Welcome Pro Blem, Glendon College's back-up student newspaper to her sibling paper, Pro Tem. The Pro Blem Newspaper is not a stranger to Glendon. In November of 1988 then Editor-in-Chief Michael Darlton printed Pro Blem on an 11x17 flyer due to difficulties publishing as well. This year. University. York University's Keele Campus newspaper supports Pro Blem publishing this issue. The staff of Pro Tem and now Pro Blem realizes the importance of the student voice and the importance of the informed student voice. Without a student newspaper, this voice is all but a whisper.

I came into this position with hope that both the Glendon Council Student Union (GCSU) and Pro Tem would be able to coincide as two clubs running an official in some capacity. Yet the administration, since Pro Tem was halted for publication. Here is a timeline of Pro Tem's struggles.

Pro Tem Time Line:

OCTOBER 5th: Pro Tem invited the GCSU to attend a meeting in order to introduce the two clubs and promote an active involvement between each one. Talk circulated around last year's editors and finances.

PROBLEM: Not yet held.  

"Pro Tem Happily Publishes"  

OCTOBER 12th: An official meeting occurred between the GCSU and Pro Tem. Pro Tem presented a proposed budget for the 2004/2005 academic year and a financial interim review from the 2003/2004 fiscal year. Pro Tem also requested ratification through the GCSU, specifically the Editor-in-Chief. The vote to ratify was brought to motion and denied by all but one council member.

PROBLEM: President Ron Fialkowski unprofessionally stated his pessimistic position on the ratification right before the vote took place. We were not invited to introduce ourselves, ideas, or even our eligibility to run the Pro Tem. The outcome was clear: Pro Tem would be, and was shot down, without reason. The cake was iced when the President threatened that "Pro Tem better be concerned with what it prints". Pro Tem Not Ratified

NOVEMBER 18th: Right before Pro Tem was going into production for the next issue, I received a formal letter from Heyday Hamilton, Business lawyer representing the GCSU. The letter told Pro Tem to halt publication until a formal meeting was set up with the lawyers themselves, Pro Tem, the GCSU and the administration of Glendon in order to "resolve" this issue. The letter stated that Pro Tem needed to:

1) Provide the GCSU with a written statement or an Account Statement of Expenditure and Revenue outlining the previous year's minimized revenue and expenditures for the 2003/2004 fiscal year, as it is to be done under section 57(a) and 51(e) of the GCSU constitution.

2) Provide the GCSU a proposed budget for the 2004/2005 fiscal year, as it is to be required under section 57(a) and 51(e) of the GCSU constitution.

3) Provide the GCSU with an explanation for the $4000.00 honourarium that has been set out in the un-audited statements that have been provided. The letter also stated that if Pro Tem continued to publish another edition of the newspaper that we would be taken to Court and the GCSU would seek an injunction prohibiting Pro Tem from publishing.

PROBLEM: Pro Tem had already submitted every piece of document this letter was asking for during the October 12 meeting. Louise Lewis, Glendon's Associate President of Student Services had approved the honourarium for last years Editors and had assured the GCSU that this issue had already been taken care of.

"Pro Tem Halted until Meeting"

NOVEMBER 25th: The meeting was set for 4:30pm and cancelled the same day. Pro Tem seeks the Glendon Administration to re-schedule.

PROBLEM: Pro Tem was advised not to print until this meeting could be re-scheduled. Pro Tem was also informed that a petition requesting the GCSU be financially investigated had been submitted to them and since it was of a higher concern, would be looked at first. Alas, the meeting with the Heyday Lawyers was put off and this financial investigation was under full throttle.

"Pro Tem Halted until Financial Investigation is Concluded"

JANUARY 6th: Enter the lawsuit filed against York University for 2.7 million and enter Pro Tem. The GCSU wants to voice part of Pro Tem's percentage of the student levy. They claim that because of a referendum in 1983 to which Pro Tem was entitled to roughly $147,000 instead of roughly $100,000 that this caused a huge budget shortfall and sent the GCSU into debt.

PROBLEM: The GCSU receives a budget of roughly $100,000, they claim Pro Tem's budget 21 years and running is the reason they cannot fund clubs properly. Yet they can afford $10 000 of our levy money to put towards anticipated legal action fees.

"Pro Tem Still Waiting on the Results of the Investigation"

JANUARY 10th: The administration warned Pro Tem that if we continued to print we would jeopardize the administration, since Pro Tem's student levy is under question in the Courts. Even if Pro Tem could find a way to publish using other monies we were advised against using the newspaper name as well.

PROBLEM: Pro Tem is being told not to print on a levy that was successfully passed into our account. Pro Tem's financial responsibilities were fulfilled and passed through the Universities Financial board by last years Editors, yet we were still being warned not to use it.

