BY COMEDIAN GERRY
HALL. [7PM]

UPCOMING CONCERTS
THE ARROGANT WORMS FEB. 7. PEARL COMPANY
BOB MARLEY TRIBUTE FEB. 7. CASBAH
WOOLY MANTIS w/LTHEMONK. FEB. 7. MILLS
HARDWARE
GRAHAM VAN PELT FEB. 12. CASBAH
CRAIG CARDIFF FEB. 13. MILLS HARDWARE
JACKIE FEB. 13. CASBAH
HAMILTON PHILARMONIC ORCHESTRA FEB. 15.
FIRSTONTARIO CONCERT HALL
KASADOR FEB. 15. MILLS HARDWARE
SHARI VANDERMOLEN FEB. 15. ACOUSTIC BLEND
CAFE
BLUE RODEO FEB. 21-22. FIRSTONTARIO CONCERT
HALL
JEREMIE ALBINO w/DAVID MONKS. FEB. 21. MILLS

HARDWARE
CASH FEB. 22. THE STUDIO
KING PARK FEB. 22. MILLS HARDWARE
KIDZ BOP WORLD TOUR FEB. 23. FIRSTONTARIO
CONCERT HALL
RACHEL BECK FEB. 23. MILLS HARDWARE
THE FRANKLIN ELECTRIC FEB. 28. MILLS
HARDWARE
FRED PENNER MAR. 4. THE STUDIO

COMEDY
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Feel The Burl: A Comedy Cabaret Series.
Featuring hosts Shoshana Sperling & Lisa
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7:30pm. • Hooking Up with The Second City:
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W.
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LEVITY COMEDY CLUB & LOUNGE • Jan. 31-Feb.
1: Martha O'Neill. Feb. 7-8: Jason Allen. Feb. 14-
15: Erik Griffin. Feb. 21-22: Kate Davis. Feb. 28-
29: Marc Anthony. Mar. 6-7: Todd Graham. •
Every Wednesday at 9pm is Amateur Night. • For
more info and tickets visit levitycomedyclub.com.
//120 King St. W.
OAKVILLE CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING

View LIVE MUSIC INDEX

EMAIL calendar@viewmag.com DEADLINE: Monday at 4pm

ABSINTHE 38 King William	905.529.0349	THE DIPLOMAT 43 King William St.	905.523.4343	THE LIONSHEAD PUB 137 John S.	905.522.7090	SHAOLIN UNDERGROUND 229 James St. N..	289.389.9525
ACOUSTIC BLEND CAFE 86 Homewood Ave.	905.522.1323	THE DOORS PUB 56 Hess S.	905.540.8888	LITTLE GRASSHOPPER 37 Barton St. E.	905.393.7641	SHAWN & ED BREWERY 65 Hatt St., Dundas	289.238.9979
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ALE HOUSE 802 Upper Gage Ave.	289.755.0518	ELECTRIC DINER 96 George St.	905.526.9512	LUKAYA CAFE 592 Upper Wellington St.	905.383.2533	SLYE FOX PUB 4057 New, Burl	905.639.3900
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AUGUSTA HOUSE 17 Augusta	905.525.0367	THE END ZONE BAR & GRILL 1305 Main St. E.	289.246.9663	MATTSON & Co. 225 Locke St. S.	905.525.0225	SOUTHCOTE 53 534 Garner Rd., Anc.	289.239.8888
BARBARA CAFFE 387 Barton St., Stoney Creek	905.664.7316	FAIRWEATHER BREWING CO. 5 Ofield Rd.	289.426.2983	MAX RESTO LOUNGE 102-2180 Itabashi Way, Burl.	905.336.1500	SPICE FACTORY 121 Hughson St. N.	905.522.1112
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THE BINBROOK GRILL 3020 Binbrook Rd.	905.692.0909	FIONN MacCOOLS 1786 Stone Church Rd. E.	289.919.2422	MILLS HARDWARE 95 King E.	905.777.1223	STONEROAD's 533 Concession St.	905.545.8816
THE BLACK BULL 2475 MOUNTAINSIDE DR, BURL.	905.332.4282	FIRSTONTARIO CENTRE 101 York	905.546.4040	MODRN NIGHTCLUB 15 Hess St. S.	289.389.3561	STONEWALLS 339 York Blvd.	905.577.0808
BLACK SWAN 4040 PALLADIUM Way, UNIT #1, BURL.	289.313.9999	FIRSTONTARIO CONCERT HALL 1 SUMMERS LANE	905.546.3100	MOSAIC 431 Barton St. E.	000.000.0000	THE STUDIO 1 SUMMERS LANE	905.546.3100
Bo's SPORTS BAR 419 DUNDAS ST., WATERDOWN	905.690.3133	FIRTH's CELTIC PUB 543 UPPER JAMES	905.318.4277	MULBERRY COFFEE HOUSE 193 James St. N.	905.963.1365	SUPREME BAR & GRILL 5111 New St., Burl	905.333.5282
THE BRASSIE 73 Wilson W.	905.304.8935	5 WEST BREWPUB & KITCHEN 3600 Dundas St., Burl.	905.315.8782	MUSTANG's 301 FRUITLAND Rd., STONEY CREEK	905.643.7679	TAPS BAR & GRILL 128 PARKDALE AVE. N.	905.393.8805
THE BROWN BARREL 1515 Upper OTTAWA	905.575.4606	THE FOOL AND FLAGON 2255 Barton E.	905.573.7430	MY NEIGHBOURHOOD BAR & GRILL 794 Concession St.	905.385.9999	THRISTY CACTUS 2 King St. E., Dundas	905.627.8488
BUDDY's ROADHOUSE 1360 King E.	905.545.1456	THE FOX AND FIDDLE 999 U. Wentworth (LIMERIDGE MALL)	905.395.8555	THE PEARL COMPANY 16 STEVEN	905.524.0606	33 BOWEN 33 Bowen St.	289.396.8865
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CARRIGAN ARMS 2025 Upper MIDDLE Rd., BURL	905.332.6131	GATOR Ted's 1505 GUELPH LINE	905.336.3133	PLUCKER's 335 PLAINS Rd. E., BURL.	289.337.9454	TOAST WINE BAR 10 JOHN ST. N.	289.389.5480
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THE CASBAH 306 King W.	905.741.7625	GERMANIA CLUB 863 King St. E.	905.549.0513	PRIME TIME SPORTS BAR 218 KENILWORTH N.	905.544.6488	TURTLE JACK's 1180 Upper JAMES	905.389.6696
CAT 'N' FIDDLE 174 John S.	905.525.3855	GET TOGETHER BAR & GRILL 253 KENILWORTH N.	905.544.1950	PUB FICTION 1242 GARNER Rd. W., Anc.	905.304.9990	THE VICAR's VICE 2251 RYMAL E., STONEY CREEK	905.560.1586
CAVALLO NERO 370 Wilson St. E., Anc.	905.648.8888	GOWN & GAVEL 24 Hess St. S.	905.523.8881	PURPLE PEAR 946 Barton E.	905.527.7179	THE UNDERGROUND 41 CATHARINE St. N.	905.527.7488
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CLANCY's PUB 4490 FAIRVIEW, BURL.	905.333.6805	HAMILTON AIR FORCE ASSOC. 128 King St. E., Dundas	905.628.6697	RADIUS 151 James St. S.	905.393.1658	WATERDOWN LEGION 79 HAMILTON St. N., DWNW	905.689.6112
CLIFFORD BREWING CO. 398 NASH Rd.	905.560.5444	HAYVN 26 Barton St. E.	000.000.0000	REBEL's ROCK IRISH PUB 537 King E.	905.777.1771	WEST END PUB 151 EMERSON	289.396.4425
CLUB 54 3345 HARVESTER ROAD, BURL.	905.634.5454	HAMILTON LEGION BR. 163 435 LIMERIDGE	905.387.4515	THE REC ROOM 2732 Barton E.	289.389.1395	THE WESTDALE 1040 King St. W.	905.577.0074
CLUB 77 77 King William St.	905.527.7488	HONEST LAWYER 110 King St. E.	905.522.5297	ROCK ON LOCKE 320 CHARLTON AVE. W.	905.522.0602	WINDJAMMER BY THE LAKE 5353 LAKESHORE Rd. BURL	905.632.2333
COACH & LANTERN 384 Wilson E., Anc.	905.304.7822	HONEST LAWYER 1115 FENNELL E.	000.000.0000	R.C.L. BRANCH 622 12 King St E, STONEY CREEK	905.662.4171	WINCHESTER ARMS 120 King St. W., DUNDAS	905.627.8016
COLLECTIVE ARTS BREWERY 207 Burlington St. E.	289.426.2374	INNSVILLE 1143 Hwy. 8,STONEY CREEK	905.643.1244	R.H.L.I. CLUB 1353 Barton E.	905.545.4611	YE OLDE SQUIRE 550 FENNELL AVE. E.	905.388.7770
COOLER s SPORTS BAR 558 Upper GAGE	905.574.4664	INTO THE ABYSS 119A Locke St. S.	905.518.7609	RUMAK 570 Upper WELLINGTON St.	905.385.6199	YE OLDE SQUIRE 875 MAIN St. W.	905.528.7822
COME BY CHANCE 78 Melvin Ave.	905.547.3994	JERSEYS BAR & GRILL 1450 HEADON Rd.	905.319.0525	St. LOUIS BAR AND GRILL 450 APPLEY LINE, BURL	905.333.8118	YE OLDE SQUIRE 1508 Upper JAMES St.	905.575.7821
CORKTOWN TAVERN 175 Young	905.572.9242	LAKESHORE COFFEE HOUSE 2007 LAKESHORE Rd., BURL.	905.631.1622	SASSO 1595 Upper JAMES St.	905.526.4848	YE OLDE SQUIRE 3537 FAIRVIEW, BURL	905.333.6627
CULANTRO 537 Main St. E.	905.777.0060	LAZY FLAMINGO 19 Hess S.	905.527.0567	SEEDWORKS 126 CATHARINE St. N.	905.523.7425	THE ZOETIC 526 CONCESSION	905.902.5683
THE DICKENS 423 ELIZABETH, BURL.	905.333.4991	LEANDER BOAT CLUB 50 LEANDER DR.	905.527.7377				

ARTS • Hyprov: Improv Under Hypnosis. Colin Mochrie & Asad Mecci. Jan. 31, 8pm. • For more info visit [oakvillecentre.ca](#) //OCA,130 Navy St., Oakville
THE SANDERSON CENTRE • Gerry Dee: Alone. On A Stage. Jan. 31, 8pm. • Benefit Comedy Night. In support of the Brantford Professional Firefighters Association. Feb. 8, 8pm. • For tickets visit [sandersoncentre.ca](#) //Sanderson Centre, 88 Dalhousie St., Brantford
STAIRCASE THEATRE • Every Monday is Improv Fundamentals at 7-9pm. Learn the basics of Improv in a fun and supportive environment. \$10. • For info visit [staircasetheatre.com](#). //Staircase Theatre, 27 Dundurn St. N.
YUK YUKS BURLINGTON • Jan. 31-Feb. 1: Chris Quigley, Freddy Proia, Joshua Elijah. Feb. 7-8: David Merry, Jean Paul, Juliana Rodrigues. Feb. 14-15: Bryan Hatt, Tim Rabnett, Danny Martinello. Feb. 21-22: Dave Hemstead, Peter Anthony, Eric Andrews. Feb. 28-29: Cal Post, Terry Clement, Jon Steinberg. Mar. 6-7: Steve Dylan, Cedric Newman. • For info tickets visit [yukyus.com](#). //380 Brant St., Burl.

