

Jaded

ISSUE 10 FALL 2006
PROGRESSIVE CULTURE FOR ALL





WELCOME TO THE GREEN ISSUE

The grass is greener nowhere.

I'm not sure what is more depressing: people paying 100 dollars for a fake Louis Vuitton bag or people paying 1,000 dollars for a real Louis Vuitton bag. Or girls wearing "return to Tiffany and Co" tag pendants, knowing that once it is lost, it is never coming back to them or Tiffany's. It gets pretty confusing trying to decide what's real and what is more real. But figuring what is important gets lost in our search for authenticity. This issue explores the theme "green" by exposing the unnatural in our social, political and ecological environment. We write about the real impacts of golf courses, fake grassroots, organic cotton, vegan raw ethnic food, deportation of U.S. aliens (not to be confused with UFOs), and provide a DIY immigration starter kit. An added bonus to this Green issue is a directory of sustainable places to shop and eat. This is definitely a fresh start for Jaded; issue number 10 (two digits, baby), new color, second launch party, and new t-shirts.

P.S. We're excited for our next issue, Red.

Diana Jou

MISSION STATEMENT

Jaded is an alternative media magazine that was founded and supported by the Asian American community. Though our identity is rooted in the community, we aim to make issues of race, class, gender, and sexual orientation relevant to our socio-political environment. We are committed to social justice and at the same time to arts, entertainment, and creative expression. Our progressive identity shapes the way we process information and the development of our articles. Jaded hopes to create a community of young, creative, and critical thinkers that can make positive change in our collective future.

COVERS

Front and inside cover by Paul Oshima
Back cover by Chris Dea



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First twenty emails will get Jaded pins. Critical commentaries are welcomed.

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DISCLAIMER

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HODGE PODGE



ASUCI Funding

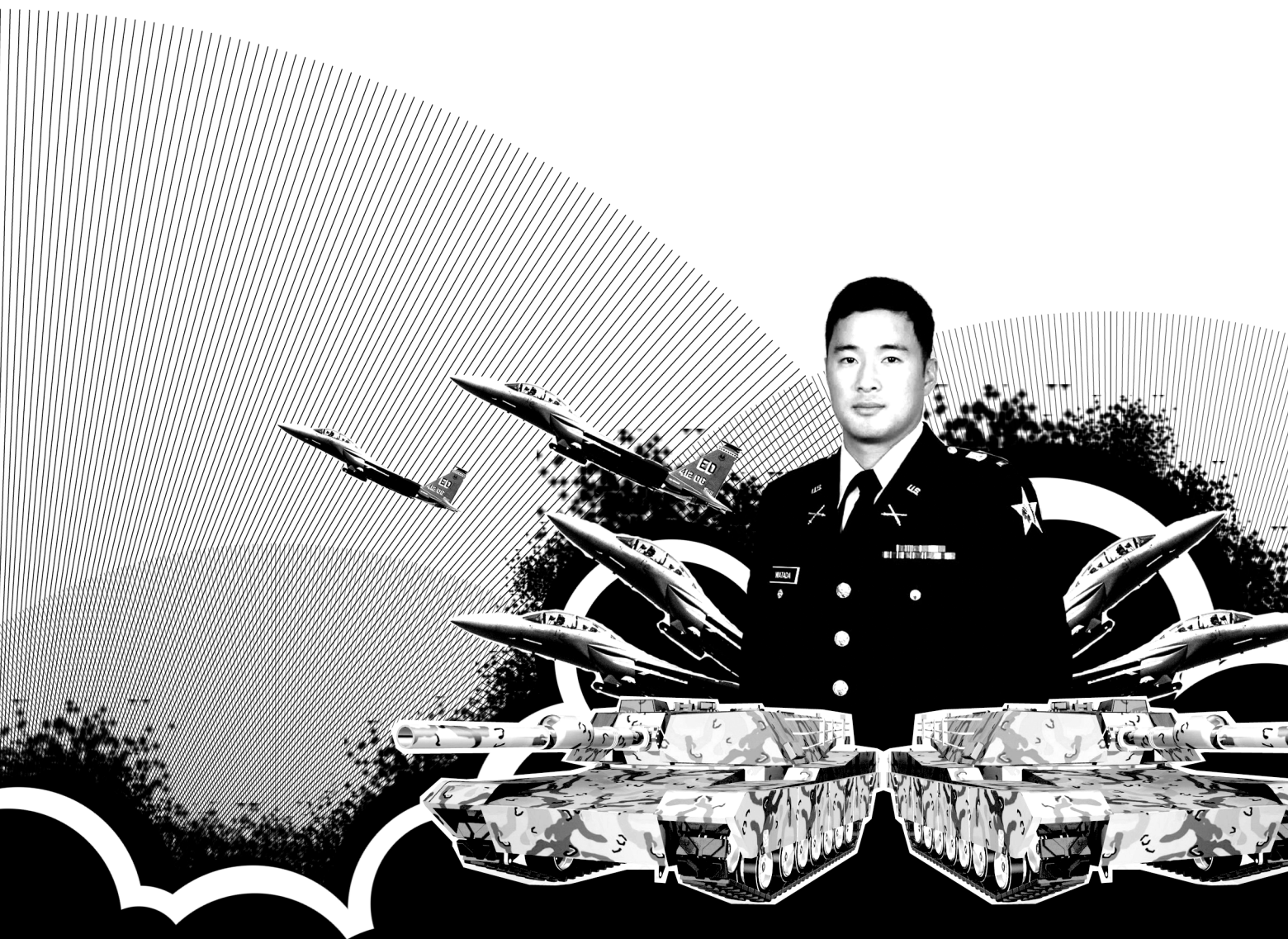
Last spring quarter, ASUCI made dramatic changes to the funding process for student organizations. The old process allowed clubs to apply for money the spring quarter before the start of a new academic year, revealed how funds are balanced between internal ASUCI programs and student programs, gave students a chance to attend and examine the process. The new process places strong emphasis in reducing wasteful spending for student orgs and at the same time taking away mechanisms that looks at wasteful internal spending. Student's efforts to voice their opposition last quarter continued this quarter with little success. Many student groups, AISA, ASU and Hip Hop congress are frustrated because their fall quarter events are funded weeks and sometimes days before their actual event. Not only does the new process contains unnecessary bureaucracy, but is also vague in its description. When a group of club leaders attended an ASUCI funding meeting and critically questioned the flaws of the new process, ASUCI President Stephanie Johnson wrote an amendment proposing closed door meetings. The amendment was passed, with still no regular schedule of when funds are allocated to student groups.

Rainbow Festival

UC Irvine's Cross-Cultural Center hosted its 26th annual Rainbow Festival and Conference on November 1 and 2, 2006. The two-day event, titled "Under Construction Indefinitely: A Blueprint for a Multicultural Community" was filled in the daytime with a Cultural Fair featuring over a dozen booths from cultural clubs showcasing the diversity of UC Irvine's students. Hundreds of students also took in cultural performances, dances, and demonstrations while sampling the delicious food offerings available. In the evenings, the Interfaith Dialogue invited three local religious leaders, Imam Sadullah Khan, Rabbi Richard Steinberg, and Pastor Gary Barmore to speak together about their own and each other's faiths. Rainbow Festival's 2006 keynote speaker was Wilma Mankiller, the Cherokee Nation's first female deputy chief. Mankiller helped bring tremendous gains for the Cherokee people by improving social and economic conditions in the community. With this year's Rainbow Festival the Cross-Cultural Center continued to challenge UC Irvine to engage in dialogue about pressing contemporary issues while celebrating the unique diversity of the campus.

Recycling at UCI

The UCI Recycling club works closely with Facilities Management of the Recycling Department to reduce waste, encouraging the use or reusable products, diverting waste materials from landfills, complying with Federal and State recycling policies and clean energy standards, and lastly, overseeing recycling operations. There are recycling bins in front of the Engineering Tower, Student Center, and Main Library Copy Center, in which glass, plastic, paper/cardboard are separated and recycled. Although many have speculated to whether these separated bins remain separated when collected at the end of the day, Recycling Program Coordinator Suzanne Hibbs has assured students that this is a false conclusion. All recycling bins are emptied on the north area campus, along with other materials that are recycled like concrete and ink cartridges. Recently from the UCI Recycling Club and Recycling Department, are new projects to take recycling even further. These projects include bringing re-useable mug to receive a discount at all UCI food service locations. This project will help hinder the mass amount of disposable cups being used, that UCI disposes in the landfills every year.



EHREN WATADA

words by **Patrick Appel**
images by **Chris Dea**

On June 22, 2006 first lieutenant Ehren Watada refused deployment to Iraq, becoming the first commissioned officer to do so publicly. He had repeatedly requested a transfer, which the army denied. Facing deployment to Iraq or a possible jail sentence, Ehren chose jail. He had come to consider the war "illegal" and "immoral." Regardless of the risk to himself Watada spoke out against the war.

During the 2006 Veterans for Peace Conference in Seattle Watada declared that "joining the military does not relinquish one's right to seek truth" and "that to stop an illegal and unjust war, the soldiers can choose to stop fighting it." He urged the American soldier to "realize that this is a war not...of self-defense but... choice, for profit and imperialistic domination."

Watada has been charged with "contempt towards President Bush, conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and missing movement, [refusing to redeploy]." A six-year charge was added to Watada's case for publicly voicing his opposition to the war at the Veterans for Peace Conference. He faces over eight years in prison for his actions. ■

Supporters of the anti-war movement can sign a petition at www.ThankYouLt.com to show support for Ehren Watada.



MO'MONEY MO'PROBLEMS

Top University of California Salaries

	Name/Title	Campus	Salary	Total Pay
1	Jeff Tedford Head Coach - Athletics	UC Berkeley	\$152,590	\$1,562,453
2	Philip E. Leboit Professor of Medicine	UC San Francisco	\$91,306	\$1,516,451
3	Ronald W. Busuttil Professor of Medicine	UC Los Angeles	\$246,415	\$1,507,289
4	Timothy H. Mccalmont Professor of Medicine	UC San Francisco	\$78,496	\$1,502,671
5	Benjamin Clark Howland Coach - Athletics	UC Los Angeles	\$150,000	\$1,020,000

UC's median payrolls	2004-2005	percent change from 2002-2003
Chancellor	\$307,066	10%
Professor*	\$136,100	5%
Director	\$99,960	3%
Administrative specialist	\$42,695	0%
Custodian	\$22,867	-5%

*Note: Professors salaries are not representative of most professors' pay. They are skewed because of the high salaries necessary to attain medical school professors.