"Pro Tem Halted Indefinitely, Glendon is at a Loss for a Student Newspaper for the Year"

JANUARY 17th: Excalibur called and offered financial assistance for Pro Tem to start publishing again.

PROBLEM: The name of the substitute paper, which is suitable as Pro Tem is encountering many problems.

"Pro Blem Replaces Pro Tem"

When the GCSU claims they have received no complaints against their government and question the genuineness of the petition 202 Glendon students signed (also accepted by University officials), it is easy to see why they do not want Pro Tem publishing. Being the biggest voice on this small bilingual campus Pro Tem will cover a story, good or bad with the intentions of keeping the students informed. In the GCSU's defense, it is easy to keep someone's name or Student Council through a paper that publishes and thousands of distributions to the Glendon and Keele Campus every three weeks. As a result, shutting Pro Tem down is an easy way to eliminate the threat of a bad reputation. However, that kind of action committed by any type of government ultimately creates censorship.

The Oxford English Dictionary defines Censor as an official in some countries whose duty it is to inspect all books, journals, dramatic pieces, etc, before publication, to secure that they shall contain nothing immoral, heretical, or offensive to the government. The OED also defines a Dictator as a person(s) exercising absolute authority of any kind, one who authoritatively prescribes a course of action or dictates what is to be done. Dictators do not want the bad to be seen or heard, written or talked about, only the positive must be fed to the community. Therefore, a dictatorship of any kind is bound to thrive upon the act of censorship.

The halting of Pro Tem does the amates of students. The GCSU is supposed to be the one cumulative voice that is to represent every Glendon students concern, so representing the administration, since Pro Tem's student levy is under question in the Courts. When the President threatened that "Pro Tem better be concerned with what it prints".

Alas, here we are with the first 20-page issue of Pro Blem and perhaps the only one, so enjoy Glendon. God willing in time the leaders of Pro Tem and the GCSU will sit down at a Starbucks, order a strong pot of coffee, put on one another's frayed friendship bracelets and figure things out as respectable leaders, together. All good or bad with the intentions of keeping the students informed. Therefore, a dictatorship of any kind is bound to thrive upon the act of censorship.

Each elected Student President has the ultimate goal of serving his/her student body. Taking such a huge position requires a lot of dedication, responsibility, and above all courage and love for the job. Successful leaders inspire others, are a role model for our community and genuinely devote themselves to their elected positions. Some leaders slip and make mistakes, but who would be we today if we did not fall every so often? When you slip and land hard on your ass, true leaders will get the hell back up again, stand up straighter and look around for the cause of the fall. A true leader takes the initiative to allow their mistakes to be the ultimate learning experience, then turns around and makes the best of the situation. Every true leader also knows when to admit defeat and when to admit victory. Congratulations to all the true leaders here at Glendon, you know who you are.

Sincerely,
Ashley Beaulac
Editor In Chief
Dear Problem Solver:

I write this as a second-year student at York University, who has identified with Students for Good Governance's cause. Though I have been involved in the writing of the October petition, I have taken interest from a student's point of view in the activities and the agenda of the GCSU that has been unfolding ever since. As time passes, and the complexity of the situation grows, I find myself more and more perplexed with the council's actions and the behaviour of certain council members.

I am not, and have never been a member of the GCSU. As such, I have nothing but second hand knowledge of the internal proceedings of the council. My aim is not to scrutinize the council on behalf of other people's experiences. What I wish to bring forth are the issues, the ideas, and theoretical problems that have become so evident even if I am a regular student who simply took an interest in the instances of student politics - have come to see.

The GCSU operates in a way that no other council in this world, better known as politics, intentions must be recorded and monitored. When what connections are there between the top GCSU executives and those really in charge? And finally, what conclusions can one draw on the actions of the two previously mentioned, student-run and embezzlement-ridden organizations?

Sincerely yours,

Mihnea Dumitrul

January 13, 2003
Bucharest, Romania

OPINIONS

Pro blem Solver

February 25, 2005

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January 13, 2003
Bucharest, Romania

Glen online Parking Prices

You're awoken by the sound of the telephone and are informed that a few of your friends are planning to visit you at residence. You agree and prepare for their arrival.

As their promise of “the phone will ring precisely two blocks away” in a two hour delay, they finally arrive. After catching up, I learned a lot about how a friend who was prick-wrapped the night before ended up at a random yard two blocks away, they kicked them out.

You receive a call later that night. It’s one of the friends that BitTorrents is the event of the century:

"I had to pay two "enter profane word here" dollars for parking because I supposedly waited too long. I didn’t put in the time limit by two minutes! What the hell is wrong with Glen online’s parking service?"

You ask the library this. You ask the student services, the student association...: "I had to pay two "$2.00 for parking on the campus because I was caught by the system that I made a mistake by not reading the time limit by a couple of minutes. That’s just plain stupid.