EVENTS

HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY • Noon Hour Concerts at Central, Fridays at 12pm. Feb. 7: Jesse Luciani: Guitar and Voice. Feb. 14, 12:45pm: David Pell: Hamilton Philharmonic Principal Trombonist. Feb. 21: Jackie Washington Day. Feb. 28: The Gunter Ott Blues Band. • Cross Stitch Club. Tuesdays through Feb. 28, 2pm. //Kenilworth. • Soup's On!** Jan. 30, 6:30pm. //Terryberry. • Greensville Guitar Pickers. Mondays at 6:30pm in February. Bring a guitar. //Greensville. • Hands-on Art Workshop. Mondays at 3pm in February. //Barton. • Art Club. Tuesdays at 1:30pm in February. //Central. • Guitar Intro. Wednesdays at 6:30pm in February. Bring a guitar. //Greensville. • Healthy Truffles.** Feb. 4, 2pm. //Concession. • Tile Coasters.** Feb. 5, 3:30pm. //Freelton. • Colouring Circle.** Feb. 6, 20, 2pm. //Binbrook and Thursdays in February, 1:30pm. //Dundas. • Bob Ross Paint Night. **. Feb. 6, 27, 6pm. //Central. • Friday Night Art Tour. Feb. 7, 5pm. //Central. • Poetry Club. Feb. 8, 2pm. //Westdale. **Registration required. For info visit [hpl.ca](#)
ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS • **Speaker Series.** Wildlife Rescue. Learn about Toronto Wildlife Centre, a wildlife rehabilitation charity, and what happens to sick, injured and orphaned wildlife once they arrive. Feb. 20, 7-8:30pm. Tickets required. • **Winter Exhibit: Wildlife Rescue.** An eye-opening, inspiring and wildly interactive exhibit for all ages. Until Apr. 13. • **Events:** WNED Kid Fest. Children and parents can enjoy meet-and-greets with beloved PBS KIDS characters, as well as an assortment of activities, prizes, and more. This is a third-party event. Event Tickets Required. Feb. 1, 10am-4pm, Feb. 2, 10am-3pm. • Orchid Society Spring Show and Sale. Feb. 29, noon-5pm, Mar. 1, 10am-5pm. • For details, costs, tickets and to register for events, visit [rbg.ca](#) //RBG Centre, 680 Plains Rd. W., Burl.
BURLINGTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE • Feel The Burl: A Comedy Cabaret Series. *Audience Advisory-possible coarse language & not suitable for kids. Jan. 31, 7:30pm. • Classic Albums Live: Fleetwood Mac's *Rumours*. Feb. 1, 8pm. • Steven Page with the HPO. Feb. 8, 8pm. • Chase Padgett's 6 Guitars. Feb. 13, 7:30pm. • Jazz Affair: Wishes. Feb. 14, 7:30pm. • Burlington Symphony Orchestra: Love at the Opera. Feb. 16, 3pm. • Tweet Tweet! A 30-minute contemporary circus performance experience for BPAC's youngest audience, ages 0-5 years and their caregivers. Feb. 17, 11am and 2pm. • The Toronto All-Star Big Band. Feb. 23, 2pm. • New Orleans Jazz Orchestra. Feb. 27, 8pm. • Meghan Patrick. Feb. 28, 8pm. • For more info visit [burlington-pac.ca](#) //BPAC 440 Locust St. 905.681.2551
FIRST ONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE • Abbanania & The British Legends. Jan. 31, 7:30pm. //Partridge Hall. • Guitar Extravaganza 2020. Feb. 1, 7:30pm. //Recital Hall. • Masterworks 4-Simply Irresistible. Feb. 2, 2:30pm. //Partridge Hall. • Classic Albums Live. Feb. 5, 7:30pm. //Partridge Hall. • Kaumakaiwa Kanaka'ole. Feb. 7, 7:30pm. //Recital Hall. • The Pat LaBarbera Quartet. Feb. 7, 7:30pm. //Partridge Hall. • Kurt Elling. Feb. 14, 8pm. //Partridge Hall. • Pops13-Music of the Knights. Feb. 15, 2:30pm. //Partridge Hall. • For tickets visit [FirstOntarioPAC.ca](#) //FOPAC, St. Catharines
TAPELMUSIK BAROQUE ORCHESTRA: SAFE HAVEN • A multimedia concert exploring the

influence of refugees on the music and culture of baroque Europe and Canada today. Jan. 31, 8pm. \$15/\$5 students. For tickets visit [socrates.mcmaster.ca.tafelmusik](#). //Concert Hall, L.R. Wilson Hall, McMaster University
OAKVILLE CENTRE FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS • Romantic Fantasy-Oakville Symphony. Feb. 1, 8pm, Feb. 2, 2pm. • VC2. Feb. 8, 8pm. • In Conversation with Cynthia Loyst. Feb. 13, 7pm. • Okavango African Orchestra. Feb. 22, 8pm. • 4 Elements & 4 Seasons. Feb. 29, 7:30pm. • For more info visit [www.oakvillecentre.ca](#) //OCA,130 Navy St., Oakville
SEEDY SATURDAY • Celebrate gardening in Hamilton with a public event focused on sustainable, local practices and products including seed swap, gardening book exchange, seed and garden supply vendors selling quality seeds with heritage and heirloom varieties, free garden workshops and educational demonstrations throughout the day, opportunities for meeting and networking with other gardeners and experts, children's activities and Seedy Cafe. Feb. 1, 10am-3pm. //The Boys and Girls Club of Hamilton, 45 Ellis Ave.
THE STEVE STRONGMAN BLUES STUDIO ACOUSTIC SESSIONS • Intimate acoustic concerts showcasing world class blues & roots musicians and their music, hosted by Steve Strongman, Colin Lapsley and Dawn Tyler Watson. Feb. 4, 8-9:30pm. [doors at 6:30pm]. \$35. Call 905.304.7822 for tickets. //The Upper Coach, 384 Wilson St. E.
THE SANDERSON CENTRE • Classic Albums Live: Fleetwood Mac Greatest Hits. Feb. 6, 8pm. • Sarah Hagen-Flights of Music and Wine. Feb. 21, 8pm. • Bounty Enterprises-Hotel California. Feb. 22, 7:30pm. • For info and tickets visit [sandersoncentre.ca](#) //Sanderson Centre, 88 Dalhousie St., Brantford
MISSISSIPPI QUEEN SOUTHERN SUPPER SERIES • Features a set, southern menu paired with the musical talents of blues, and 'American Roots' musicians. • Jan. 30: Tyler Yarema & Scott Neilson. • Feb. 7: Mardi Gras Supper w/Robert Hunt. • Feb. 8: Mardi Gras Supper no live music. \$30. • Feb. 12: Fraser Melvin & Bad Luck Woman. • Feb. 14: The Vaudevillian. • Feb. 21: Silvia Dee & The Boyfriend. • Feb. 25: Ragwax. • \$45 for meal and show. For more info, including menu details, visit [mississippiqueenfoods.com](#) or call 905.526.0909. //635 King St. E.
SOMETHING ELSE! WATCH IT BURN! #2 • Celebrates the opening of "Early Snow: Michael Snow 1947-1962" with msic, film and performance art. Feb. 8, 2pm. Free. //Art Gallery of Hamilton, 123 King St. W.
BRANTFORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: VALENTINE BRUNCH WITH BACH • Includes a brunch buffet and live music performance by BSO musicians. Feb. 9, 1pm. \$45. Tickets online at [onstagedirect.com/bsa](#). //Brantford Polish Hall, 154 Pearl St., Brantford
SONGS THAT INFLUENCED ME-FROM CLASSICAL TO BROADWAY TO POP • Concert performed by Jason Hales and Andrea Battista. Feb. 9, 3pm. (Snow date: Mar. 8). \$15/\$10 students under 19. For tickets contact 905.639.0925. //Different Drummer Book Store, 513 Locust St.
SOUPFEST 2020 • Soupfest is about coming together to empower youth by creating a fun, local, delicious experience in the heart of Hamilton. Feb. 11, 11:30am-7:30pm. Advanced tickets available at Living Rock, 30 Wilson St. //Hamilton Convention Centre, 1 Summers Lane
THE HAMILTON PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA • **Mainstage/FirstOntario Concert Hall Concerts:** Feb. 15: Scheherazade. **Events:** Seniors' Talk & Tea: Scheherazade. Feb. 14, 11am. \$12. //FirstOntario Concert Hall. • For more info, registrations and tickets visit [hpo.org](#)
HAMILTON CONSERVATORY FOR THE ARTS CONCERT SERIES • Valerie Tryon. Feb. 16, 2pm. \$30/\$20 Seniors & students. For ticket info visit [hcart.s.ca](#) or call 905.528.4020. //HCA, 126 James St. S.
LOVE AT THE OPERA-BURLINGTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA • Listen to a full orchestra perform excerpts from operas written by Puccini, Mozart, Verdi and others. Special guests: Jessica Lane (Soprano), Romulo Delgado (Tenor) and Peter Bass (Baritone). Feb. 16, 3pm. \$12- \$46. For tickets call 905.681.6000 or visit [burlingtonsymphony.ca](#) //Burlington Performing Arts Centre, 440 Locust, Burl.
SING! SING A SONG SING-A-LONG...WITH MARY • This is a fun series of afternoon sing-alongs of songs from past decades, with Mary at the piano, followed by tea and cookies. Third Tuesday of each month, January-March [Feb. 18 is next date]. Free. All welcome. For info visit con-

tact [info@westplains.ca](#) or 905.529.4871. //West Plains United Church, 549 Plains Road West, Burl.
GUITAR HAMILTON PRESENTS AZULINE DUO • Emma Rush [guitar] and Sara Traficante [flute] play works from around the world from their new album *Fandango*. Feb. 23, 7:30pm. \$30/\$20. For tickets and info contact 905.807.4792 or visit [guitarhamilton.com](#). //Staircase Theatre, 27 Dundurn St. N.
ARTS
ART GALLERY OF BURLINGTON • **Exhibits:** • Division of Labour. Until Mar. 29. • Interlude. Until Mar. 1. • Permanent Collection Corridor: Quebec: A Different Drummer. Ongoing. • **Events:** Family Sunday Open Studio. Every Sunday, 1-4pm. Free. All welcome. • For more info or to register for events visit [artgalleryof-burlington.com](#) //AGB, 1333 Lakeshore Rd.
ART GALLERY OF HAMILTON • **Exhibits:** **Gallery Level One** • Building Cultural Legacies. Until May 18. Special Exhibition admission applies. • The Artist's Dream: Works of French Symbolism. Feb. 1-May 31. • Early Snow: Michael Snow 1947-1962. Feb. 8-May 24. • **Level Two Milli:** A Celebration of Style. Until Feb. 9, 2020. • In Residence: Reitzenstein. Until Mar. 29, 2020. • The Collection. Permanent Installation. • Kim Adams: Bruegel-Bosch Bus. Permanent display. • **The Jean and Ross Fischer Gallery.** Women's Art Association 124th Juried Exhibition: New Work. Until Mar. 7. • **AGH Talks.** Author Talk: Phillipa K Chong: The abSURD-ity of Art Criticism. Jan. 30, 7pm. Free admission. • **Tours:** Enjoy a guided tour, free with admission, by one of our specially trained Docents. For individuals and groups smaller than 10. Tours last approximately 40 minutes. Every Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday & Statutory Holiday at 1:00 pm. • **Free Friday.** Explore all of the exhibitions on view for free on the first Friday of every month. With extended hours until 8:00 pm and free performances and activities each month, there's no better time to experience the AGH. • For details and tickets visit [artgalleryofhamilton.com](#) //123 King W. 905.527.6610
ART IN THE WORKPLACE • AWP 31 Exhibit will feature over 140 pieces by local artists. Until Feb. 27. • Free admission on weekdays from 8am-6pm. For info visit [artintheworkplace.ca](#). //McMaster Innovation Park, 175 Longwood Rd. S.
ARTCRAWL • Second Friday night of every month @7pm, all galleries in the area display their new art. For more info visit [jamestreetnorth.ca](#)
CARNEGIE GALLERY • **Exhibits:** Heidi McKenzie and Maya Foltyn. Circular Dimensions. Ceramic sculptures, paintings and drawings. Feb. 7-Mar. 1. Opening Reception: Feb. 7, 7-9:30pm. • Riverside Print Group. Elemental. New works. Feb. 7-Mar. 1. Opening Reception: Feb. 7, 7-9:30pm. • **Events:** Lecture-Riverside Print Group. Ginny Marco Carnevale and Donna Stewart. Feb. 27-8pm. \$10 members/\$12 non-members. • The Amy Winehouse Project performs The Amy Winehouse Show. The show covers all of Amy's major hits that she either wrote, performed, covered and collaborated on. This is a storied performance where Marni shares some interesting parts of Amy's life, songs, details, etc. in between some of the songs. Feb. 28, 8pm. \$25. • For tickets and info visit [carnegiegallery.org](#) //The Carnegie Gallery, 10 King W., Dundas, 905.627.4265
CENTRE3 FOR PRINT AND MEDIA ARTS • [centre3.com](#) • Centre3 Gallery, 173 James St. N.
DUNDAS VALLEY SCHOOL OF ART • [dvsa.ca](#) //DVSA, 21 Ogilvie, Dundas
EARLS COURT GALLERY • **Exhibits:** Looking Back at Madelaine Ward. Until Feb. 15. • For more info visit [earlscourtgallery.ca](#) //Earls Court Gallery 215 Ottawa N.
FACTORY MEDIA CENTRE • Convos With Creatives. A panel discussion about collaborating across disciplines featuring special guest creatives sharing their experiences and industry practices. Jan. 31, 7:30pm. • With Love. An evening of musical performances and immersive projections from local artists presented in partnership with Minjung Hwangbo. Feb. 14, 7-10p.. Free. • For more info visit [factorymediacentre.ca](#) or call 905.577.9191. //228 James St. N.
THE GALLERY ON THE BAY • **Exhibits:** Group Show of Gallery Artists. Jan. 30-Mar. 15. • [galleryonthebay.com](#). 905.627.4265 //231 Bay N.
HAMILTON ARTISTS INC. • **Exhibits:** Narhi

