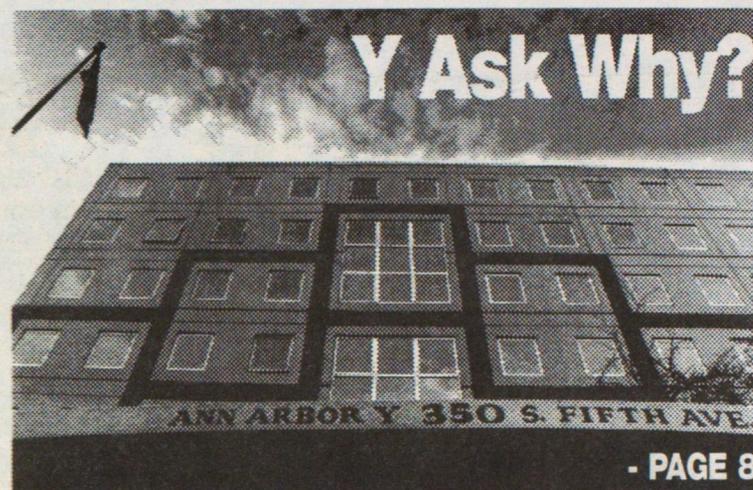


AGENDA

ANN ARBOR'S ALTERNATIVE NEWSMONTHLY



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PHOTO: JEFFREY DILLMAN

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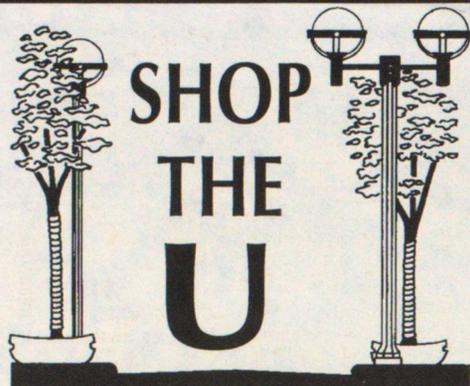
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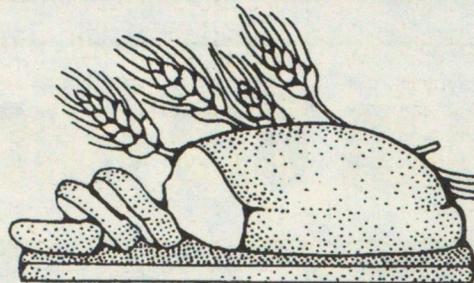
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letters

AGENDA is interested in receiving letters from readers. Please keep them short and include your name and phone number (not for publication). Send letters to: AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Review Clarifies Feminist Cosmology

Dear Mr. Arwulf Arwulf,

Clayton Ashleman sent me a copy of the December, 1994 edition of AGENDA with your interview in it...reading it thru, it turned a couple pages and "In the beginning...was a very female sea..." hmmm, sounds familiar?!

i want to thank you for your review, i think it's the best "The Great Cosmic Mother" (GCM) has ever received (i sent a copy to my Harper SF editor). i wrote GCM in 1984-85 as some attempted coalition magnet among women's spirituality, ecology, Foucauldian critique, paganism Marxism anti-Fundamentalism (fill in yr ism here) but inevitably HarperCollins' New Age market catalogs took over, GCM has been "channeled" (ha ha) almost exclusively thru this and FemSpirit categories—and i have regretted this to the degree that many serious and potentially interested readers would be turned off by the trendiness (many feminists, in fact, are turned off by the title, which is not my title: i argued against it. "THE FIRST GOD: Rediscovering the Religion of the Earth" was my title).

whatever. i especially appreciate your paragraph on this problem, "Trendification has distorted the common perception of Feminist Cosmology, which has been co-opted and marketed with all the zeal of pop-culture economics." Excellent. Bull's eye. Thank you!

Sustained readership of GCM, and all the other core works you mention, really depends on word of mouth, and breakthru reviews like yours...i have a great belief in Feminist Cosmology as it was begun in the works of Mary Daly, Susan Griffins, Barbara Walker, Marija Gimbutas, Judy Grahn, Jill Johnston, Ti-Grace Atkinson, Z Budapest, Paula Gunn Allen...but our profound seriousness has sometimes seemed buried alive by the NewAge crapola that followed.

You must seek out and read Matilda Joslyn Gage, "WOMAN, CHURCH AND STATE," printed in 1887, *one hundred years* before GCM, to see how relentlessly this can happen. Long out-of-print, Gage was retrieved by a feminist press in the 70s, then disappeared again. To my everlasting shame, i had not read Gage when i wrote GCM. Only now do i realize that all the radical Feminist Cosmology we thought we were beginning in the 70s was begun by Gage and Elizabeth Cady Stanton in her "WOMAN'S BIBLE"...and buried alive over 100 years by the same mental modes and agendas and world forces that have been rapidly defuncting us in the past 20.

you see i Wax Wroth over this process...and this is why i am very grateful for acts of attention and refocussing such as yours.

Do you know The Fifth Estate in Detroit? great paper, excellent group of people (anarchoecofeministsituationist CONSCIOUS & talented). The Fifth Estate, 4632 Second Ave., Detroit, MI 48201—subscription has been

THIS MODERN WORLD by TOM TOMORROW

THE RESPONSE TO GUN VIOLENCE IN THIS COUNTRY IS OFTEN SURREAL...SUCH AS THE N.R.A.'S INSISTENCE, EACH TIME A HEAVILY-ARMED LUNATIC GOES ON A SHOOTING SPREE, THAT GUN CONTROL WOULDN'T HAVE MADE ANY DIFFERENCE...



...OR EVEN JANET RENO'S OUTBURST LAST YEAR, BLAMING THE EPIDEMIC OF VIOLENCE IN AMERICA ON TELEVISION BROADCASTERS... WARNING THEM TO CLEAN UP THEIR PROGRAMMING OR FACE GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION...



...OR THE PROPOSAL OF AN OREGON LEGISLATOR THAT EVERY OREGONIAN BE LEGALLY REQUIRED TO OWN A FIREARM--TO MAKE THAT STATE "TOO DANGEROUS FOR CRIMINALS..."



...IF ONLY THINGS WERE AS SIMPLE AS THE ATTORNEY GENERAL SEEMS TO BELIEVE...HECK, WE'D BE ABLE TO ELIMINATE GUNS--AND ALL OF SOCIETY'S OTHER ILLS-- WITH A FEW SIMPLE F.C.C. REGULATIONS...



TOM TOMORROW © 1-18-95

\$6, they print not always regularly, but are worth supporting. they are an example of the kind of larger alert informed coalition muckwreckers GCM has connected with thru sheer Goodness of the Goddess, etc... and my Irish luck. Once again, Gracias.

Barbara Mor
ARCATA, CA

etcetera

AGENDA is interested in receiving items from you for etcetera. Press clippings, press releases, summaries of local events and any other ideas or suggestions are welcome. Just mail them to: Etcetera Editor, AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Turn Up The Heat

If your rental unit is too cold, it may be time for you to turn up the heat on your landlord in order to enforce your rights regarding heating and weatherization.

State law requires your landlord to provide a heating system which is capable of heating every room to 68 degrees, three feet above the floor when the outside temperature is as low as 10 degrees Fahrenheit. If your home is too cold, you may take the same actions you would take for any other repair problem, including withholding your rent.

For more information, call an Ann Arbor Tenants Union counselor at 763-6876. —from "The Tenants' Voice," a publication of the A2 Tenants Union, Year-End 1994.

Creative Ways to Support A2CDC

The Ann Arbor Community Development Corporation, a non-profit organization working to improve economic conditions for all citizens, asks for your support in the following ways:

Designate all or a portion of your United Way contribution to go to A2CDC. Contact United way to find out how to go about it.

Honor Martin Luther King Day! Buy any books, music or gift certificates at Borders Books on the weekend of Jan. 13-15 and

mention that you would like a portion of your purchase to go to the A2CDC.

On Jan. 15, the Woodland Plaza location of Yogurt & Sandwich will donate 10% of sales to A2CDC. Eat at 2264 S. Main, Ann Arbor that day and help support CDC!

Eyewitness Cuba Reports

Ypsilanti residents Lee and Phil Booth will present two reports on their recent trip to Cuba in January. They were participants in the fourth "Friendshipment" humanitarian aid caravan, organized by Pastors for Peace, in November.

The first talk, sponsored by Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice, will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 pm at the 1st Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Call 663-1870 for more information.

The second talk, entitled "Cuba: The Current Crisis," will be held Wednesday, Jan. 11 from 7:30-9:30 pm in the Koessler Library on the third floor of the Michigan League. In this event, sponsored by the Latin American Solidarity Committee and the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, the Booths will be joined by U-M professors Ivette Perfecto and Frank Thompson. Perfecto and Thompson will address the need to end the economic blockade on Cuba. For more information, call 761-4233.

Military Lets Gay Ruling Stand

The government isn't challenging a court ruling that says the military can't bar gays for merely "coming out," the first time the Clinton administration has not appealed an unfavorable ruling in the case. The Pentagon and the Justice Department allowed a deadline for challenging an appeals court decision to expire.

The case involves Navy sonar operator Keith Meinhold who came out on national TV in 1992. Meinhold had been discharged under old military regulations but a district court ordered his reinstatement three months later.

—from Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Newsletter, Dec., 1994.

Holiday Evergreen Tree Collection

The City of Ann Arbor will collect holiday evergreen trees from the curbside on the normal refuse days from Monday, Jan. 9, through Friday, Jan. 20. Please have all trees out at the curb by 7 am on your refuse day. Remove all stands, ornaments, tinsel and plastic bags.

Holiday trees from Ann Arbor residents may also be left at Swift Run Park, located at E. Ellsworth and Platt Roads, throughout January. After January, residents must take their trees to the City of Ann Arbor Compost Center, 4120 Platt Rd., south of E. Ellsworth Rd., 994-2723.

The collected trees are chipped into mulch or composted. Evergreen mulch will be available at no charge from the City's Compost Center, on a self-load, first-come basis while the supply lasts. For more information, 994-2807.

Ann Arbor MRF on Schedule

Next year, all recyclables and solid waste collected in the city of Ann Arbor and from U-M will be processed at the City's new Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). The \$5.1 million MRF will have a two-phase opening with recyclables accepted in July and all other solid waste added by September.

"We are particularly pleased because the MRF will allow greater recovery of our waste stream and reduce the city's cost of solid waste processing and disposal," says Bryan Weinert, Ann Arbor's manager of resource recovery and waste reduction. "After we recover everything possible from the trash, the remainder will be compacted and shipped in semi-trailers to Browning Ferris Industries' Arbor Hills landfill. This is much more efficient and cost effective than individual trucks making runs to the landfill."

Ann Arbor will own the facility and Resource Recovery, Inc. from Essex, Connecticut will operate it. For more information contact Weinert at Ann Arbor's Solid Waste Department, 994-2807.

—from "Trash Wrap," the quarterly publication of the Washtenaw County Division of Public Works, Nov., 1994.

AGENDA

EDITORS—Ted Sylvester, Phillis Engelbert, Laurie Wechter
ASSOCIATE EDITOR—Eric Jackson
EDITORIAL ASSISTANT—William Harmer
MUSIC EDITOR—William Shea
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20,000 free copies of AGENDA are distributed at the beginning of every month from over 300 locations in the Ann Arbor Metro Area.

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Editor's note: Eqbal Ahmad is a world renowned scholar and an eloquent and powerful political critic and activist. He is currently a Professor of International Relations and Middle East Studies at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts. He earned his Ph.D. in Political Science and Islamic Studies from Princeton University. He has written extensively on the Third World, comparative revolutions, and the foreign policies of the great powers. He was an outspoken opponent of the U.S. war against Indochina and the Gulf War. He is a fellow at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Program for Peace and International Security. He also founded the Transnational Institute in Amsterdam.

Professor Ahmad spoke on Nov. 10, 1994 at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. The event was sponsored by the Palestine Solidarity Committee and co-sponsored by Rackham Student Government, the Arab American Student Association, the Palestine Aid Society, and Solidarity. The text below is abridged from his talk.

Peace in the Middle East: A Lost Opportunity

Eqbal Ahmad

A peace process between Israel and the Arab states is apparently in progress.

It should be a matter of great joy for us to welcome such a development. That's the good news. But I have come to you bearing some bad news. The bad news is that this peace process is so deeply unjust that in the long run it will not produce peace.

I should begin by underlining that those of us who have argued for the last 20 years the centrality of a PLO-Israeli agreement in opening the road to Israeli-Arab peace have proven to be right. For as soon as the chairman of the PLO and the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin had shaken hands on the White House lawn, presided over by President Clinton, the mainstream Arab states began to follow suit and the door to normalization of relations between Israel and the Arab states was opened. By now, the Oslo and Cairo Accords have done what six wars between Arabs and Israelis did not do. The wars of 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, 1982, and even the war of 1990, the Gulf War, did not open the doors of peace between the Arab states and Israel, as the PLO-Israeli accord did. Which really goes to prove that was the central issue.

Today the situation is that Jordan has reached an agreement with Israel; Egypt is at peace with Israel; Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states have announced the end of their commercial boycott of Israel; Tunisia has established an interest section with Israel; Morocco has reached normal relations with Israel; and a large Arab-Middle Eastern economic summit in Casablanca has been attended by Israel, with eight of its cabinet members and 200 of its businessmen. In this short span of time, barely one year since the signing of the Oslo Accord, this is a remarkable progress. Camp David did not achieve this. The Madrid process did not achieve it. Oslo did.

What remains to be achieved is peace between Syria and Lebanon, on the one hand, and Israel on the other. Syria is holding out for terms that I think by and large the Israelis will end up meeting. And the terms appear to be based on the old "land for peace" formula. "You withdraw from conquered territories, you respect the United

Nations Charter and the relevant UN resolutions and we recognize and normalize relations with you."

Assuming that the Syrians and the Lebanese get it all back Israel shall occupy all of Palestine without exception. And whatever the formula for that occupation, the one people that will remain dispossessed—in exile or under occupation, dispersed or subject to continued colonization—will be the very Palestinians whose leadership has opened the door to normalization of relations between Israel and the Arabs.

Treaty, Truce, or Surrender?

The Declaration of Principles, signed between Israel and the PLO, in my view, is not a treaty. Taken together, the Oslo and Cairo agreements do not have the essential attribute of a treaty. The essential attribute of a treaty being that it be an agreement between two or more sovereign entities. It is not a truce either because a truce by definition is a temporary affair, pending the resolution of actual conflict and awaiting of a treaty. So what is it? I think that an objective examination of the Oslo and Cairo accords would lead us to reach one of two conclusions: It is either a surrender, pure and simple, by the PLO to the Israelis; or it falls somewhere between a truce and a treaty.

The most optimistic view we can take is that it is very much less than a treaty and little more than a truce. This optimism would rest on the hope that Israel would invest in these agreements a spirit of reconciliation and offer the Palestinians some incentive to welcome and honor their outcome. Evidence to date belies that hope. So I am at a loss as to why Arafat surrendered the Palestinian future so abjectly to the mercies of Israel. There seemed to me to be no objective reasons for having done that. Nobody in the Arab world at least was seemingly pressuring him to do so. If anybody was trying to pressure him, perhaps it was Egypt and the United States, but even that isn't totally clear. Arafat surrendered in a manner that allowed Israel to achieve its stated goals of peace, recognition, legitimacy, and normalization of relations with the Arab world while the Palestinians did not obtain even their most minimal goal which was to exercise self-determi-

nation and sovereignty over just 29% of historic Palestine.

This is what the final Palestinian demand had rested on. Had it materialized the Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza would constitute 29.6% of Palestine, and Israel would have held 70 percent. Instead Arafat gave it all and lost it all. While denying the Palestinians the exercise of self-determination and attainment of statehood, this peace

The wars of 1948, 1956, 1967, 1973, 1982, and even the war of 1990, the Gulf War, did not open the doors of peace between the Arab states and Israel, as the PLO-Israeli accord did.

offers no end to their exile status, no compensations for their dispossession, no fundamental rights of people, and above all, no respite from further dispossession, colonization, and pauperization. What Oslo and Cairo promise the Palestinian people is a very bleak future indeed.

Autonomy ≠ Sovereignty

Arafat has delivered his people to the mercies of Israel and the United States. Now the question worth asking is: "Is mercy forthcoming?" Tragically, there is no mercy there. What Israel has given the Palestinians in Gaza and Jericho, and may give in the West Bank or portions of the West Bank, is autonomy. And the definition of autonomy is Israel's, not Egypt's, and not Palestinians', and not Americans'.