On a personal note, I have experienced the same situation as I have encountered. I have my parking ticket for a car with a week ago. Positive that I did not get over 15 minutes, I expected not to pay a cent. Do you have any idea what it is like to sit at the library and be charged. From cafeteria prices to the council's parking system. Please take precautions to avoid the image of corruption that they rightly or wrongly have been portraying. The extreme, and costly, retaliation to the administration's response to student concerns is also of dire concern. As a visiting student, I can't help but sense the council is hiding something behind the carpet and the lawsuits. Unfortunately, this is one costumely of hide and seek that students are financing.

My advice to the GCSU: stop defending your personal interests, whatever they may be, and answer the world of appearances, sometimes you need to cut your losses on a policy that doesn't work against the council's image and take precautions to avoid the image of corruption.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Franklin

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Sincerely,

Stephanie Franklin
Dear fellow students...

We are all aware of the current GCSU lawsuit against the administration, for the ridiculous sum of $2.7 million. We are also all very aware of the student apathy that exists in our school. The only comfort I find in the midst of this sad situation, is in my belief that at least, what seems to be an attempt by our Speaker and President to make their mark, (and oh what a mark!), might entice the rest of the students to awake from our present comatose state.

Perhaps we should go on ignoring all these issues. The world certainly won't end if the GCSU doesn't perform well. After all we are only talking about our silly student government, which apart from having the power to spend the money we pay (around $37 per full time student taking 30 credits) and managing a budget of over $100,000.00, really doesn't seem to affect our lives. Perhaps we should go on thinking, who cares? But then again, NO.

The GCSU DOES affect our lives. It has a direct influence on our university experience. If we think it doesn't, we should ask ourselves, why doesn't it? Isn't that the point? I believe our student government is not inconsequential and unimportant. It is a government that students play an active role in our student life, that we SHOULD care about and that we SHOULD be able to trust. Furthermore, the GCSU is a model of the "real" governments we may one day lead outside of Glendon.

Let's remember our founding Principal Escott Reid. His vision for Glendon was that it would be a liberal arts faculty focused on educating the leaders of tomorrow. Students who would leave Glendon with a solid knowledge of the world and the tools to later become its diplomats and politicians. Dans un pays merveilleux comme le notre, où nous avons le privilège d'avoir deux langues officielles et l'opportunité de les apprendre, il voulait encourager cet apprentissage pour que nous soyons préparés pour mieux représenter le Canada dans le monde.

With such an important foundation, how can we allow and accept that our own student government, the Glendon leaders of TODAY, perform at such low standards? Est-ce que nous pouvons maintenant permettre que les étudiants soient représentés par une association étudiante qui ne peut pas fonctionner en français, ni représenter les étudiants francophones? If we allow a corrupt Glendon government to represent us today, how much will we tolerate of our country's government tomorrow?

To the government I say, show us through your actions that you do in fact want to represent us in an accountable manner, and that you want to uphold our highest standards. Please do not interpret the investigation taking place and now the petition being circulated by SFGG as a personal attack against the members of council but rather as a voice from students who care about their government and want it to be responsible. Regardez-la comme une grande opportunité pour nous montrer que vous respectez notre système démocratique et que vous voulez sérieusement représenter nos meilleurs intérêts. Aux étudiants de s' exprimer de manière active et constructive. La situation ne changera pas, au moins que nous, ensemble, criions au monde entier, que nous ne sommes pas conforme! Nous espérons mieux de nos représentants, car nous sommes des étudiants intelligents et capables de faire mieux.

We attend a serious College founded by extraordinary individuals whose vision we are destroying. Our Student Council has turned our school into a joke. Sadly, it is not funny. Glendon's potential is so great. I see it every day in the students that actually do care about our community and spend countless hours contributing to it through the few clubs that manage to survive every year. I see it in the incredible relationships that are so spontaneously created between students as they pass each other in the halls for the hundredth time each day. I see it in our professors as they go out of their way to make a connection with us through dialogue and discussion in the luxury of our small classes. I see it in our beautiful campus, a gem hidden in this bustling city where everything we need is there, and everything that isn't? there; we find right here in the peacefulness of a snow covered tree or a falling orange leaf in mid air. Je le vois chaque fois que j'écoute quel quel alterner du français à l'anglais et vice versa sans s'en rendre compte.

We cannot waste our potential. We need to stand up for our school and say we've had enough! It's time to stir Glendon back towards our vision of what we want it to be. We just need to open our eyes, see it and take one step forward.

WAKE UP GLENDON STUDENTS

Truly,

Jessica Duarte
Third Year Political Science
Fiasco 2005: GCSU vs. York U

Well now, where do we begin? We must first establish the facts, of which there are few that we can be absolutely certain of.