Wasagabiich. Catherine Blackburn. Until May 2020. • Community Mural. Lead Artist: Clear Eyes Collective. The finished mural is displayed on a banner facing James Street. Until Sept. • Domestic Brew: Craft Beer Garden. Ongoing. • For more info visit [theinc.ca](#) //155 James St. N.
HAMILTON CONSERVATORY FOR THE ARTS • **Events:** Concert Series. Feb. 16, 2pm: Valerie Tryon. • **Exhibits:** Jim Mullin and Paul Roppel-Morski. Until Feb. 15. • For info visit [hcart.s.ca](#). 905-528-4020. //Hamilton Conservatory For The Arts,126 James St. S.
HAMILTON PUBLIC LIBRARY • **Gallery Barton:** January-February: Richard Hower, *Paintings in Oil*. • **Gallery4 Annex, Central Library, 4th Floor:** January-February: Re-Create *Art It Out*. • **Gallery4 , Central Library, 1st Floor:** January-February: Hank Rintjema *Elements of Decay*. • **Gallery Dundas:** January-February: Tom Hilborn, *All You Feel is Love*. • **Gallery Turner Park:** January: Richard Hower, *Paintings in Oil*.
KIRKLAND LYNCH STUDIO GALLERY • **Exhibits:** Original stained glass designs by Siobhan Lynch, oil paintings and drawings by Peter Kirkland. • Gallery Hours: Tues-Sat 11am-5pm. • [siobhan-lynchglass.com](#), [peterkirkland.com](#) //654 Spring Gardens Rd., Burl.
MCMASTER MUSEUM OF ART • **Exhibits:** Animals Across Discipline, Time & Space. Art exploring the relationships between human and nonhuman animals. Artists: Mary Anne Barkhouse, Kathryn Eddy, Erica Gajewski, Derek Jenkins, Colleen Plumb. Until Mar. 21. Artist Panel: Mar. 19, 6-8m. • Deanna Bowen: A Harlem Nocturne. A solo exhibition exploring the artist's family history and Black experience in Canada and the US. Organized and circulated by the Contemporary Art Gallery, Vancouver. Until May 9. Artist Talk: Feb. 27, 7- 9pm. • Instruments of Exchange: Coins from Antiquity to Today. Until Aug. 20, 2020. • Artist Garden: The Boat Project/everythingwillbefine. Canadian artist Ernest Daetwyler will build a site-specific work in the Museum's Artist Garden this summer. He will transform pieces of driftwood into a boat form, embedded with a steelcut text message, creating an environment for both active engagement and reflection. Until 2020. • Antiquities. The Museum's Togo Salmon Gallery has been rededicated as a space to showcase exclusively McMaster's collection of antiquities. Ongoing. • Susan Detwiler: Seed Pack. Ongoing. • The Vishniak Coin Collection - Numismatic Traditions from Antiquity to Present. Ongoing. • **Events:** Art & Jazz Soirée. The evening includes a collage-making workshop with Hamilton designer and visual alchemist Stylo Starr and musical performances by acclaimed vocalist Colina Phillips. Refreshments provided. Feb. 6, 6-9pm. Free. All welcome. • Artist Talk. A conversation between artist Deanna Bowen and Professor Selina Mudavanhu, Communications Studies and Multimedia. Feb. 27, 7-9pm. • Admission to all exhibitions and events is free. For more info call 905.525.9140x23081 or visit [museum.mcmaster.ca](#) //McMaster Museum of Art, 1280 Main W.
MIXED MEDIA/KING W. BOOKS • Paintings by Susan Davis. Until Jan. 31. • Meet The Artist: Jan. 26, 4-5pm. //Mixed Media/King W. Books, 1060 King St. W., Westdale
PAUL ELIA GALLERY • [paulelia.ca](#). 905.96.8850. //1167 Cannon St. E.
SEATON STUDIO & GALLERY • **Exhibits:** AGOG December Glass Show. Through Dec. • Gallery features Teresa's newest stained glass creations as well as some of the best regional artists on a two month rotating basis. • Open Weds-Sat 11am-5pm, Sun-Tues by appointment. For info visit [teresaseaton.ca](#), 905.510.5030. //652 Spring Gardens Rd., Burl.
TRUE NORTH GALLERY/THE MUSIC GALLERY • On display and available for sale are over 100 one-of-a-kind original, and rare limited edition art by both world famous, and not so famous musicians, whose creativity is equally evident in their art as it is in their music. • Access to the gallery is by invitation or appointment only. For info visit [truenorth.gallery](#). //Griffin House-Arts Culture & Innovation Business Centre, 23 Griffin St., Waterdown
WESTDALE COMMUNITY ART LOUNGE • **Exhibits:** Winter Art Show. Until Mar. 1. //1014 King St. W.
WORKERS ARTS & HERITAGE CENTRE • **Exhibits:** Notes From The Brightside Neighbourhood Project. Until Feb. 14. • Dylan Miner: These Conditions Can Be Changed. Jan. 29-Apr. 11. Opening Reception: Feb. 7, 7-9pm. • One Big Union: The Revolutionary Graphics of the

IWW. Feb. 29-May 2. • All Together Now! Banners From the Permanent Collection. Until May 8. • **Permanent Galleries.** • Nine to Five: A History of Office Work. Until Oct. 15, 2023. • Custom House History & The Hall of Hamilton Labour. Until Nov. 25, 2023. • Gateway to the Workers City & Made in Hamilton Industrial. • For more info, tickets, or to register for events visit [wahc-museum.ca](#) //WAHC, 51 Stuart St.
YOU ME GALLERY • Sadko Hadzihasanovic Night Watch. New paintings. Until Feb. 14. Finissage and Artist Talk: Feb. 14. • Gallery hours: Wed-Sun 12-5pm. [youmegallery.com](#), 905.523.7754. //330 James St. S.

THEATRE

BINBROOK LITTLE THEATRE • Aladdin. Family friendly panto version of the classic story ... now with twice the magic genie action! A twisted tale of lamps, genies and wishes. Jan. 31. Feb. 1,2,7-9,14-16.Fridays at 7pm, Sat & Sun at 2pm. \$15. • For info and tickets visit [bltweb.ca](#) or call 905.692.5076 or email [tickets@binbrooktheatre.ca](#). //Binbrook Little Theatre, 2600 Regional Rd. 56, Binbrook
BURLINGTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE • TheatreWorksUSA: Dog Man The Musical. A hilarious new production based on the worldwide bestselling series from Dav Pilkey, the creator of Captain Underpants. Recommended for children ages 5". Feb. 9, 4pm. • Confessions of a Fairy's Daughter. This one-woman show tells the story of growing up with a gay father in the 1980s. Feb. 21-22, 7:30pm. • For more info visit [burlington-pac.ca](#) //BPAC 440 Locust St. 905.681.2551
DRURY LANE THEATRE • 40th Musical Hall. Take a trip down memory lane with the most entertaining, comedic and touching moments of "Olde Tyme Music Hall" featuring some surprise guest artistes reprising some favourite numbers that span 4 decades. Boogie and cheering are positively encouraged. Feb. 7,8,14,15,20-22,27-29, Mar. 5-7 at 8pm, Feb. 16,23, Mar. 1,8, at 2pm. • For tickets visit [centerstageticketing.com](#). For info visit [drurylane.ca](#). //Drury Lane Theatre, 2269 New Street, Burl.
DUNDAS LITTLE THEATRE • Over The River and Through the Woods. An Italian-American comedy of a young man rising up the corporate ladder in New York City while faithfully visiting his quirky grandparents every Sunday for dinner. When he is offered a promotion across the continent in Seattle, Washington, his grandparents rebel at the thought. Jan. 31, Feb. 1,6-8, @ 8pm, Feb. 2,9 @ 2pm. • For info visit [dundaslittletheatre.com](#). Ticket Line 905.627.5266. //Garstin Centre For The Arts, 37 Market St. S. Dundas.
THE FIRST ONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE • Africville Stories with Joe Sealy. poignant and uplifting stories about the people of Africville, Canada's oldest black community. Songs, narrative and music join together to share the legacy of this unique Canadian community. Feb. 9, 2:30pm. //Partridge Hall. • DogMan: The Musical. Feb. 11, 6pm. //Partridge Hall. • For tickets visit [firstontariopac.ca](#) or call 905.688.0722. //FirstOntario Performing Arts Centre, various venues, St. Catharines
FROST BITES • A site-specific winter performance festival. A line-up of seven emerging and established companies will be creating short, unconventional performance pieces inspired by spaces at the HWT Centre for Frost Bites 2020. Audiences will be able to experience the building from all angles - even watching performances through the expansive 30 foot windows, both from the warmth of the interior Hub, and looking in from the chilly outdoors. No performance is longer than 20 minutes and each show plays multiple times a night. Through Feb. 2. \$25 adult/\$15 children under 12/\$40 Frequent Frost Pass. For info visit [hamiltonfringe.ca](#). //Hamilton Waterfront Trust Centre, 57 Discovery Dr.
HAMILTON THEATRE INC. • Matilda The Musical. The inspiring story of a girl who dreams of a better life. Feb. 14-Mar. 1. • For tickets visit [hamiltontheatre.com](#). //140 MacNab St. N.
HAMILTON THEATRE PROJECT • Ordinary Days. A musical by Adam Gwon that tells t he story of four urbanites whose lives intersect as they search for fulfillment, happiness, and love. Feb. 6-8. \$25/\$20 students, seniors, arts workers. For info visit [hamiltontheatreproject.com](#). //Staircase Theatre, 27 Dundurn St. N.
MURDER MYSTERY THEATRE • Join us for a 4 course meal while enjoying our Murder Mystery Theatre. Feb. 1, 14, 15, 29. Doors open at 6:30pm, event starts at 7pm. • Call for reservations at

905.643.1244 //The Innsville Restaurant, 1143 Hwy. 8, Stoney Creek

OAKVILLE PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE • Cat on a Hot Tin Roof. Feb. 5-8, 8pm, Feb. 9, 2pm. • Dufflebag Theatre's Beauty and the Beast. Feb. 17, 10am, 12pm, 2pm. • For more info and tickets visit oakvillecentre.ca //130 Navy St., Oakville **THE PLAYERS' GUILD OF HAMILTON** • ...In The Time Of Old Age. Dubbed one of the country's most prolific playwrights, Hamilton's own Gord Carruth provides a tender and heartwarming comedy about Reuben and his friend Mickey. Two elderly gentlemen, a Toronto Jew and a Newfoundland World War II veteran, both with little time left to live, who unexpectedly come into a fortune. With their new status and the help of a beautiful lawyer, they have some fun pulling off a brilliant sting on a bank manager of questionable integrity and morality, all to the benefit of older people. Jan. 31, Feb.1 @ 8pm, Feb. 1 @ 2pm. • For tickets call 905.529.0284. For more info visit playersguild.org //The Players' Guild of Hamilton, 80 Queen S.