Please recall Anwar Sadat's negotiations with Israel. He ended the autonomy negotia-

tions on the issue of Israel's definition of autonomy which was that it would apply to people and not to the land under occupation. Under that definition, Palestinians will be completely free to clean out their garbage, register their marriages, run their schools, do nearly everything that has to do with administering people. But they will not have the control of land, or water, or defense, or foreign relations. It is that unique definition of autonomy, one that applies to people and not to land, that applies in the present agreements.

That precisely is the autonomy Mr. Arafat is exercising at the moment in Gaza. He is presiding over 60% of this barren, desert strip. I was there last September. 870,000 Palestinians are living there; they are predominantly refugee families from areas now in Israel. Gaza makes Soweto look like Fifth Avenue. And the other 40% of land serves Gaza's 4,000 Zionist settlers. Palestinians', including Arafat's, entries and exits into Gaza are controlled by Israel. Frankly, I do not care whether Arafat gets out of there or not. But it is truly a scandal that a Palestinian father, residing in Gaza must obtain a permit to visit his sick daughter a few miles across that arbitrary boundary.

Gazan fishing boats are not allowed to fish beyond 12 miles off their coast; the fish along the Gazan coast is greatly polluted yet they have no choice but to eat. Two Scottish-American engineers surveying Gaza for U.S. AID told me that the Israelis had tapped the best aquifers in the Strip, and the native people were using hopelessly polluted semi-drainage water. Gaza's agricultural products have lost their West Bank market. Most Gazan men who had before this agreement jobs in Israel now have lost their jobs. Unemployment in that miserable strip of desert is 50% of the male labor force. I do not wish to go on with the human disaster that Gaza is. The point I am making is that under the Israeli definition of autonomy the Palestinian future, like that of Gaza, is sealed.

Is Israel showing any mercy, since it is occupying all the land and Arafat is administering the people in parts of it? The answer is a resounding "no" and a major scandal. The scandal is the American media, the American government, the Arab governments, and



PHOTO: JEFFREY DILLMAN

of course, the government-controlled Arab media. What is most remarkable, and I have seen this with my own eyes, is that the Israelis are still expropriating Palestinian land after the signing of Oslo and Cairo agreements. I'll give you exact figures. As of the day before yesterday, Nov. 8—310,000 dunums of land have been expropriated since the Oslo accords. Many settlements are being expanded in violation of the promise that the government of Israel gave to the American government in return for receiving a \$10 billion loan, and so far two new settlements, one in Gaza and one in the West Bank, have been established. There was five weeks ago one short story in the New York Times about this. With the exception of the Christian Science Monitor, no newspaper has been publishing these facts; the TV channels are totally mum. It is a human rights and international law scandal of far reaching importance yet the media here suppresses it.

And the media alone is not guilty. Even at the meeting the other day on the Gaza border between Rabin and Arafat, Arafat did not raise the issue of continued Israeli assault on Palestinian land and water. What he is continuously asking for is more money and extension of autonomy to the rest of the occupied people. I can't explain, and no one I spoke with could explain, Arafat's abject submission to Israel's will. He begs Israel for understanding and beseeches foreign donors for money. The Israeli government is likely, of course, to dole him small doses of "autonomy," and western governments shall pay their miserly "peace money" so it would look like they are doing something important and peaceable, save sheikhly faces, and draw screens on their gross inhumanity toward a people who did no one any harm.

So what is this place going to look like in a decade or two? There are about two and a half million people in the Occupied Territories alone, and a nearly equal number in exile. What is their future? I fear that what we are witnessing in Palestine and Israel from this labor of peace process is the rebirth of South Africa in the Middle East. I hope you do not take this statement to be a hyperbole. Never mind the media's insistent 120 figure; there are nearly 300 Zionist settlements in Arab Jerusalem, West Bank and Gaza, and

they are expanding. In itself, that does not mean apartheid. It could mean that a Jewish population shall also live there along with Christian and Muslim Arabs. But Israel's policies are not designed to create a multicultural, multi-religious community in Palestine. It aims at creating two categories of inhabitants: one Jewish, the other non Jewish; one privileged and the other proletarian-

...while the U.S. and its allies have defeated Arabism, they must now prepare to battle Islamism.

ized; one enjoying superior rights and privileged access to the country's resources. And as the occupying power which has U.S. support Israel has the might and means to carry out its policies.

Palestinians are being fragmented and proletarianized at a rapid pace. I do not know if any of you have studied the Israeli settlements. They have been most cleverly planned, with careful strategic consideration. In the West Bank, they have been constructed in such a way that they delink significant Arab population centers from each other, and break the continuity of communal life that had developed over many centuries. Around Jerusalem, the settlements form a ring based on the principle of maximum possible exclusion of native people. (One of the things that I have always admired about the Zionist movement and Israel and I have always not admired about the Palestinian movement is that one has the discipline of detail and the other does not, and that defines the difference between victor and vanquished.)

And now there is a new phenomenon, not yet visible. You shall hear about it in about two years. The Israeli government is now

planning roads, major highways and communication networks, which link the Jewish settlements to Israeli cities and ports and leave the Palestinian communities out. So you have these autonomous zones which are to be administered by the Palestinian Authority, over which this Authority has no sovereignty—can't control the land, can't protect the water, and can't even set up industries without Israel's permission. So you have a series of Bantustans called autonomous Palestinian Authority. Israel is absolving itself of responsibility for the occupied population while keeping the occupation. It's a brilliant scheme and it is so far succeeding. Arafat is a party to this tragedy. What we are witnessing is the institutionalization of a system of exclusion, a fully contracted apartheid—separate municipalities, separate schools, separate health systems, a native economy, and an indigenous substratum on the margins of the Israeli state, beneath the privileged settler society.

This is a bad dream. A racist utopia being constructed ironically by one of the most enlightened and historically humane people. And this with the agreement of a secular, native leadership. If the trend holds, during the next decade Israel/Palestine shall look very much like what has just passed—South Africa of the apartheid era. There has been much talk in recent months of the fundamentalist Hamas' successes and excesses. But rarely has a commentator noted the realities on which Hamas now feeds.

The Destruction of Arabism & the Rise of Islam

There is of course more to the rise of Muslim fundamentalist movements than this. I should mention another factor that applies throughout the Middle East. All societies have their dialectic or at least most societies do. The Middle Eastern dialectic has been a historic tension between particularistic and universalistic tendencies. There, people have often had pluralistic identities. The Middle East is an urban civilization on the one hand and tribal on the other. Settled and nomadic peoples converge there; for millennia cultures have preserved their identity on this crossroad of civilizations; great religions of universal claims were both there, and par-

ticular sects thrived there. The particularist and the universalist reside in the Middle Eastern personality; people yearn for the dual linkage. When it is made civilization thrives; when it is absent people seek restlessly, painfully, sometimes violently.

There was always a particularistic formation to which the Middle Easterner attached himself. How many of you who come from the area know somebody named Baghdadi, Damashki, Fasi? People named themselves after their towns and tribes. That's how primal those loyalties were. At the same time they sought a larger identity; embraced universal ideologies—Christianity, Islam—and discovered trans-tribal, intra-city identities.

In our time, a major expression of particularist identity is the state. We are Syrians, they say; happy because they are Syrians. Since when have you become Syrians, my friend? They say we are Lebanese, Palestinians, Egyptians, Iraqis. The truth is that these nation states have come up in the last 65 years. People call themselves Saudis, for god's sake, there never existed a thing called Saudi Arabia. You laugh but I am not ridiculing. What I am saying is that there are these particularistic loyalties that are attached to statehood. And then there is the yearning for the universal, for breaking out of the narrow confines of particularist statehood. In the 19th and 20th centuries that yearning found its expression in Arabism, a secular movement to forge unity among Arabic speaking peoples. The west, which waged a decades-long war on Arabism, appears to have finally succeeded. But then we are inheriting another wind.

I wrote in the Los Angeles Times immediately after the Gulf War and a longer essay in Mother Jones magazine arguing that while the United States and its allies have defeated Arabism, they must now prepare to battle Islamism. My argument was that this civilization has had particularistic identities, on the one hand, and always a compulsion to connect itself to a universal identity. This has been the story since the Persian Empire, since the Byzantine Empire, since the Sumarian times even. Islam's lasting appeal lay in its extraordinary resolution of the particular/universal dialectic. A universalistic religion, Islam accommodated particularistic identities through a complex pattern of legal, administrative, and social arrangements. With the decline of the last great Muslim empires—the Mughal, Iranian, and Ottoman—and start of western colonial domination, the quest for the universal was expressed through nationalism, Arabism among the Arab people.

Arab nationalism is actually quite unique in the history of nationalism because it tried to connect itself beyond boundaries. It came close to imagining a universal community linked by word and sentiment alone: *Kullu man kaanu 'Arabaan fi lughatihim, wa thaqaafatihim, wa wala'ihim, fa hum al-'Arab*. "Anyone who is an Arab in his feelings, in his language, and in his culture, is an Arab." So a Jew is an Arab, a Christian is an Arab, a Muslim is an Arab, a Kurd is an Arab. I know of no national movement which defined itself so broadly.

American and Israeli policy, like that of Britain and France earlier, has been based on promoting the particularistic in the Middle East and assaulting the universal. For now they have succeeded. State-based particularism has climaxed in the Arab world. The Saudi, Kuwaiti, Egyptian, Moroccan, Algerian, etc. states have forsaken the Arab. But for how long? When history returns to its course, the turning points are likely to be provided by the pain of peoples like those of Bosnia and Palestine. For they would symbolize the weakness and the failure of the particularistic alternative.

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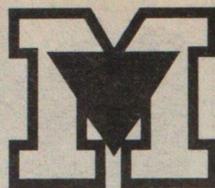
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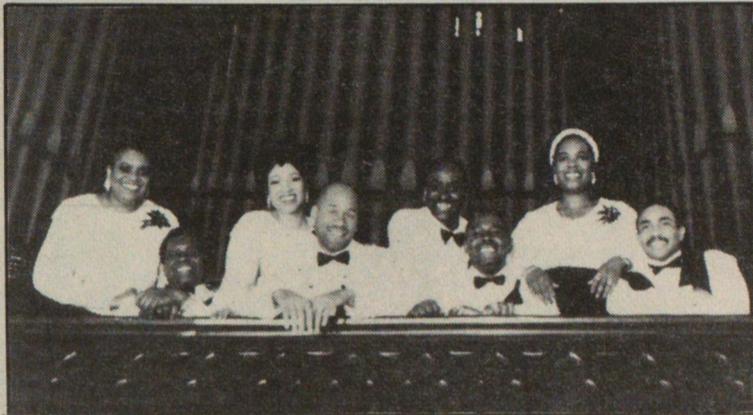
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MUSIC *feature*



above: Ruth Brown • top right: Sweet Honey in the Rock • bottom right: Harlem Spiritual Ensemble

University Musical Society Diversifies

January Shows Highlight African-American Artists

For most of its 116 years, the focus of the University Musical Society (UMS) has been heavily Eurocentric. African dancers and Japanese Kodo drummers have appeared occasionally, more or less as museum pieces, isolated curiosities. This month, however, the UMS is bringing to Ann Arbor three very impressive African-American acts: Sweet Honey In The Rock, Ruth Brown, and the Harlem Spiritual Ensemble. And all this from the folks who regularly bring us Julian Bream, Amsterdam's Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, and other high-caliber classical artists.

"Diversification doesn't happen overnight," says Executive Director Ken Fischer. "It's a sensitization process, a growing process." The Society's plan for this process took over two years to develop, with contributions from its original minority members and a paid consultant.

As examples of a shift in emphasis, Fischer cites recent UMS concerts by Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, an Indo-Pakistani singer; Jester Hairston, composer of the gospel hymn "Amen"; and the Uptown String Quartet, an improvisational jazz ensemble starring Maxine Roach.

Sweet Honey in the Rock

The UMS opens its Winter Season with Sweet Honey in the Rock on Friday Jan. 6, at Hill Auditorium. The UMS first brought this a cappella group, an Ann Arbor favorite, to the Power Center in Jan. '93, where its close harmonies, bone-deep honesty and quirky, dynamic beats created a strong personal rapport with the audience. One concert-goer described the scene as "a living-room with 3,000 people in it."

Six African-American women make up Sweet Honey. They sing and dance, and since 1980 one member has provided sign-

By Nisi Shawl

language interpretation for the deaf. Lyrics deal with justice and exclusion, liberation and love; stirring issues that touch us all.

Numerous tapes of the group are available, though none of them convey the electricity of Sweet Honey's live performances. Sometimes, at women's gatherings, songs break out spontaneously, living samples of this group's work. That work's intimacy and immediacy calls out to be experienced directly, again and again.

Ruth Brown

Blues vocalist Ruth Brown takes possession of the Power Center on Saturday Jan. 14. Irresistible, irrepressible Ruth Brown's mid-January date is bound to generate some welcome heat. Brown's been around the music scene since the late 40s. "So Long," her debut on Atlantic Records, soared to Number Six on Billboard's brand-new Rhythm & Blues chart. "Tears From My Eyes," "5-10-15 Hours," "Mama, He Treats Your Daughter Mean," and "Mambo Baby" all made it to Number One. Brown's rich yet flexible tone, her assertive phrasing and that catchy little excited-sounding squeal that popped out every now and then made her the top-selling black female artist of the early 50s.

Now touring with a hand-picked six-piece band, complete with saxophones, Brown's been serving up the blues and ballads she began with as well as the R & B titles that got her inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Recent reviews describe her concerts as spanning "...the very width and breadth of pop music in the last half of the century." That's a lot of ground to cover. But Brown's got the voice and the experience to pull it off, and the

style and spirit to make her audiences rise to their feet in fervent thanks for the attempt.

The Harlem Spiritual Ensemble

Finally, the Harlem Spiritual Ensemble presents a free performance on Sunday Jan. 15, in celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday. Six classically trained singers, a pianist and a percussionist will do their very best to reproduce the authentic voice of the American Negro Spiritual.

Purists in the best sense of the word, members of the Ensemble refuse to "whitewash" lyrics. Lawd is lawd, not lord, and de ribber never becomes the river. By transferring their respect for tradition from European to African-American forms, this group showcases the spiritual's glorious harmonies and vibrant rhythms at their natural best.

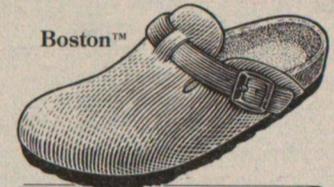
This internationally acclaimed group, beloved of both Harlem school-children and Finnish connoisseurs of the arts, will be performing as part of U-M's 1995 King Symposium. It's a very special event—the culmination of several years of effort on the part of the UMS.

In 1988 Ken Fischer joined the King Commemoration Committee. Always concerned to avoid "colonizing" the committee, Fischer has worked closely with Charles Moody, Lester Monts and other African-Americans to present artists from their cultural heritage: Kathleen Battle in 1989, Leontyne Price in 1991, and the Urban Bushwomen in 1993. "Now," says Fischer, "it's reached the point where there's a real give and take of ideas. The Harlem Spiritual Ensemble is actually a co-presentation by the UMS and the Office of Academic and Multicultural Initiatives."

For ticket information, contact the University Musical Society at 764-2538.

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This month our spotlight shines on Fifth Avenue, Ann Arbor. Fifth Avenue connects the YMCA and City Hall and what a mess those two entities have cooked up in recent years. The Y was supposed to be part of a solution to the shocking increase in homelessness locally, which is the direct result of an acute lack of affordable housing. This noble and essential goal, the provision of decent, affordable housing in downtown Ann Arbor, has been subsumed and subverted by mismanagement and an inbred I'll-scratch-your-back-if-you'll-scratch-mine attitude between and betwixt some city and Y officials.

Wh' appened? Very briefly: In the 80s, federal housing subsidies were slashed by 70% turning the focus to state and local government to help the homeless and nearly homeless. Local activists, spearheaded by the Homeless Action Committee, worked liberal Democrats on City Council to supply some affordable housing. In 1988, conservatives finally found an affordable housing project they could support. They joined the liberals in implementing a city-guaranteed \$1.6 million bank loan to the Y for the stated purpose of adding 63 new rooms and rehabilitating 37 others for occupancy by low-income individuals and minimum wage earners.

On Nov. 18, 1993, William Blewitt, Executive Director of the Y, notified Ann Arbor City Administrator Al Gatta that the loan that the city had guaranteed was in danger of being defaulted on by the Y and that the city needed to service the loan, making monthly payments starting in just 12 days. The alarm had sounded and the city belatedly awoke. Suddenly, long overdue questions were being asked or revisited like: Is it legal for the city to guarantee a loan for a private body like the Y? Who made this deal with the Y anyway? Why hasn't it been properly monitored? Is the Y truly worthy of city support, perhaps to the tune of \$2.3 million (including principal and interest), for the provision of "affordable housing"?