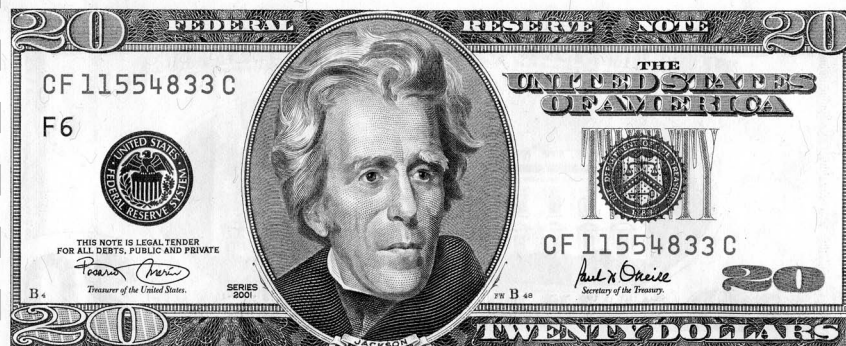
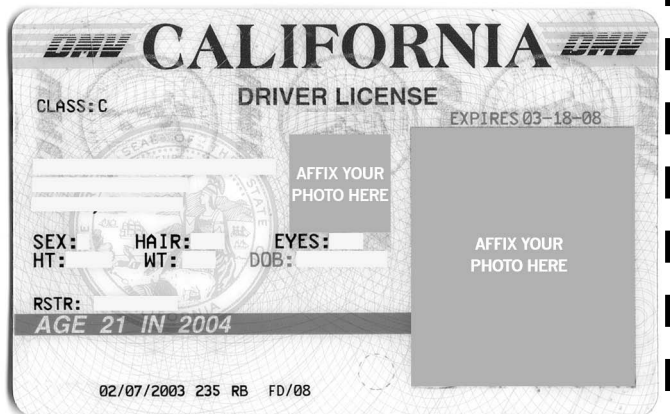
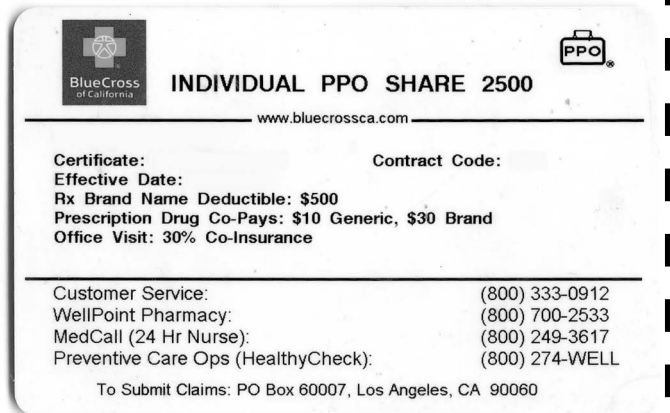
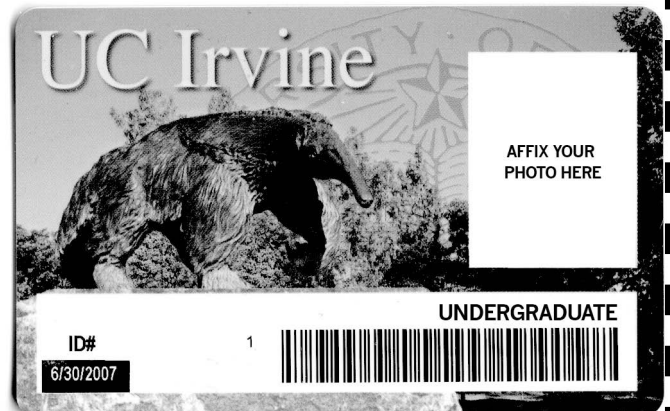
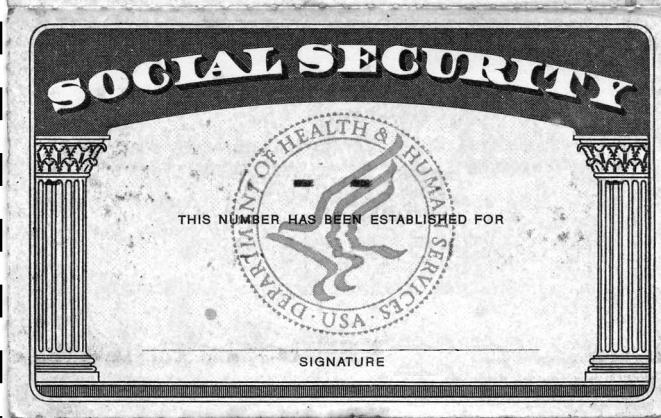
After these numbers from the 2004-2005 academic year were published by the San Francisco Chronicle in November of 2005, the fallout from the shocking disclosure of UC employee compensation had the Regents scrambling to explain themselves. But hearing top UC executives sputter their way through defenses of their six-figure salaries does little to mollify students who face almost yearly increases in increasingly unaffordable tuition. The prevailing rationalization is that in order for the University of California to maintain its world-class status as a research institute administrators, professors, and researchers must be paid salaries commensurate with their private school and East Coast counterparts. As the University struggles to attract and retain qualified individuals it also must pay its employees with competitive salaries comparable to what they'd receive in the private sector. But is this the University of California, the public institution founded with the dedication to educational accessibility, or UC Incorporated, the \$19 billion industry that models itself after a Fortune 500 corporation? These figures show where the University's values lie.

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ENVIRONMENTALISTS ARGUE TIGER NOT DOING MUCH FOR THE WOODS

words by *Julianne Hing* / images by *Chris Dea*

"IT TAKES A TOXIC CHEMICAL COCKTAIL OF HERBICIDES, PESTICIDES, AND FERTILIZERS TO KEEP THE GOLF GREEN CARPET TAUT AND SPRINGY. THE NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST THE MISUSE OF PESTICIDES (NCAMP) HAS SAID THAT GOLF COURSES ARE SECOND ONLY TO UNITED STATES FRUIT ORCHARDS IN DEGREE OF CHEMICAL SATURATION."



Golf, poor golf, has never had a quiet day to itself. Many don't even consider golf a sport. As far as recreational activities go, it totters precariously between legitimate sport and leisurely game of skill. The game has endured the disparaging remarks of the many who claim it is boring and snobby. But these are the least of golf's issues.

Golf has long symbolized the heights of social exclusion by prohibiting everyone except wealthy white men from access to the green. The Professional Golfers Association (PGA) was open only to white players until 1961, and the Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia, which hosts the illustrious Masters Tournament, waited until just 16 years go, 1990, to allow black membership.

And if race was a sensitive topic for private golf clubs, try talking about sex. While women are slowly gaining access to golf courses and club memberships, on some greens women's play is still restricted to designated time slots. And, today, in the very modern 2006, the Augusta National Golf Club continues to bar women from membership.

What's the tally then? Golf as an institution is a racist, sexist, expensive, elitist half-sport. But perhaps it is that very history and reputation of limited access that makes the game so alluring. Golf is popular with both the wealthy and those who aspire to be wealthy. Multi-million dollar corporate mergers and multinational trade agreements are sealed over swings of drivers and seven irons. Golf greens also make picturesque backdrops for staged photo ops and press conferences. (See President George W. "Now Watch This Drive" Bush's cameo in "Fahrenheit 9/11.") People are finding the golf fairway provides more than just a catwalk to parade the latest in plaid knickers.

Courses are popping up all over the United States and the rest of the world in the most unexpected places to satisfy this growing demand. On space-challenged islands, like Japan and Hong Kong, in the desert climes of Nevada and Dubai, and in impoverished countries like Myanmar and Colombia. According to the United States Golf Course Database, as of August 2005 there were 16,237 courses in the US alone. And with the rise in golf's popularity, the game is again coming under attack, this time from concerned citizens, scientists, community organizers, and government officials who question the environmental sustainability of golf courses.

Golf courses elicit paradoxical mental images. Golf is an exclusive game played on expansive swaths of land. And golf courses, with their tall trees, varying textures of grasses, and graceful ponds flaunt their green lushness year round. Yet, the construction and maintenance of golf courses demands the forceful control of natural environments. Today's golf courses are green but they are also unnatural monocultures.

In Scotland, the land of golf's origins, the climate is naturally wet year-round, and the land naturally rolls in poetic contours. At the time of the game's inception golf courses were not built, they occurred. The world's first golf links at the British Isles were situated on sandy soil in coastal regions. The bunkers that we recognize in golf courses today have been artificially recreated to echo the occasional sand dunes that punctuated the Scottish landscape. The grass never had to be mowed or treated. It was watered by the rains and maintained by grazing sheep. Holes on greens were simply cored out tiny pockets of earth. The players made a pastime out of their natural environment.

But as golf courses are being set up in climates wholly distinct from the rainy pastures of Scotland, it creates new demands on land and water resources. Non-native plants are introduced into surroundings for which they are not suited.

This can wreak havoc on the area's native plant and animal species which must compete for the same resources.

Building golf courses often involves razing forests or blasting through mountains to flatten land. The area is then dug down about 12 or 16 inches into the ground and lined with sheets of plastic or gravel. Next, drainage pipes are set with sand and readied for the course to be installed atop it. And all this before the grass has arrived!

The molding of the land in golf courses often requires completely resculpting the terrain. Developers haul in land-fill to create artful knots and plateaus to pepper across the green. Ponds are filled, waterfalls installed, and trees erected to provide players with hazards and challenges. The grass on golf courses must be tended to with assiduous care. In modern regulation courses fairway grass is kept to a close 3/8 to 1/2 inch height. Even the grain of the grass is monitored because the direction in which grass grows can affect the speed of golf ball travel across it. What results is an intensely managed artificial landscape made entirely of living organisms.

In golf, unlike in nature, the course is supposed to maintain its brilliant emerald green color year round. According to the World Golf Foundation golf courses in the US average about 110-120 acres. A 2003 study from the Center for Irrigation Technology at Cal State Fresno estimated that total golf course irrigation in the US takes of 276 billion gallons of water per year. The study also states that in the southwest where water consumption is highest, the reported average use per course is 88 million gallons of water a year.

It takes a toxic chemical cocktail of herbicides, pesticides, and fertilizers to keep the golf green carpet taut and springy. The National Coalition Against the Misuse of Pesticides (NCAMP) has said that golf courses are second only to United States fruit orchards in degree of chemical saturation. Gulp. (This is also, by the way, a sobering statement about the fruit we grow.) The long-term exposure to these chemicals can have lethal effects. Reports from Golf Course News have told of golf course superintendents who die from non-Hodgkin lymphoma and brain cancer. In 1989 four LPGA players were diagnosed with breast cancer, and began to publicly question whether their time on the green was a contributing factor. The run-off from golf courses can poison water bodies around and below the greens. Fertilizers are high in nitrogen and phosphorus, and this increases algae growth, which can suffocate local fish populations. And this is only the beginning.

But as golf critics recognize that the game and the powerful politicians and developers who enjoy it so much will not be disappearing soon, golf enthusiasts are also starting to take notice of the way the planet is buckling under the weight of environmental antagonism. Both groups are taking steps to work together.