THE SANDERSON CENTRE • The Temple Theatre (Sanderson Centre) Tour. Vaudeville, music, dance, comedy. Brant Theatre Workshops in partnership with the Sanderson Centre present this unique play that tells the story of the Sanderson Centre over 100 years. Feb. 23, 1:30pm. • For info and tickets visit sanderson-centre.ca //Sanderson Centre, 88 Dalhousie St., Brantford

SEX IN THE CITY • The "Super" Unauthorized Musical Parody tackles serious questions like "Will I ever find the one?," "Can you ever really be over your ex?" and "For the third time, it's a neck massager!" Join Carrie, Miranda, Charlotte and Samantha on a hilarious trip through New York in the '90s. Mar. 1, 3pm. For tickets visit corentertainment.ca //The Studio, 1 Summers Lane **THEATRE ANCASTER** • Willy Wonka Jr. Featuring the enchanting songs from the 1971 film in addition to a host of fun new songs, Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka Jr. is a scrumdilyumptious musical, performed by the Stage 2: Jr. Broadway company. Jan. 31, 7pm, Feb. 1-2, 1pm. \$18/\$15 Seniors 65+/\$10 students up to and including university. • Tickets at TheatreAncaster.com or call 905.304.7469 //Old Firehall Arts Centre, 334 Wilson St. E., Anc.

THEATRE AQUARIUS • Sweat. It's the year 2000 in Reading, Pennsylvania and a group of friends go to work at the steel mill and then decompress at the bar like they've been doing for years. These workers have planned to save money and then retire with a nice, healthy pension. But their mill is making changes and the generations of loyalty these workers have shown don't seem to amount to much. The company is considering layoffs, the war between community and capitalism begins, and tensions start destroying not only jobs, but relationships. Through Feb. 15. • For tickets visit theatreaquarius.org or call 905.522.7529. //190 King William St.

THEATRE BURLINGTON • The Beauty Queen of Leenane. Set in rural Ireland, 40 year old Maureen finds herself acting as caregiver to her aging mother. Stress and daily challenges fuel tensions and the relationship between mother and daughter suffers greatly. Into this intense, darkly poignant play, author Martin McDonagh attempts to inject some levity. While not for the faint of heart, the play is expertly crafted. This play contains mature content & strong language. Jan. 31, Feb.1-2, 7-8-9*, 14-15*. Shows at 8pm, *matinees at 2pm. • For tickets visit theatre-burlington.on.ca //Theatre Burlington's Drama Centre 2311 New Street, Burl.

WE WILL ROCK YOU • The Musical by Queen and Ben Elton. Feb. 1, 8pm. For tickets visit corentertainment.ca //FirstOntario Concert Hall

DANCE

BURLINGTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE • National Ballet Theatre of Odessa, Ukraine: Romeo & Juliet. Feb. 14, 8pm. • For more info visit burlingtonpac.ca //BPAC 440 Locust St. 905.681.2551

THE FIRST ONTARIO PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE • Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal: Leonard Cohen's Dance Me. Approved by Leonard Cohen during his lifetime, and under the artistic direction of Louis Robitaille and the strong and bold dramaturgy of Eric Jean, this riveting homage to the famed poet-singer-songwriter evokes the grand cycles of existence in five seasons, as described in Cohen's deeply reflective music and poems. Feb. 23, 2:30pm, 7:30pm. //Partridge

Hall. • For more info visit firstontariopac.ca //Partridge Hall, St. Catharines

PROSPECTS: AN EVENING OF DANCE AND DISCUSSION • Aeris Körper brings innovative dancers and choreographers to Burlington to present creative interpretations of ballroom dance, disability dance, Bengali folk dance and more works charged with powerful content. Join the discussion about what dance means, and how it moves you. Feb. 22, 7pm. \$25/PWYC. For more info and tickets visit aeriskorper.com // Burlington Student Theatre, 2131 Prospects St.

FILM

ANCASTER FILM FEST • Queen and Slim. Feb. 10, 1pm, 7:15pm. • Toni Morrison: The Pieces I Am. Feb. 10, 4pm. • La Belle Époque. Feb. 24, 1pm, 7:15pm. • Sorry We Missed You. Feb. 24, 4pm. • For details visit ancasterfilmfest.ca or facebook. //Ancaster Silver City (Meadowlands Plaza)

ELECTRIC DINER • 80s Movie Night featuring a new cult classic every Thursday. Jan. 30: Terminator 2. Feb. 6: Sixteen Candles. Feb. 13: When Harry Met Sally. Feb. 20: Dirty Dancing. Feb. 27: Say Anything. • For more info visit electricdinerhamilton.com. //96 George St.

2019-2020 HAMILTON VOICES OF PALESTINE FILM SERIES • Feb. 11, 7pm: The Apollo of Gaza. In 2013, an ancient statue of Apollo was found in the waters off Gaza—before disappearing under mysterious circumstances. Is it the work of forgers, or a gift from the gods to a Palestinian people desperately in need of hope? • Donations accepted. For info visit jelithin.ca or contact info@jelithin.ca. //McMaster University

THE WESTDALE EVENTS • Oscar Viewing Party at The Westdale. Join us for a free simulcast of the 92nd Academy Awards. Dress to Impress. Hosted by Kat Cullen. Join the Oscar Ballot Contest – The winner gets a free movie pass for a year. \$10 to enter the Oscar ballot contest at the door. Cash bar & movie snacks, prizes for best dressed, Oscar trivia and more. Feb. 9, 6:30pm. Get your free ticket at TheWestdale.ca. • Be in the Room -See The Film-Meet the Maker Series. Numb. Stay after the film for a Q&A with the filmmaker & screenwriter Harris Goldberg. Feb. 12, 7pm. \$12/\$9. • It Happened One Night at The Westdale. Celebrate Valentine's Day and the one-year anniversary of the grand re-opening of the historic Westdale Theatre. Champagne reception with music by local Westdale crooner Kiran Singh at 7pm followed by a screening of the classic 1934 romantic comedy It Happened One Night at 8pm. This is a fundraiser for The Westdale. \$40 includes 2 sparkling wine tickets, unlimited popcorn, a chocolate, a flower, entertainment & your movie ticket. Feb. 14, 7pm. • Tickets at TheWestdale.ca. //1014 King St. W.

LITERARY

HAMILTON YOUTH POETRY SLAMS • Every fourth Sunday of the month, 6-9pm. \$5. All ages. For details visit hamiltonyouthpoets.org. //Spice Factory, 121 Hughson St.

LITCHAT THE LITERARY SALON • Writing Collaborations with Gary Barwin. Feb. 11, 7:30pm. Free. Details at litchat-hamilton.blogspot.com. //Newcomer Learning Centre, 4th floor, Central Branch, Hamilton Public Library.

LITLIVE LITERARY READINGS • Featuring Marilyn Gear Pilling, Matthew Walsh, Elizabeth Ross, Frances Boyle, Sally Cooper, Carolyn Bennett. Feb. 2, 7:30pm. Admission \$10 or PWYC. Info at litlive.blogspot.com. //The Staircase, 27 Dundurn St. N.

MUSEUMS

BATTLEFIELD HOUSE MUSEUM & PARK • Friends of Battlefield House Museum Lecture Series. Join us for a historically-themed illustrated talk. Feb. 11: Anne Jarvis. • The Gages: An Early Upper Canadian Family. Visit the 200 year-old Gage home on Family Day and experience the work and play of an early Upper Canadian family. For all ages. Feb. 17, 10am-4pm. • Open Tuesday to Sunday, noon to 4pm. • battlefieldhouse.ca //Battlefield House Museum & Park, 77 King W., Stoney Creek, 905.662.8458

CANADIAN WARPLANE HERITAGE MUSEUM • Virtual Reality Experience-BBC 1943 Berlin Blitz. Virtual Reality Experience - board a Lancaster on a wartime mission. The destination: Berlin. Until

Feb. 29. • Family Day Weekend. Three days of space-themed activities. Meet Canadian astronaut Dr. Dave Williams. Visit website for details. Feb. 15-17, 9am-5pm. • Health in Space: Daring to Explore. A travelling exhibition. Feb. 15-May 11. • Hamilton Boat, Fishing & Outdoor Show. Feb. 28-Mar. 1. • Open 9am-5pm daily. For tickets and more more info visit warplane.com. //Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum, 9280 Airport Road, Mount Hope

COMMUNITY CARE LUNCH • Please join us for soup, roll, coffee and cookies. Feb. 12, 10:45am-noon. Free. //St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, 70 James St. S.

DUNDAS MUSEUM & ARCHIVES • Exhibits: A Century Ago Dundas in the 1920. Feb. 8-May 23. • Natural History. On-going. • The Neutrals of the Valley. On-going. • Welcome to Dundas. On-going. • Inside Outside Family Day Festival. Inside at the Museum there will be local entertainment, hot chocolate, games, crafts, and activities for the whole family to enjoy. Outside, the Rotary Club of Dundas Valley Sunrise will be at the Dundas Driving Park for ice skating, skating demonstrations, special guests, live music, and horse-drawn carriage rides. Feb. 17, 12pm. • dundasmuseum.ca. //139 Park St. W., Dundas **DUNDURN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE** • Family Day at Dundurn. On a guided tour of over 40 rooms in Dundurn Castle, discover what it was like to live and play above stairs and work and live below stairs. Visitors will enjoy hands-on activities throughout their tour and sample a variety of historic goodies made in the kitchen. Feb. 17, 1-4pm. • For more info visit hamilton.ca. Open Tues-Sun, noon to 4pm. //610 York Blvd. 905.546.2872

ERLAND LEE MUSEUM • For info visit fwio.on.ca/erland. //552 Ridge Rd., Stoney Creek.

FIELDCOTE MEMORIAL PARK & MUSEUM • Exhibits: Stories from the Edge. Visit an exhibit at Fieldcote showcasing stories and artifacts of Ancaster's history. Until Dec. 24, 2020. • Childrens' Art Exhibition: Art Attack. Experience this display of bright and cheerful art works created by children visiting the museum on Family Day. Feb. 22-Mar. 28. • Events: Family Day at Fieldcote: Art Attack. Help us fill our new gallery space with bright, cheerful creations. We supply the canvas and colours so come and be Art-tastic at Fieldcote. Feb. 17, noon-4pm. • Ontario Archaeological Society Monthly Lectures. A lecture or film is presented, with coffee and snacks. For all ages. Free. Feb. 20, 7:30-9pm. • For info visit hamilton.ca. Open Tues-Sat, 1-5pm. //64 Sulphur Springs Rd., Anc.

GRIFFIN HOUSE • The Griffin House is recognized as an important Canadian Black History site. Visit this preserved early 19th century home, set on a hilltop overlooking the beautiful Dundas Valley. Explore the history of Enevals Griffin and other early Black settlers, and enjoy a walk along nearby trails. • griffinhouse@hamilton.ca //733 Mineral Springs Rd., Ancaster

HAMILTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM • Games Night at the Museum. Bring your family and friends for an entertaining evening of board game playing and snacks. Feb. 13, 3:30pm-8pm. PWYC. • Family Fun Day. An afternoon of old fashioned fun as we celebrate what family means with games, crafts and activities. Feb. 17, 11am-4pm. • Wednesday Wigglers (10am-11:30am). Join us for our Wiggler program that provides preschool aged children (2 to 4 years) an opportunity to explore the environment through adult-facilitated and child-directed activities by engaging in this themed drop-in program that includes story time, songs, discovery and creation centres. January themes-Feb. 5: Welcome to the Jungle. Feb. 12: Friends and Friendship. Feb. 19: Discovering Dinosaurs. Feb. 26: Farmyard Friends. • Early Morning risers. Start your Saturday morning with company, coffee and treats and let the kids get to work playing in an interactive & exploratory environment. Saturdays in February, 7:30-9am. This is a free event. • Open Tues-Sat., 9:30am-3:30pm. For costs and info visit hamilton.ca/museums //1072 Main St. E.