(II) Legality of the Loan Guarantee

Early in 1994, then-City Attorney Elizabeth Schwartz reassessed the legality of the loan guarantee. In a confidential memo to City Council and Mayor Ingrid Sheldon, dated Feb. 7, 1994, Schwartz concluded that the Michigan Constitution probably bars the loan guarantee and thus wrote, "It is my recommendation that no payments be made to the Y pursuant to the 'guarantee' until this problem is resolved." Schwartz attached a letter from the Michigan Dept. of Treasury dated Feb. 4, 1994 which contained some startling facts. It said Treasury Dept. approval is required prior to the city entering into such an obligation and the city did not seek such approval. And it said, "Had the City of Ann Arbor requested approval of the Department of Treasury prior to making the guarantee, we would have advised them that they were not authorized to make such a guarantee."

Uh-oh. Even lawyers can make mistakes, friends. We know that's hard to swallow. It seems Miller, Canfield, Paddock and Stone were requested to give an opinion on the legality of the loan guarantee and rendered an opinion that it was, which is arguable. What

Why Ask Y?

(Because They Don't Want You To Know)

By Jonathan Rose & Jonathan Weber



PHOTO: JUNE REED

does not seem to be arguable is the requirement for prior State approval of the guarantee and the opinion from the Treasury Dept. that it would not have been granted. Furthermore, an internal city memo says that the City Attorney's office had directed Miller, Canfield to send the necessary documentation to the State Treasurer in Aug., 1989. Uh-oh.

Maybe, just maybe, this whole mess could have been avoided if then-Mayor Jerry Jernigan had heeded a June 2, 1988 missive from the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA). The letter, written by Acting Executive Director Dwight Robinson, was in response to a recent letter from Jernigan requesting a MSHDA grant for part of the funding for the Y project. In addition to denying the grant request, Robinson told Jernigan: "... it was necessary to present your Single Room Occupancy (SRO) housing proposal to our Executive Committee for their review and comment ... we were very intrigued by your statement that the City of Ann Arbor might consider some mechanism to secure or guarantee the mortgage. *There were some concerns regarding both the legality and enforceability of such a guarantee.*" [emphasis added.]

What did Mayor Jernigan do with such a warning, in hand when the Y project was just in the conceptual stage? He sought legal advice.

Conflicts of Interest

Who was the City Attorney then? R. Bruce Laidlaw. Who was the Y's Board President

then? R. Bruce Laidlaw. While Laidlaw did announce the obvious conflict of interest to City Council, he nevertheless was the signer for a private organization in a contract with the city. He sought and accepted Miller, Canfield's opinion on the legality of the loan guarantee, apparently did not notice that Treasury Dept. approval had not been obtained, and advised other Y Board Members that they could rely on the city if the Y had repayment problems.

Another example of possible impropriety: Ingrid Sheldon's husband, Cliff Sheldon, served on the Y Board during Ingrid's time on city council and her first term as mayor (Cliff recently resigned). The mayor has consistently lobbied the council to support the Y with very limited accountability to the city. Whose side is who on? For a deal of such dubious legality and practicality, these conflicts of interest are particularly troubling.

Insufficient Monitoring

While some public servants have, at least, the appearance of bending over backward to help the Y, it should also be noted that the Y wanted help even before the current deal. The Y was already in debt and the old Fifth Ave. building was begging for renovation. The loan that was made for building new rooms and rehabbing old ones was also used for remodeling the lobby and adding a new facade to the Fifth Ave. side of the building. The last straw was when Al Gatta finally exercised the city's right to review the Y's budget, finding that the

residential program, and thus the city, had the burden of many costs that could be fairly borne by the Y's general programs. For example, all of the loan debt is considered part of the residential program's costs despite the facts listed above about other improvements being made in the building. The Y seems to have made its residential program take an unfair brunt of the Y's total costs because the residential program has the city holding the bag.

YMCA: Decent, Affordable Landlord?

While we'd like to reserve judgment on the Y's decency and competence, we have come to the conclusion that the Y is not a suitable partner with the city to help solve the affordable housing crisis. We base this on the following considerations.

- **Tenant Rights:** The Y is attempting to have judicial approval for the proposition they are an innkeeper and not a landlord. This distinction might allow them to throw tenants out without a hearing, without even any notice. In our opinion, this is simply illegal. The Y can't circumvent state laws which provide residents rights of notice and to be heard before being hurled out on the streets. And the city shouldn't work with an organization that proposes to do so. As local Legal Services Director Bob Gillett has written to City Council on this subject: "[N]o notice evictions insult my basic sense of human dignity...the city would be telling its poorest and most vulnerable citizens that they have no legal rights—not even the right to tell their side of the story before they are made homeless."

- **Affordability:** The Y has consistently shown an inability and unwillingness to do the work necessary to obtain financing and grants to support an affordable housing program. This is a critical element distinguishing the Y from two other local groups that work with the city to provide *truly affordable housing*. While the Y charges a minimum of \$325 per month for a tiny room with no cooking facilities, Avalon Housing charges \$200 per month for a room that includes use of a common bath and kitchen. New Alternatives charges \$250 per month for a similar arrangement. The Y project received support from liberals for the original deal because of the Y's assurances that they would provide housing for minimum wage workers and other low income people. According to H.U.D. standards, a minimum wage worker should be paying about \$210 per month, while a Social Security Income recipient should, on average, be paying \$150 per month. In their proposals for more city money, the Y still refuses to guarantee that they will provide truly affordable housing.

- **Accountability:** The Y wants minimal accountability to the city for any failure to provide affordable housing. Since the Y is already failing in that department and shows no ready willingness or plan for improvement, Rose & Weber say, without iron-clad guarantees that a legal program will actually provide decent, affordable housing with respect for the rights of the residents, the city should let the Y fly on its own, and support the proven affordable housing providers. It's time to stop scratching the Y's back and to give the assistance to those who really need it.



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Latin American Road Kills & Close Calls

"If you don't like the way I drive, stay off the sidewalk!"

So goes the old Gringo bumper sticker gag. But here in Panama City, it's not always a joke. When I was walking to lunch one day near the El Panama Hotel, this cabbie came zooming up the sidewalk behind me, then started leaning on the horn as his way of demanding that I step aside and let him pass.

Now I suppose that a lot of folks in Michigan might generalize from the incident and come to some stereotypical conclusions about crazed Latin American drivers. But I don't. I see it as a specific instance of a different set of general situations.

Understand that there are far too many cabs on the streets of Panama. Cabbies, along with street vendors, traffic stop window washers and others offering a thousand cheap services, are part of a vast marginalized work force.

To have a cab is to be at the top of the margin. For one thing, it means having a car. Then there is a cabbies' syndicate. But sometime during the squalid Noriega era or under the equally corrupt but more anti labor regime that followed, this union became worse than useless.

In the waning days of the recent Endara administration—the one that George Bush imposed—an unholy alliance of crooked politicians, labor racketeers and multinational business combined to create and profit from increased mayhem on Panamanian streets. This is the big picture behind the wild man who tried to run me off the sidewalk.

It happened like this: Hertz had a fleet of used cars to sell. Endara's lame duck thugs were out to grab what they could before inauguration day. Taxi syndicate leaders were looking out for themselves. So Endara's boys ille-

gally sold something like 2,000 new *cupos* (taxi permits). Hertz sold its unwanted fleet through the taxi syndicate for \$15 per day. It was one of history's most massive overpriced used car deals.

Now there are too many cab drivers competing for too few fares, speeding about frenetically and aggravating urban congestion. Congestion that was already outrageous, because as traffic director Leonel Solís says, "Panama hasn't invested a cent for expanding its road network in 20 years and, on the other hand, has allowed the entry of a great number of new vehicles."

Much of this congestion is a sign of the prosperity that comes with a world banking and import/export center, and washed drug money. There are a lot of BMWs tooling around the city. But Panama is also a hungry Third World country, a society with some of the most unequal wealth distribution in the Americas. Most of Metro Panama's over one million people must use public transportation. The beemers not only have to watch out for crazed cabbies, but also must negotiate their way around narrow unmaintained streets that are clogged with a lot of buses.

Traffic accidents and fatalities are common. Half of all such incidents involve a taxicab or bus.

The situation is the subject of much dark humor. In one newspaper cartoon, the cop at a crash scene demands the license of a cabbie, who asks "Which one? The license to drive or the license to kill?" *El Cameleón*, the national cartoon magazine, recently lampooned former Haitian strongman Raoul Cedras, who was shown continuing his vocation of killing and maiming people by taking a job driving a Panama City bus.

So now I watch out for maniacs when I walk the sidewalks of Panama City. But that, too, can be hazardous to one's health. Walking down

another sidewalk, this time with my head up and alert for off-road traffic, I stepped into a hole where a water main cover was missing. It could have been worse. I might have been hurt, or it might have been one of the many uncovered sewer holes. This city, after all, is maintained according to Third World specs.

Road Building is a Feminist Issue

A few weeks ago Panamanian feminists held the Third Panamanian Women's National Conference. It was organized by the Clara González Feminist Collective, named for Clara González, Panama's first woman attorney, who died in 1990.

The participants were mostly in their 30s and 40s, with a few senior citizens and only a sprinkling of women college aged or younger. It was mostly a mixed-race crowd, with black and indigenous women well represented, only a few whites and no Asians that I noticed. Though there were urban workers, housewives and *campesinas*, it was by and large a well-educated crowd, with teachers and other professionals either a majority or close to it. About a dozen indigenous Kuna and Ngobe women, some quite young, some dressed traditionally and some in blue jeans, sat in front of me to my right. A couple of nuns in habits were seated to my left.

The evening's events began with a speech by the collective's Ileana Centeno on the state of Panamanian feminism. Among the successes that she listed were a gathering of women activists from different political parties and increased attention to violence against women. She called for more attention to the messages that society gives to children. In politics, she advocated a "new methodology for exercising power."

The next speaker took a more radical tack, urging women not to play ordinary roles in established politics. "No to this system," she pleaded.

Activists from Costa Abajo, an impoverished stretch on the Caribbean, demanded improvements to their road. This was being rebuilt in the weeks leading up to the May 8 election. At least, that's what it said on the big signs proclaiming what President Endara and the U.S. Agency for International Development were doing for the locals. But Endara's party lost, and work stopped. When the rains came, the road turned into a quagmire. As far as the Costa Abajo delegates were concerned, an impassable road oppresses women.

The indigenous delegates from Darién and Kuna Yala also had road building on their minds. They live in one of the last unspoiled rain forests, a place where there is a gap in the Pan-American Highway.

Completing that 160-mile stretch in Panama and Colombia would make it possible to drive from Ann Arbor to Argentina. But it would also bring settlers and deforestation, destroying traditional indigenous societies and the ecological context in which they survive.

Part of the drive toward hemispheric economic integration is a demand to complete the highway. This has environmentalists and indigenous peoples throughout the Americas preparing to do battle.

That includes indigenous feminists. While some folks instinctively equate "tradition" with "sexism," any "modernization" which leaves indigenous women dependent on the white man's economy is no "liberation" as far as the Darién delegates were concerned.

Toward the end of the program the politicians spoke. But scheduled speaker Balbina Herrera, the first woman National Assembly president, couldn't make it.

Deputy Haydée Milané de Lay spoke instead. An Afro-Panamanian from Darién and one of seven women in the 72-member assembly, she heads its women's commission. She promised road repairs on the Costa Abajo, but said nothing about her own province. The crowd was polite but unenthusiastic. But when Milané de Lay started talking about how God paired men and women, the crowd groaned and a scowling indigenous delegate walked out.

Eric Jackson, an Associate Editor of AGENDA, filed this report from Panama, where he has been living since February, 1994.

Remembering Jerry Rubin

Writer and health food advocate Jerry Rubin, an anti-war activist in the 60s, recently died after being hit by a car while crossing a Los Angeles street. Thus passed a man who was controversial to folks from across the political spectrum.

Rubin grew up in Cincinnati. There were leftist influences present in his youth—some of his funniest writing was about an aunt who plied him with commie ideas over chicken soup. His parents died when he was young, and he worked as a reporter for The Cincinnati Star to support his younger brother.

As his aunt was inspired by meeting Stalin, Jerry's life was changed by a trip to Cuba where he met Che Guevara. After that he moved to Berkeley.

Many point to the 1964 Berkeley Free Speech Movement as the start of the 60s youth revolt. It began when regents tried to ban the local civil rights movement and its leaders from campus. Rubin was in the thick of that movement, a talented writer among an unusually gifted set of activists, at a time when it wasn't chic to be a student rebel. Though Mario Savio was the media-recognized leader and Stew Albert was the person whom the regents most wanted off campus, Jerry was the Free Speech Movement's ace pamphleteer.

Rubin then stepped to the fore as the radical candidate for mayor of Berkeley. He exposed the incumbent's racist hiring policies and paved the way for more successful electoral efforts in later years.

As the Vietnam War expanded, Rubin helped to mobilize opposition. He threw his writing skills behind the 1967 Stop the Draft Week, when Bay Area activists tried to close the Oakland draft induction center. The protesters failed in their stated aim. But a militant youth movement, hippies alienated from the stodgy old left, had begun to flex its muscles.

At a 1968 New Year's party, activists and cultural rebels conceived the idea of Yippie! (aka Youth International Party), a militant anti-authoritarian challenge to Johnson and

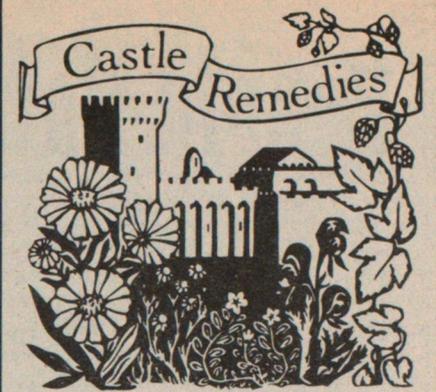
his war. Abbie Hoffman and Jerry Rubin became the movement's media-identified leaders, spearheading protests at the Chicago Democratic Convention. Chicago's mayor and cops were spoiling for a fight, which they got, and when Nixon took office he moved to prosecute Rubin, Hoffman and six others for conspiracy and crossing state lines to riot. Rubin and Hoffman, aided by an outrageous judge, turned the trial into a circus. The partial guilty verdict was met by rioting across the land.

This made Jerry a celebrity. His books "Do It!" and "We Are Everywhere" were great successes. He adopted the lifestyle of a decadent rock star, hanging out with John Lennon in New York. Feminists cited him as an example of what was wrong with the male-dominated left, and at about the time that Yoko Ono threw John Lennon out of the house, Rubin's wife at the time, a brilliant activist in her own right, left him.

This initiated a period of soul searching and therapy in which Jerry withdrew from politics. It is documented in his book "Growing (Up) at 37." By the 80s Jerry and Abbie debated Hoffman's social activism vs. Rubin's focus on self-improvement. Jerry took a job on Wall Street, while Abbie stuck to activism until depression took his life. When Abbie died, Jerry was the only Chicago conspiracy defendant at the funeral. When Rubin died, he was selling health food products with former Black Panther leader Bobby Seale, another Chicago co-defendant.

It's easy to dismiss Jerry Rubin. Those attracted to a media illusion were disillusioned by his flaws. Those who advanced with him in the antiwar movement felt abandoned when retreating to the political margins without him. But activists, like everyone else, have feet of clay.

Give the man his due. Jerry Rubin was a decent man and one hell of a writer. He served his planet better than most, giving his all in the historic effort to end an atrocious war. That washes away a lot of sin.



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Voluntary Sterilization: Why I Did It

By Arwulf Arwulf

It would be challenging to find a more appropriate symbol for the state of things, right now, than bloated governor Engler on the front page of the Detroit Free Press, holding the fertility-drug-spawned triplets in his arms. This macabre charade is what constitutes a human interest story here in the razor-sharp clarity of the 1990s.

Yes there's something gruesome about it. The governor's re-election was predicted many months ago when Mrs. Engler was diagnosed as containing three replications with his bar code upon them. This was in all seriousness considered to be a reason to cast votes for the man. Apparently the ruse worked; the electorate completely ignored what the bastard's been up to and we're stuck for another stretch.

What adds to the horror is the headline next to the photo of the Engler clones: GOP PLANS TO CUT AID TO CITIES. Yes he's a family man and those who have money had better invest in suburban condos. He's pro-life and the cities can simply die.