The facts are that there is a 2.7 million dollar lawsuit that has been launched by the GCSU against York University administration and that not enough students know what is actually happening at their school.

On December 16th, 2004, the GCSU officially sued York University; naming Lorna Marsden, Kenneth McRoberts, Louise Lewin and Bonnie Neuman as defendants. The suit generated media attention and garnered virtually the same question; why?

This is the same question that I asked the President of the GCSU, Ron Fiedtkou. President Fiedtkou gave me his three main reasons for the suit, which he said are “to stop the school from redirecting the GCSU’s funds, to maintain the autonomy of the GCSU and to stop York University from funding the event system at Glendon.”

President Fiedtkou maintained that the lawsuit is in the best interests of the students of today and also the students who will attend Glendon College in the future.

The administrative position is that it responded to student complaints by asking the student union to hand over all financial documentation. This all stems from a petition that was circulated by members of Students for Good Governance that asked the administration to investigate the activities of the GCSU. This petition was allegedly signed by 202 concerned students at Glendon and presented to the administration. However, when the administration brought this to the attention of the GCSU it did not include the names of the students who signed the petition.

This was at the request of certain students who did not want to be identified for fear of persecution. President Fiedtkou said that a petition without signatures is not a petition at all and therefore does not give the administration jurisdiction over the affairs of the GCSU. So now we have a lawsuit.

The reason for the petition was because of a number of rumours circulating around financial improprieties that were being committed by the GCSU. This was a result of former Vice-President Hossein Samiani retaining signing authority after his term as V.P had ended. President Fiedtkou's comment regarding this issue was that “there was a debt that was accumulated the previous year and that V.P Hossein had retained signing authority at the request of incoming V.P Vanessa Stepanowski because she did not want to assume that debt.”

President Fiedtkou added that “this only continued until early September”. This does nothing to quell rumours that Hossein Samiani, who manages the pub, was writing cheques for use of the pub.

Additionally, I asked President Fiedtkou about the issue of there being two constitutions. He said that the constitution they are following was retrieved from the York archives and that it was from either “1988 or 1987”.

President Fiedtkou went on to assert that everything that he and his council has done has been in compliance with the constitution. I was also assured by President Fiedtkou that a forum where the GCSU will answer all questions in regards to this lawsuit will come, and that the Students For Good Governance are invited to participate.

In my 45 minute conversation with President Ron Fiedtkou all of my questions were answered and the rumour that he was not willing to talk to anyone, especially media, was dispelled. However, this did not eliminate the fact that President Fiedtkou has used $10,000 of our money on lawyers. He also confirmed that the case against York University is being handled pro-bono, but only as long as it is followed through to the end. “If we don’t go through with it then we have to pay for it”, said President Fiedtkou. That sounds like this isn’t quite pro-bono. Finally, the question of why this entire situation could not be resolved without courts could not be answered, not even by President Fiedtkou.

The real tragedy in this situation is that it is so ridiculously simple. York wants financial documentation and the GCSU should make available that documentation; that is the crux of this entire state of affairs. It is unfortunate that a school with such a famed law school was not prudent enough to have measures in place so that a situation of this magnitude would not arise. Now we, the students of Glendon, have our money tied up in a lawsuit against the very institution to which we pay our tuition fees.

It doesn’t even matter who is at fault or who wins the lawsuit anymore because in the end the people who are going to pay for this gargantuan fiasco are the students. That, ladies and gentleman, is the actual conflict of interest.

If you have any questions:

President Ron Fiedtkou: prez@gcsu.ca
Cell * (416) 771-4321
Or visit him at his office at Glendon until 5:00 pm weekdays

Students for Good Governance(SFGG):
sgfg@gmail.com
www.sgfg.ca

Student Protests Continue at Keele

Original protest debacle spurs string of free speech rallies during the week

On Thursday, January 27, there was a protest in Vari Hall in reaction to the events that took place only a week earlier. The previous week on Thursday, there was a rally against the Bush inauguration that consisted of approximately forty loud, but peaceful protesters. York security called police after the group was asked to move to another location. The police came in and tried to force the students to leave, and when the students did not comply they began to beat and drag a number of students into a locked room.

These events were followed by a number of protests in the days that followed, culminating with the large rally on the 27th. There were a number of speakers at the rally, which took place from 1:00pm until about 3:00pm. One of the speakers was Daniel Freeman-Maloy who was reinstated as a student at York by court order this past summer. He spoke about the need for students to exercise our right to free speech and how the administration cannot be allowed to stifle the voice of the students.

Another speaker, and probably the most prominent, was the incoming head of the Political Science department David McNally. He was so moved by the events of January the 20th that he ended his sabbatical to come and speak to students. McNally has written a number of books on Globalization and Capitalism.

The message from all of the speakers was clear. We, as students and citizens of the world, should stand up for our rights. However, the rally also continued on the topic of Bush, capitalism and the exploitation of workers domestically and world-wide.