HAMILTON MILITARY MUSEUM • Originally Sir Allan MacNab's gatehouse, the museum features many Canadian military history exhibits. • For info visit hamilton.ca //610 York Blvd.

HAMILTON MUSEUM OF STEAM & TECHNOLOGY • Family Day: Trains, Trains and more Trains. A drop-in activity centre all about trains. Feb. 17, 12-4pm. • STEAM Saturdays Kids Workshop.

Each month focuses on a different subject in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math. Feb. 22, 10am-12pm. \$25. Pre-registration is required. • For more info visit hamilton.ca/museums //900 Woodward Ave. 905.546.4797

H.M.C.S. HAIDA NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE • For info visit hmcshaida.com. //Pier 9, 658 Catharine St. N.

IRELAND HOUSE • For info and tickets visit museumsofburlington.ca. //Ireland House Museum, 2168 Guelph Line **JOSEPH BRANT MUSEUM** • Giants, Dragons & Unicorns: The World of Mythic Creatures. Feb. 1-May 10. • For info and tickets visit museumsof-burlington.ca. //1240 North Shore Blvd. E.

WESTFIELD HERITAGE VILLAGE • For more info and tickets visit westfieldheritage.ca //Westfield Heritage Village, 1049 Kirkwall Rd., Rockton **WHITEHERN HISTORIC HOUSE & GARDEN** • Family Day Comedy Classics. Tour the McQuesten home as it was in 1939 and enjoy an eye-spy game looking for film and cartoon characters. Feb. 17, noon-4pm. • For info visit hamilton.ca/museums. //41 Jackson St. W., 905.546.2018

COMMUNITY

ALIENATED GRANDPARENTS ANONYMOUS SUPPORT GROUP • We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month year round. We often have guest speakers. Free. //422 North Shore Rd. E., Burl.

ARTS AND CRAFTERNOONS • A crafty happy hour sponsored by Collective Arts. Great tunes. Supplies on hand. Thursdays, 4-7pm. Free. //This Ain't Hollywood, 345 James St. N.

BIZARRE BAZAAR • A Gathering of BDSM/Kink bidders and artisans. You can ask questions and even order a custom item. Plenty of free parking. Door prizes through the day. (Must be present to win), Raffle (need not be present to win. Just put contact info on tickets.) For more info contact info@clubbedge.net. Feb. 8, 11am-4pm. //191 Barton St., Stoney Creek

BURLINGTON MANSION TOASTMASTERS • Gain confidence, leadership skills and learn the art of public speaking. Everyone is welcome and the first three visits are free. Every Wednesday, 7:30-9:30pm. For more info visit mansiontoastmasters.com //Cumis Room, Paletta Mansion, 4250 Lakeshore Rd. E., Burl.

FOOD BANK DONATIONS • An easy way to donate non-perishable items to our local food banks. A 24/7 drop off box is located at 440 York Boulevard, in front of Midas [corner of Locke and York] Half a block east of the Mustard Seed co-op. Donations are delivered to the food banks at Good Shepherd, Mission Services St. Matthew's and Salvation Army, Suggested food items: Baby food, tinned Meat, Peanut butter, cereal, pasta, tomato sauce, pet food. For more info call 905.527.0432 or email strathconaneighboursnet-work@gmail.com

HAALSA FREE PUBLIC TALK • 'From Dumb Brutes to Kissing Cousins: Rewriting Neanderthal Prehistory and Their Relationship to Modern Humans.'- Tristan Carter. Dr. Tristan Carter, Associate Professor of Anthropology at McMaster University, describes how continuing research has affected the story told about our species' closest genetic relative. Details at haal-sa.org. Everyone welcome. Feb. 8, 8pm. //Rm. 1A1, Ewart Angus Centre, McMaster University Children's Hospital bldg., 1200 Main St. W.

HAMILTON INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCE CLUB • Come out to learn and enjoy dances from various cultures. Fridays, 8-11pm. No partner required. \$8 per night, or annual membership available. • Jan. 31: HIFDC's 36th Anniversary Party. Feb. 14: Valentine's Party. • For more info visit hamiltonfolkdance.ca //St. Paul's Anglican Church, corner of King St. W. and Haddon Ave., Westdale.

HAMILTON NO. 1 TOASTMASTERS • Build confidence, communication & leadership skills. Mondays 7-8:30pm. For info call 905.512.3516, contact hamiltonno1@gmail.com, or visit on facebook: @hamiltonno1 //Downtown YMCA, 79 James St. S. Paddy Cline room.

HAMILTON VIDEO FILMMAKERS • Do you make videos? Want to meet with other Video enthusiasts? Hamilton Video Filmmakers meetings are the first Thursday of every month at 7pm. For info visit hvfm.ca //Knights of Columbus Hall, 222 Queenston Rd.

MENTAL HEALTH RIGHTS COALITION • Need to talk about mental health or addiction issues?

Talk to someone who has been there and has formal training in Peer Support. 11am-4pm, Mon-Thurs, noon-4pm Friday. • 905.545.2525, mental-healthrights.ca //Suite 103-100 Main St. E.

MIDDAY MARAUDERS TOASTMASTERS CLUB • Open to the public, new members welcome. Wednesdays, 12:05-1pm. For info visit toastmasters.org. //Philpott Memorial Church, 84 York Blvd.

MOOD MENDERS SUPPORT SERVICES • Offering coping skills and educational forums for individuals living with Depression or Bipolar Disorder, and their family members or support persons. Featuring guest speakers, facilitated group discussions, and literature on support venues. Find hope and knowledge among peers on your journey to wellness. Free to attend. Second Tuesday of each month 7-9pm @ St. Joseph's Hospital, Charlton Campus, Juravinski Tower, 2nd Floor, Miller Theatre; third Tuesday of every month 2-4pm @ St. Peter's HARRRP, 705 Main St. E., and the fourth Tuesday of each month 2-4pm @ First Pilgrim United Church, 200 Main E. **NAR-ANON MEETING** • Family support group. "Never alone-hope in Hamilton". We carry the message of hope throughout the world to those affected with addition of someone near to them. All welcome. Mondays at 7pm, except holidays. //HARRRP Community Centre-St. Peter's, 705 Main St. E. & St. Clair. St Clair entrance, lower level.

STEEL CITY SWING DANCE • Monthly dance event second Thursday of the month. No experience or partner required. 30-minute beginner lesson at 7pm followed by music and dancing until 10pm. Next date: Feb. 13. \$10. //The Ballroom, 1043 King St. W.

VALENTINE'S DAY OPEN HOUSE • Featuring private tours, prizes, draws and new admission discount. Feb. 14, 1-4pm. For more info call Adele Alfano Director of Community Relations at 905.573.4940. //New Village Retirement Village, 490 Hwy 8, Stoney Creek.

PLANT BASED POTLUCK • Speaker: Dr. Subhas Ganguli, Hamilton gastroenterologist. Topic: What can we do to reduce our risk of cardiovascular disease? Feb. 16, 1pm, Feb. 17, 3pm. • For info visit plantbaseddoctor.ca. //Strata Montessori Adolescent School, 575 Lions Club Rd., Ancaster

SERVE OUR CITY COMMUNITY DINNER • Every Wednesday night at 6pm. Free. //Crossfire Assembly, 458 King St. W. [between Pearl & Locke]

TWISTED STITCHES FIBREARTS GATHERING • Weekly drop-in community stitching circle every Thursday 5-10pm. Coffee, tea, snacks. Details and calendar available on FB [@twistedstitcheshamont](https://www.facebook.com/atwistedstitcheshamont/) //Mud & Suds Craftwerks, 88 Ottawa St. N.

VON CAREGIVER FREE MINI-SEMINAR "CARE-GIVER STRESS AND DEVELOPING SELF CARE" • Feb. 6, 2:30-3:30pm. //Orchard Terrace Retirement Residence, 199 Glover Rd., Stoney Creek. • To reserve call Adele at 905.573.4040 x108.

WEEKLY DROP-IN FOR PWUD • Keeping-Six, Hamilton Harm Reduction Action League welcomes you Tuesdays from 3-5 for food, music, art, discussion, and planning on how to respond to the ongoing Opioid and homelessness crisis. A non-judgmental, peer-run space. Info@keepingsix.org or keepingsix.org. //The AIDS Network, 140 King St. E, Suite 101.

WORKSHOPS

BURLINGTON PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE PUBLIC EDUCATION & OUTREACH SERIES • Navigating the Music Industry-A Panel Discussion with Canada's Leading Industry Professionals. Feb. 8, 4-5:30pm. \$20. • Memoir Writing Workshop with Alison Wearing. Feb. 22, 2-4pm. \$30. • Triple-Threat Workshop with Richard Ouzounian & Amanda Nuttal. Auditioning for a show can be one of the hardest parts of musical theatre...if you don't know how to do it. Having talent isn't enough. Being right for the part isn't enough. You've got to find a way to make the people casting the show - whether it's for your school, your community theatre, the Stratford Festival, or even Broadway - think that you are the person they've been looking for all along. Feb. 23, 10am-5pm. \$40. • For info and to register visit burlingtonpac.ca/community/workshops. //440 Locust St. Burl.

viewmag.com

FROST BITES 2020



MIGRANT STORIES

They say “time flies when you are having fun”. But still, I find it astonishing to realize, that it has been five years now, since the very first edition of Frost Bites, the winter “site specific” theatre festival, put on by the same folks who bring us the Hamilton Fringe Festival, every summer.

Noted director Peter Brook, famously said, that all one needed for theatre to occur, was an “empty space, and an audience”. In fact, he used that exact term, *The Empty Space*, as the title of his landmark 1968 book on theatre, which is now a standard text, for anyone studying directing. “An (actor) walks, across an empty space while someone is watching them, and that is all it takes for an act of theatre to be engaged”, is the precise quote, that begins the book. A simple statement perhaps, but it is astonishing

the impact that those few words have had on the world theatre community in the past, fifty two years.

Frost Bites then, for the uninitiated, is a festival of short one act plays, that have been created to be performed in a specific location, that is typically, not a traditional theatre. All of the plays are original, and were written specifically by the theatre creators, who are presenting them, to us.

For 2020, there are seven productions, on offer. They run from five minutes, to 25 minutes in length, and they are repeated multiple times each evening. The audience gathers in a common area, with concessions available, and take a multicoloured flag, which is the admission to a specific show. As a group, the audience gathers waving their flags, as a group guide, escorts you to the location of the performance.

The specific location, where the festival is held, defines the productions, as they are staged in various “found spaces” within a building. Over the years, I have seen productions staged, in a park, in an empty apartment, in a board room, in an art gallery, in a boiler room, and in a public washroom. One of the joys of experiencing the event, is jdiscovering, just where an audience might end up.

Your ticket for the evening, gets you into all of the shows, but I suggest that you get there right at 6:30pm, in order to grab your flag, for the first production. If you time it correctly, it is possible to see most, if not all of the productions, in a single evening. I have found it enjoyable to come back, and see a specific show, more than once, as each distinct



KEY WORDS INCLUDE:

audience watching, changes the experience of it.

This year's festival is centred at the Hamilton Waterfront Trust Centre, on Discovery Drive, right at the foot of John Street, in a modernist architectural jewel, that was built, almost twenty years ago, by the Federal Government for Parks Canada, back in the era of Sheila Copps, as deputy Prime Minister. When it first opened, back in 2003, the building contained a 75 seat theatre, although it was rarely used for live performances.