The entire question of life is a prickly one when Republicans are involved. The very word "life" has been made to appear as the opposite of "choice" even though the two should be seen as nearly synonymous. Some individuals have become so enthralled with the issue as to declare open, bloody warfare upon the people who work in family planning clinics. This is a decade of mind-boggling inanities.

USA Today, the video-inspired periodical, ran a cheerful report explaining how Angry White Men had decided the elections across the country. Now what, you might ask, do White Men have to be Angry about? Why, their investments, of course. That's what war is for; protecting investments by squandering lives on a mass scale. But listen here. I've got a suggestion for any Angry White Men who might be looking for something useful to do for their country.

Remember the Bicentennial of 1976? I had my own special way of celebrating that over-advertised occasion. Having gotten married and reached the worldly age of nineteen, I walked into Planned Parenthood and announced that I wanted a vasectomy because I didn't want to make any more white people. They showed me the exit and all but booted me through it. Voluntary sterilization was for those who already had at least one if not two children already on the roster.

But the possibility of procreation was for me a terrible one, and I undertook a series of appointments with a urologist, who tried his damndest to talk me out of it. In the end he had to perform the operation, as I had every right to it and said so. And with all that has happened in my life since then, I have never regretted my seemingly brash decision. Not for a minute.

I'll discuss just why I have no regrets in a minute. First let's examine my reasons for acting as I did. First and foremost was a graph I saw in a magazine which showed population growth for the twentieth century. 1957, my year of inception, was the peak year of baby boomage; there were more people born in '57 than ever. This gave me the willies, even though the phrase "exponential growth" was not yet part of my vocabulary. All I knew was that some of us simply had better not replicate.

Then there was my memory from childhood, of returning from a long vacation with my family and finding that the pet mice had undergone some sort of population explosion while we were gone. What greeted us was a cage full of dead baby mice, stacks of them, some partially eaten. A clear and concise image which served me well when it came time to consider the subject of adding to the population graph.

Having paid close attention to the problems of contraception which plagued my wife, I began to think it would be better if she didn't have to ram that horrible little trampoline up against her cervix. The spermicides were corrosive. And birth control pills are a sure-fire way for a woman to have complications later in life. Part of my inspiration for sterilization was knowing that I could rid her of the dangers, hassles and indignities of birth control. She had possibly even less desire for babies than I did.

Men seldom seem to care about what faces a woman after sexual intercourse. (The State cares even less!) Once a pregnancy occurs, the man and the woman have completely different experiences. I think it would be a good thing if more men took the initiative. Whattaya say, guys? Act as if you're responsible for your actions.

My operation was simple outpatient surgery. In fact I felt so feisty upon getting home that I hopped over a short fence and played croquet with the neighbors. Unfortunately, during the operation a vessel was nicked and my jumping around caused a rupture which resulted in internal bleeding. I lay in bed an extra week, drinking red wine and listening to Fats Waller records. For days the right side of my scrotum was grossly distorted and I could hardly move. But it was well worth the discomfort.

Nine years later, when we got a divorce, there were no kids to try and explain it to. People asked me if a vasectomy wasn't a bit drastic. My retort was: How drastic is the making of a baby? And how imperative is it that each and every one of us passes ourselves along genetically?

My gene pool is going strong. Each of my two sisters has three children apiece. These include a nephew who builds houses and a niece who shows great promise as a cellist. If I fathered a child I'm sure that I'd be an excellent papa, but would I be able to provide a decent environment? I show movies and host radio programs for a living. There's a constant schedule of poetry readings and live musical events which make me scarce enough for the adults in my life, let alone children.

I've done a lot to enrich the lives of young people who already exist. Spent a lot of time teaching and inspiring, smashing boredom wherever it starts to accumulate. Particularly in Ann Arbor I see many really wonderful people having kids and that's beautiful. If I have made a sacrifice for the sake of the planet and so that I may do what I do without neglecting my own child, then imagine how good it feels to affect young people with creative and thought provoking radio—to show them that life doesn't have to be tedious or ugly. We do what we can to make the world beautiful. Or maybe I should say the world is a beautiful place and I believe we should take steps not to make it otherwise.

My choice is my own. Reality is the bottom line. A woman's choice is hers and nobody else's. To choose is as sacred as life itself. Long ago we evolved beyond the need to have sex solely in order to make offspring. We are the species blessed with a potential for a higher awareness of sexuality. Shared ecstasy is a force which heals.

Christianity, the basis of our government, states that knowledge is evil, sex is dirty, and women are inferior. Result? Rape culture, with ignorance as the predominant trait. I think we can do better than this. I truly believe that we can continue to evolve. And that's why I shifted my energies to influencing those people who already exist, rather than following Jehovah's dictum to fill up the world. In case you haven't noticed, it's full up. Would somebody please inform the pope? We're going to start running out of food very soon.

The downtown bus was so crowded that those of us standing in the aisle were practically holding hands on the overhead railing. Glancing at the hand closest to mine, I saw a ring with — could it be? — two female symbols entwined. I looked more closely, carefully shielding my excitement. Yep, no doubt about it, I was standing next to, nearly leaning against, a lesbian. At 15, I knew I was gay and had a girlfriend my own age, but had never met an adult lesbian. While I struggled to come up with something to say, she pulled the exit cord and got off the bus. Being an avid reader of mystery novels, I knew just what to do. I casually followed her off the bus and then trailed her at a half-block's distance. Lucky for me, she wasn't going to the grocery store or to the Laundromat but rather to a bookstore. And not just any bookstore — a women's bookstore with a sizable lesbian literature collection. I had never even imagined such a place.

That day marked not only my entry into the lesbian community but also my first encounter with an independent specialty bookstore. In ensuing years, I was to have many more such joyous encounters with small bookstores, discovering along the way the political and academic ideas that have since shaped my life. These days, when I'm looking for substance or spiritual sustenance, I go to Common Language Bookstore. For offbeat periodicals, I peruse the extravagant selection at Little Professor. And, when a long hard day of seemingly fruitless activism leaves me with a specific craving for a book that is absorbing but not too taxing, entertaining but not completely brainless, and above all affordable — I head for Aunt Agatha's to pick up a mystery novel.

Upon entering the store, I am greeted by the always affable Jamie Agnew who, along with his partner Robin Agnew, owns and operates the store. Rounding out the Aunt Agatha's crew are Assistant Managers Margaret (age 4) and Robert (age 1.5). They all swear they're not related to Spiro; Robert is most adamant on this point and I, for one, believe him. Unshelved books and garage-sale furnishings (the big Batman clock is my personal fave) combine to give the store a literary yet playful atmosphere, which is entirely appropriate to its offerings.

Established in 1991, Aunt Agatha's stocks a wide selection of new and used mysteries as well as a smaller collection of "true crime" books. Patterned after "Uncle Edgar's" in Minnesota, it's one of a new breed of bookstores devoted to the mysterious.

If you're not a mystery fan, you may be thinking, "Wide selection of mysteries? A mystery is a



PHOTO: JUNE REED

Aunt Agatha's: For the Love of Mystery

By Patrice Mauer

mystery, right?" Well, yes and no. It's true that all mysteries include some sort of puzzle which the protagonist tries to solve, but the variations on that basic theme are virtually endless. So, at Aunt Agatha's, "hard-boiled" detectives share shelf space with quirky lesbian activists, high-powered attorneys, out-of-work dancers, cartoon characters, and every variety of nosy neighbor that ever peeked through a window. The puzzles themselves generally revolve around murder or mayhem, but may also involve mundane or arcane subject matter concerning anything from art to zoology. (I recently read a mystery in which each of the main characters was an economist from a different school of thought and in which each character acted as his or her theory would predict.) Some books are plot-driven potboilers in which a mystery is simply set up and solved while others are nuanced novels in which complex

social, political, or emotional issues are explored along with the more tangible mystery which drives the story.

The genre novel, like the sonnet or the three-act musical comedy, is a sort of template. The format provides the frame within which the artist works. Within the parameters of the genre — in our case, the mystery and its resolution or lack thereof — anything goes. This has its advantages and its disadvantages. For example, recent mysteries revolving around racist violence, domestic assault, and police brutality have brought progressive analyses of the issues involved in such crimes to readers who would not pick up more explicitly "political" books. On the other hand, the "blank slate" provided by the genre has all too often been used to inscribe racist and sexist ideologies.

This is, of course, true of novels in general.

However, there is a sort of built-in "law and order" orientation within the mystery genre and especially within the sub-genre in which the solver of the mystery is a police officer or other government agent. This has been offset in recent years by an upsurge of mystery writing by women, people of color, and others less invested in maintaining the status quo. In these novels, the government and its agents aren't portrayed quite so glowingly. Even so, mystery novels, like conspiracy theories, do tend to emphasize individual evil at the expense of exposing institutional forces. Still, much of the new writing is refreshingly progressive — often even more so than "serious" literature dealing with similar themes.

"True crime" is also a genre of sorts, although not so flexible as the mystery. Here, while some readers express a healthy disrespect for authority by identifying with the criminals rather than the police, the "law and order" orientation of the authors is almost unrelenting. More disturbing is the genre's decidedly unhealthy emphasis on the lurid details of horrific crimes against women. While I can appreciate that the occasional female reader may gain a sense of psychological mastery of her fear of such violence, it troubles me to know that most of the readers are male and that most of them are getting a thrill by reading detailed depictions of brutality towards women. Overall, I think such books contribute to the social atmosphere which tolerates violence against women and I wish Aunt Agatha's wouldn't recycle them.

With that exception, I've been delighted by both the books and the atmosphere at Aunt Agatha's. The store exemplifies much of what is best about independent specialty bookshops. Whenever I want a book they might carry, I go there first, not only because it's a fun shop and I might save some money by buying a used copy, but also because it feels like the right thing to do. Jamie and Robin, like most proprietors of small bookstores, certainly aim to make a living (they hope to break even this year) but just as certainly don't expect to get rich. They are in it for love as well as for money, and it shows. When Jamie has set aside a book he thinks I'd like, I can tell that his pleasure in matching person to book outshines his satisfaction a making a sale. When Robin strikes up a casual conversation, it's clearly more out a natural "neighborliness" than a calculated attempt to cultivate a customer. So, I figure, better for my money to go to them than to some big corporation, the stockholders of which might, for all I know, be passing their share of the profits along to Jesse Helms.

So, if, like me, you already enjoy books you can "play along" with by trying to solve the mystery before the protagonist figures it out, or if you're bored with your usual "entertainment" reading and are looking for a change of pace, then pay a visit to Jamie and Robin at Aunt Agatha's. Strike up a conversation — you never know where it'll lead you...

LITERARY events

4 Wednesday

Discussion & Book Signing: Borders 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. With AUDREY KISHLINE, author of "Moderate Drinking." This is the official manual of Moderation Management, the first nationwide self-help organization devoted to helping problem drinkers learn to moderate their drinking behaviors. 668-7652

6 Friday

Book Reading: Little Professor 7-8 pm, 2513 Jackson Rd. With DORIS PATTERSON, author of "Children: Heirs of Poverty." 662-4110

7 Saturday

Storytime with Bart and Kim: Little Professor 11 am-noon, 2513 Jackson Rd. Silly stories, silly magic, and silly crafts. For ages 4-10. 662-4110

Children's Book Reading: Borders 11 am, 612 E. Liberty. Borders hosts the Wild Thing from Maurice Sendak's "Where The Wild Things Are." 668-7652

8 Sunday

"Kerry Tales": **Kerrytown Shops/Workbench Furniture** 2 pm, 410 N. Fourth Ave. (2nd floor children's furniture area). Stories for winter time and the New Year. All ages welcome. 769-3115

Mystery Book Club: Little Professor 6:30-7:30 pm, 2513 Jackson Rd. Join Little Professor's Murder on the Second Sunday Book Group as they gather around the fireplace to discuss the usual... murder, mystery and mayhem. Group members receive 15% off group selections and new members are always welcome. 662-4110

9 Monday

Poetry Reading: Guild House 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Features SHIRLEY SMITH and ROSALIE KARUNAS. Smith has been writing seriously since 1979 and has had poems published in "Bad Haircut," "Cellar Roots," "Moving Out," and "Northern Spies." Karunas is a Guild House Writers' Series veteran. Her poems have been published in the Chester H. Jones Foundation "National Poetry Competition Winners 1990," the "Dan River Anthology," and Washtenaw Community College's "Northern Spies." Carmen Bugar, 930-2970

14 Saturday

Children's Reading: Borders 11 am, 612 E. Liberty. "A Revolting Development"—stories to delight children who love strange creatures and gooey messes. 668-7652

Folktales and Music: Little Professor 11 am-noon, 2513 Jackson Rd. With storyteller DAWN ELLIOT DANIELS. For ages 4-10. 662-4110

16 Monday

Poetry Reading: Guild House 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Features CHRIS SCHEIL and JILL GLEASON. Scheil and Gleason are an engaged couple who are well established on the Grand Rapids poetry scene. They have both been published in the nationwide magazine "Big Fish." Carmen Bugar, 930-2970

18 Wednesday

Publication Party: Shaman Drum 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. With SUSAN JUSTER, author of "Disorderly Women: Sexual Politics and Evangelicalism in Revolutionary New England." Juster, Assistant Professor of History at U-M, observes that "an image of benevolent patriarchy threatened by the specter of female power was a central motif of the wider political culture during the age of democratic revolutions." 662-7407

African American Book Club: Little Professor 7-8 pm, 2513 Jackson Rd. Gather around the fireplace to discuss this month's selections. Members receive 15% off group selections and new members are always welcome. 662-4110

Discussion and Book Signing: Borders 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. With GORDON KANE, author of "The Particle Garden: Our Universe as Understood by Particle Physicists." Professor of Physics at U-M and an active researcher in the particle physics community, Kane has written the clearest survey of the field of particle physics. 668-7652

20 Friday

Publication Party: Shaman Drum 4-6 pm, 315 S. State. With MICHAEL D. KENNEDY, author of "Envisioning Eastern Europe: Postcommunist Cultural Studies." Kennedy is Associate Professor of Sociology and Associate Research Scientist, Center for Russian and Eastern European Studies, at U-M. 662-7407

21 Saturday

Children's Reading: Borders 11 am, 612 E. Liberty. Topic: Snow, ice, and other winter delights. 668-7652

Storytime with Bart and Kim: Little Professor 11 am-noon, 2513 Jackson Rd. Journey to exciting and far off places. This trip is sure to be filled with adventure, magic and fun. For ages 4-10. 662-4110

23 Monday

Poetry Reading: Guild House 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Features JULIET WILLIAMS, a U-M graduate student in library science. Williams is an erstwhile poet who won second prize for poetry in the Grand Rapids-based Dyer-Ives contest. Carmen Bugar, 930-2970

24 Tuesday

Discussion and Book Signing: Shaman Drum 5-7 pm, 315 S. State. With ELIZABETH WURTZEL, author of "Prozac Nation." This book is Wurtzel's memoir of her prolonged battle with a crippling recurrence of clinical depression. It is both harrowing and hilarious. 662-7407

Discussion and Book Signing: Borders 7:30 pm, 612 E. Liberty. With ELIZABETH WURTZEL, author of "Prozac Nation" (see above listing). 668-7652

25 Wednesday

Reception: Shaman Drum 5-7 pm, 315 S. State. With BARRY LOPEZ, author of "Field Notes," a collection of short stories. Lopez's previous work, "Arctic Dreams," won a National Book Award in 1986. 662-7407

28 Saturday

Big Winter Book Sale: Friends of the A2 Public Library 10 am-4 pm, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Hardcover 50c, paperbacks 25c. 761-6671

Children's Reading: Borders 11 am, 612 E. Liberty. Set out on an adventure with stories about exploring strange places and pursuing new experiences. 668-7652

29 Sunday

Tri-State Book and Paper Show: Volume 1 Books 10 am-4 pm, Montpelier, Ohio Holiday Inn. Postcards, magazines, posters, collectible and readable books, and more, \$3/children under 12 free. 437-2228

Poetry Reading: Del Rio Bar 1:30-4:30 pm, 122 W. Washington. Join the FEED THE POETS GROUP for an afternoon of poetry from the area's finest poets. There will also be one hour of open mike reading for those brave souls yet to achieve recognition. Interested poets should contact the Del Rio for scheduling arrangements or further information. 761-2530

Big Winter Book Sale: Friends of the A2 Public Library 1:30-4:30 pm. \$4/filled grocery bag of books (see 28 Sat)

"Booked for Sundays" Book Group: Little Professor 7-8 pm, 2513 Jackson Rd. Make a New Year's resolution and get Booked for Sundays with our book group. Join us around the fireplace on the last Sunday of each month. 15% off group selections and new members are always welcome. 662-4110

30 Monday

Big Winter Book Sale: Friends of the A2 Public Library 10 am-8 pm. \$4/filled grocery bag of books (see 28 Sat)

Poetry Reading: Guild House 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Features GERRY LAFEMINA, author of the chapbook "Rest Stops" and a full-length collection, "23 Below." His poems and essays have appeared in "Cimarron Review," "Colorado Review," "Seneca Review" and many others. Carmen Bugar, 930-2970

SCREEN SCENE

By John Carlos Cantú

RATING KEY

- ★ Acting
- 🌸 Cinematography
- 👉 Direction
- ✂ Editing
- 📺 Narrative
- 🔊 Sound
- ⊠ Special Effects

When a symbol appears following a title, it implies that the corresponding category is a strength of the movie.