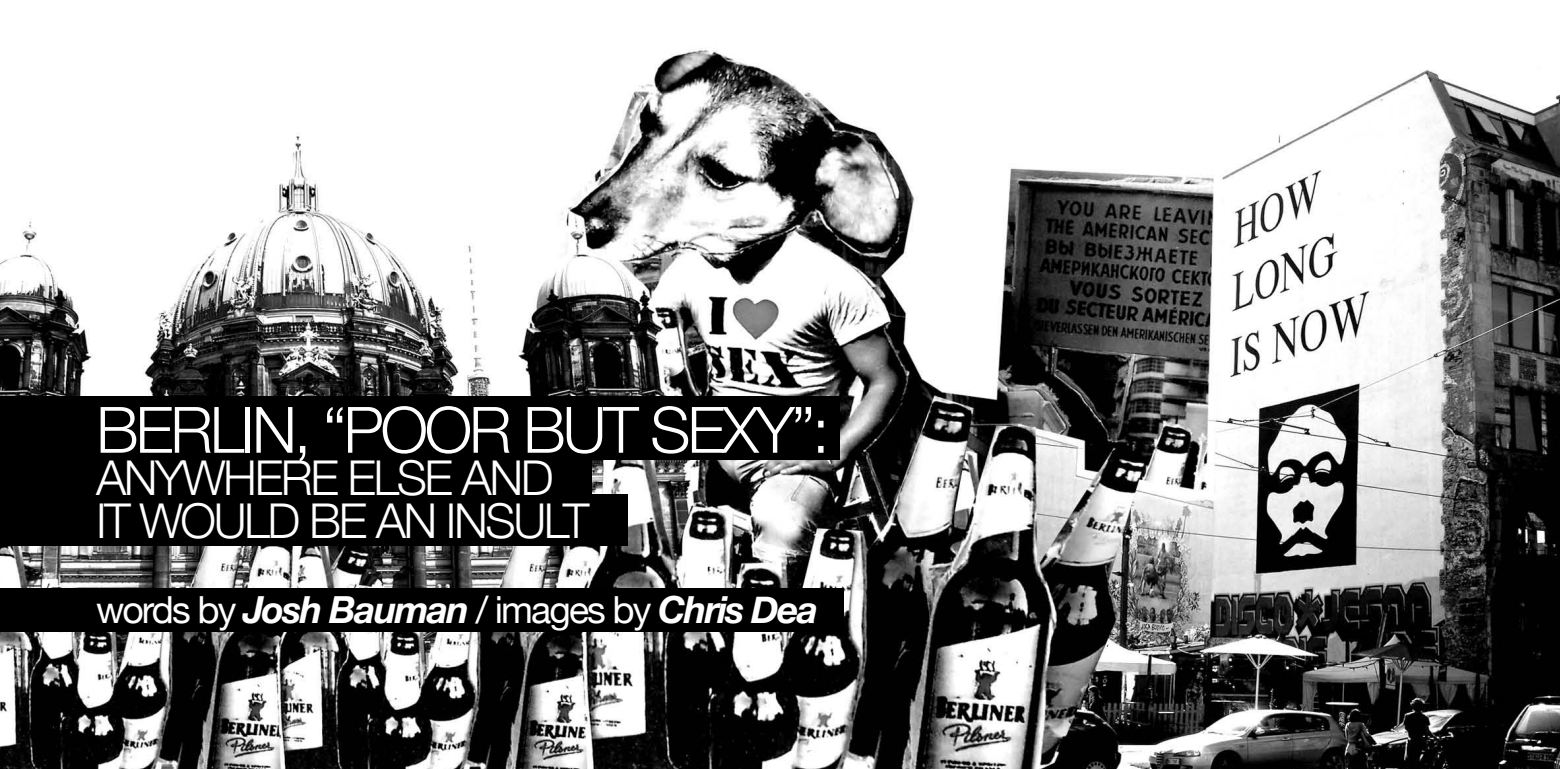
The powerful Royal and Ancient (R&A) Golf Club of Britain has dedicated resources to helping golf course superintendents design and maintain sustainable golf courses. NCAMP suggests a system of integrated plant management that steers superintendents towards less harmful pest and weed control. Through careful species selection, golf courses can take advantage of native and drought-tolerant grasses that respond to and fit naturally within the local climate. Golf course designers are learning to mitigate concerns about the environmental friendliness of their greens by designing more narrow fairways with corridors of land that allow wildlife to pass through and by using rainwater run-off to irrigate fairways.

Golf will never be hip like basketball or globally accepted like soccer. And it has an embarrassing social history that the game is doing very little to dissociate itself from. But if more golf courses can adopt environmentally sustainable practices, the game has a shot at gaining a little respect, if not the classification as a real sport. ■

**DO YOU WANT TO LOVE
AND BE LOVED? DO YOU OF
THINK ABOUT DIFFERENT
IDENTITIES IN TERMS OF
RACE, CLASS, AND GENDER?
DO YOU WANT TO HAVE
SOMETHING SPECIAL WITH
LIKE-MINDED STUDENTS? DO
YOU WANT AN OPPORTUNITY
TO CHANGE PEOPLE AND BE
CHANGED?**

You can get all of the above and more by being politically active in the **Asian Pacific Student Association (APSA)**. **APSA** is one of the five historical umbrella organizations that have significantly shaped the face of student activism at UCI. Starting Winter Quarter, **APSA** will hold weekly general meetings at the Cross-Cultural Center on Tuesdays at 7 p.m.

APSA is currently taking applications for Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month committee members. For more information email Narinda, nheng@uci.edu



BERLIN, "POOR BUT SEXY": ANYWHERE ELSE AND IT WOULD BE AN INSULT

words by **Josh Bauman** / images by **Chris Dea**

Despite not being in Berlin there are some ways you can prepare yourself for your eventual journey. If "real" traveling isn't your thing then you may want to consider a vicarious vacation to the city, if only for a few minutes. Either way you need to know a few things, the most important of which is that as far as I can tell Berlin does not have an official motto, though if it did, it would be simply be: "Poor but Sexy."

Everything about Berlin can be summed up in those three words. Let me explain. "Poor," because yes, Berlin is one of the poorest cities in all of Europe. The city's infrastructure supports a huge population, a large number of which live there illegally. For those not in the know Germany was divided into two separate countries following the second World War, and was only reunited in 1990. Indeed, the two Germanies were split between the Eastern "allied" (democratic) powers and the Western Russian (communist) powers.* This division occurred directly through Berlin and culminated in the construction of the Berlin Wall which divided the city until reunification. Since reunification Berlin has received less and less funding despite the strength and political significance of the city. The unemployment rate in Germany hovers around 12% while Berlin suffers from a staggering 20%.** All of that still doesn't stop too many people from having a good time though. With the stunted economy comes some of the lowest prices for rent and food in all of Europe.

"But" is a coordinating conjunction, which joins two words or phrases in the English language. I can assure you it is very important in understanding Berlin.

"Sexy," well, because Berlin is sexy. C'mon, where else can you find a club called the "Fuck Factory" (that's sexy, right?), or the annual Love Parade, which Lonely Planet aptly summarizes as a dedication to "hedonistic worship to techno music, drugs, and free-and-easy sexuality." Berlin is also home to active BGLT communities. One of Berlin's most prominent features is its diversity; Berlin supposedly supports citizens from well over 180 different countries. Berlin's diversity is very sexy indeed!

Perhaps you are not convinced that Berlin has something to offer. Maybe poverty or sexiness are not your things. Berlin appeals exist on several other levels, the most important perhaps is how it differs from any other city I have ever lived in. The art scene is closely tied to the waning punk scene of the 1990s, which is still very much present, at least in a reproduced form. Because of the economic status of Berlin

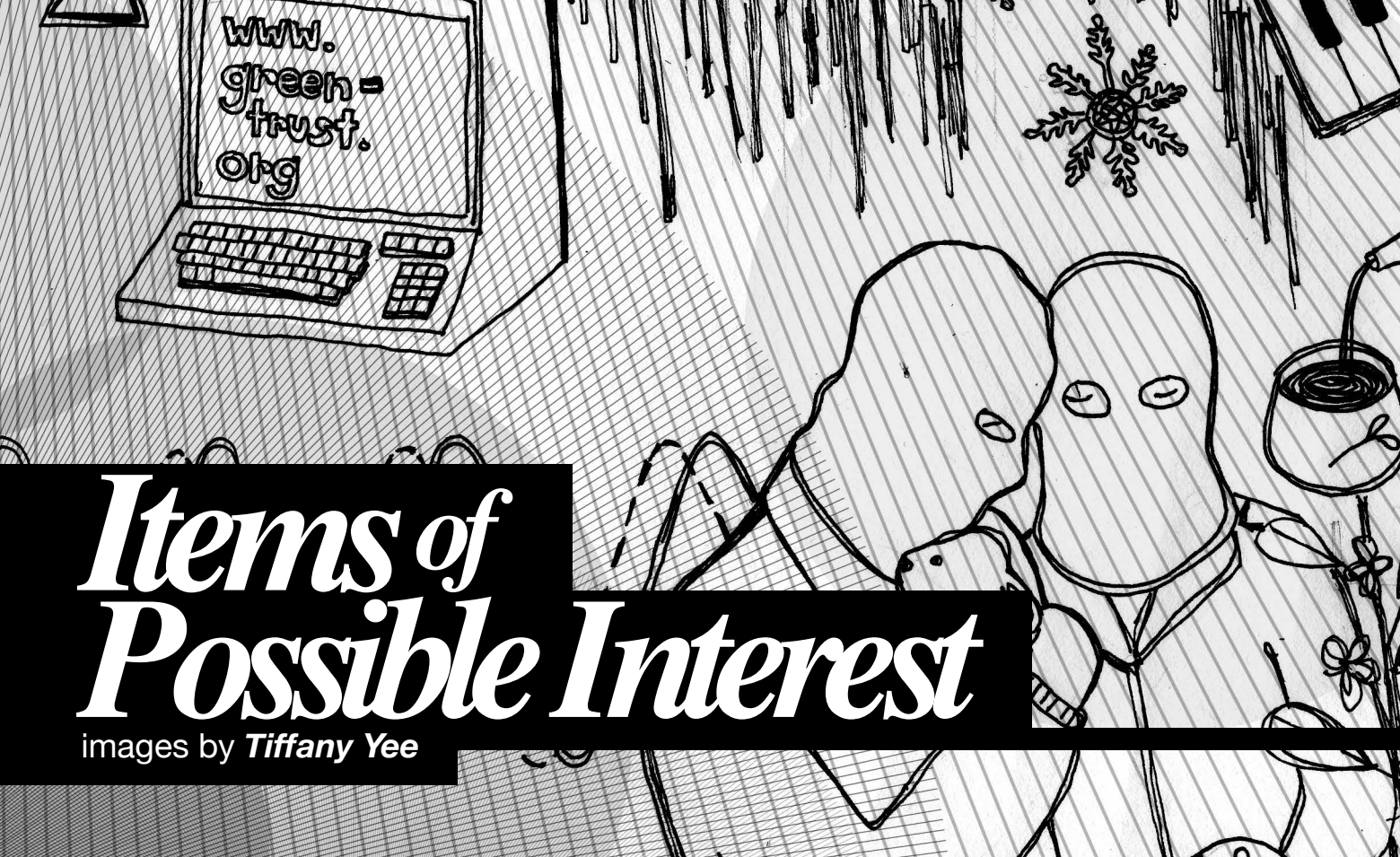
it is quite common to see temporary galleries that might not be there in a few days or a week, but appeal to the owner of the building because at least someone is renting space. The arthouse Tacheles is a testament to the underground artistic virility of the city though on a good day it could pass for a crack den. Tacheles, like the art scene, is really indescribable though strong.