The seven productions in the 2020 edition of Frost Bites include: Be(e) Right Back & MIXED Theatre Hamilton, with a co-production helmed by Hamilton theatre veterans, playwright Bryan Boodhoo and director Luis Arrojo, bring us *Migrant Stories*, a piece that examines the perspectives of refugees in crisis. Boodoo tells me, “The world has been hit by a world-wide epidemic and Hamilton has become a quarantine camp. Two United Nations officers search the camp and find artifacts, from the twentieth century, that tell the stories that one family takes with them on its journey through Hamilton.”

Chasing Shadows Productions, presents *Elevator Pitch*, a supernatural comedy, set in an actual working elevator, created and performed by Will Gillespie and Susan Robinson, who won the 2019 Hamilton Fringe Audience Choice Award, for their musical, *Diamond in the Rough*, last summer.

According to Gillespie, it is about, “Greed. Ambition. Fish. *Elevator Pitch* is a lively little piece of immersive theatre that is sure to “lift your spirits.” Part *Twilight Zone* episode, part sketch comedy, it's a short, fun ride. Sometimes you can't tell up from down. Never mind the corporate ladder. Why not take the elevator?”

Hamilton-based DeVision, a primarily feminist collective of diverse artists, exploring intersectionality in feminism (racially, gender diversity) includes former

Frost Bites artists Claudia Spadafora and Jamie Milay Kasiana. Their twenty minute production is called, *Key Words Include:*, and features a cast of four. It is described as, “a performance installation piece that combines theatre, poetry, sound and visual art”. It examines the consumption and commodification of feminine bodies, and there is a “mature content” warning on this production. I would expect something quite fearless, that provokes thought and much discussion, based upon last year's production in the festival.

Flint & Steel Productions, led by previous Hamilton Fringe artist and local ALERT alumna Annalee Flint, adds the play, *amo, amas, amat*, performed by Flint with actor Kyle Guglielmo. “It's about poetry, so I would say this is a piece for people who are interested in language and words, how they work together, the similarities and differences between languages, and how this influences literature and vice-versa. What is written about more often than love? How many ways have people come up to describe it? We want to take audiences on a journey with us, to have them feel as we feel.”

Open Heart, who has been involved in multiple Frost Bites festivals, is led by established designer/director Kelly Wolf. They are presenting, *Conversations Around the Table*, a work about homelessness, that features Donna Akrey, Kit Simmons, and Christopher Stanton. “I want the audience to see this and think differently, challenge their judgement of others. It's the only piece in the festival, where the audience is outside. We will provide you with hot chocolate and mittens if you have forgotten yours. I know, its cold, but that's the point really. No one is going to make you go outside to see this, but If you really are freezing, you just have to ask yourself, if I can't stand out there for 15 mins, what would it be like to spend a night outside? What would make someone choose that?”. This I think will be an important production, with something important to say to Hamiltonians.

Jade Forest Productions led by emerging theatre artist Jessica



CONVERSATIONS AROUND THE TABLE

Marshall, based in Cayuga. They give us a short musical presentation called *Seasons*, featuring musicians Thomas Kember and Ian Cognito, from the band 12CC. “Imagine a world where climate change has destroyed all ecosystems. A future where nature no longer exists and must be manufactured. Through live, original music and elegant sceneries, this piece encourages audiences to reflect on the impending repercussions of the climate crisis.”

Toronto-based Okay Grace Productions, returning Hamilton Fringe artist and Canadian Comedy Award nominee, Grace Smith, has written *The Smartest Person in the Room*, a comedic two hander about “imposter syndrome”, that is performed by Smith, with Jordan Kuzyk. “The sneaking suspicion that you are an intellectual sham. Paranoia that others will discover you are a pretender. Repeated failure to believe your success is earned. Unless, of course, it isn't earned. Unless you cheated and lied. That would make you an actual imposter, wouldn't it?”

Frost Bites, is produced each year by ALERT participants, a group of young people who are being trained in the skills of theatrical production. This year they are, Nathalie Cortes, Olivia Hopen, Matthew Lazaris-Bruner, Micaela Morales, Rachel Offer, and Ryan Percival, and you will see them filling multiple roles during the festival.

So there you have it folks! Everything you need to know to experience, one of the most unique and fulfilling theatrical “happenings”, on the local scene. I confess to being a huge fan of this event, and I look forward to it every year. Which one of these productions will resonate with you, constant reader? There is only one way to find out! **V**

FROST BITES 2020

A winter festival of “site specific theatre”

Presented by the Hamilton Fringe, at Hamilton Waterfront Trust Centre (57 Discovery Drive)

January 30 to

February 2, 2020

Doors open at 6:30

Performances run

continuously from

7:00pm to 10:00pm

No performance is longer than 20 minutes and each show plays multiple times a night

Tickets:

www.hamiltonfringe.ca or at the door.



AMO, AMAS, AMAT,



THE SMARTEST PERSON IN THE ROOM

THE GENTLEMEN



With *The Gentlemen*, writer and director Guy Ritchie seems to have a chip on his shoulder. He may be trying to prove that he can still go back to his crime thriller comedy roots like his classic films *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* or *Snatch* after working on blockbusters such as *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword* and *Aladdin*. Also, Ritchie himself has been the target of invasive paparazzi press over the years so he puts in some truly hateful tabloid journalists in *The Gentlemen* to be

mercilessly mocked. Does Ritchie manage to go back to his badass roots? Mostly, sorta. *The Gentlemen* isn't as good as his early movies but, to be fair, not much is.

This is still a funny ride full of zingers, bullets, and hollering. It's even made by Miramax, the production house behind multiple crime dramas in the '90s. It's never explained who the titular gentlemen are and could be a reference to Mickey trying go respectable or really anybody. Hell, the

movie could have been called *Guy Ritchie Finally Makes Another Crime Dramedy After Aladdin* and it would have gotten the point across.

Mickey (Matthew McConaughey) is a producer of marijuana in England but wants to retire so he offers to sell his operation to the smarmy Matthew (Jeremy Strong), despite the objections of Mickey's wife, Rosalind (Michelle Dockery). Mickey has also attracted the attention of a tabloid publisher Big Dave (Eddie Marsan)

and a paparazzi Fletcher (Hugh Grant). Fletcher finds Mickey's assistant, Ray (Charlie Hunnam) and relates a tale of gunfire, betrayal and double crosses as Fletcher tries to blackmail them. Mickey's actions draws attention from all sides, from an up and coming gangster Dry Eye (Henry Golding) and a local Coach (Colin Farrell) who gets caught up in the crazy shenanigans and it's very probable not everyone will make it out in one piece.

Trying to follow the plot is an exercise in futility. As intricately plotted as Ritchie's crime dramas are, it's ultimately irrelevant. The main point is a lot of speeches, snappy dialogue, cool and crazy moments. There're more than a few times that the movie will flat out break with reality for some stylistic flourishes, like when a particularly obscure bit of British slang gets subtitles, or a random music video interlude made by rapping criminals. There's a nice progression of things going wrong throughout the film. A break in to Mickey's pot growing operation it starts off as the crooks are laughing at one guy and then more bruisers walk in until it gets crazy. One awesome bit goes extreme with some graphic puking while Mickey does a super-intense rant as the music swells, making the moment both very silly and freaky. A scene with Ray confronting a bunch of junkies bounces between witty and extremely menacing leading to Ray being incredibly

irritated as he chases some punk kids who snapped pictures on their phone.

McConaughey basically plays the smartest, coolest and most vicious guy around, a type he has done a lot of but he has it down solidly. Hunnam as the second in command has a lot of funny and badass moments. Ray spends a chunk of the movie listening to Fletcher natter on and Hunnam shows that Ray is mostly annoyed being stuck with this guy. Dockery as the wife gets to do a bit more than generally sidelined ladies are in Ritchie's crime movies but she is still eventually victimized to make the hero feel bad. Marsan and Strong as the two heavies growl with conviction whenever they're around. The crazier threat is Golding's crook who is described as "a millennial firework" and he gets to be nasty. The best random side character is Farrell as the Coach who gets stuck doing grunt work. Farrell is straight up hilarious and has lots of amazing moments, like a whole bit he goes off about a guy named Phuc telling him "Okay, Phuc calm the Phuc down!" and a scene where he gets a one on one with Big Dave is jaw droppingly shocking. **V**

The Gentlemen

★★★★☆

Director: Guy Ritchie

Starring: Matthew

McConaughey, Charlie Hunnam,

Michelle Dockery, Jeremy Strong,

Lyne Renee, Colin Farrell, and

Henry Golding



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MOVIES&SHOWTIMES

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THE WESTDALE
1014 King St. W., Hamilton.
905.577.007 *thewestdale.ca*

JOJO RABBIT (PG) SAT,TUE,THURS 9:30
LITTLE WOMEN (PG) FRI-THURS 3:30, 6:30
PARASITE (R) FRI,SUN,MON,WED 9:30
THE WIZARD OF OZ (PG) SAT-SUN 1:00

CINE STARZ UPPER CANADA PLACE
460 Brant, Burlington *cinestarz.ca*

ABOMINABLE (G) FRI-SUN 11:00, 1:40, 3:00
ARCTIC DOGS (G) FRI-SUN 11:00, 3:35
A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD (PG)
FRI-SUN 11:00, 1:00, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30; MON-THURS 1:00, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40
BOMBSHELL (14A) FRI 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:35; SAT 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 9:35; SUN 1:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:35; MON-THURS 3:00, 5:00, 7:20, 9:20
EL FELOS (PG) SAT 7:00
FORD V FERRARI (PG) FRI-SUN 11:00, 9:10; MON-THURS 1:00, 7:00
GOOD LIAR (14A) FRI 5:30, 9:30; SAT-SUN 5:30, 7:30, 9:30; MON-THURS 1:00, 7:45, 9:40
JOJO RABBIT (PG) FRI-THURS 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30
PLAYING WITH FIRE (G) FRI-SUN11:10; MON-THURS 3:30-5:30
SPIES IN DISGUISE (PG) FRI-SUN 11:00, 1:00, 3:00, 5:00, 7:35, 9:00; MON-THURS 1:00, 3:00, 5:00
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (PG) FRI 1:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:30; MON-THURS 1:00, 3:00, 5:15, 7:00, 9:00

LANDMARK CINEMAS 6 JACKSON SQUARE
2 King St. W., Hamilton
905.526.8131 *landmarkcinemas.com*

BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (14A) FRI,TUE 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; SAT-SUN 10:15, 1:05, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; MON,WED 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; THURS 4:00, 7:00, 10:10
DOOLITTLE (PG) FRI,MON,WED 4:15, 7:15, 10:15; FRI 1:15; SAT-SUN 10:05, 1:20, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15; TUE 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15; THURS 4:15, 7:20, 10:20
THE GENTLEMEN (14A) FRI,TUE 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; SAT-SUN 10:00, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30; MON,WED-THURS 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL (PG) FRI 12:50, 3:50,

6:50, 9:50; SAT-SUN 10:10, 12:55, 3:50, 6:45, 9:50; MON,WED 3:50, 6:45, 9:50; TUE 12:50, 3:50, 6:45, 9:50; THURS 3:50, 6:45, 10:00
1917 (14A) FRI,TUE 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30; SAT-SUN 10:30, 12:45, 3:40, 6:40, 9:30; MON,WED 3:40, 6:40, 9:30; THURS 3:40, 6:30, 9:30
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (PG)
FRI,TUE 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:40; SAT-SUN 10:20, 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:40; MON,WED 3:30, 6:30, 9:40; THURS 3:30

PLAYHOUSE CINEMA
177 Sherman Ave. N., Hamilton.
905.545.8888 *playhousecinema.com*

BOMBSHELL (14A) FRI 9:00; SAT 4:40; SUN 6:45
NATIONAL THEATRE LIVE: PRESENT LAUGHTER (I) SAT-SUN 1:00
NOMAD: IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF BRUCE CHATWIN (I) SAT 7:00
PARASITE (I) MON 6:30; TUE 9:00; WED 4:20
2020 OSCAR NOMINATED ANIMATED SHORT FILMS (I) FRI,WED 7:00; SAT 8:55; SUN 4:45, 9:05; MON 9:00; TUE 5:00; THURS 4:45
2020 OSCAR NOMINATED LIVE ACTION SHORT FILMS (I) WED 2:00, 9:00; THURS 6:45
2020 OSCAR NOMINATED DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILMS (I) MON 4:30; TUE 7:00

SILVERCITY ANCASTER
771 Golf Links Rd., Ancaster.
905.304.5888 *cineplex.com*

BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (14A) FRI-WED 1:05, 3:55, 6:45, 9:50; THURS 12:50, 3:40, 6:45, 9:35
BIRDS OF PREY (14A) THURS 6:30, 9:15
BIRDS OF PREY (AND THE FANTABULOUS EMANCIPATION OF ONE HARLEY QUINN): THE IMAX 2D EXPERIENCE (14A) THURS 7:00, 9:45
DOOLITTLE (PG) FRI-THURS 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10
THE GENTLEMEN (14A) FRI-THURS 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
THE GERSHWINS' PORGY AND BESS (14A) SAT 1:05
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL (PG) FRI-THURS 1:30, 4:30
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL 3D (PG) FRI-THURS 7:20, 10:05
JUST MERCY (PG) FRI,SUN-WED 12:40, 3:40, 6:45, 10:00; SAT 12:50, 3:55, 6:30, 9:35; THURS 12:40, 3:40

swagger and banter keep everything afloat. That chemistry isn't any less potent. Lawrence especially is as hilarious as ever, his frustrated comic foil act never gets old. Or rather, he finds so much more material in getting old. (R.S.)