NELL

[1994. Directed by Michael Apte. Cast: Jodie Foster, Liam Neeson, Natasha Richardson. 20th Century Fox. 113 mins.]



Chalk up this movie as a star vehicle all the way. But at least *Nell's* co-producer, Jodie Foster, turns in a bona fide star's performance.

Her backwoods title maiden of this improbable story turns what should have been an unwieldy character study into a compelling drama. For *Nell* is one of those rare instances where a single personality keeps us riveted to the screen long after our interest should be utterly exhausted.

When Doctor Jerome Lovell (Liam Neeson) investigates the death of an aged eccentric matron in the Smoky Mountains near Charlotte, and accidentally turns up a young woman speaking what seems to be speech-impaired gibberish, we know we're traversing grounds that are psychologically slippery. By Lovell's reckoning—and from what we observe of Nell's behavior in the first hour of the film—we've got ourselves a live 20th century feral girl-child.

Unable to communicate with other people, she is quickly turned into psychologist Paula Olsen's (Natasha Richardson) bid for a doctorate at Charlotte University. Between match-making Lovell and Olsen, Nell is forced over the course of the next three months to cope with adapting to modern times and modern mores. Her adventures take her from an enforced stay in a mental ward to a pivotal competency hearing in front of a North Carolina judge.

The story of savage or abandoned children and adults is, of course, an old tale—mostly of 18th and 19th century legend. In European cinematic hands, Werner Herzog has his brilliant *Every Man for Himself and God Against All* (*The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser*); while François Truffaut has his tough-love *Wild Child*. And in all fairness, the continentals seem to be a little less sympathetic with these sorts of social misfits than Americans.

Closer to home is Robert Mulligan's haunt named "Boo" Radley in *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

BROTHER'S KEEPER

[1992. Directed by Joe Berlinger and Bruce Sinofsky. Cast: Adelbert, Lyman, Roscoe, and William Ward. American Playhouse/Fox Video. 102 mins.]



The amazing thing about Joe Berlinger's and Bruce Sinofsky's documentary, *Brother's Keeper*, is that they uncover some real hicks and still manage to produce an extraordinary feature.

The story of "The State of New York vs. Adelbert Ward" has all the makings of a bizarre *Green Acres* episode, but Berlinger and Sinofsky keep the action tightly focused on Munnsville Township's Madison County and how the people there reacted to a reputed 1990 homicide that gripped the entire region.

The four Ward brothers—Bill, Delbert, Roscoe, and Lyman—worked their family's dairy farm after the death of their mother and were considered in large part to be harmless, unkempt eccentrics. But when Bill (aged 64) turned up dead in bed with Delbert, the routine inquest of fatal geeze attack got put on hold until the local constables got a confession stating that young Delbert (aged 59) had put on a stranglehold on his sibling to ease the older brother's suffering. Shortly afterward, Lyman (aged 62) also inadvertently fingered Delbert in collaborating testimony and Roscoe (aged 70) laid low to avoid the heat.

The William Ward incident was beginning to look like an open and closed case of homicide. The only problem was that you might have a second-grade education among the three remaining Ward brothers. So their testimony seemed suspiciously tainted.

The question in town was whether or not they actually knew the consequences of what they were saying in these moments of police-induced stress. And given their near nonexistent social skills, this issue was of considerable import.

Enter documentarians Berlinger and Sinofsky.

and Hal Ashby's hilariously vacuous Chance in *Being There*. Nell, innocuous darling that she is, falls roughly somewhere in-between "Boo" and Chance.

Just call it good old American purity of heart. We've got an undeniable soft spot for those who can't (or won't) speak for themselves. Therefore, although director Michael Apte is British, his sensibilities avidly buy into the American myth of diminished child-like innocence.

Between his stunning shots of untainted mountain vistas and his even more strategic gauging of Foster dancing soulfully in moonlight, Apte keeps an angelic halo on the proceedings at all times. Besides, he obviously has his work cut out for him.

For despite Foster's rather amazing ability to convey a wisely vacant simplicity, she still insists upon looking like a movie heroine. Apte does a good job given that his star is also his boss. Yet when push comes to shove, *Nell* is difficult to believe in.

Lucky for her, she's a winsome twenty-something who's also inherited some of the most beautifully valuable land on the other side of the Appalachian mountains. After all, she could have otherwise been another countryside Granny Clappett...like her Mom...and who, presumably, would want to see a feature-length movie about someone like that?

Foster should be commended for personally seeing this project through completion, but the final results are definitely a judgment call. For those who like their movies lathered in syrup, *Nell* may be just the right tonic. For others with a little more of a tough streak, the film may be rough going between heart-wrenching public displays of affection and an unlikely guileless wisdom.

Picking up a tip on the caper, they decided to postpone the proceedings until they met Delbert and his clan. The resulting film is as different as either filmmaker could have imagined.

This is mostly because a town that previously didn't want much to do with the Ward brothers—it was rumored they dallied with one another and they certainly smelled a bit ripe down wind—eventually rallied around "their boys." What Berlinger and Sinofsky capture with vivid immediacy is the classic conflict between small town American insularity and those interloping strangers from "the big city"...in this instance, Syracuse. The directors artfully frame Munnsville's townsfolk grappling with the consequences of the case and their ultimate belief in the Delbert's innocence.

Indeed, Delbert himself undergoes a subtle transition from junkyard knucklehead to shrewd manipulator of public opinion. He shaves off his scraggly beard and his wry smile becomes opaquely winning as the case goes forward. He even manages to hustle Connie Chung on national television in the film's most bewilderingly hilarious sequence.

Far more important, Berlinger and Sinofsky manage to cleanly sketch the vital outlines of a conflict where there is no clear right or wrong...just us against them. And although it's difficult to determine whether Delbert is in complete control of his faculties (much less Roscoe and Lyman), the death of Bill—whether through natural causes or asphyxiation—ultimately gets overshadowed by the plight of the living.

That is, if you can call where and how the Ward boys reside as a living. Pig sties probably have a better division of quarters than their ramshackle wood cabin that has minimal electricity and no indoor plumbing. Let's just say it's pretty messy at the Ward manor.

But then again, home is where you find it.

The Wards ultimately find themselves thoroughly at home in Munnsville and the Munnsvilliers warmly embrace them (at least for the public viewing). With the directors' unerring camera following the anxious climactic verdict in the Ward Brothers murder case, *cinéma vérité* doesn't get much better than this. By not going for discount sympathy, Berlinger and Sinofsky manage to sock us straight in the heart.

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REVIEWS BY WILLIAM SHEA

MIGHTY JOE MOON

GRANT LEE BUFFALO
SLASH RECORDS

Tom Rule of Tower Records practically forced me to review this recording. I'm glad he did because "Mighty Joe Moon" is an appealing recording for many different reasons. It is moody, musically interesting, and lyrically sophisticated.

Grant Lee Buffalo consists of Grant Lee Phillips on vocals, guitars, banjo, mandolin and harmonica; Paul Kimble on bass, keyboards and vocals; and Joey Peters on drums and percussion. The musical breadth of this trio belies its size. The richly-textured, slow-tempoed rock tunes are vaguely reminiscent of slow Led Zeppelin or Cowboy Junkies. But instead of the heavy dominant bass of Zep or the jangly, surreal guitars of the Junkies, Buffalo's tunes are better balanced. The vocals and instrumental accompaniment are seamed more tightly, resulting in a more consistent sound which is able to carry a number of lyrically different themes throughout the recording.

Grant Lee Phillips is the lead singer and the songwriter on this album. Phillips has the ability to sound vocally different on every song, yet consistent throughout the album. On one number, "Lone Star Song," Phillips rumbles in the lower register; on other tunes, like "Sing Along," he stretches to the upper reaches of his range. This variation helps focus the listener away from a good, yet rather unimaginative, production sound.

Paul Kimble is a good producer. He bathes the overall recording with a reverberant sound. It gives the final production a widening rather than narrowing effect. Everything in the production is big: the piano booms, the drums thunder, the vocals sound expansive—and all this powerful soundscape works. The mix is well-balanced. The vocal tracks are never too deep in the mix; they are clear and even. The details clearly defined; the brushes on drums sound natural and appropriate.

Probably the greatest strength of this recording is the lyrics. Like all good poetry, the imagery is just clear enough to insinuate that a listener take a certain direction rather than pushing them into one. The narrative framework in the title tune "Mighty Joe Moon" and the subsequent "Lady Godiva and Me" show Phillips to be more than a mere tunesmith. His work stands strong without musical accompaniment. This does not mean the music is weak. On the contrary, Kimble's support, and particularly Peters' drumming, with their reliable use of dynamics, complements the already strong metric feel to Phillips' verse. No song better illustrates this combination than the beautiful "Side By Side."

THAT'S LIFE

KIM WILSON
ANTONE'S RECORDS

For much of Kim Wilson's musical career he was the original harmonica player for the legendary Texas band, The Fabulous Thunderbirds. Some say it was Jimmie Vaughn's work at the heart of that group, but I'm convinced that it was Wilson's harp that set the tone and muscle for that group. It was his willing yet controlled playing that set that group apart from most blues band throughout the '70s and '80s. This second solo offering clearly shows him to have the feel and energy, plus the musical acumen and virtuosity, necessary to be declared one of the best blues harp players on the scene today.

Wilson's sound is rough. On "Don't Bite the Hand that Feeds You" he growls and moans his way through a shuffle rhythm accompaniment, reminiscent of the great Chicago harpist Junior Wells. But where Wells strives to fit with the musicians he works with, most notably Buddy Guy, Wilson pushes the action, making other musicians take chances that they might never feel appropriate.

Wilson's unique harp sound lies in the muffling effect he embraces. Rather than opening up the harp, allowing the ringing upper register harmonics to pierce the air, Wilson's signature sound is heard when he keeps the harmonics tight and low. Thus, like Eric Clapton's or Johnny Winter's blues guitar playing, when you hear a hollow, muffled harmonica it is a good chance that it is Wilson doing the blowing.

Wilson has teamed up with some first-rate side musicians on this recording. The incomparable guitarist Duke Robillard, whose solo on "Baby Please Don't Lie to Me" is outstanding, opens on side one. Rust Zinn, a guitar phenom from Austin, ably supports Wilson on the R&B chestnut "Time Is On My Side." The super session guitarist from the '50s and '60s, Clarence Holliman, shows why he's been in the business for over 30 years. His work on "Teach Me (How to Love You)" is straight out of his work "or the Duke/Peacock label out of Houston. It's sir y first rate.

When I first played this recording to some friends at O'Sullivan's it received four thumbs up but one thumbs down. The complaint? Too short. I have to agree. At just under 40 minutes the recording does seem to be over well before one would like it to be.

THE BEST OF '94

"The View from Nowhere"

By Alan Goldsmith

One of the great things about writing a column like The View From Nowhere is that this time of year you get to go back over the past months and re-listen to all the wonderful local music released during 1994 and come up with a best-of-the-year column. While we all realize there aren't enough hours in the day to catch all the great local live music happening on the club scene or high enough credit card limits to buy all the cool stuff locally produced that's coming out on CD and cassette, you also must know there isn't enough space in AGENDA to recap everything you should have checked out. As a result, here are my highlights of the last year:

1. "Dying In This World of Hell"—Lisa Waterbury (self-produced cassette). This debut tape from local singer/songwriter Lisa Waterbury is one long sigh. Recorded at a motel in Whitmore Lake with Waterbury on guitars, drums, keyboards and vocals, this ten-tune collection is perfect. Her voice is slightly off-key, the music mix sounds like the Velvet Underground Live in 1969 album, and her lyrics—well...Waterbury is DAMN unhappy, and at times it's almost like songs for my funeral. She wants to die, she wants to fall in love, she wants to get in her car and drive around. But the mix of the hypnotic psych-folk sounds and the battle between innocence and lust and death is incredible and original and one of the best debuts from a local artist I've heard in years.

2. "Deliverance"—Wig (Island CD). This CD is the musical equivalent of Dante's Inferno. A million loud, distorted guitars, a rhythm section that sounds like World War III and vocals that surely must have come from a pact with the devil—Wig's major label debut is the thing that will put Ann Arbor back on the world music map. This is LOUD music. Not just in the audio sense, but in the emotional sense as well. The Stooges and the MC 5 are influences here—you can't be from A2 and play loud, soulful guitar rock without owing that debt to your musical forefathers. But this isn't retreaded Michigan rock. It's a sonic nuclear blast that will kill on its own terms. Kudos to Island Records for having the guts to release this powerful, rockin' CD (And don't let any dickhead local record critic writing the journalistic equivalent of Holiday Inn lounge music tell you otherwise). Extra credit for the band's use of local Schoolhouse recording studio.

3. "Avalanche b/w Glowing In The Dark"—Kiss Me Screaming (Happy Hour 7-inch single). I suppose if there were a "these guys should be signed to a major label" list of local musicians, Khalid Hanifi and his band Kiss Me Screaming would belong at the number one slot. Hanifi, who WAS signed to Atlantic Records as frontman for the late Map of the World, still has the singing and songwriting skills to make the leap again. This 45 is hook-filled and fresh rock and pop with a wall of guitars crunch. Hanifi is no doubt the best rock and roll songwriter in the city, and with the best rock and roll guitarist in the city (Brian Delaney) Kiss Me Screaming has everything they need for a major label deal. Until then, this great single and the upcoming CD release on Schoolkids Records will have to do.

4. "Noise Floor"—Morsel (Choke CD). Raw but melodic, symphonic yet garage band. Morsel and the music they've produced is awash in contradictions, like all great art. This release, produced by producer-GOD Steve Albini (whose credits include Nirvana), is spaced-out mind music that is best heard with opened ears. It's rock and roll taken to an

intense other level. Computer-processed roaming vocals, guitars that sound like acid flashbacks, but with a (for lack of a better word) symphony-like musical structure, Morsel is like a grunge, non-smartass Frank Zappa with their similar sense of music theory complexity. While all this sounds academic on paper—it isn't. It's poetic and wonderful rock and roll that takes risks.

5. "How's My Driving?"—The Deterants (Skidmark CD). Every time I write about this band (from their soon-to-be-legendary local club gigs to their previous cassettes) I run out of words to express their sheer talent in capturing the spirit of rock and roll. The brain-damaged listener might think The Deterants were influenced by The Replacements, The Clash, or any other of the close to the garage rock outfits. On the surface, it might seem that way. But on second listen, the songwriting/guitar/vocal combo of Jim Chatfield and Ian Trumbull are much more. You get clean, power pop guitars, and a strong sense of let's make a three-minute hit record. But you also get a magic too that isn't easy to explain. And unexplainable magic is at the root of all classic rock and roll.

6. "Your Place and Mind"—Some People's Children (self produced CD). This is one funky trio. It's white boy rock and roll party funk that owes alot to funk-god George Clinton. But the band also understands what it takes to pack a midwestern college town dance floor too. Some People's Children never take any of this seriously (except maybe the art of the guitar solo), but the cross-fertilization of cultural and music genres is both praiseworthy and dance inspiring.

7. "Abba Dabba Dabba—A Bananza of Hits"—Cub Koda (Schoolkids' Records CD). Manchester, Michigan-raised Cub Koda is a twisted genius. Once the guy who sang the goofy (but rockin') teen anthem "Smokin' In The Boy's Room" and now present-day record collector and reviewer, Koda loves EVERYTHING in the realm of music. From the totally serious rendition of The Flintstones theme to the field-slave-chanting style of "Random Drug Testing," we get the silly side of Coda. But with his versions of Detroit's 1950s Fortune Records artist Nolan Strong and the Diablos (on "Mind Over Matter" and "You're The Only Girl, Delores") and other undiscovered gems we get an artist who cares passionately about great soul music too. Koda tosses in some 60s pop and blues stuff too and this Kafka-like mix may be difficult for some to accept. But to my ears, this release makes perfect sense and has been in my CD player on and off for most of 1994.