Finally, what I have found in Berlin and nowhere else is a city that doesn't feel like a city. Perhaps I hated how absolutely un-bike friendly Los Angeles was, but Berlin does it for me. Plus, navigating by bike is made all the easier because the city is almost entirely flat (you can thank the fact that it was built on a swamp for that). Drivers show an uncanny respect for cyclists, though you do have to watch out for the Taxis. Plenty of litter adorns the streets of Berlin, though recycling is very popular and I have been warned against letting your neighbors see you put glass in the garbage can. All of the beer bottles have an unusually high deposit (which actually brings their cost lower than the equivalent amount of water), encouraging a good future for that glass. It is rare to see any recyclable material on the street and you do have to keep an eye on your beer bottle if you happen to not have your hand on it. Surprisingly Germany was home to the first vegetarian society. Though certain parts of the country are not conducive to living a healthy vegetarian lifestyle, Berlin is not one of them. The international community provides many foreign vegetarian options at reasonable prices and there are a handful of vegetarian eateries for all budgets. Almost every restaurant has a non-meat option, if not many. Several open air markets occur throughout the week and offer a great place to pick up cheap and fresh veggies, fruit, and meat.

Berlin does have its faults and the weather can leave something to be desired. Racial tensions between the many foreign communities and the local German population is sometimes more palpable than other times. Finding a (legal) job is a feat in and of itself as is obtaining the paperwork to legally reside in the country. But, you can live in Germany for three months with a valid U.S. passport, and I strongly encourage you to try it. Be forewarned, Berlin is a place that will suck you in. ■

*The history facts can be checked in any decent history book.

**<http://www.destatis.de/indicators/e/arb230ae.htm>, among other places.



Items of Possible Interest

images by *Tiffany Yee*

GREEN TRUST SUSTAINABILITY & RENEWABLE ENERGY

This is a blog site run by Steve Spence from New York. He is a professional IT Engineer and Electronics Tech. He also says that he is a Green Conservative (a possible target for the Green Scare perhaps??) and a would-have-been hippie if he were alive in the 60's. Steve also lives off solar panels, wind, and veggie oil fueled diesel generator power. He has the ultimate environmentalist home.

Apparently, Steve is also trying to come up with ways to provide hippie homeowners and the like to be more environment-friendly! The blog site has numerous blogs on his progress and productions.

For more info. visit: <http://www.green-trust.org/>

WORK UP AN APPETITE!! UGLY VEGETABLE COMPETITION IN

The Ugly Veg Competition is just that. A competition to see who can grow the ugliest vegetable! This year's winner is Mrs. Hillary Nellist of Bedford, England. The vegetable is supposed to be a parsnip but looks like an octopus. According to the website, it's supposed to taste just as good as any other parsnip, but it doesn't look too good.

The overall winner gets an organic vege-

table box for a year and gets a chance to receive advice from National Trust gardeners for a day. Apparently they take their vegetables and fruits seriously. The competition was founded by the National Trust with the 'Food Choices' initiative and 'Small Steps BIG CHANGE' project.

For more info. visit: http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/main/w-global/w-special_projects/w-plot_to_plate/w-ugly_veg_competition.htm

If it reminds you of the Red Scare then you're right! It's related to the post-WWII Red Scare involving a series of hearings to criminalize suspected Communists. The Red Scare really didn't do anything to prevent Communism but simply convicted a number of innocent people.

The Green Scare is just that—except for the Red Communism part. Unfortunately this time, the U.S. government is targeting radical environmentalists and animal rights groups. The government is charging anyone directly involved with environmental campaigns as well as anyone who publicly supports these groups.

The first arrest of "Open Backfire" on Dec. 7, 2005 convicted the Earth Liberation and Animal Liberation Front with charges of conspiracy. There are other alleged convictions on the website.

On Dec. 7 of this year, named A Day of Solidarity with Green Scare Indictees and Political Prisoners, nation-wide events will take place to increase awareness of the Green Scare. Some awareness events include: film screenings, prisoner letter writing parties, teach-ins, support rallies, fundraisers, shows and music festivals. All events are conducted legally and encourage more organized committees to support Green Scare awareness.

For more info. visit: www.greenscare.org

Green themes can be found throughout history: Did you know that in Egypt the temple floors were green? Greeks and Moors believed the color green signified victory. Muslims wear green turbans after they've made a pilgrimage to the holy city of Mecca. And Leonardo da Vinci strongly believed green represented water.

If you are looking for something that burns calories and has just as much caffeine as coffee, then start your morning with Green Tea. Here are various types of Green Tea:

Sencha, the most popular green tea and it has a light astringent taste and sweetness. This tea has a lower quality called bancha.



Dragon Well tea is the ultimate green tea and the name originates from the legendary well in the West Lake region of China where the tea is produced. The color is bright green and tastes somewhat sharp.

Macha is the tea that is used for traditional Japanese tea ceremony. It is prepared very carefully and the flavor is also light and sweet.

Gunpowder is a unique type of green tea. Its tea leaves are rolled into tight balls, representing old fashioned gunpowder. Because of its form, the tea tastes fresh and stays fresh.

Jasmine isn't classified as a green tea, but it is blended with green tea leaves and jasmine flowers of course, which gives it a refreshing taste.

Genmaicha is also like the Jasmine. It is a blend tea, mixed with sencha green tea and toasted brown rice, which gives it a distinctive toasty flavor.

CAMOUFLAGE TAKES ON ANOTHER

Think the pattern of army fatigues is restricted to blending against the background or the classic military uniform? Think again. Beyond a soft blend of jet black, brown, and forest green is a group of enthusiastic electric guitar players

from Bietigheim-Bissingen, Germany. The four musicians Heiko Maile, Oliver Kreyssig, Marcus Meyn, and Martin Kahling founded the band "Camouflage." Their first live performance away from the basement of Heiko's parents' home was in 1984. Their electronic pop beats are as varied at the different shades of green itself. Check these guys out, they are no longer in hiding.

For more info. visit: <http://www.camouflage-relocated.de/camouflage-music/>

Percent of waste that is recycled in the U.S.: 28%

Original area of U.S. wetlands measured in millions of acres: 220

Current U.S. Wetlands measured in millions of acres: 105.5

Global Increase in temperature since 1900 in degrees Fahrenheit: 1.3

Two Hottest Years in recorded weather history: 1998 and 2005

MISCELLANEOUS

The various shades of green are usually confined to wavelengths of 520-570 nm (nanometer).

Al Green's real name contains the letter "e" at the end. His first group, which

he joined at the age of nine, was called The Greene Brothers. However, when he became a solo artist, he dropped the "e" in his last name.

A recent study found that super-massive black holes, found at the center of some galaxies, are the most fuel-efficient engines in the world. According to Steve Allen of the Kavli Institute for Particle Astrophysics and Cosmology at Stanford University, "If you could make a car engine that was as efficient as one of these black holes, you could get about a billion miles out of a gallon of gas." Thus, it looks as if black holes are "greener" than your Honda Insight.

But don't fret Insight owners, the overall most fuel efficient car of 2006 (according to www.weather.com) is the Honda Insight. It's city/highway MPG is 60/66.

The Incredible Hulk, known for a green skin color, was gray in Incredible Hulk #1. However, due to the coloring technology at the time (1962), the color gray could not be consistently produced and the Hulk sometimes appeared to be green. In the second issue, the Hulk's skin color was changed to green.

ABOUT GRACE'S FILM ABOUT GRACES WRITTEN BY ANOTHER GRACE

words by **Grace Hsiang** / images provided by **Grace Lee**



Activist Grace
Lee Boggs (left)
with filmmaker
Grace Lee

“DOES ANY NAME SCREAM GENERIC ASIAN GIRL MORE THAN GRACE LEE?”

It is in these years of college and at this sacred temple of education that many students learn to define themselves past the previous confines of high school. With roughly 10,100 Asian and Asian American students at UCI one may find many people with same last names and first names. Last names like “Lee” are common for both the Chinese and the Koreans. There are currently 4 Grace Lees, 5 Esther Kims, 7 Grace Kims, 12 John Lees, and 13 David Kims attending UCI. No doubt each person is an individual and unique in their own way, but with stereotyping, generalizing, and labeling still at large, it is possible that all victims of popular Asian names may fall into a general anonymity and never stand out as more than an archetype for the Asian American dream.

At least this is how director Grace Lee felt when she went on a worldwide search to answer the Shakespearean question, “what’s in a name?”. Growing up as one of the only Asian Americans in her Midwestern community, she believed that her identity and name were uniquely hers. That was until she moved to the California and realized that Grace Lee was not only incredibly common, but it came to represent an image of passivity. “Does any name scream generic Asian girl more than Grace Lee?”. Everyone she knew somehow already knew a Grace Lee and that Grace Lee was always described as nice, smart, quiet, and successful. The statistically average Grace Lee is American born from immigrant parents, of Korean ethnicity, lives in California, is 25.126 years old, graduated from college (and probably holds a Masters), has combination skin, and is 5’3”. In addition, she averages 3.5 years of piano lessons. Filmmaker Grace Lee felt that her lack of that overachieving pleasant quality that all Grace Lees seemed to have made her an average loser in a “sorority of super Asians”, so she set out to film the many uniquely different Grace Lees that surely broke the image of the Grace Lee label.

What she found was Grace Lee Boggs, an “Afro-Chinese” activist that was involved in the Black Panther movement and still advocates actively in her community at 80 years old, Lesbian activist Grace Lee that helped to open the first Gay bar in Seoul, and 14 year old Grace Lee that collects voodoo dolls and participates in the dark art. she also encountered many Grace Lees that were “typical” Grace Lees; successful broadcast journalist Grace Lee, quiet pastor’s wife Grace Lee, and many nice

Grace Lees with years of piano lessons under their belts. When she found a Grace Lee that tried to burn down her high school, old classmates still managed to describe Arsonist Grace Lee as a nice, sweet, and successful girl.