One of many free speech rallies in Vari Hall last week.
A: I personally haven't received any benefits yet. I haven't noticed anything.

B: I find it ridiculous and a waste of effort. The GCSU should be more focused on what goes on the paper.

A: I haven't been here long enough to decide. It does, but not enough. They do stuff, but they should probably do more. B: I don't know anything about it, but it sounds kind of ridiculous. But they might have valid reasons.

A: I guess it depends on who's running it. On principle, it hasn't been, the last few months. I don't know anything more than what I read in the paper.

B: I think it is regrettable, but whether or not there is any merit to the suit, I don't know.

A: Yes. They give us access to facilities like the pub and they give us the chance to rent IT equipment and we get funding for our clubs. Free money!

B: If they're sure, I don't want my tuition to soar through the roof next year. I think if one is handling money it should be natural for their integrity to be questioned and as long as they can prove it, fine.

A: No, because I haven't heard anything from the GCSU since I've been here. I've been here for two years.

B: I think it's ridiculous that the GCSU is suing York U. I think that a lot of claims that they've made are false and I don't understand why the GCSU won't provide documentation on how money is spent.

A: I think that they do. I don't really know what the problem is. I really like going to pub on Thursdays. To be honest, I don't really know enough about it to answer, but I don't think they do for me. In the ory it's a good thing.

B: I think it takes balls. If they believe it's for a good cause, they should stand by it.

A: No. They're supposed to be doing things for us, but I don't see them doing anything.

B: I don't know the whole legal thing that's going on. I don't think that they should sue. They should settle it peacefully.

A: No. Other than Frosh week, nothing that they've done has personally benefited me. There is nothing to tell me that they do anything because I've never seen them do anything except read comics and eat.

B: I find it unnecessary. That seems so personal. What are they doing to benefit the students?

A: Not really. They haven't done anything to warrant appreciation from the students.

B: I don't really know enough about it to answer, but I found it surprising that the GCSU was suing our University. There should have been more information for us because they're supposed to be representing the students.

A: Yes. You need a student body to make sure that everything is running smoothly and have our say.

B: I don't know anything about it.
A: I think we need a union, but both the setup of the constitution with the current union and the current council are not a benefit to the student body. If you look through historical record of Glendon, including Pro Tem articles, you find that until recent years Glendon students have always been very politically active in relation to our campus. I personally think that the constitution needs to be rewritten to benefit the current students. The council should let us know how to get involved in Glendon. Most students don't know that the faculty council exists. They need to be the middle body between the administration and the students.

B: I've read the claim. The claim essentially says that the University has been overseeing the council and says that the University didn't do enough to make sure that the council was running properly or that funds were being properly distributed. I think it's basically legitimate. I think that there should have been a town hall meeting to discuss. There should have been more input from then that of the council. They required 120% of our union's budget to retain the attorney. One of the big things people are missing is it's not just a Glendon issue. The students at York U. are provided with services at Glendon College and that body refused to hold elections and there were accusations of election fraud by the students, had the administration appointed a CRO. MacLaughlin College council in either November or December gave themselves a raise of 31775. The last YFS council cut the incoming director's salaries by 4% and threw a 819,000 party.

A: It has to! Because we're giving it money. It has the obligation to, but it really? I don't know the particulars but what has the GCSU done for us recently? Seven people showed up for res wars, and they haven't shown us anything since. The best thing they've organized was Frosh week and that was one person. Now, with Pro Tem, they get a lot of money, but they only release one newspaper every week, like, 2 months. If they have the money, they should use it.

B: I don't know enough about it yet. From what I've heard, the administration has been making decisions, like the money going to Pro Tem, without the GCSU being able to decide. The GCSU is the voice of the students and we're giving them money. If we're giving them all this money, why is the administration making the decisions? What happened to democracy? What happened to student government? If this information is completely wrong, I've been told the wrong thing by GCSU members. I'm sorry if this is bull.

A: I've never heard of them before, but from what I gather I think they're a good company, a good organization helping the students of Glendon. I see that they're very active in the hallway, and their door's always open, so I think they do benefit Glendon students a lot.

B: Wow, that's a hot topic! How much are they suing for? Oh my goodness! I don't know the whole situation, but let them go for it, I guess. The University's got so much money, why not? If it's for a good cause, yeah. If the University did something bad to them, I guess definitely go for it.

A: Not really. The current council hasn't been doing much lately. They claim that they haven't been receiving the appropriate funds from the University, but I think there's something fishy going on when they won't be forthcoming with the appropriate financial documents that have been requested by multiple members of council and by the administration.

B: I don't like it. I certainly don't want a part in it, and quite frankly I think the administration was right to take the action it did and to demand the financial accountability that it did on behalf of the Glendon students because we haven't been able to get to our elected representatives. We've had four or five members of our council either have their voting rights removed or been forced or pressurized to resign.