8. "King Brothers"—King Brothers (self produced cassette). Over the past few years, this pair of teenage brothers has pumped out a string of classic tapes that were recorded in their Brooklyn, Michigan home studio. Each one has featured cool Bill and Kenny King original songs that were rooted in 1950s country and pop. With each new release, the duo gets better and better. On the new one, the Kings sound like they have absorbed more 1990s influences too—radio pop, funk, et. al. While I miss the innocence of their early cassettes, the new release is powerful and catchy too, even if it sounds, dare I say it, more commercial. Good stuff.

That's it for this month and 1994. Now don't forget to send your very own classic-to-be, self-produced music, and/or anything else that might be of import to: **AGENDA, The View From Nowhere, 220 S. Main Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.**

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Art Moves Into the Closet

by Carol Novak

An unusual convergence of art occurred at the U-M School of Art on December 6. For that night only, two installations utilizing electronic media—*Tree of Life* by Jamy Sheridan and John Dunn, and *Black Box* by Cynthia Greig—framed a retrospective exhibition of ceramics at the Slusser Gallery by retiring Professor of Art John Stephenson. The event unintentionally illuminated a gap that is in part generational. But since video art and light shows invaded the art world more than a generation ago, the gap exposed here is more fundamental: techno-media shows vs. fired clay; ephemeral vs. durable; even progressive vs. conservative.

This gap was emphasized by the positioning of the exhibits. The Slusser Gallery, traditionally reserved at this time for a show of graduate students' works in progress, was given over to Stephenson's unique, end-of-career retrospective. Because of the lack of facility, as well as the fact that U-M graduate photo students are not provided with studio space, Greig and fellow student Lisa Olson decided to create their own exhibition space under the stairs opposite the Slusser Gallery. They built a small white room which changed its configuration through several collaborative and independent installations. At the same time, research fellow and computer artist Jamy

Sheridan had decided that the only option for presenting his collaboration with electronic composer John Dunn was to commandeer the pedestal storage room next to the Slusser. It was the only available room with the ceiling height necessary for hanging a video projector to project onto the floor.

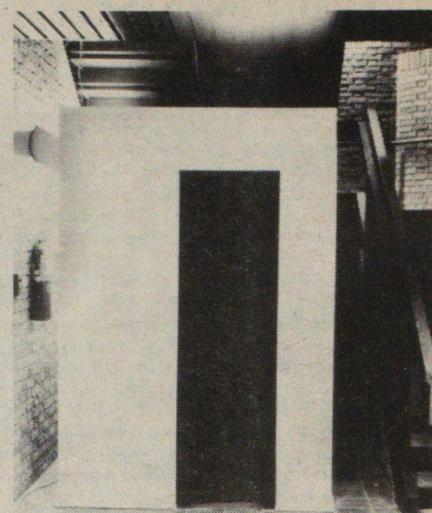
The illuminating convergence took place at the time of the last showing of *Tree of Life*, just as Cynthia Greig completed her installation, *Black Box*. For an hour or so, it was magic. Behind a black curtain, the claustrophobic darkness of *Black Box* provided an intense ten minutes of difficult viewing and listening. The viewer peered through two windows into a shallow space that held a video screen showing two men, perhaps at the beach, and a dim red light barely illuminated a photograph and objects planted below in a floor of sand. Voices in Spanish and English added an enigmatic audio dimension.

From there one had to cross over into the vast expanses of the brightly lit Slusser Gallery. Stephenson's glazed ceramic sculptures, described by one reviewer as "muscular," instead seemed curiously inert. Huge spiral shapes sprawled ponderously on the floor. Thick glazed slabs pulled at the walls where they hung. On pedestals, brass rods pinned the elements of smaller works as if to stifle any possible

notion of movement.

In the most distant corner of the Slusser one carefully entered the disorienting, light-splayed darkness of the *Tree of Life* installation. Computer-driven, Persian-carpet-derived patterns of light marched, stalled, overlapped, and sometimes flew across an undulating carpet of sand in seeming choreography with Dunn's electronic music. Toward the end of the hour-long performance, all color faded to grey and motion ceased. At the center of the "carpet" a target appeared—like the cross hairs in a rifle scope—before the pattern dissolved. At the end of such an enchanting work it was disturbing to be reminded of the realities of the present day Persian desert.

With the use of both natural and artificial (including electronic) materials, and foreign and American references, the two multimedia installations spoke to contemporary American life in ways that fired clay could not, except by contrast. The ceramic sculptures seemed foremost to represent the outdated institutions which, in a rapidly


 Cynthia Greig's *Black Box* installation in North Campus stairwell

changing world, are no longer capable of meeting our needs. Instead they sprawl enormous, unmoving and unhelpful before us as we seek space for contemporary solutions—even in closets.



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JANUARY 1995

Visual Arts Calendar

1 SUNDAY

"Visiones del Pueblo: the folk art of Latin America": Toledo Museum of Art Thru 15 Sun. 419-255-8000

"Caves to Cathedrals": Ann Arbor Art Association 117 W. Liberty. Installation of the yearly theme "Basic to Beautiful" includes this unit, thru 31 Tue. 994-8004

"John Stephenson: After the Fire, A Retrospective": U-M Museum of Art 525 S. State. Celebrating work of the well-known ceramicist on his retirement from U-M School of Art, thru 15 Sun. 764-0395

African Art: U-M Museum of Art 525 S. State. Exhibit of works of sub-Saharan African art, thru June '95. 764-0395

"Staffs of Life: African Rods, Staffs, and Scepters from the Coudron Collection": U-M Museum of Art 525 S. State. Thru 26 Feb '95. 764-0395

"Then and Now": Clair Spittler Works of Art 2007 Pauline Ct. Annual holiday group show includes work in various media by Larry Baker, Laila Kujala, Tom Nuzum, Tomoko Ogawa, Arthur Secunda and Barbara Southworth. Thru 31 Tue. 662-8914

"The Romance of Transportation: Vehicle and Voyage in N. American Art": Artrain 1100 N. Main St. The nation's only traveling museum on train features work by Thomas Hart Benton, Andy Warhol, etc. Watch artists at work in studio car. Thru 7 Sat, \$4 adults/\$2 children. 747-8300

3 TUESDAY

"Transfigurative Improvisations": Michigan Guild Gallery 118 N. Fourth Ave. Paintings by Sarah Olson, thru 3 Feb. 662-3382

6 FRIDAY

"First Fridays": Galerie Jacques 8:30 pm, 616 Wesley. Annual Open Mic poetry reading. Currently showing: "Memory Bags," Michel Herrera's first one-person show in the U.S.—paintings & drawings, thru 18 Wed. 665-9889

7 SATURDAY

Vincent Castagnacci: Alexa Lee Gallery Opening 5-8pm, 201 Nickels Arcade. New paintings and drawings by U-M Professor of Fine Arts, thru 4 Feb. 663-8800

13 FRIDAY

"Wraithvisions": Ann Arbor Art Association Artist Reception 6-8 pm, 117 W. Liberty. Works by Pi Benio, Marilyn Schechter & Ron Schneider, thru 29 Sun. 994-8004

14 SATURDAY

"Joseph Beuys: Art as Action": U-M Museum of Art 525 S. State. Day-long opening celebration of exhibition of drawings, objects & prints by the most significant post-war German artist. Symposium with three Beuys scholars, 9:30 am-noon, Angell Hall Aud. B. Gallery Talk by exhibition coordinator Annette Dixon, 3 pm, U-M Museum of Art. Concert with U-M School of Music Percussion Ensemble directed by Michael Udow presenting works composed by Fluxus musicians as well as new works by Udow, 4 pm, U-M Museum of Art—free concert tickets must be reserved at Museum Gift Shop, 747-0521. Opening Reception, 5:15 pm, U-M Museum of Art. Exhibit thru 5 March. 764-0395

27 FRIDAY

"Visual Investigations": WCA Loft Closing Reception 6-8 pm, 122 S. Main, Ste. 320. Martha Keller Retrospective: 1969-1994. 996-2777

NEW WCA DIRECTOR

The Washtenaw Council of the Arts announced on December 20 that Susan L. Froelich has been named Executive Director of the Council. She will replace Nan Chezek, who retired Dec. 31, 1994.

Froelich has been Coordinator of the Ann Arbor Street Art Fair since 1986, and will continue in that position. She has been an independent arts consultant and has held a variety of arts administrative positions.

Opportunities IN ALL MEDIA

1995 Michigan Guild Annual Conference, held at the Sheraton Inn Ann Arbor. Business workshops for artists will be available. Non-members \$75/day, members \$50/day. For info & registration form contact The Michigan Guild, 118 N. 4th Ave., A2, MI 48104; 662-3382.

Art Center Winter Art Classes begin week of January 17. Ann Arbor Art Association Art Center, 117 W. Liberty, 994-8004.

Artist's Cooperative, The. An artist-run organization offering networking, exhibition opportunities, democratic participation to artists. Encourages participation by non-visual artists and involvement by non-artists. If interested in joining A.C.T. (as Member, Associate Member, or Patron), or for info on next meeting, send name, address & phone # to: Artist's Cooperative, The, 29 E. Grand River, Detroit, MI 48226; (313) 961-4336.

Very Special Arts Michigan Southeast 1995 art exhibition and tour. 1 Feb. deadline for submissions of work to be shown at Urban Park-Detroit Art Center, Trappers Alley, Detroit, 10 March-9 April. Work in many media acceptable, and participation by disabled individuals of all ages is encouraged. For guidelines & forms write Jack Olds, 14542 Huff, Livonia, MI 48154, or call (313) 591-0842.

ConFusion 10101, 21st annual science fiction convention, 27-29 Jan., Holiday Inn Crown Plaza, Romulus. Accepting work for art show and auction. For info send S.A.S.E. to: Randy Asplund-Faith, Art Show Director, 2101 S. Circle Dr., A2, MI 48103; 663-0954.

The Great Lakes Wildlife & Art Festival seeks artists, carvers, photographers and craftspeople for juried art show in May. For info and forms write to: Great Lakes Wildlife & Arts Festival, P.O. Box 96, Clare, MI 48617.

Michigan Dancers aged 15-22 can win up to \$500 in a modern dance competition. Deadline 15 Feb. Sponsored by the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the National Society of Arts and Letters. 1st place winner will attend NSAL convention in Florida in May, expenses paid, to compete for national top prize \$10,000. Contact Doni Lystra, 875 Scio Church Rd., A2, MI 48103; 663-5915.

Arts Midwest's Jazz Satellite Touring Fund is accepting applications on first-come, first-serve basis thru June 30 or until funds expended. Program supports public

performances and encourages educational activities featuring touring jazz artists. For fund application forms write Arts Midwest, 528 Hennepin Ave., Ste. 310, Minneapolis, MN 55403-1899.

Michigan Fine Arts Competition entry deadline is 20 Jan. Show runs April 15-May 13. Open to Michigan artists over age 18. \$3,000 in prizes. For form write Birmingham Bloomfield Art Association, 1516 Cranbrook Rd., Birmingham, MI 48009-1855, or call (810) 644-0866.

Ann Arbor Street Art Fair—the original juried fair—deadline for application, 15 Feb. Fair runs 18-22 July. Entry fee \$18 per category, basic booth \$150. The A2 Street Art Fair, P.O. Box 1352, A2, MI 48106; 994-5260.

Greektown Art Fair 1995 deadline for application 3 Feb. Fair open to fine artists and contemporary craftspeople, May 19-21 in Detroit. For form write the Michigan Guild of Artists and Artisans, 118 N. 4th Ave., A2, MI 48104, or call 662-3382.

1995 East Lansing Art Festival invitational response hold space deadline 16 Jan., application deadline 10 Feb. Mid-Michigan's earliest major summer outdoor art show is May 20 & 21. Application fee \$15, space fee \$95. East Lansing Art Festival, 410 Abbott Rd., E. Lansing, MI 48823.

World Art Registry deadline to request for information packet is 15 Feb. Fine arts, photography & fine crafts are included in two new worldwide registers—one juried, one open to all including amateurs and students. Mail, call or fax: World Arts Registry, Artists Dept., P.O. Box 334, Times Sq. Station, NY, NY 10108; (914) 624-2222; fax (914) 624-1212.

Women interested in joining the newly formed Michigan Chapter of the National Women's Caucus for Art please call or write for meeting information: Roberta Ann Busard, 118 S. Main St., #346, A2, MI 48104; 665-3033.

Art Center seeks artwork to furnish and accent a custom-built home. Deadline for slides and resume is 15 Jan. Home tour dates are 19 May - 30 June. For info & prospectus artists in all media should write: Art Center, 117 W. Liberty, A2, MI 48104, or call 994-8004.

33rd Ann Arbor Film Festival, 14-19 March 1995. Deadline 15 Feb 95. All categories & genre in independent 16mm filmmaking. \$8,000 in cash prizes. Write, call or fax for entry form: A2 Film Festival, P.O. Box 8232, A2, MI 48107. Voice 995-5356; fax 995-5396.

JANUARY

LITERARY EVENTS

Book & Poetry Readings, Publication Parties, Writers Groups, etc. are now listed in the LITERARY EVENTS Calendar (page 11).

VISUAL ARTS EVENTS

Art Exhibitions, Workshops, Artist Opportunities, etc., are now listed in the VISUAL ARTS Calendar (page 14).



Mr. B joins the Bird of Paradise Orchestra at The Ark for a night of big band originals—a Schoolkids' Records live recording! (see 7 Saturday)

To publicize events in the February Calendar, send information by January 15 to AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the CALENDAR are free and open to the public. All locations are in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted.

1 Sunday

Services: Zen Buddhist Temple 9:30-11 am & 5-6:30 pm, 1214 Packard. 761-6520

Ministry to Gay Men, Bisexuals, & Lesbians: Huron Valley Community Church 2 pm Services, 3 pm Social, Church of the Good Shepherd, 2145 Independence. 741-1174

Live Jazz 'n Dinner: University Club 5-7:30 pm, Mich. Union. Music begins at 5:30 pm. For students, faculty, alumni and guests. 763-3281

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals: Tree of Life Metropolitan Comm. Church 6 pm, 1st Congreg. Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsi. 677-1418

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm, 122 W. Washington. 761-2530

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm, downstairs (back entrance), 1st Congreg. Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsi. 763-4186

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm, 208 S. First St. Guest musicians join house band, The Terraplanes. \$2. 971-2469

Paul Finkbeiner's Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm, 207 S. Ashley. Musicians invited. 662-8310

2 Monday

Session 3 Instructional Swim: A2 Parks & Rec. Mack Pool, 715 Brooks. Classes meet twice a week (Mon & Wed or Tue & Thu) thru 2 Feb. Times vary depending on skill level, \$22 res./\$26 non-res. Register, 994-2898

"Women's Rights & Rhythms" WCBN 88.3 FM 8:30 am. 763-3500

Session 3 Pre-Competitive Swim: A2 Parks & Rec. 5-6 pm, Mack Pool. For children with at least advanced-beginner skills. Mon-Thu thru 2 Feb, \$60 res./\$72 non-res. Reg., 994-2898

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: A2 Center for Indep. Living 7-9 pm, 2568 Packard. 971-0277, 971-0310 (TDD)

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 7 pm, call for location. Mark or Miriam 662-2222

Shamanic Journeys: The Seeker 7:30 pm, 1522 Hill (behind 1520). Journey to

other worlds via the shaman's drum. 665-3522

Social for Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men: Canterbury House 9 pm, 518 E. Washington. 763-4186

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 14-piece band, \$3. 662-8310

3 Tuesday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics call for time, Kimball High School, Royal Oak. Charley 665-8063 or Kelly 663-0036

Tenant Talk: A2 Tenants Union 6 pm, WCBN 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Keep Fermi II Closed": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Demonstrations by citizens groups the weekend of Sept. 16. 769-7422

U-M Folk Dancing Club: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 7:30 pm, Leonardo's, NCC. Eastern European and Middle Eastern line dances, no partner needed, beginners welcome. 764-7544

WomanCircle: The Seeker 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. A time for women to celebrate their spirituality. 662-2159

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

4 Wednesday

Buhrr Blast: A2 Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm, Buhr Park Outdoor Ice Rink, 2751 Packard Rd. Special activities for children, on & off the ice, \$2 youths and seniors/\$2.50 adults. 971-3228

"Closets R 4 Clothes": WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm. News and more for the Les/Bi/Gay communities. 763-3500

"Speaking Vegetarian: How to Talk to Your Family, Friends, Fellow Students and Co-workers about Vegetarianism": Vegetarian Information Network & Exchange 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Discussion and refreshments. 426-8525

Bowling: Rainbow League 7:30 pm, Ypsi-Arbor Lanes. Mixed league with 12 teams of 4 people. All abilities welcome. 434-6176

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men's Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:30 pm, Rainbow Rm., St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 665-6939

Video Planning Meeting: Peace InSight 8 pm, Espresso Royale Caffe, 214 S. Main. Create, videotape, and edit TV shows for local cablecast. Topics include all peace and justice issues. 761-7749

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ: Bird of Paradise 9 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

5 Thursday

Shulchan Ivrit: Hillel 5 pm, Cava Java. A chance to practice your Hebrew in a fun, social atmosphere! 769-0500

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm, 802 Monroe. 930-0601

Shining Lake Groves Meeting: The Seeker 7 pm, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. "The Tarot" by Gwydion ap Morrygan. 665-8428

TV Night: Hillel 8-11 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. 769-0500

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Comm. 8 pm, 4120 Mich. Union. 662-5552

A2 Committee for Bosnia: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 8 pm, 730 Tappan. 663-1870

Live Jazz: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm, Leonardo's, NCC. By U-M School of Music Jazz Studies Program. 764-7544

Van Gunther: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty, \$10. 996-9080

Live Call-In: Peace InSight 9:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Topic TBA. 769-7422

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

Meeting: Queer Unity Project 10 pm, Mich. Union (ask for room at CIC desk). Campus activist group fighting homophobia. People of all sexual orientations welcome. 763-4186

Without a Net: University Club 10 pm, Mich. Union. Improv comedy. For students, faculty, alumni and guests. \$3. 763-3281

6 Friday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics call for time (see 3 Tue)

Disarmament Working Group: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice noon, 730 Tappan. Discussion of the Non-proliferation Treaty, Nuclear Disarmament Act, and more. 663-1870

"Do The Right Thing": MLK Film Series 5 pm, Chrysler Aud., N. Campus. 764-7544

Meeting: Public Health Skewed Left 6-7:30 pm, SPH 1, Room M1220. 763-4186

"Keep Fermi II Closed": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 3 Tue)

Esoteric Lecture Series: The Seeker 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe.