DOLITTLE
★★☆☆☆
(Directed by Stephen Gaghan, runs 100)
Dolittle marks Robert Downey Jr.'s shaky first steps out of Marvel's stable. The star looks listless in the bloated CG adventure that shouldn't prove to be much of a franchise starter. Like Richard Fleischer's musical starring Rex Harrison, Gaghan's adaptation maintains the Victorian setting of Hugh Lofting's children's novels about a veterinarian who can talk to animals. It's also another overpriced, troubled production for rubbernecking audiences to gawk at. The film's rumoured studio tinkering and reshoots show in the dour moments where Downey seems stranded, testing out a strange Scottish accent and enduring unfunny slapstick

opposite a cast of animated co-stars who never seem to be sharing the same space with him. Yet those seeking a Cats-like anti-classic will be disappointed by the grey colour palette, thinly sketched palace intrigue and sombre tone. Neither a success nor a proper studio disaster, Dolittle is mostly just a bore. (A.M.)

THE GENTLEMEN
★★☆☆☆
(Directed by Guy Ritchie, runs 113)
The Gentlemen marks writer/director Ritchie's return to the laddish crime comedy genre after more than a decade... and it's all bollocks, innit. Fans of Lock, Stock And Two Smoking Barrels, Snatch and RocknRolla will surely be satisfied with another round of frenzied chases through London, swaggering geezer standoffs peppered with racist insults and the odd comical death; the rest of us will continue to wonder why people get so worked up about these dopey riffs on old gangster clichés. Told mostly in flashbacks by tabloid investigative journalist

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KNIVES OUT (PG) FRI-WED 12:40, 3:35, 6:30, 9:35; THURS 12:40, 3:35, 6:30, 9:30
THE LAST FULL MEASURE (14A) FRI,SUN-WED 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; SAT 7:00, 9:40; THURS 1:00, 4:00
LITTLE WOMEN (G) FRI-THURS 12:50, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55
1917 (14A) THURS 6:40, 9:25
1917: THE IMAX 2D EXPERIENCE (14A) FRI-WED 1:20, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45; THURS 1:20, 4:15
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (PG)
FRI-THURS 12:45, 3:50, 6:55
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER 3D (PG)
FRI-THURS 10:00

SILVERCITY BURLINGTON
1250 Brant, Burlington
905.319.8677 *cineplex.com*

ARCTIC DOGS (G) SAT 11:00
BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (14A) FRI-SUN 12:05, 3:10, 6:20, 9:40; MON-THURS 7:00, 10:00
BIRDS OF PREY (14A) THURS 6:45, 7:15, 9:30, 10:00
DOOLITTLE (PG) FRI-SUN 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25; MON-THURS 7:30, 10:10
FROZEN II (G) FRI,SUN 12:55, 3:55, 6:55; SAT 11:30, 12:50, 3:55, 6:55; MON-WED 6:55
THE GENTLEMEN (14A) FRI-SUN 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05; MON-WED 7:20, 10:05; THURS 1:10, 7:20, 10:05
THE GERSHWINS' PORGY AND BESS (14A) SAT 12:55
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL (PG) FRI-SUN 12:00, 3:30
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL 3D (PG) FRI-THURS 6:30, 9:30
JUST MERCY (PG) FRI,SUN 12:05, 3:25, 6:40, 9:50; SAT 6:15, 9:25; MON-WED 6:45, 9:50; THURS 6:35, 9:50
KNIVES OUT (PG) FRI,SUN 12:50, 3:45, 6:50, 10:00; SAT 2:10, 3:45, 6:50, 10:00; MON-THURS 6:50, 10:00; THURS 1:00
LITTLE WOMEN (G) FRI-SUN 12:15, 3:20, 6:35, 9:45; MON-THURS 6:40, 9:45
1917 (14A) FRI-SUN 12:20, 3:15, 6:25, 9:25; MON-WED 7:10, 10:00; THURS 1:15, 7:10, 10:00
PARASITE (R) FRI,SUN 12:40, 3:40, 6:45, 9:55; SAT 12:40, 3:40, 6:45, 9:50; MON-WED 6:35, 9:55; THURS 6:55, 9:55
THE RHYTHM SECTION (PG) FRI-SUN 2:00, 4:45,

7:40, 10:15; MON-THURS 7:40, 10:15; THURS 1:00
THE TURNING (14A) FRI,SUN 12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30; SAT 11:55, 1:25, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30; MON-WED 7:35, 10:00
UNDERWATER (14A) FRI-WED 9:35

SILVERCITY MOUNTAIN
795 Paramount Dr., Hamilton
905.560.0239 *cineplex.com*

ARCTIC DOGS (G) SAT 11:00
BAD BOYS FOR LIFE (14A) FRI-SAT 12:50, 1:20, 3:50, 4:20, 6:50, 7:20, 9:50, 10:20; SUN 12:50, 1:20, 3:50, 6:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40, 10:10; MON-WED 6:40, 7:10, 9:30, 10:00; THURS 1:10, 1:40, 4:00, 4:30, 7:00, 10:00
BIRDS OF PREY (14A) THURS 6:55, 7:25, 9:45, 10:15
DOOLITTLE (PG) FRI-SAT 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25; SAT 10:30; SUN 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15; MON-WED 6:35, 9:05; THURS 1:45, 4:10, 6:35, 9:05
FORD V FERRARI (PG) FRI-SAT,MON-WED 9:25
FROZEN II (G) FRI,SUN 1:10, 3:55, 6:45; SAT 11:10, 1:40, 4:10, 6:45; MON-WED 6:45; THURS 1:55, 4:20, 6:45
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL (PG) FRI-SUN 1:00, 4:00; THURS 1:00, 3:45
JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL 3D (PG) FRI-SAT 7:10, 10:00; SUN 7:05, 9:50; MON-WED 7:00, 9:45; THURS 6:40, 9:25
LIKE A BOSS (14A) FRI-THURS 9:15
1917 (14A) FRI-SAT 1:35, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10; SUN 1:35, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; MON-WED 6:50, 9:40; THURS 1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40
THE RHYTHM SECTION (PG) FRI,SUN 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; SAT 11:30, 2:05, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15; MON-WED 7:20, 9:55; THURS 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
SPIES IN DISGUISE (PG) FRI 1:30, 4:10, 6:55; SAT 11:20, 1:50, 4:25, 6:55; SUN 12:30, 2:50, 5:15; MON-WED 6:55; THURS 2:10, 4:35
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER (PG)
FRI-SUN 12:40, 3:45, 7:00; MON-WED 6:30; THURS 3:20, 6:30
STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER 3D (PG)
FRI-SUN 10:05; MON-THURS 9:35
THE SUPER BOWL (I) SUN 5:30
THE TURNING (14A) FRI-SAT 12:35, 2:55, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30; SUN 12:45, 3:10, 7:40, 9:55; MON-WED 7:30, 9:50; THURS 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50

MINI REVIEWS

BAD BOYS FOR LIFE
★★★★☆
(Directed by Adil El Arbi, Bilall Fallah, runs 124)
Bad Boys For Life recreates what was special in the movies before it while allowing for an evolution in both the characters and the bombastic action franchise's overall style. Martin Lawrence's Marcus is now a grandpa. Will Smith's Mike is a playboy who's aging out. There's a fascinating vulnerability to these guys as they approach retirement age that I never expected to see; moments where these ride-or-die partners come face to face with their own legacy and mortality. In those moments, Bad Boys For Life's relationship to its predecessors becomes what The Irishman is to Goodfellas and Casino. No, Bad Boys has not reached Scorsese heights. The franchise is vulgar, ridiculous and frequently stupid. But the original was also the first mainstream studio action movie to pair two Black leads and let their

LIKE A BOSS
★★★★☆
(Directed by Miguel Arteta, runs 83)
Like A Boss has Salma Hayek swooping in like the Wicked Witch, sporting bronzer, auburn hair and prosthetic teeth. Her Claire Luna owns a cosmetic empire, and she wants to buy a stake in a fledgling, debt-ridden boutique makeup company run by Mia (Tiffany Haddish) and Mel (Rose Byrne), who are business partners and BFFs. But Claire has some curious terms: if Mia and Mel can't remain friends, she gets controlling share in their company. Those are the stakes in this adult-oriented comedy about female entrepreneurs, because evidently women in business apply some poison apple/cursed spindle, fairy-tale logic to contract negotiations. That's just one in many ways this faux feminist romp insults its audience's intelligence and wastes its talented cast. Byrne and Haddish are hilarious actors who broke out in the raunchy bachelorette comedies,

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[EARTH TALK]

Dear EarthTalk: Are climate change and other environmental issues affecting or informing mainstream (Wall Street) investment strategies, or is sustainability-oriented investing still just a do-gooder niche? —Mary S.

It wasn't long ago that so-called "triple bottom line" investing — factoring in not just financial returns but also social and environmental impacts — was purely the domain of a small set of outliers willing to forego profits for the sake of proving that investing could be used as a tool to drive change. Just two decades ago, the only real way to have an eco-friendly investment portfolio would be to put your money with one of a handful of mutual funds focused on "Socially Responsible Investing" (SRI) — or research and invest in often speculative individual "green" companies directly.

But in intervening years, many investors' perspectives have changed. It turns out that "green" investments are not only safer than their conventional counterparts given the actuarial risks of rampant climate change, but they also tend to perform better. Generation Investment Management (GIM), founded in 2004 by former VP Al Gore and ex-Goldman Sachs exec David Blood, was one of the first well-heeled firms devoted exclusively to sustainable investing — and shocked analysts 10 years in by how profitable they were. GIM's 12.1 percent annual average increase over its first decade ranked it second in profitability of over 200 competitors, including many of the biggest names in conventional investing. The lesson is that those companies prepared for and even poised to profit from a warmer future are most likely to succeed.

A 2019 report by BlackRock, the world's largest investment firm with more than \$7 trillion under management, confirms what GIM's founders claimed all along: Going green pays. Not only has funding/investment in the environmental, social and governance (ESG) space almost doubled over the last five years, but these investments outperformed non-ESG bets overall. ESG-focused equity benchmarks in the U.S. yielded an annual return of 14.5 percent, compared with 14.4 percent for non-ESG investments. Meanwhile, globally ESG-based investments also bested non-ESG antes 8.1 percent to 7.7 percent.