A: I don't think the GCSU benefits the students. I haven't heard of any activities that have been worthwhile, I haven't even heard of anything the GCSU has been organizing. And since there's a lawsuit going on I think that's definitely not a benefit for the students. No, I don't think the GCSU has benefited the students, ever, as far as I know; in first year, but this year I haven't seen it happen.

B: I think that's absolutely ridiculous because one, it's my money, and I wasn't aware, and two, there's no major reason. If they were asked to give their records then they should have, that makes me wonder why they didn't want to give their records, which makes it worse. I've been hearing that there's corruption in the GCSU and I find that fact makes it even more unbelievable that they're suing our own University. We get our funding from York University, we're part of York University, and I haven't heard of a valid reason why we should be suing them at all.

A: In many ways I am not quite sure what they do. To be honest, there's not a lot of heads up about what goes on and what they do. So all I know is that they're supposed to represent us, but I don't know how they're doing that, I don't know what they are doing. Basically, all I know is that they're the one that is supposed to give out the money to clubs and things.

B: I don't know very much about it. I don't know why they're doing it... it just seems like it's a huge mess.

A: I think it does because I went there once and they have a lot of information about past exams... that is very useful for students, and hopefully they get out of these problems that they have.

B: Honestly, I haven't thought about it, but it's difficult for them... going through this situation.

A: I don't think they benefit the students, because I don't really know what they do, and I don't think many people do.

B: I think there should be another way of resolving things. I know that they have a history of being quick to go to a third party.
got hydration?
The virtues of a lubricated diet

Everyone knows that the human body is "mostly water"; in fact it’s over 70% water. Yet, most people are not using this knowledge securely tucked in the back of their minds, but why is it that most people aren’t using it to their advantage?

Most people are slightly dehydrated without even realizing it.

Like food, the body needs water to function properly. Actually, water is needed exclusively, and l’m healthier exclusively, and I’m healthier

Water is something which one can get from fruits, tea and other juicy foods, but it’s important to realize that pop, most juices and soup along with other very salty or sweet foods will actually deplete, not build up your body’s water stores. This can be compared to drinking sea water, the salt (or sugar) requires more of your body’s water to digest it than it provides, in essence, it is dehydrating you. Interestingly enough, most people are slightly dehydrated without even realizing it! In many people thirst is mistaken for hunger, sounds unbelievable but its true! When a person is very thirsty they can feel like they’re actually hungry instead, which, needless to say, doesn’t help their water intake.

When the body doesn’t have enough water, even slightly, it rapidly begins working against us. As little as a 5% drop in body fluids in an average person causes a 25-30% loss of energy. If that weren’t drastic enough, consider that a 15% drop in body fluids results in death. Water’s no joke.

Aside from all the “serious” reasons to drink enough water there are also many pleasantly surprising benefits. For instance, water helps to metabolize stored fat, which gives us both energy and gets rid of the unwanted fat. Similarly, since hunger and thirst signals often get confused in the body, drinking enough water will help ensure that hunger really is hunger, and one is likely to eat less. Water also "moisturizes" the skin from the inside, making it healthier and softer.

Even with all the facts, a lot of people have difficulty drinking water because it is tasteless or doesn’t have the straight to it in their daily routine, but there are simple ways to overcome both issues. In terms of forgetting, just keep a bottle of water with you all the time, on the bus, in class, at the computer and as soon as you’re thirsty, drink! Also, carrying the bottle around with you will help you remember to drink enough, even when you don’t necessarily feel thirsty that day. To give water zest, add 1 part juice to every 2 parts water, you’ll still get enough water, and you can work it down slowly to less juice over time.

The bottom-line to all of this, though, is habit. Everyone gets into habits regarding what they drink, but these can always be changed for the better. “I only used to drink Coke,” stated Leslie Martin, “but now I drink water almost exclusively, and I’m healthier for it!”

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Water Privatization a war for the 21st century

VICTORIA (CUP) – Considering 70 per cent of the Earth is covered in water, you’d think there would be water for each and every one of us.

However, the reality isn’t quite so crystal clear. Only 2.4 per cent is fresh water. Factor in pollution, legal issues, lack of appropriate technology and privatization, and that figure is further reduced.

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“Privatization is the new apartheid,” said Mokolo. “Apartheid separated whites from blacks. Privatization separates the rich from the poor.” The South African community was told that privatization would help them to conserve water and gain employment.

According to the Canadian Medical Association Journal, the prevalence of obesity among youth has skyrocketed by more than 50%. This horrifying figure makes the Ontario Government’s action a revolutionary one. It appears that this could be the beginning of a drastic change in health among youth across Ontario and eventually will stretch across our diverse nation.