Throughout this film, Grace Lee searched to find out to what extent we are shaped by both society and those resisting forces against society. Predictably, she found women that did and did not fit the stereotype of a polite Asian woman. She also found women that typically struggled to balance their own desires with their family’s expectations. Unpredictably, she realized that throughout her search she had placed a high expectation of all Grace Lees to go against the grain when she was unnecessarily putting them under a microscope. When she stopped stereotyping them as just products of the Grace Lee nomenclature, she finally began to see them as real people. Perhaps what she learned is that we can only be stereotypical and categorized when we let such influences affect our character. In fact, Grace Lee realized that part of her goal to find the individualistic Grace Lee only perhaps reflected her own insecurities about her identity. She questioned why it was she could not be as put together as reporter Grace Lee and why it was she wasn’t as bold as Activist Grace Lee, when the whole time her documentary reflected a Grace Lee that was funny, humble, and very thought provoking.

The success of the Grace Lee project fueled the film maker to continue making new films. Her next film, shot this spring, is entitled American Zombie. She describes it as “sort of like the Grace Lee Project, but with zombies”. ■

ASTROTURFING: FAKING GRASSROOTS

words by **Diana Jou** / images by **Chris Dea**



"THE STRATEGIES FOR CREATING SOCIAL PROGRESS HAVE NOT CHANGED, BUT THE USERS HAVE. INSTEAD OF PASSIONATE CITIZENS BACKED WITH STRONG IDEOLOGIES, WE HAVE SKILLED ENTREPRENEURS INTERESTED IN ALTERING THE FACE OF PUBLIC POLICY WITH FAUX MOVEMENTS."

From fake boobs to fake grass, nothing is genuine anymore. A new deceptive kind of grassroots activism, called astroturfing, has spouted in the corporate and political environment. Astroturfing describes a frightening business principal, by which a group pretends to be independent when, in reality, its grassroots essence is bankrolled by large corporations and by major political groups, who hire business savvy firms or "political consultants" that have a starting fee of two million dollars. While corporations and political groups can publicly oppose accusations, it is far more effective to pay a firm to organize a group of citizens and experts to speak on its behalf.

Like anything else fake trying to be looked upon as legitimate, authentic sounding names are needed. Astroturf groups have names that are easily confused with real grassroots organizations. Environmental front groups like Global Climate Coalition (GCC) sound concerned with the environment when it is really a corporate coalition organizing to silence environmental facts that may hurt their industry. Members of GCC have included big names like Chrysler, Exxon, GM, Bethlehem Steel, Goodyear, Mobil, and Shell. In 1996 GCC collected over 1.6 million dollars from membership revenues, which it used it to hire political consultants. GCC and its consultants launched a massive advertising campaign to sway U.S. public opinion away from signing the Kyoto Protocol, a multilateral international agreement to reduce carbon emissions. The result was successful. The U.S. is the only developed nation to retract its signature from the globally recognized environmental agreement. As an astroturf group, GCC was able to achieve its goal and improve its image at the same time.

Leading cigarette manufacturer, Philip Morris creates astroturf groups that advocate for smoker's rights. At first glance there is nothing deceptive with this motive, but what they are doing is gaining customers by shifting public rhetoric. Specially commissioned third party firms are hired to carefully reconstruct arguments in the company's favor. Their tactic is to increase public doubt about the adverse affects of smoking and to switch the focus to individual rights. By questioning the dangers of smoking, they widen the grey area between the "do" and the "don't," and maintain smokers' confidence in their company.

Another group Working Families for Wal-Mart is a front group for Wal-Mart corporations to counter accusations of unfair wages and slim to none health benefits. Working Families for Wal-Mart is a web based campaign that aims to question employee advocacy groups like Wake up Wal-Mart and Wal-Mart Watch's credibility. They uses new grassroots strategies such as blog writing to make swift updates on corporate press releases and counter-argue their critics. Whether real families believe Wal-Mart is helping them is not the real issue. The real issue is that Wal-Mart is using their resources to challenge non-profit groups instead of listening to the concerned workers and improve its labor policy.

Beyond just questioning the authenticity of individual or-

ganization, there is a whole business industry behind the making of astroturf groups. Arno Professional Consulting (APC) is one of many political consulting groups out there. Though APC purposes to be non-partisan, their clientele list reveals a list of conservative politicians and interest groups. APC is part of a specialized industry of political entrepreneurs that are 1) not quite politicians, only indirectly connected to corporate industries and political parties, 2) not quite lawyers, don't practice law, but take full advantage of the loopholes in our government 3) make a lot of money doing grassroots activism. They have services that range from signature gathering to providing "news actualities," video footage fed to "local news outlets [that] depend on readily available pre-recorded news." They work with opinion leaders to provide pre-recorded news reports to radio and television stations that have limited funds available to conduct their own investigations. These fake news reports accumulate significant airtime and provide credible publicity to their clients. APC also offers to stage public hearings with volunteers of the firm, completely undermining the purpose of town hall meetings. While non-profit interest groups struggle with fundraising and publicity strategies, APC operates in a perfect world where publicity, mobilizing, and action seem to come effortlessly with a wad of cash.

The most popular service in political astroturfing is signature collecting. For an initiative to be on the ballot it needs to collect signatures equivalent to 5 percent of the votes cast for the Governor. With California's population, it is no longer possible for independent groups to use volunteers to collect over 600,000 signatures in the designated 150 days. While there is nothing wrong with paying hourly wages for people's work, there is a problem when certain initiatives are backed by industries and religious groups willing to pay as much as 10 dollars for each verified signature. The money incentive quickly shoves signature collecting into the area of marketing and sales. On the ground level, signature collecting is a simple way of making money during election season. Some students find it simple to apply for a job with political consultants; it is part time work with a flexible schedule, pays per signature, and is a resume booster. A skilled collector reframes the issues to make it more appealing to liberals, conservatives and even people that don't see them selves as political. Backed by money, the individual collectors may not even care about the issue or principle of direct democracy; their job is to deliver results.

Whether or not the money incentive is directly connected to signature fraud, there has to be transparency in the process. The current law requires a statement on the petition to notify the voter their right to ask whether a paid signature gatherer or a volunteer. Even the legislators thought this was a bit discreet. In May of 2005, the Assembly and the Senate tried to pass a bill that required collectors to verbally disclose or wear a button that reads, "Paid Signature Gatherer," but was vetoed by the Governor.

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Grassroots organizing, initiatives and referendums were



THE UNCOOKED VEGETABLES WILL NOT BITE

words and images by *Grace Hsiang*

I am not what you would call a healthy eater. My diet primarily consists of things that come straight out of cans, boxes, and Styrofoam and some of my favorite gourmet chefs go by the name of Jack and Carl. Therefore, the idea of eating at a restaurant whose cuisine was described as vegetarian, vegan, and raw petrified me, as I tend to associate words like that with cold, boring and flavorless.

Dining at Au Lac, a vegan living restaurant in Fountain Valley that also serves vegetarian Vietnamese cuisine, was a health culture shock to my fast food palette. Surprisingly, everything

about Au Lac dispelled all negative preconceived notions. This small humble restaurant lies shyly in the corner of a plaza and can be easily overlooked by a casual glance, but inside are families crowded around tables in the center and couples in smaller intimate booths along the wall. Upon entering, one realizes that Au Lac is not merely promoting a type of cuisine, but also a way of life. On the way to the bathroom, one will see the words RAW embedded in orange granite on the floors and once inside they can wash their hand with organic soap. The menus open with a warm greeting that welcomes all newcomers to "Begin with peace, patience, love, and compassion".

Our waitress Anh, coincidentally also this year's co-chair for Hip Hop Congress and a raw foodist herself, starts us off with a fresh coconut cut open, two straws, and a smile. She explains that Au Lac serves traditional vegetarian Vietnamese dishes as well as raw dishes. By raw, she refers to the raw food lifestyle, which includes a diet of only eating foods that have not been cooked over 102 degrees. According to rawfood.com, "the act of heating food over 116 degrees Fahrenheit destroys enzymes in food", because it is in this heat that the food starts to degrade and lose those enzymes that the body needs. When baked at high temperatures, not only are im-



portant nutrients lost, but additional toxic compounds will also form. Although some may criticize it and downplay this as merely a movement or another metropolitan trend, it isn't necessary to go all raw to enjoy the health benefits. In fact, some dissenters such as Disease Proof magazines state, "an exclusively raw-food diet is a disadvantage. To exclude all steamed vegetables and vegetable soups from your diet narrows the nutrient diversity of your diet". However, whatever belief is held about the Raw Food lifestyle, it is indisputable that stepping up the amount of raw foods in your system can hold strong health benefits in areas of anti-aging, detoxification, and diseases such as diabetes and arthritis. Although Au Lac encourages people to eat healthy, they are in no way attempting to convince their customers to go engage in all raw diets.

Even though I find myself fascinated with this new education, I still don't feel excited to actually eat raw food. This is when Anh brings out the first dish- a Raw Curried Rice that is their version of Indian curry. She immediately launches into a list of ingredients- nasi kuning (a fragrant yellow rice), aquatic grass seeds, curry spices, avocado, cucumber, cilantro, onions, mushrooms, broccoli, cauliflower, olives, peas, carrots and topped off with caramelized onion- and I

feel confused. All I know is that whatever I've just taken a bite out of is creamy, soft, and flavorful. It defies all my preconceived notions about raw food- it is delicious (especially the caramelized onion and avocado base).

What is perhaps most impressive about this particular dish is the amount of thought that goes into it. Since the food cannot be cooked, the rice is soaked and sprouted and then later combined with unsaturated fats such as avocado. All the sauces are also nut based, rather than oil based, and cold pressed.

Since Au Lac also serves traditional vegetarian Vietnamese dishes, we get to enjoy their traditional Sweet and Sour soup (pineapple, mushroom, ngo om (Vietnamese cilantro), mung beans, tomato, and tofu) as well as the Lotus Salad which contained soy shrimp/pork, jicama (a type of turnip), sweet carrots, and peanuts.

In between dishes, Anh brings brown rice instead of white because "brown rice is better for you".

As its name indicates, the second highlight is undoubtedly the Soy Fish Clay Pot Sensation. Thoughtful and considerate, or perhaps manipulative, Au Lac's soy options are made to successfully mimic the appearance of the real thing. The "fish" is wrapped with nori (seaweed) to look fried and the "pork" is

actual colored to look as if it has fat. The raw "Salmon" Roll replaces salmon with carrots and in addition contains ginger, coconut meat, pine nuts, and red bell peppers wrapped in nori.