The firm plans to launch new active and passively-managed SRI-based funds in the short term and will look into other ways to align the rest of its investments according to its investors' increasingly pro-environment values.

Environmental advocates are glad to hear about BlackRock's plans, especially given the need for the private sector to step in and take an active role in carbon drawdown in lieu of federal action. Ben Cushing of the non-profit Sierra Club considers BlackRock's shift "a major step in the right direction and a testament to the power of public pressure calling for climate action."

But he would like to see BlackRock — still the world's largest investor in coal, oil, and gas — go a giant step further and divest entirely from fossil fuels. "BlackRock should expand on its commitments and other financial institutions should follow suit."

EarthTalk® is produced by Roddy Scheer & Doug Moss for the 501(c)3 nonprofit EarthTalk. See more at <https://emagazine.com>.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Bridesmaids and Girls Trip, respectively. Pairing them is an inspired choice. Throwing in Pose's Billy Porter as their dedicated employee is divine. But the plot doesn't make any sense. The script doesn't have to have a clue what to do with this movie, which drags all the talented people gathered around it to hideous new lows. (R.S.)

LITTLE WOMEN

★★★★☆

(Directed by Greta Gerwig, runs 135) Little Women isn't just another adaptation of Louis May Alcott's beloved novel. Recognizing that the novel's Jo March (Saoirse Ronan) is herself an aspiring scribe, writer/director Gerwig has made the movie self-reflexive, bookending the narrative to tell the tale about how Alcott's novel was published. She also plays around with chronology so that we see the March siblings - Jo, aspiring artist Amy (Florence Pugh, stealing every scene she's in), homemaker Meg (Emma Watson) and introverted, piano-playing Beth (Eliza Scanlen) - as adults before we see them as children. The psychologically weighty flashbacks feel true to the way memories work. What emerges isn't a cozy, sentimental movie about the Sisterhood Of The Travelling Petticoats (although both the costumes and cinematography are impeccable), but a fierce, angry look at the constraints on women during Alcott's era - and, of course, our own. (G.S.)

1917

★★★★☆

(Directed by Sam Mendes, runs 119) 1917 is the filmmaking answer to "who can hold their breath the longest?" Mendes and cinematographer Roger Deakins's glorified First World War film is a 24-hour odyssey shot with invisible edits to mimic a single take. The difficulty and technical savvy in mapping out such a movie doesn't serve storytelling so much as it feeds a filmmaker's ego. The decathlon through the trenches opens with two soldiers, Blake (Dean-Charles Chapman) and Schofield (George MacKay), nudged from a tree-side nap to take on a Saving Private Ryan-lite mission. They must warn a battalion a day's hike away that they're marching toward a deadly ambush, and in the process save Blake's brother (Richard Madden), who is among them. And so begins a long walk among rats through no man's land, booby-trapped tunnels, a desolate farm, a village consumed by hellfire, a rushing river and the German front lines. There are moments that stun and wow, like when Deakins's camera gazes across scorched earth, observing endless stretches of wasted bodies and ammunition. But what comes across here is less an immersive war story like Spielberg's Private

Ryan and more the exhausting effort to create an immersive experience. You're paying attention to all the work that Mendes, Deakins and their stars Chapman and MacKay are putting in to hit their marks and win accolades. The story about soldiers surviving war feels like a casualty. Some subtitles. (R.S.)

SPIES IN DISGUISE

★★★★☆

(Directed by Troy Quane, Nick Bruno, runs 102) Spies In Disguise is an animated movie with Tom Holland voicing a Q-like character to Will Smith's debonair super spy, Lance Sterling. While Lance is hoping his gadgets explode and maim bad guys, Holland's Walter Beckett looks for less violent methods. He invents a pen that alternately sprays giant sticky silly string, tosses blankets or projects cute cats to stall the baddies. And he also concocts a potion that traps Smith's Lance in a pigeon's body, which is the absurd premise that this sufficiently distracting and harmless kids entertainment is built upon. Slightly more absurd than that is hearing DJ Khaled's voice (as an agency sidekick) in a kids' cartoon. The movie's pat underlying message about gentler ways to handle conflict doesn't quite land. And the chemistry between Smith's and Holland's characters feels like it's recycling what the latter had with Robert Downey Jr. in the Marvel movies to diminishing returns. But Spies In Disguise is buoyant, zippy and pleasing to look at. With all the glitter and rainbow weaponry at Beckett's disposal, the movie doesn't want for bright colours. (R.S.)

STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER

★★★★☆

(Directed by J.J. Abrams, runs 142) Star Wars: The Rise Of Skywalker brings George Lucas's 42-year-old story to a conclusive end, re-staging the same stakes that were in play at the climax of 1983's Return Of The Jedi and scaling them up to IMAX proportions, benefitting from 36 years of technological advances. Director/co-writer Abrams, who brought Star Wars back to life in 2015 with The Force Awakens, rolls back some of the most daring changes of Rian Johnson's The Last Jedi but also knits George Lucas's patchwork mythology into a story about generations of people who seem doomed to endure the same events over and over again, setting up an ending for the entire narrative that feels both earned and faithful - and re-creating something we'd thought lost in a flurry of digital noise and wonky obsessions. It's not as daring as Johnson's film, and that's a little disappointing, but neither is it as floundering and patchy as last year's Solo. It's a proper Star Wars movie. That'll do. Some subtitles. (N.W.)

BY A. MUREDDA, R. SIMONPILLAI, G. SUMI, N. WILNER

JANUARY 30 — FEBRUARY 5, 2020 VIEW

♈ARIES (March 21–April 19): My favourite ancient Greek philosopher was the rascal Diogenes. As a joke, he carried around a lantern during the daytime, proclaiming, “I am just looking for an honest man.” When Alexander the Great, the most powerful man in the world, came to meet Diogenes while he was relaxing outside and asked him if he needed any favours done, he replied, “Yeah, stop blocking my sunlight.” As for Plato, Diogenes complained that the famous philosopher talked too damn much and misinterpreted the teachings of Socrates. I encourage you to borrow some of Diogenes’ attitude in the coming weeks. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, it’ll be healing for you to experiment with being brassy, saucy, and sassy. Emphasize what makes you most unique, independent, and self-expressive.

♉TAURUS (April 20–May 20): Taurus author Anthony Trollope (1815–1882) published his first novel at age 30. During the next 37 years, he completed 48 additional novels and 18 works of nonfiction. Critics liked his work well enough, but were suspicious of his prodigious productivity. When they discovered that one of Trollope’s motivations for writing was to make money, they disapproved. Then they found out that Trollope kept a watch nearby as he worked, determined to generate 250 words every 15 minutes. The critics hated that even worse. Creative artists are supposed to court inspiration, not adhere to a schedule — at least according to the critics. But I approve of and recommend Trollope-like behaviour for you in the coming weeks, Taurus. Cosmic forces will be on your side if you do.

♊GEMINI (May 21–June 20): In accordance with the astrological indicators, I invite you to rise and soar and glide during the coming weeks. I encourage you to expand and enlarge and amplify. Don’t wait around hoping to be asked to explore and experiment and improvise — just do those things. It’s high time for you to enjoy stirring quests and research projects and missions dedicated to discovery. Be a fun-loving pioneer. Sample the joys of being a maverick and outlier.

♋CANCER (June 21–July 22): I love living in the material world. Its crazy-making demands and exhilarating rewards are endlessly entertaining. Despite having been born as a fantasy-prone, overly sensitive Cancerian, I’ve become fairly earthy and well-grounded. I have a good job, a nice house, a smart wife, and an interesting daughter. On the other hand, I also love living in the soul’s realm. I have remembered and recorded an average of three dreams per night for many years. Although I don’t take drugs, I cultivate alternate states of consciousness through meditation, prayer, and ritual. I’ve long been a student of depth psychology, which has trained me to be as focused on my soul as my ego. In accordance with current astrological omens, my fellow Cancerian, I urge you to hang out more than usual in the soul’s realm during the coming weeks.

♌LEO (July 23–Aug. 22): Can I talk you into being more tender and open-hearted toward the people who care for you? I don’t mean to imply that you are currently too hard and closed. But all of us can benefit from enhancing our receptivity, and the coming weeks will be prime time for you Leos to do just that. I think you’ll find it easier than usual to deepen your listening skills and intensify your sensitivity. You’ll have an acute intuitive grasp of the fact that you can earn yourself huge blessings by expressing love and compassion in very practical ways.

♍VIRGO (Aug. 23–Sept. 22): All of us are in service to someone or something — to certain people or ideas or situations. We provide them with help or energy or mirroring or love. We are dutiful in attending to their needs and wants. For some of us, our service feels like a burden. It’s grating or humbling or inconvenient, or all of the above. For others of us, being of service is fulfilling, even joyful. We find a rich sense of purpose in our devotion to a higher cause or deeper

calling beyond our selfish concerns. Among the 12 signs of the zodiac, you Virgos are more likely than most to carry out the latter kind of service. I bring these thoughts to your attention because the coming weeks will be an excellent time to re-evaluate, reconfigure, and reinvigorate your own service.

♎LIBRA (Sept. 23–Oct. 22): Author David Markson imagined what it would be like to write a novel that lacked conflicts or confrontations — in other words, a novel unlike any ever created. Libran author Ursula Le Guin also fantasized about stories with plots that weren’t driven by strife and struggle. Since many of us are addicted to entertainment that depends on discord to be interesting, we might find it hard to believe Markson’s and Le Guin’s dream would ever happen. But I’m pleased to inform you, Libra, that your life in the coming weeks may be exactly like that: a fascinating adventure with few hassles and wrangles.

♏SCORPIO (Oct. 23–Nov. 21): According to Scorpio painter Georgia O’Keeffe, success is irrelevant. The most crucial life-long effort that anyone can be devoted to is “making your unknown known.” Did she mean making your unknown known to yourself? Or making your unknown known to other people? Or both? According to my analysis of the astrological omens, the coming weeks will be a favorable time for you to do both. So I hope you will tease out your best and biggest mysteries from their hiding places. Give them expression.

♐SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22–Dec. 21): You Sagittarians have a talent for burning bridges that really do need to be burned. Your intuition often guides you to assess when the time is ripe to withdraw from connections that no longer benefit you. On the other hand, you sometimes burn bridges prematurely. You decide that they are in such disrepair that they’re of no use to you, even though it might serve your ultimate interests to fix them. I offer these thoughts as a preface for my advice: 1. Refurbish rather than burn a certain bridge you’re a bit disenchanted with. 2. Build at least one new bridge that will be valuable in the future.

♑CAPRICORN (Dec. 22–Jan. 19): The shape of the planets’ orbits around the sun is elliptical, not circular. Capricorn astronomer Johannes Kepler (1571–1630) was the first person to figure this out. He didn’t like it. He really wanted the orbits to be circular. That would have been more satisfying to his aesthetic and spiritual sensibilities. Explaining the arduous labour he did to arrive at his conclusion, he wrote, “Take pity on me, for I have repeated these calculations seventy times.” In the big picture of our understanding of the universe, of course, his discovery was felicitous. It’s not a problem that the orbits are elliptical, merely the truth. In the coming weeks, Capricorn, I foresee you engaging in a process that’s metaphorically comparable to Kepler’s. Hard work will yield useful, if unexpected results.

♒AQUARIUS (Jan. 20–Feb. 18): Please don’t imitate or repeat yourself in the coming weeks. Refrain from relying on formulas that have worked for you before. Resolve to either ignore or rebel against your past as you dream up fresh gambits and adventures. Treat your whole life like an improvisatory game that has just one purpose: to attract and stir up useful novelty. If you do these things, Aquarius, I can practically guarantee that you will win the game.

♓PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20): Poet Robert Bly believes that each of us has a special genius, and the key to understanding and fully activating that genius is in our core wound. In other words, the part of us that got hurt the worst is potentially the generative source of the best gifts we have to give. Do you know where that is in yourself: the wound that could be the source of your blessing? Now is a great time to investigate this tantalizing mystery. **V**

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