According to the Diéticians of Canada, the removal of junk food vending machines in elementary schools. The Education Minister, Gerard Kennedy, stated on October 20th, 2004, that the McGuinty government is taking the initiative and is planning to make schools a healthier place for children. This is definitely a step forward in educating our youth on health and well-being. Obesity is a rapidly growing epidemic. Hopefully with this health incentive from the government, it will trigger a percentage drop of obesity among our youth.

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Winter’s approaching in Canada, and for most people that means staying cozy and warm inside their heated homes. It doesn’t have to be that way, thank goodness. There are many fun outdoor winter activities which will help speed along the return of spring: skating, snowboarding, skiing and snowmobiling for instance. But sports aren’t the only thing that’s happening in the snow, and although all Canadians may not live in igloos, they may just be tempted to try a night at the “Ice Hotel”.

Only thirty minutes from Quebec City, the five-year-old Ice Hotel is a 3,000 m² warm inside their heated hotel in their unique situation can be fixed, far from their normal surroundings. The Ice Hotel has been a reality for hundreds of years, the hotel in their unique tradition in the Ice Hotel, and the best place for you to sleep. There are many options available, and the best hotel for you would be the one that suits your needs and preferences.

There’s plenty to do outside, but also no lack of excitement inside. The Ice Hotel has a number of facilities, some complete with sleeping bags on a bed of deer pelts, newly designed for another person, we recover their feelings for someone, only to be shot down and given the line, “You’re a good friend, I don’t want to ruining things?”. If you’ve answered “yes” to one or maybe even all of these questions, you’re not alone. I’ve recently been through it, and I’m quite sure everyone else has gone through it. People who are talking about their feelings for someone, only to be told that she’s not interested.

The Hotel holds its opening ceremony in January and melts away in April, during which time the temperature can reach a freezing -28°C. Not to worry though, as the thick ice walls keep the internal temperature nicely between -2 and -5°C - though you’ll still need your long johns. The exceptions are the washroom and luggage areas, which are heated rooms attached to the hotel.

Though the prices are not student-friendly, and range upwards from $500, visiting for the day is always an option if you happen to be on your way to Quebec City. The sight alone will be well worth the detour.

-Water Privatization Continued-

Multinational corporations, in their quest for short-term profit, are rethinking the “water is a public good” idea. In fact, they’ve already been doing it for a while, quietly privatizing water resources. The benefits of privatization are that multinationals can upgrade infrastructure that is in disrepair, that they can better manage water resources, and that they can sell water to other areas.

Once water is privatized, it becomes a tradable good. In Canada, agreements such as the North American Free Trade Agreement encourage this and allow for companies to demand compensation should government limit water extraction and trade. This means that a company in Canada has the freedom to trade off as much water as it wants, often to other countries.

-Water Privatization Continued-

There are a number of issues with privatizing water. One of the biggest concerns is that water resources might be taken away from people who need them the most. This can happen when companies are only concerned with profit and not the well-being of the people they serve.

Another issue is that privatizing water can be costly. People who can’t afford to pay for water are often the ones who need it the most. This can lead to negative health outcomes, as many people who can’t afford to pay for water end up drinking contaminated water.

There are also concerns about the safety of privatized water. Some argue that privatized water is less safe because the companies that own it are more likely to cut corners in order to make a profit. Others argue that privatized water is just as safe as public water, but that the companies that own it are better at marketing it.

However, there are also benefits to privatizing water. One of the biggest benefits is that it can help ensure that water is available to everyone. By privatizing water, companies are more likely to invest in infrastructure that is needed to keep water flowing to people.

Another benefit of privatizing water is that it can help ensure that water is of good quality. By privatizing water, companies are more likely to use the best technology to ensure that the water they provide is clean and safe.

However, it’s important to remember that privatizing water is not a one-size-fits-all solution. It’s important to consider the specific situation in each country when deciding whether to privatize water or not.

And finally, it’s important to remember that water is a human right. No one should have to pay for water in order to live. It’s time for us to start thinking about water in a different way, and to work towards ensuring that everyone has access to clean, safe water.

Have you ever thought about privatizing water? Or do you think it’s a good idea? Let me know in the comments, and we can keep the conversation going.

-Lourdes Villamar

Be sure to从来 the happiness of others. 2) Face the problem head on. Analyze it, be angry with it, then dispose of it. If the situation can be fixed, and if there’s a possibility that it would help with the healing process if you tried to solve it, then by all means, go for it. Don’t let feelings hang in the air, especially yours. Talk to the person that the problem deals with, and you never know - things might work out in the end.

3) Talk with your good friends about it. It doesn’t mean telling everyone in the entire world that you fell for was a jerk or that things just didn’t work out. It means opening up to those closest to you, and to those people who are ready and willing to help you. Just remember that there are people that care, even if your “significant other” doesn’t.