After all of this food, I am able to sit back and realize that my biggest fears were entirely false. In fact, the biggest shock was that after eating this feast, I don't slip into an immediate and deathly food coma. Since the body is able to process such raw foods faster than processed foods, a healthy eater is able to feel full without feeling sleepy. In fact, I am so surprised that after completely gorging on such food, I still manage to fit in a couple bites of their Choconut X-tasy Raw Pie, in which coconut meat, agave (cactus oil), and cacao (chocolate extract) substitute the chocolate, and crushed cashews and macadamia nuts form the crust.

Although I began with trepidation toward raw cuisine, I left with a new appreciation and tons of leftovers. ■

Au Lac is located at 16563 Brookhurst Street in Fountain Valley. They are open Tuesday-Sunday 10:30am-9pm (please call ahead). 714.418.0658/www.aulac.com

FROM SWEDEN, WITH LOVE

T-Post: 48% News, 52% Cotton

words by *Diana Jou* / image by *Knotan*



PETER'S GUIDE TO STOCKHOLM

During the summer T-Post shared their studio office with their design agency, Vardag. With the help of the three Peter's, one from T-post, two from Vardag, I was introduced to a different side of Stockholm. So I asked our T-Post Peter to write a short list of hip places to visit for So-Cal jetsetters.

RESTAURANTS

Restaurant Peppar, Torsg. 34 (try the incredible hamburger)

Restaurant Kungsholmen, Norr
Mälarstrands Kajplatser 464
(www.kungsholmen.com)

MUSIC BARS

DeBaser, Karl Johans Torg 1
(www.debaser.nu)

Södra Teatern, Mosebacke Torg 1-3

(www.sodrateatern.com)

Glenn Miller Café (Jazz), Brunnsgatan
21A (www.glennmillercafe.com)

GALLERY

Loyal Galleri, Torsgatan 59
(www.galleriloyal.com)

MUSIC STORE

Pet Sounds, Skånegatan 53
(www.petsounds.se)

CLUB/BAR

Paradise, Hornsg. 66 (saturdays)
Cliff Barnes, Norrtullsg. 45
(www.cliffbarnes.gastrogate.com)

CLOTHING STORES

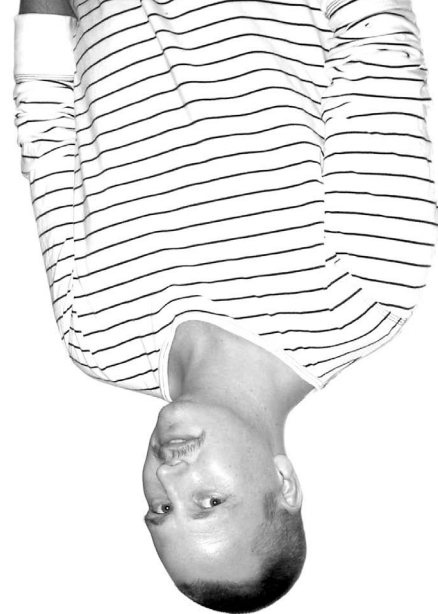
Beyond Retro, Åsög. 144
(www.beyondretro.com)

Grandpa, Södermannag 21
(www.grandpa.se)

Sneakers 'n stuff, Åsögatan 124
(www.sneakersnstuff.com)

Nitty gritty, Krukmakargatan 26
(www.nittygritty.se)

Tjallamalla, Bondegatan 46
(www.tjallamalla.com)



T-Post, a subscription t-shirt service from Sweden, is part of a growing international t-shirt and sneaker-based culture, but its designs are inspired by news stories and delivered to you every 6 weeks. This is indeed a brilliant way for youngsters, semi-dyslexics and fashion forward people to be updated on one current event story every six weeks. This inspired an actual visit to the creator of T-Post, Peter Lundgren, and his studio office in Stockholm.

Lundgren seemed to have created a happy medium between reading news and wearing news. The idea that started in February 2004 was to create a kind of apparel that people could wear, subscribe, and use as dinner topics. Though T-post is among many urban and indie t-shirt cult groups like Threadless.com, it differs from its peers in that T-post bases its designs on quirky news bits. Lundgren realized that there was a lot of interesting news that wasn't being highlighted or that was lost in the mass media. Lundgren collaborates with different local and international artists on each issue to highlight topics like global warming, spy technology and Paris riots, but also gives talented artists publicity. One issue of a t-shirt features a design inspired by an article on Taiwanese research-

ers that bred glow-in-the dark pigs for medical research. The image that resulted is a simple design of a large spiral composed on the bottom right corner of the shirt and printed with glow-in-the-dark ink. To make sure the story that inspired the designs is directly connected, T-Post prints a short summary of the article on the inside of the shirt. Inside the October issue Lundgren talks about melting ice caps. He writes, "personal change leads to planetary change. Start modifying your life and help save the last bit of ice that is left."

The six-week process of producing each issue requires Lundgren to rigorously search for interesting news from local and international newspapers, blogs, magazines, books and radio. He then finds an interesting artist to re-interpret the selected story and create something unexpected. T-post actually orders American Apparel t-shirts from Los Angeles, prints them in Sweden, and then sends all over the world. The company currently has about 850 subscribers in the U.S., Japan, Europe, Scandinavia, Malaysia, and even in Kenya. The idea of wearing something that has meaning beyond hipster graphics and perhaps is in line with your personal mission to politicize the people around you is not a bad idea. ■

SENTENCED HOME

interview by **Julianne Hing**
images provided by **David Grabias**



“AND THE IDEA BEING THAT DEPORTING SOMEBODY TO A COMMUNIST COUNTRY WOULD BE A HORRIBLE THING AND THAT WOULD ACTUALLY BE PUNISHMENT. DEPORTATION, AGAIN, IN THE EYES OF THE UNITED STATES, IS NOT PUNISHMENT; IT’S JUST AN ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE. THUS, IT DOES NOT FALL UNDER THE AEGIS OF DOUBLE JEOPARDY. IT’S JUST ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE.”

The controversial title of Nicole Newnham and David Grabias’s 2006 documentary refers with poignant irony to the home country of three men who are at various stages of deportation proceedings from the United States. The film explores complicated interpretations of home and nationality as it follows Kim Ho Ma, Loeun Lun, and Many Uch, Cambodian Americans who grew up in the US as refugees of the Vietnam War. After felony convictions for crimes committed in their poverty-stricken youth, they are put up for deportation to Cambodia, a country they have little recollection of, connection to, or means to survive in. The film shows the devastating toll of repatriation on the men and the families they are torn from indefinitely. With the signing of a repatriation agreement with Cambodia in 2002, 1,500 Cambodian Americans became eligible for deportation, and 151 have been deported since then. David Grabias, a director and producer of *Sentenced Home*, sat down with Jaded to talk about the film and the issue as it continues to unfold today.

Jaded: What’s the legislative history that allows the US to deport these men? Before 9/11 was there an aggressive push to get them out of the country?

David Grabias: No.. So the history is that the Immigration Reform Act was passed in 1996 partly in response to the World Trade Center bombing in 1993 to tighten the borders at the anti-terrorism front, and then partly in response to Prop 187, and that anti-illegal immigrant campaign that was waged here in California and went across the country. After 1996 the government started cracking down and detaining and deporting more people, but there wasn’t, I don’t think, quite as aggressive a push, or quite as much of an imperative placed on it until after

9/11. And again, this is my personal interpretation of what happened, but I think the Department of Homeland Security did not want to be caught with its pants down and God forbid someone slip through their net and end up becoming a terrorist or doing something violent. Because of that they ended up being more aggressive, especially in terms of working on these repatriation agreements with other countries.

Jaded: But the film shows that these men were not a real threat to US security, their communities, to themselves. A lot of them had done their jail time. They were harmless.

DG: Sure, I think that was the big thing in making the film, that we were really struck by is that not only had these guys committed their crimes in some cases over ten years before they were deported, but that period after they had committed their crimes was not taken into account during their deportation proceedings so there was no chance for them to go before an immigration court judge and appeal their case and to say “Hey, you know, since I got out of jail I got a job, I got a family, I straightened out.” Not only are they not a threat, they’re a productive member of society.

Jaded: And in signing the repatriation agreement, was Cambodia accepting these deportees with open arms?

DG: Cambodia did not want to sign the repatriation agreement and it’s been said - there’s been no published reports - but it’s said that the only reason they signed it was because the US threatened to affect their World Bank donations and that they would impose severe economic restrictions on Cambodia which would have a huge affect on them. And we interviewed the head of the [Cambo-

dian] Immigration Department. He basically said he viewed the deportees as America’s trash and felt like they were not worthwhile members of society let alone people the Cambodians were excited about getting. Cambodia sees them as a real imposition and a burden financially - these guys don’t have any kind of financial wherewithal or financial prospects or family money, a lot of them have mental health issues, addiction issues, which places a burden on Cambodian society cost-wise and in other ways, and the Cambodian government doesn’t have enough money for its own citizens, for the people who are already there, let alone to take care of the deportees.

Jaded: How do deportees get by once they arrive in Cambodia?

DG: The gross majority, when we first get there, end up staying at what’s now called the Returning Assistance Project (Returnee Integrations Support Program). Their website is: rispcambodia.org. And that’s funded by a non-profit run by American Vietnam War veterans to give back to Southeast Asia. And that’s basically a halfway house for guys who don’t have anywhere to go and don’t know what’s going on. They just stay there for a month, two months when they first get to Cambodia. And then, a lot of them have distant family members they’ve never met before in the countryside, so they’ll travel to the countryside and visit their family with the intention of at least staying there for a while. For most of these guys the culture shock is so great, just the idea of living in this rural third world, one-hut village...

Jaded: How is it that the Cambodian American community has been impacted more than other Vietnam War refugees from Southeast Asia?

CONTINUED ON PAGE 30

fashionably . organic

words by *Eileen Rosete* / image by *Chris Dea*



ADAM AND EVE HAD IT EASY: NOT ONLY DID THEY NOT HAVE TO PAY FOR CLOTHES, BUT THEIR LEAVES WEREN'T CONTAMINATED WITH PESTICIDES. THE SAME CERTAINLY CANNOT BE SAID FOR HUMANS TODAY. WE PAY ANYWHERE FROM SEVEN BUCKS FOR A PACK OF SOCKS AT TARGET TO ONE THOUSAND FORTY DOLLARS FOR A VELVET RIDING JACKET AT BURBERRY. BUT MORE SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL AND HEALTH MATTERS ACTUALLY LURK IN THE SHADOWS OF COMMON CONCERNS REGARDING THE AESTHETIC BEAUTY, FUNCTIONALITY AND PRICE TAGS OF APPAREL.