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"Islam in Africa and Traditional Religion" by Mrs. Abeba of Gateway to Afrika. 761-1137

Meeting: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm, Rainbow Rm (AA); Upstairs Lounge (Alanon), St. Andrews Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 665-6939

Blue Vinyl & Timothy Monger: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Music by A2 and Brighton high school students, \$6/\$5 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Special Meditation to Commemorate Buddha's Enlightenment: Zen Buddhist Temple 8 pm-4 am, 1214 Packard. Minimum attendance two hours. 761-6520

Marietta Baylis: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm, Leonardo's, NCC. Improv jazz ensemble. 764-7544

Sweet Honey in the Rock: University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud. Five-woman cappella group performs drenching harmonies, driving rhythms, and jazz vocalizations, \$12-\$24. 764-2538

Van Gunther: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Girls Night to Shout": Cava Java 9:30 pm, 1101 S. University. Features Kristin von Bernthal, Charity Marks and Shari Kane, \$3. 741-5282

Friday Dance Jam: People Dancing 10:30 pm, People Dancing Studio, 111 Third St. Eclectic, recorded dance music (bring your own tapes), smoke-and alcohol-free, children welcome, wheelchair accessible, \$2. 663-6845 (10 am-8 pm)

7 Saturday

Winter Session-Saturday Swim: A2 Parks & Rec. Mack Pool, 715 Brooks. Ten-week session includes classes for all ages (three months to adult), \$22 res./\$26 non-res. Register, 994-2898

Reiki Level 1 Workshop: Center for Intuitive Health 9 am-6 pm, call for location. Reiki is an ancient, natural form of healing, \$95/\$85 if registered before 3 Tue. 663-6075

Potluck: Gays & Lesbians Older & Wiser 11 am-1 pm, Turner Clinic, 1010 Wall. 936-5962

Instructional Skating Classes: A2 Parks & Rec. 1:15-2:15 pm, Buhr Outdoor Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. Classes for school-aged children in beginner and intermediate levels, thru 11 Feb., \$34 res./\$40 non-res. Register, 971-3228

Mr. B Meets the Bird of Paradise Orchestra: The Ark 7 & 9:30 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Schoolkids' Records live recording!, \$17.50. 761-1800

Group Massage for Gay & Bisexual Men 8 pm, call for location, \$5-\$10 (sliding scale). David, 662-6282

Van Gunther: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Whirling Road: Cava Java 9:30 pm, 1101 S. University. Intense blend of folk-flavored rock, \$3. 741-5282

8 Sunday

Lesbian & Bisexual Women of Color Collective call for time and location. LGBPO 763-4186

Services: Zen Buddhist Temple 9:30-11 am & 5-6:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Swimmers: A2QUA 11 am-1 pm, Mack Pool. Charley 665-8063 or Kelly 663-0036

Second Sunday Stroll—"Tracks & Tees": A2 Parks & Rec. 1-2:30 pm, Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. Read animal track clues to solve mysteries in the snow, \$3 per person/\$20 per family. Pre-register, 662-7802

"Upstairs at Borders": Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Steve Osburn plays the Chapman "Stick" with Jamie Rusling on percussion. 668-6652

Ministry to Gay Men, Bisexuals & Lesbians 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Keep Fermi II Closed": Peace InSight 3:05 pm (see 3 Tue)

Live Jazz 'n Dinner: University Club 5-7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm (see 1 Sun)

22+ Women's Bi-Friendly Group 7 pm, call for place. Meetings in public spaces for coffee, food, and conversation. 763-4186

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)



Kenny Neal brings his blues machine to the Blind Pig. (see 19 Thursday)

Barb Barton: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Guitarist and political activist, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Israeli Dancing: Hillel 8-10 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Instruction and dancing. For beginners/advanced, \$2.50. 769-0500

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner's Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

9 Monday

"Women's Rights & Rhythms" WCBN 88.3 FM 8:30 am. 763-3500

Recablecast—"Live Call-In": Peace InSight 5:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. (see 5 Thu)

"Opera: Where Music and Theatre Meet-Part II": EMU Depot Town Center 6:30 pm, 32 E. Cross St., Ypsi. Three 2-hour Mon sessions, \$60. 487-0407

IMPAC Meeting: Hillel 6:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Learn about the U.S.-Israel relationship. 769-0500

AIPAC Meeting: Hillel 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Planning meeting for policy conference to be held in May. 769-0500

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 7 pm (see 2 Mon)

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group 7 pm (see 2 Mon)

Shamanic Journeys: The Seeker 7:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

Social for Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men: Canterbury House 9 pm (see 2 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 2 Mon)

Dyke Shindig/Discussion Group 10 pm, Henderson House, 1330 Hill. Topics of interest to lesbians and bisexual women. 763-4186

10 Tuesday

Israel Information Day: Hillel Learn about work, study, and travel in Israel. Call for an appointment. 769-0500

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics call for time (see 3 Tue)

"Could You Be A Frog ... A Fox ... A Mouse?": A2 Parks & Rec. 9:30-11 am (Session 1) or 1-2:30 pm (Session 2) Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. Weekly workshops about animals for 4-5 year olds, \$20/ four sessions. Pre-register, 662-7802

Open House: LGBPO 4-6 pm, 3116 Mich. Union. Informal welcome to new and returning students, faculty & staff. 763-4186

Tenant Talk: A2 Tenants Union 6 pm, WCBN 88.3 FM. 763-3500

American Movement for Israel: Hillel 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Educational meeting. 769-0500

"The End of The Arab-Israeli Conflict": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Talk by Haifa University sociologist Samay Smooha. 769-7422

First-Hand Report on the Pastors for Peace Friendship to Cuba: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 7:30 pm, 1st Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Lee & Phil Booth describe their Dec. trip to Cuba. 663-1870

Jewish Feminist Group: Hillel 8 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Explore what it means to be Jewish and female. 769-0500

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 3 Tue)

11 Wednesday

Buhrrr Blast: A2 Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm (see 4 Wed)

Second Wednesday Supper Forum: Guild House 5:15 pm, 802 Monroe. Rice and beans supper followed by talk: "The Religious Right in Michigan" by researcher Russ Bellant, \$5. 662-5189

Meeting: U-M LGB Staff Association 5:30 pm, Amer's in Mich. Union. 763-4186

"Closets R 4 Clothes": WCBN 88.3 FM 6-7 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Will, Trusts & Estate Planning": EMU Depot Town Center 7 pm, 32 E. Cross St., Ypsi. Three 2-hour Wed. sessions, \$60. 487-0407

Huron High Hockey: A2 Parks & Rec. 7 pm, Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd., \$4. 761-7240

Meeting: Deep Ecology Study Group 7 pm, 1522 Hill (behind 1520). Explore our spiritual relationship to the earth. 665-3522

Asian-Pacific Lesbian Gay Bisexual Social Group: LGBPO 7-8:30 pm, Espresso Royale, State St. 763-4186

Meditation Workshop: Meditation for Universal Consciousness 7 pm, Room 64 Green, East Quad. Wear loose clothing and bring blanket or floor mat. 747-0885

"Cuba: The Current Crisis": Latin American Solidarity Committee and Women's Int'l. League for Peace & Freedom 7:30 pm, Koessler Library, 3rd floor Mich. League. Eyewitness report by Lee & Phil Booth, members of the Friendship to Cuba; and talks by U-M professors Ivette Perfecto and Frank Thompson. 761-4233

"The History of Islam and Similarities to Christianity": Bethlehem United Church of Christ 7:30-9 pm, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Talk by Ahmad Rahman. 665-6149

"Prospect" Meeting: Hillel 7:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. "Prospect" is the Jewish Student Journal at U-M. 769-0500

Conference on the Holocaust Programming Committee Meeting: Hillel 7:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. 769-0500

Bowling: Rainbow League 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Meetings: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Paula Denton: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm, Leonardo's, NCC. Songs of the 50s, 60s & 70s on acoustic guitar. 764-7544

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm, 637 1/2 S. Main. Musicians sign up for a short set at 7:30 pm, \$3/\$2. 761-1800

Conference on the Holocaust Fundraising Committee Meeting: Hillel 9 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. 769-0500

Meeting: East Quad Social Group 9 pm, call for location. A social & support group for students who are lesbians, gays or bisexuals. 763-4186

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

12 Thursday

Introductory Meditation Course: Zen Buddhist Temple call for time, 1214 Packard. Runs five Thu evenings. 761-6520

Personal Safety Workshop: A2 Parks & Rec. 11:30 am-12:30 pm, Bryant Community Ctr., 3 W. Eden Ct. Geared toward senior citizens and other adults. Register, 994-2722

"A Composer's Voice: Mozart's Style in the Salzburg Years": U-M School of Music 4 pm, Moore Hall, U-M School of Music. Lecture by musicologist Maynard Solomon. 763-4726

Volunteers in Action Meeting: Hillel 5 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Community service organization that assists Habitat for Humanity. 769-0500

Shulchan Ivrit: Hillel 5 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Progressive Zionist Caucus Discussion: Hillel 7 pm, Ali Baba Restaurant, Hill & Packard. 769-0500

Mass Meeting: Reform Chavurah 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Find out about Reform Jewish activities on campus. 769-0500

"The Presence of the Goddess": The Seeker 7:30 pm, 1522 Hill (behind 1520). Film about Goddess worship. 665-3522

David Menefee: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Country-folk fiddler and vocalist, \$8.75/\$7.75 members, students, seniors. 761-1800

Meeting: Lambda Graduate Association 8 pm, 3116 Mich. Union. 763-4186

Live Jazz: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Comm. 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

TV Night: Hillel 8-11 pm (see 5 Thu)

Alan Prophet: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. Fast-talking New York comic, \$10. 996-9080

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

Meeting: Queer Unity Project 10 pm (see 5 Thu)

Without a Net: University Club 10 pm (see 5 Thu)

13 Friday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics call for time (see 3 Tue)

"Chameleon Street": MLK Film Series 5 pm, Chrysler Aud., N. Campus. 764-7544

"The End of The Arab-Israeli Conflict": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 10 Tue)

David Folks: PJ's No Kickdrum Acoustic Concert Series 7 pm, PJ's Used Records & CDs, 617-B Packard Rd. In-store performance by modern American folk artist. 663-3441

Ann Farah: Little Professor 7-8 pm, 2513 Jackson Rd. This certified Vedic and Western astrologer explores the meaning of astrology as science or superstition. 662-4110

Bardic Night: The Seeker 7 pm, 1522 Hill (behind 1520). Drumming and singing with the Druids of Shining Lake Grove. 665-8428

Veggie Shabbat Potluck: Grads & Young Professionals 7 pm, Lawyers' Club, U-M Law School. With Corine Stavish, a storyteller of Jewish folk and fairy tales. 769-0500

Discussion: Older Lesbians Organizing (OLO) 7:30-9:30 pm, call for location. Open to women of all ages. 482-2996

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

The Complete Piano Music of Frédéric Chopin, Part I: University Musical Society 8 pm, Rackham Aud. Performance by critically-acclaimed pianist Garrick Ohlsson, \$14-\$26. 764-2538

"The Cemetery Club": Croswell Opera House 8 pm, 129 E. Maumee St., Adrian. Story of three Jewish widows who make monthly visits to their husbands' graves, \$12/\$10 students & seniors. 517-264-SHOW

Sally Fingerett: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Singer/songwriter, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Paul Vornhagen: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm, Leonardo's, NCC. Jazz ensemble. 764-7544

Alan Prophet: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 12 Thu)

Scrawl: Prism Productions 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 207 S. First. With Pretty Mighty Mighty, \$5 in advance. 99-MUSIC

Big Willie and the Flaming Debutantes: Cava Java 9:30 pm, 1101 S. University. Skameets jump blues meets The Ramones, \$3. 741-5282



"Totally F***ed Up," a no-budget, gay-underground experimental film comes to the A2 Film Co-op. (see 21 Saturday)

14 Saturday

Home Accessibility Workshop: A2 Center for Independent Living 9 am-noon, 2568 Packard (in Georgetown Mall). With architect David Esau. 971-0277; 971-0310 (TDD)

Women's Self Defense Class: LGBPO 9 am, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. Six-week self defense course for lesbian & bisexual women, \$30. Pre-register, 763-4186

Ragtime Maxixe Workshop: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy 10 am-noon, Pittsfield Grange Hall, A2-Saline Rd. Learn the ancestor of the modern samba. No partner required, \$5. 429-0014

Cooking Encounters: Ypsi Food Co-op 11 am-3 pm, 312 N. River St., Ypsi. Learn about tahini and how to use it. 483-1520

Korean Percussion Ensemble: U-M School of Music 4 pm, Moore Recital Hall, U-M School of Music. 763-4726

Full Moon Goodnight Walk: A2 Parks & Rec. 7-8 pm, Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. Nighttime hike, fireside story and hot chocolate for children of all ages, \$3. Pre-register, 662-7802

Ruth Brown, blues vocalist: University Musical Society 8 pm, Power Center. Original quartet of rhythm and blues, \$12-\$24. 764-2538

Cub Koda with George Bedard & the Kingpins: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Local heroes team up for a night of rollicking entertainment, \$11/\$10 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

"History of Ethnic Stereotypes in Animation": Ann Arbor Film Co-op 8 pm, Nat. Sci. Aud. Forgotten and buried examples of racist toons from Mickey Mouse to Sambo, \$4. 769-7787

The Hope Orchestra: Borders 8-10 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Single-release performance for "She's Eastem." 668-6652

Group Massage for Gay & Bisexual Men 8 pm (see 7 Sat)

"The Cemetery Club": Croswell Opera House 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

Alan Prophet: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 & 10:30 pm (see 12 Thu)

Restroom Poets: Cava Java 9:30 pm, 1101 S. University. A semi-plugged show from these A2 favorites, \$3. 741-5282

Seam: Prism Productions 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 207 S. First. Contemplative, wistful power popsters from Chicago, with Viola Peacock, \$5 in advance. 99-MUSIC

15 Sunday

Services: Zen Buddhist Temple 9:30-11 am & 5-6:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics 11 am (see 8 Sun)

"Upstairs at Borders": Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. Madhav Deshpande, North Indian vocalist, performs in the classical hindustani tradition, with Glenn Bering on tabla. 668-6652

Meeting: Parents-FLAG/Ann Arbor 2 pm, First Unitarian Univ. Church, 1917 Washtenaw. 741-0659

Ministry to Gay Men, Bisexuals & Lesbians 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Dance Potpourri: Grand Traditions Vintage Dance Academy 3-5 pm, Pittsfield Grange Hall, A2-Saline Rd. Vintage and traditional dances. No partner required, \$5. 429-0014

"The Cemetery Club": Croswell Opera House 3 pm (see 13 Fri)

"The End of The Arab-Israeli Conflict": Peace InSight 3:05 pm (see 10 Tue)

Eucharist in Honor of Rev. Harvey H. Guthrie: Committee on Lesbian & Gay Concerns of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan 4 pm, St. Andrew's, N. Division & Catherine. Dr. Guthrie will be retiring next spring from the rectorship of St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. 663-7966

Men's Self Defense Class: LGBPO 4 pm, Common Language, 215 S. 4th Ave. Six-week course for gay and bisexual men, \$30. Pre-register, 763-4186

Live Jazz 'n Dinner: University Club 5-7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

Sunday Jazz: Del Rio 6-9 pm (see 1 Sun)

Harlem Spiritual Ensemble: University Musical Society 7 pm, Hill Aud. Celebrates the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., free but tickets required. 764-2538

Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Benefit for the Hemophilia Foundation: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. With Madcat & Kane, Robert Jones, Matt Watroba & others, \$15. 800-482-3041

Israeli Dancing: Hillel 8 pm (see 8 Sun)

A2 Bluestage: Blind Pig 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner's Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

16 Monday

"Women's Rights & Rhythms" WCBN 88.3 FM 8:30 am. 763-3500

"Conflict and Community: Building Bridges Through Intergroup Dialogues": Program on Intergroup Relations and Conflict 4-7 pm, Rooms B109-B122, MLB. Participate in one of three dialogues on race relations and sexual orientation, as part of U-M Martin Luther King Jr. Day Symposium. Registration begins at 3:30 pm. 936-1875

"Music for Martin": U-M Office of Academic and Multicultural Affairs 7 pm, Power Center. African-American music by Sounds of Blackness (30 vocalists and 10-piece orchestra), \$20 & \$30 (\$10 for U-M students at Mich. Union Ticket Office). 763-TKTS

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group 7 pm (see 2 Mon)

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group 7 pm (see 2 Mon)

Shamanic Journeys: The Seeker 7:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

Social for Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men: Canterbury House 9 pm (see 2 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 2 Mon)

Dyke Shindig/Discussion Group 10 pm (see 9 Mon)

17 Tuesday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics call for time (see 3 Tue)

Yoga Course: Zen Buddhist Temple call for time, 1214 Packard. Runs six Tue evenings. 761-6520

Tenant Talk: A2 Tenants Union 6 pm, WCBN 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meeting: Coalition for Accuracy About Abuse 7-9 pm, Unitarian Church, 1917 Washtenaw. CAAA is a nonprofit organization founded to disseminate accurate information about child sexual abuse and to advocate for those harmed by sexual abuse. 998-0017

TV Video Night: LGBPO 7 pm, 3116 Mich. Union. Watch TV episodes of Northern Exposure, Roseanne, & more (all with LGB theme). 763-4186

"Soviet Jews in Israel": Hillel 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. With U-M political science professor, Zvi Gitelman. 769-0500

Fabulous Fruit & Nut Party in honor of TuB'Shevat (New Year of the Trees): Beit Chayim 7 pm, call for location. 913-2130

"Nuclear Disarmament and the U.N. Disarmament Commission": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. 769-7422

Buddhist Study Group: Zen Buddhist Temple 7:30-9:30 pm, 1214 Packard. The Principles of Buddhism, level 2. Runs five Tue. eves. 761-6520

U-M Folk Dancing Club: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

WomanCircle: The Seeker 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

Cliff Eberhardt: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Accomplished songwriter, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 3 Tue)

18 Wednesday

Buhrrr Blast: A2 Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm (see 4 Wed)

Support Group Facilitator Training: LGBPO 6-9 pm, 3116 Mich. Union. For anyone interested in facilitating a support group. 763-4186

"Closets R 4 Clothes": WCBN 88.3 FM 6-7 pm (see 4 Wed)

Asian-Pacific Lesbian Gay Bisexual Social Group: LGBPO 7-8:30 pm (see 11 Wed)

Huron High Hockey: A2 Parks & Rec. 7 pm (see 11 Wed)

Meditation Workshop: Meditation for Universal Consciousness 7 pm (see 11 Wed)

"The Pillars of Islam": Bethlehem United Church of Christ 7:30-9 pm, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Talk by Nadia Hidayet. 665-6149

Conference on the Holocaust Publicity Committee Mass Meeting: Hillel 7:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. 769-0500

"Prospect" Meeting: Hillel 7:30 pm (see 11 Wed)

Bowling: Rainbow League 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Meetings: Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Bobbie & Sean: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm, Leonardo's, NCC. Acoustic duo of guitar and voice. 764-7544

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm (see 11 Wed)

Meeting: East Quad Social Group 9 pm (see 11 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

19 Thursday

Volunteers in Action Dinner for the Homeless: Hillel 3 pm, call for location. Rachel, 764-0655 or Lara, 741-4299

Shulchan Ivrit: Hillel 5 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

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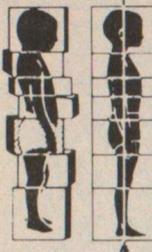
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"The Wonder of the Galapagos Islands": EMU Depot Town Center 7 pm, 32 E. Cross St., Ypsi. Lecture/slide presentation by Dr. Paul McKelvey, \$8. 487-0407

Volunteer/Intern Training: LGBPO 7 pm, 3116 Mich. Union. For anyone interested in volunteering at LGBPO. 763-4186

Feminist Text Study: Hillel 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. 769-0500

Shining Lake Groves Meeting: The Seeker 7 pm, Common Language, 215 S. Fourth Ave. "Eastern Martial Arts and Magical Applications" by Sean Martin. 665-8428

Five Guys Named Moe: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Spanning the musical bridge between Louis Jordan and Bob Wills, \$6/\$5 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Live Jazz: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

A2 Committee for Bosnia: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

TV Night: Hillel 8-11 pm (see 5 Thu)

Collage Concert: U-M School of Music 8:15 pm, Hill Aud. Four of Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition" and the Dies Irae from Mozart's Requiem. 763-4726

Eddie Brill: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm, 314 E. Liberty. High-energy act; original and very funny, \$10. 996-9080

Ron Brooks Trio Featuring Eddie Russ: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

Kenny Neal: Prism Productions 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 207 S. First. A rising star on the blues circuit, \$6 in advance. 99-MUSIC

Meeting: Queer Unity Project 10 pm (see 5 Thu)

Without a Net: University Club 10 pm (see 5 Thu)

20 Friday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics call for time (see 3 Tue)

EMU Faculty/Staff Club Friday: EMU Depot Town Center noon-7 pm, 32 E. Cross St., Ypsi. Informal gathering. 487-0407

Bowling for People who are Blind/Visually Impaired: A2 Center for Independent Living 3:30-6 pm, Colonial Lanes, 1950 S. Industrial. A social dinner follows, \$1.35/game, .75/shoe rental. 971-0277, 971-0310 (TDD)

"Fried Green Tomatoes": MLK Film Series 5 pm, Chrysler Aud., N. Campus. 764-7544

Meeting: Public Health Skewed Left 6-7:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

"Nuclear Disarmament and the U.N. Disarmament Commission": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 17 Tue)

Moonlight Serenade: A2 Parks & Rec. 6:30-9 pm, Huron Hills Golf Course, 3465 E. Huron River Dr. Ski on lighted, groomed paths, \$2.50 (ski rental \$6 adults/\$3.75 youths & srs). 971-6840

South Normal: PJ's No Kickdrum Acoustic Concert Series 7 pm, PJ's Used Records & CDs, 617-B Packard Rd. In-store acoustic performance by slamming rock'n'rollers. 663-3441

Esoteric Lecture Series: The Seeker 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. "Syncretism Among Religions in Eastern Europe" by Valerie Hartzler and Paul Kershaw. 761-1137

"Personal Healing and Meditation": A2 Practical Psychic Inst. 7:30-9:30 pm, call for location. John Friedlander conducts seminar, continues Sat & Sun, 10 am-4 pm, \$150. 761-8821

"The Hobbit": Young Actors Guild 7:30 pm, Performance Network, 408 W. Washington. J.R.R. Tolkien's timeless tale, \$6/\$4 hobbits (Thursdays are "pay-what-you-can"). 663-0681

Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

The Raisin Pickers: N. Campus Commons Arts & Programs 8-10 pm, Leonardo's, NCC. Good old-time



Alison Krauss is just one of many fine acts that will play the 18th Ann Arbor Folk Festival at Hill Auditorium. (see 28 Saturday)

dance music, swing and newgrass. 764-7544

The RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. A2's favorite bluegrass band, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

"The Cemetery Club": Croswell Opera House 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

Eddie Brill: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm (see 19 Thu)

M.L. Leibler and the Magic Poetry Band: Cava Java 9:30 pm, 1101 S. University, \$3. 741-5282

Mule: Prism Productions 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 207 S. First. Cowpunk-blues, \$5 in advance. 99-MUSIC

Friday Dance Jam: People Dancing 10:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

21 Saturday

Credit Education Series: A2 Parks & Rec. 9 am-12:30 pm, Bryant Community Ctr., 3 W. Eden Ct. Topics include budgeting, saving money, and gaining access to credit. Two-week series, \$15/\$5 with scholarship (includes continental breakfast and "The Bill Book"). Register, 994-2722

Discovering Winter Treasures: A2 Parks & Rec. 9:30-11 am, Leslie Science Ctr., 1831 Traver. Kids ages 5-8 will explore what lives in the pond under the ice, \$5. Pre-register, 662-7802

Shabbat Lunch: Conservative Minyan 12:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill St. Reserve 2 days in advance, \$3. 769-0500

Community Home Buyer's Program: A2 Parks & Rec. 2-4 pm, Bryant Community Ctr., 3 W. Eden Ct. How to determine if you qualify for a loan, for people with low to moderate incomes. Register, 994-2722

"The Hobbit": Young Actors Guild 2 pm & 7:30 pm (see 20 Fri)

Ice Skating: Reform Chavurah 6:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. 769-0500

"Totally F*ed Up": Ann Arbor Film Co-op** 7 & 9 pm, Angell Hall Aud. A. No-budget, gay-underground experimental cinema, \$5/\$4 studs. 769-7787

Huron High Hockey: A2 Parks & Rec. 7 pm (see 11 Wed)

Mustard's Retreat: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Hometown songwriting duo, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Baaba Maal: Prism Productions 8 pm, The Majestic, 4140 Woodward, Detroit. The finest contemporary musical artist in Africa, \$12.50 in advance. 99-MUSIC

"The Cemetery Club": Croswell Opera House 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

Group Massage for Gay & Bisexual Men 8 pm (see 7 Sat)

Eddie Brill: Mainstreet Comedy Showcase 8:30 pm (see 19 Thu)

Fingers: Cava Java 9:30 pm, 1101 S. University. Tasty pop, \$3. 741-5282

22 Sunday

Lesbian & Bisexual Women of Color Collective call for time and location. LGBPO 763-4186

Services: Zen Buddhist Temple 9:30-11 am & 5-6:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics 11 am (see 8 Sun)

"Upstairs at Borders": Borders 1 pm, 612 E. Liberty. The Mosaic Trio play Brahms for clarinet, cello and piano. 668-6652

Chronic Fatigue/Immune Deficiency Support Group: A2 Center for Indep. Living 1-3 pm, 2568 Packard. 971-0277, 971-0310 (TDD)

Ministry to Gay Men, Bisexuals, & Lesbians 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

"A Family Within A Family": Jewish Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay and Questioning Collective 3 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Jewish members of Detroit's PFLAG will discuss how Jewish lesbians and gays are accepted by their families. 769-0500

"The Cemetery Club": Croswell Opera House 3 pm (see 13 Fri)

"Nuclear Disarmament and the U.N. Disarmament Commission": Peace InSight 3:05 pm (see 17 Tue)

"Protecting the Land: Alternatives to Urban Sprawl": Ecology Center Annual Meeting 4-6 pm, Northside Presbyterian Church, 1679 Broadway. Keynote speech by Marlene Fluharty, executive director of the Americana Foundation. 761-3186

Guest Recital: Siglind Bruhn, piano: U-M School of Music 4 pm, Moore Recital Hall, U-M School of Music. Performs Schoenberg, Webern, Berg & Messiaen. 763-4726

Live Jazz 'n Dinner: University Club 5-7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

Academy of St. Martin-in-the-Fields: University Musical Society 7 pm, Rackham Aud. Program features Vivaldi's "The Four Seasons," \$26-\$35. 764-2538

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Richard Shindell: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. One of America's great songwriters, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

Israeli Dancing: Hillel 8 pm (see 8 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner's Jazz Jam Session: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 1 Sun)

23 Monday

Masters Swim Session 3: A2 Parks & Rec. Mack Pool, 715 Brooks. Swimmers must be able to swim one mile per workout. Classes meet Mon-Fri, 6-7:30 am, or Mon/Wed/Fri, 6-7:30 pm, thru 1 April. Fees based on number of workouts. 994-2898

"Women's Rights & Rhythms": WCBN 88.3 FM 8:30 am. 763-3500

"The Hobbit": Young Actors Guild 2 pm & 7:30 pm (see 20 Fri)

Infant CPR Training: A2 Parks & Rec. 6:15-9:30 pm, Bryant Community Ctr., 3 W. Eden Ct. Receive a certificate from the American Red Cross, \$10 (\$5 with scholarship). Register, 994-2722

Teen Les/Bi/Gay Support Group: Ozone House 7 pm (see 2 Mon)

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group 7 pm (see 2 Mon)

Max Apple: Celebration of Jewish Arts 7:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Apple is author of "Roommates," the story of

his 40-year relationship with his grandfather, \$7/\$5 studs. 769-0500

Shamanic Journeys: The Seeker 7:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

Social for Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men: Canterbury House 9 pm (see 2 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 2 Mon)

Dyke Shindig/Discussion Group 10 pm (see 9 Mon)

24 Tuesday

Swimmers: A2 Queer Aquatics call for time (see 3 Tue)

Tenant Talk: A2 Tenants Union 6 pm, WCBN 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Understanding Ethnic Conflict in the Balkans": EMU Depot Town Center 6:30 pm, 32 E. Cross St., Ypsi. Lecture/discussion with Dr. Jay Weinstein, \$8/two for \$12. 487-0407

American Movement for Israel: Hillel 7 pm (see 10 Tue)

"Health Care Reform": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable Channel 9. Talk by Andrew Zweifler, member of Physicians for a National Health Plan. 769-7422

"To Have Peace, Prepare for Peace": Bethlehem United Church of Christ 7:30-9 pm, 423 S. Fourth Ave. Talk by U-M Professor J. David Singer. 665-6149

Martyn Wyndham-Read: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Singer of Australian folk music, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1800

University Philharmonia Orchestra: U-M School of Music 8 pm, Hill Aud. Music of Copland, Brahms & Schubert. 763-4726

Diversity Show: Talk to Us & Hillel 9 pm, Markley Dormitory. U-M's interactive theater troupe addresses differences between cultures and traditions and how to build bridges. 769-0500

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9 pm (see 3 Tue)

25 Wednesday

Muscular Dystrophy Support Group: A2 Center for Indep. Living 1-3 pm, 2568 Packard. 971-0277, 971-0310 (TDD)

Buhrrr Blast: A2 Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Closets R 4 Clothes": WCBN 88.3 FM 6-7 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Country Music in America": EMU Depot Town Center 6:30 pm, 32 E. Cross St., Ypsi. Four 2-hour Wed. sessions, \$80. 487-0407

"The Panama Deception": Film Series on Militarism 7 pm, Rackham Amphitheater. This untold story of the 1989 U.S. invasion of Panama won the Academy Award for best documentary. 998-0379

Open Meeting: Reform Chavurah 7 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Find out about Reform Jewish activities on campus. 769-0500

Asian-Pacific Lesbian Gay Bisexual Social Group: LGBPO 7-8:30 pm (see 11 Wed)

Meditation Workshop: Meditation for Universal Consciousness 7 pm (see 11 Wed)

Figure Skating Exhibition: A2 Parks & Rec. 7:30-9:30 pm, Veterans Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd. A2 Figure Skating Club demonstrates precision skating. 761-7240

Progressive Zionist Caucus Discussion: Hillel 7:30 pm, Hillel, 1429 Hill. Learn about the political, economic, and military importance of the Golan Heights. 769-0500

"Prospect" Meeting: Hillel 7:30 pm (see 11 Wed)

Bowling: Rainbow League 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Meetings: Lesbians, Bisexuals & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

Jean-Pierre Rampal, flute and John Steel Ritter, piano: University Musical Society 8 pm, Power Center, \$16-\$46. 764-2538

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