Clothes are typically made with conventionally (non-organically) grown cotton- cotton that has been treated with harmful, and oftentimes fatal, pesticides. According to the Sustainable Cotton Project (SCP)- a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting sustainably grown organic cotton- farmers in the US apply approximately 1/3 of a pound of chemical fertilizers and pesticides for every pound of cotton harvested, which makes up 25% of all pesticides used in the nation and 10% in the world. Speaking in terms of fashion, it takes 2/3 of a pound of pesticides to make a pair of jeans and 1/3 of a pound for a t-shirt. As one of the most widely grown and chemical-intensive crops world-wide, growing and then harvesting cotton poses considerable danger to people and nature alike. According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, five of the top nine pesticides involved in producing cotton (cyanide, dicofol, naled, propargite, and trifluralin) are classified as some of the most dangerous of chemicals and are known to cause cancer. The World Health Organization reports about 20,000 fatal and 3 million non-fatal pesticide poisonings every year. And if that's not enough to scare you, pesticides are also known to have caused birth defects, infertility, and respiratory problems among others. But such risks are not limited to those in immediate contact with the pesticides. The chemicals can also find their way into the world's groundwater, and according to the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), almost 40% of the world's agricultural land is already seriously damaged.

But there are options aside from pesticides. Alternative fibers like hemp and organic cotton are available, as is sustainable agriculture- a particular type of farming that allows farms to produce in perpetuity rather than for a limited time (due to land degradation caused by harsh chemicals). This requires that natural alternatives to harmful chemicals, like pesticides, be used so as to sustain otherwise finite environmental resources and thus ensure continued production. And while unsustainable agriculture may be cheaper in the short term, as taxpayers we pay to cleanup the adverse consequences that it has on the environment. Organic cotton on the other hand is grown without chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Since 2003, SCP has been working to make organically grown and sustainable cotton a feasible economic as well as agricultural alternative to chemical farming. To do this they provide growers with the information and support necessary to incorporate sustainable farming techniques, among which include: using composted manures rather than synthetic fertilizers, initiating strategic weeding strategies versus using herbicides, and managing pests through ecological methods instead of using pesticides. Such organic methods can also help revive soil that has been previously damaged by chemicals used in conventional farming.

A surprising number of major labels already incorporate

organic cotton, from Patagonia and Eileen Fisher to Levis and Nike. And the good news is that we can expect to see more companies jumping on the organic band-wagon. In a study presented at the 2006 National Cotton Council Beltwide Cotton Conference entitled "Biological Control of Invasive and Exotic Pests," it was reported that "organic cotton comprises a tiny fraction of U.S. cotton production and global yield, but the demand for clothing and other products derived from organically-produced cotton is growing." One company worth mentioning at length is Del Forte Denim, applauded for its eco-friendly fashion. Self-proclaimed as an "eco-luxury brand," Del Forte sells premium denim made completely with certified organic cotton and even donates part of its proceeds to SCP. In an interview with online environmental journal Grist, Del Forte founder Tierra Del Forte described the company as "part of a growing trend which interprets luxury as a combination of distinctive design and ethical production." While the denim finishing process in general is detrimental to the environment, Del Forte tries to incorporate finishing processes that result in as minimal damage as possible. For example, to lessen air pollution they hand-sand rather than sandblast their jeans and use chemicals that are no more dangerous than laundry detergent. And they don't stop there: the company also runs what it calls Project Rejeaneration, which allows customers to send their Del Fortes back where the jeans are then used to make new, hand-made, one-of-a-kind jeans. Those who recycle their jeans are rewarded with a 10% discount off their next purchase of either new Del Forte denim or Rejeaneration denim, or they may also choose to donate the 10% to SCP. Del Forte Denim was recently showcased this past fall at Estethica, which was a part of the Designers Exhibition at London Fashion Week dedicated to premiere eco-sustainable contemporary fashion.

If this article has done its job, then hopefully you've experienced something not unlike Neo's taking the red pill. The clothes on your back aren't just keeping you protected from the elements or announcing (on your booty) how you can afford the latest Juicy Couture velour tracksuit. On the contrary, your clothes are situated within a complex socio-political web of international fashion, agri-business and environmentalism. So if you've been moved to live a little greener, try buying organic cotton products (see links below) and sustainable products in general or checking out shops that recycle and reuse clothing like the Buffalo Exchange at The Lab in Costa Mesa or the Rosebowl Flea Market (see Green Directory). Now go be responsible consumers! ■

The Sustainable Cotton Project - www.sustainablecotton.org

Del Forte Denim - www.delforte.com

The Organic Exchange - www.organicexchange.org

Green Fashion - www.gliving.tv/fashion

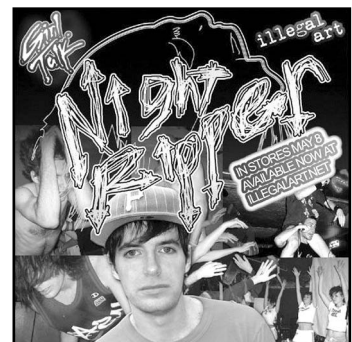
reviews



Lou Reed Coney Island Baby (re-release 2006)

With the Velvet Underground, Lou Reed alongside partner John Cale, pushed the boundaries of rock 'n' roll. The music was both abstract and "poppy." It had the ability to make you feel uncomfortable while sticking a catchy melody in your head for long periods of time. My personal favorite is the title track to second album *White Light/White Heat*. Reed did, however, seem to enjoy talking about the seedy excesses of rock 'n' roll. Lou took us through a journey of heroin abuse and sucking the "ding dong." Even the cutie cute bells on "Sunday Morning" off of the debut *Velvet Underground and Nico* can't hide the "watch out, the world's behind you" paranoia of Reed's lyrics. Unfortunately, the Velvet fun had to come to an end. In *Coney Island Baby*, Reed moves on from the excess of the Velvet Underground to delve into the softer sides of his heart. Mr. Rock 'n' roll was done with the "ding dong." On this record, Reed left the heroin, male appendages, and paranoia behind to deal with the inevitable come down. Because once the Velvet party was over, all Lou had left was his heart and the Coney Island ferris wheel.

-Jeggi Elinzano

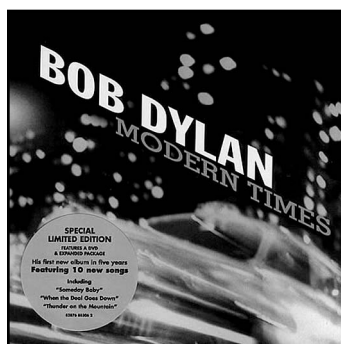


Girl Talk Night Ripper (2006)

Remember "I Spy"? Remember all the fun you had while trying to look for that little racecar hidden amongst a jungle of jacks? Well, just because you're all mature and in college now doesn't mean that "I Spy" fans out there have to call

it a day. But instead of looking for that racecar, you'll be listening for the Blondie sample on track six. The genre is called the mash-up. A well-known example is Danger Mouse's infamous Grey Album. Put simply, a mash-up is when someone samples a series of songs and puts them together to form a new song. In the Grey Album, the mash-up consisted of music from The Beatles and Jay-Z. Girl Talk's Night Ripper is a little bit more complicated. Where most "mash-uppers" like to hit you with a simple and clean combination that you'll instantly recognize in order to make you feel smart, Girl Talk (alias for biomedical engineer Gregg Gillis) throws it at you hard with songs that contain on average twelve samples each. And you know what? He uses a calculator to do it all. Try that, all you wannabe mash-up artists out there. MATHEMATICS. Besides, he samples The Verve's "Bittersweet Symphony" on one of the tracks. That's basically a copyright infringement of a copyright infringement. Awesome.

-Jeggi Elinzano

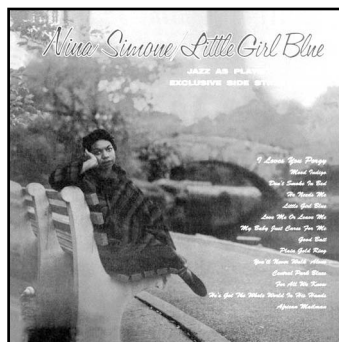


Bob Dylan Modern Times (2006)

It's definitely good to still have Bob Dylan around. In all honesty though my heart wishes I was there to see him give a middle finger to his audience, play "Like a Rolling Stone" f'n loud, and be rowdy with The Band. Nowadays, Dylan is a little less exciting. But he's getting older. It's inevitable right? To his credit, the kid hasn't left the "good music" game like many of his peers. On Modern Times, Dylan has come on strong with an amplified enough album that would still make the folk revivalist scream "Judas!" whenever he plays. Although it seems as if Dylan has decided to permanently reside in the limbo between hardcore folk and honky tonkin' rock 'n' roll, the music here is still a good blend of relaxing and foot stomping. A personal highlight is the six-minute cover of Muddy Waters's essential "Rollin' and Tumblin'." Instead of settling for the straightforward cover, Dylan, the outlaw that he is, adds his own set of lyrics. I mean, what's a Dylan song without verse after verse after verse of lyrical fantasticness. Folks, his "Highway 61's" may be well behind him

but Modern Times is a reminder that Bob Dylan really doesn't care.

-Jeggi Elinzano



Nina Simone Little Girl Blue (1958)

"Love Me or Leave Me" first appeared on Nina Simone's debut LP *Little Girl Blue* in 1958. She later became known for her unclassifiable form of self-titled "black classical music" and powerful civil rights anthems condemning Jim Crow laws and racial inequality. Her thick, distinctive voice trembled with rage and pride on her classics like "Mississippi Goddamn," "To Be Young, Gifted, and Black," and "Four Women." But "Love Me or Leave Me" is one of Nina Simone's finest. Her voice is clear and deep, sassy and smooth. It's a lighthearted melody, but in Simone's favored minor key so her words, forceful and playful at the same time, are more a charge than a request. It starts out a jaunty three-piece jazz number and then she slides into a cheery baroque, betraying her classical piano training at Juilliard for a few seconds. That departure is so beautiful, the orderly measurements of baroque music keeping up with the brisk stroll of the bass line. And then just as seamlessly she slides back out into a swagger of classic jazz. The song is a sweet glimpse at an old soul, then young to the industry and the world.

-Julianne Hing



Lily Allen Alright, Still (2006)

Hailing from London, Lily Allen gives sweet pop music an edge with playful

yet sinister lyrics about avenging cheating boyfriends, picking bar fights, and fending off pervy old men. *Alright, Still* is packed with a variety of musical influences from upbeat show tunes to ska undertones. It combines different instruments like the piano with quick drum beats to form catchy numbers. Though her music is definitely infused with pop elements, sing-a-long chant-raps and memorable lyrics, her steady mellow voice makes her stand out among the usual whiny love songs. In "Knock' Em Out" she acts out scenarios about escaping creepy men with excuses like, "Oh yeah I'm actually pregnant/ I'm having a baby in like six months/ yeah no/yeah." "Alife," comes off as a classic show tune, but a second listen reveals her scolding her little brother for smoking too much weed. In "Not big" she tells it like it is with no apologies, "I'm going to tell them that you're rubbish in bed now/and that you're small in the game." Lily Allen is nonchalantly cool in writing about young and sometimes heartbreaking love, but never making it sappy. Armed with a dash of wit, a beer in hand and a cute outfit, she's ready to take on the boys.

-Diana Jou



Jackie Greene American Myth (2006)

Sitting on a stool with his head-gear looking harmonica attached to his head and guitar in hand, Jackie Green takes his audiences with him on a blues sailing ride. This talented he singer began when he was 16years old, playing open-mic nights in Sacramento. He later opened for B.B. King, who later brought the youngster out on stage afterwards. Singer-songwriter Jackie Green has been climbing his way in the music industry, but still remains true to his grass roots. You can find one of his songs in the movie Brokeback Mountain, but his hits will always be Mexican Girl off of the album "Gone Wanderin" and Marigold off of his newest album "American Myth". His other album full of blues-inspired rock 'n' roll is "Sweet Somewhere Bound."

-Maddy Oliver

THE GREEN BUSINESS DIRECTORY



RESTAURANTS

Au Lac

Vegetarian vegan raw
16563 Brookhurst St. (at Heil)
Fountain Valley, CA 92708
(714) 418-0658
www.aulac.com

Leaf Cuisine

Organic, raw, vegan, kosher
11938 W. Washington Blvd.
Culver City, 90066
(310) 390-6005
<http://www.leafcuisine.com/>
Inexpensive, low-key AND healthy!
Founder Rod Rotondi explains that their objective is "to create healthful, tasty and affordable foods, in their natural state, using only organic ingredients, imagination and conscious care." Be sure to give the veggie wraps a try next time you're in LA.

Simply Wholesome

Caribbean/vegetarian grocery and restaurant
4508 West Slauson Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90043-2720
(323) 294-2144
<http://www.simplywholesome.com/>
Not only is it a restaurant and food store, but yoga and aerobics classes are offered on-site as well. After a fulfilling workout, browse the store's extensive selection of natural grocery products which includes such things as natural toothpaste and deodorant. And if you're a little hungry, don't leave without experiencing their freshly made humus.

Native Foods

Vegetarian/vegan
2937 Bristol St.
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(714) 751-2151
<http://www.nativefoods.com/>
Delectable alternatives for the health-conscious consumer are to be had at Native Foods. The pizza is one of the many items worth mentioning.

The Omelette Inn

Select vegetarian dishes
108 W 3rd Street
Long Beach, CA 90802-3001
(562) 437-5625
<http://www.omeletteinn.com/>
While not a restaurant dedicated solely to vegetarian cuisine, this place can serve up some amazing veggie sausages, veggie omelets, and even low carb. Options.

The Wheel of Life Vegetarian Thai Cuisine

14370 Culver Dr. Suite 2G
Irvine, CA 92604
(949) 551-8222
<http://www.wheelofliferestaurant.com/philosophyblue.html>
This restaurant is 100% vegetarian and though it may look like meat and taste like meat, everything is made from soy, seaweed, and mushrooms. No animal products or msg is used. Their most popular dishes include the Orange Chicken, The Wheel of Fresh Spring Rolls, and the Vegetarian BBQ Chicken.

Mother's Market & Kitchen

2963 Michelson Dr.
Irvine, CA 92612
(949) 752-6667
Conveniently located just a few minutes from campus, the O.C.'s premier health-food market and café are great places to hit up for things organic. Take a break from the fast food and give green a try.

Urth Caffe

<http://www.urthcaffe.com/>
Certified organic, naturally grown and fairly traded, Urth Caffe also pays workers three times as much as the market priced for the conventional coffee company, insuring well-off growers and premium quality coffee for the consumer.

Hans' Homemade Ice Cream

3640 S. Bristol St.
Santa Ana, CA, 92704
(714) 979-8815
Every once in awhile, after you've had your fair share of ice cream mashed with brownies, cherries and candy, it's nice to have the good ol' simplicity of homemade ice cream. Hans' Homemade Ice Cream is all made in store. They have a good selection of flavors and also make sandwiches and soups.

ONLINE GREEN DIRECTORIES

Greenopia

<http://greenopia.com/>
This online directory is green and mean. It's set up for easy and even enjoyable navigation of countless green businesses in the greater Los Angeles area—everything from restaurants, salons, environmental organizations, cooking tips to office supplies and even green burial services!

VegGuide.Org

<http://www.vegguide.org/>
This is an international online community forum to vegetarian and vegan restaurants and grocers to name a few topics of discussion. You can search for more places to eat green in the general Social vicinity.

CLOTHING

Fingerprints CD's and LP's
4612 E 2nd St
Long Beach, CA 90803
(562) 433-4996
www.fingerprintsmusic.com
In a world of disappearing record stores, it's nice to see a few good ones still kicking. Fingerprints is a Long Beach establishment that sells a good amount of the music that all you hip kids dig nowadays. They have a large collection of new, used, classic, independent, and super independent music, in both vinyl and cd, at really good prices. And if that isn't enough, 2nd St. in Long Beach is full of really cool stores and restaurants to visit after you binge on good music.

Arth

2930 Bristol Street
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(714) 966-8350
<http://www.thelab.com/>
For all you Pete Doherty (lead singer of Babyshambles and former member of The Libertines) wannabes out there looking for that really hip pork pie hat, this is your place. Arth (a combination of the word 'art' and 'hat') offers a cool collection of unique and exclusive hats. They also collaborate with and encourage artists to design hats and t-shirts. And if all that doesn't tickle your fancy, the store is very clean. I mean it. Check it out.



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DG: Currently there are no refugee agreements between Laos and Vietnam. The U.S. did not have refugee agreements in 2001 with Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, Cuba, Somalia and the Sudan and North Korea. Basically the countries that were Communist or had absolutely no government. And the idea being that deporting somebody to a Communist country would be a horrible thing and that would actually be punishment. Deportation, again, in the eyes of the United States, is not punishment; it's just an administrative procedure. Thus, it does not fall under the aegis of double jeopardy. It's just administrative procedure. So anyway, Vietnam and Laos are, theoretically, next on the list for repatriation agreements and obviously those communities will be impacted even more, in some ways, than the Cambodian community in terms of just pure numbers of potential deportees. I think Cambodia gave in because of the financial pressure. And, 1500 guys out of a population of 200,000 approximately, that's a

big number. One percent of the entire population is being deported, and that means everyone knows someone or has a family member who's connected to the deportation issue personally.

Jaded: Has there been a strong push to organize against the deportations within the Cambodian community?

DG: No. Part of it has to do with the Cambodia community as a whole. I mean, they're just not politically active. It has to do with class. The gross majority of the Khmer population is living below poverty level. With education, most of the Cambodians in the United States were villagers who were oftentimes illiterate and didn't have a significant education. And finally, they all came from a culture where to be politically active or even to be noticed by the government was a possible death sentence. There's a real hesitancy to become involved, or engaged, or public whatsoever. So there's really no debate or no discussion

about activism in the Cambodian community. That's changing a little bit, with the younger generation, like with the Khmer Girls in Action in Long Beach, to begin to politicize their generation. But it's just beginning.

Jaded: Do you think it's just a matter of time before the US sets up repatriation agreements with Laos and Vietnam?

DG: I do, I think it's a matter of time before Vietnam and Laos set up agreements. That's one of the big messages of the film. The Southeast Asian community, which has been, to some degree, kind of immune and distanced from the current raging immigration debate of the last 15-20 years, is now at a point when they're going to be a part of it. In the Cambodian community where there hasn't been political activism, where there's no sense of political engagement, that's going to have to change or those communities are going to really suffer. ■

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

safeguards put in place to give citizens power. It was done so the people didn't have to rely on the politicians, the wealthy, and the powerful to purpose changes in the government. The strategies for creating social progress have not changed, but the users have. Instead of passionate citizens backed with strong ideologies, we have skilled entrepreneurs interested in altering the face of

public policy with faux movements. It is important to look at how grassroots organizing, the weapon of choice for the civil rights movement, got hijacked by power hungry industry leaders and figureheads. True, corporations and politicians have millions of dollars at their disposal, but they are smart enough to realize that grassroots strategies are effective in reaching people. The weed kill-

er for artificial grass is greater participation from the people,. We must demand more transparency in politics. It is time to question not just obvious opponents of progress, but to look at all political groups and uncover the dirt below the pretty facade. It is time for real change, real grassroots activism and perhaps real breasts. ■

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CALENDAR

November

Homeless Awareness Sleepout

November 16-17, 8:00 p.m., UCI Flagpoles
Students for Homeless Outreach United Together (S.H.O.U.T.) host annual sleep out in commemoration of Homeless Awareness Week; to feature guest speakers, performances by UCI clubs, and food. For more information contact: uci_shout@yahoo.com

Students of Color Conference

November 17-19, UC Berkeley
A UC-wide sponsored conference whose goal is to educate and empower students of color and other Californians about the importance of developing racial consciousness. See <http://www.uca.org/about/SOCC2006/index.php> for more information.

Little Saigon Clean-up

November 18
An annual event hosted by the Vietnamese American Coalition (VAC). For more information contact: vac@uci.edu

24th Annual Raza Youth Conference

November 18, 8:00-4:30 p.m.
Directed at motivating high school students to pursue higher education, this conference is hosted by Movimiento Estudiantil Chicana/o de UCI (M.E.Ch.A.) and will feature keynote speakers, including Dolores Huerta, workshops and entertainment. Contact Lizbeth Antonio at lantonio@uci.edu or Eliana Olivarez at eolivarez@uci.edu for more information.

Native American Heritage Month Closing Ceremony

November 20, 12:00-1:00 p.m.
Arts Plaza Outdoor Amphitheatre
The last of month-long events commemorating National Native American Heritage Month. Event will feature performance and stories by Native flute-player Bill Neal.

December

FUSION- The 4th Los Angeles LGBT People of Color Film Festival

December 1-3
Hosted by Outfest, the leading show-

case for international LGBT film and video, Fusion is the only multi-racial, gender-inclusive People of Color film festival.
See <http://www.outfest.org/fusion.html> for venues and dates

UCI Madrigal Dinner 2006

December 9, 10, 13-17, Claire Trevor Theatre
UCI's very own Madrigal singers host several nights of pageantry to include grand dinners to be enjoyed amongst the sights and sounds of 16th Century England. See <http://music.arts.uci.edu/madrigal/> for ticket information.

January

Application deadline for Teach for America

January 7
Teach for America is a leading national program that provides opportunities for recently graduated college students to teach in urban and rural public schools for two years in an effort to effect positive change in light of educational equality.
See www.teachforamerica.org for more info.

Ongoing

Uncultivated Rabbits, General Meetings

Mondays @ 6PM in HH220

Winter Quarter

Asian Pacific Student Association will begin holding general meetings