4) Do anything that will get your mind off of things. Play your guitar, mosh at a rock show, work out, and engage in various other activities that will help keep your spirits up and regain your self-confidence. Again, friends and family are the best people to be around at this time. A broken heart can be stressful and will take stabs at you emotionally, mentally and physically - so take care of yourself. (Sleeping rocks!)

5) Stick to your schedule. Do what you have always been doing, and keep your routine. Sure, you might still be hurting, but the faster you return to your schedule, the faster you will become used to it, and ultimately, the faster you will heal.

6) Then again, you can go out there and try different things! Don’t chain yourself down to things you have always being done, but experience new things and see different places. It’s a great chance for you to meet new people and to realize that there are other fish in the sea.

7) Quit the negativity. It’s understandable to look at your reflection and ask “why?” and to question if you’re ever going to be good enough for another person, i.e., pretending, i.e., not being enough, funny enough - but you know what? Just because things didn’t work out, it doesn’t make you less of a person, and it doesn’t change the way you are. Don’t blame yourself, because it may not even be your fault. It’s probably not the time or the right person, so don’t lower your standards or just settle for anyone. You know you’re better than that, and you deserve the best. Just keep your eyes open, keep your options open, and stay true to yourself.

8) Things always happen for a reason. It’s cliché, but it’s true. Maybe the person sitting beside you in class was just waiting for the opportune moment to make their move, and maybe you’ll see a friend in a different light, realizing that they were perfect for you all along and that you were blind the whole time. It’s hard for people to admit, but sometimes, falling for someone indeed controls the things you do, often in unhealthy fashion. Maybe things happened for the better, and you never knew if that person beside you in class is the one for you.

It happened, and it’s done. Don’t dwell on it, because unless you’re some superhero or something (which would be sort of cool), you can’t change the past. Rather, think about the possibilities and the things that are happening now. If you’re sitting alone, you haven’t found someone you love yet. But someone is out there, and you’ll find them. Don’t give up, because there’s always someone looking for you. Move on, because that’s the only thing you can do. When a door closes, another one opens, and if it seems as if another one doesn’t open, just kick the damn door down! You’ll be glad you did it.

-Lourdes Villamar
Students for Good Governance (SFGG) is a group formed by concerned Glendon students seeking to keep the GCSU accountable and revitalize our apathetic student community. On October 29th the SFGG submitted a petition to the administration requesting an investigation into the affairs of the Council. The Council has failed to recognize the petition and initially failed to fully cooperate with the administration. Now the SFGG proposes the impeachment of the President and the Vice-President through a General Meeting or Referendum. They also request the appointment of a partial speaker. Read on to get a further understanding of this group and their battle for justice.

**QUESTION #1: Who is the SFGG and how did you get started?**

Adam: "We are a completely open membership group of students. We are concerned about the things that have been happening with the GCSU for the last year."

Youni: "We heard a lot of different stories going around regarding the GCSU, rumors really, then we read Chad’s resignation letter and the President’s response letter to the Director of Cultural Affairs. All these things started piling up and a few of us got together to get to the bottom of what was happening. We created a petition with everything that was questionable. We gave the petition to the administration requesting an investigation. Now because of what’s happened with the GCSU suing York U, the legal fees and how they’ve reacted we decided that we needed to take things further and that is how the SFGG was formed."

Chad: "It started with a discussion about re-writing the constitution."

Genevieve: "There was discussion in the summer about re-writing the constitution."

**QUESTION #2: What is the SFGG’s goals?**

Jessica: "Our goals are to have an accountable government and an active student life. We think that to do that we need to modify the current structure of government, through our constitution, so that it better represents the needs of Glendon students, is conducive to a more active life and so that it maintains the highest standards of accountability."

**QUESTION #3: What is the purpose of the first petition you sent out?**

Jessica: "We wanted to make an inquiry into the financial accountability of the GCSU, the validity of their constitution, their compliance with the constitution, and the conflict of interest within the council."

Adam: "We wanted to ask the administration to investigate and find out the truth about what had been going on in the GCSU because there had been a lot of allegations of improper conduct, violations of the constitution and there were allegations of money not being used properly."

**QUESTION #4: How do you feel in regards to the GCSU questioning the authenticity of this petition?**

Adam: "It’s ridiculous because the GCSU said that they had called the first town hall meeting because they knew the petition was being signed and wanted to address this. For them to say that it was fabricated is frustrating."

Jessa: "It’s disappointing because they are democratically elected representatives and they claim to be the voice of the students."

However as soon as we voiced what our concerns actually are they dismissed them and assumed it was a conspiracy."

Chad: "I am offended that the President would assume that Genevieve and I would have collaborated with the administration and failed to provide the students to be concerned. He would assume that we cannot think for ourselves. This is an issue that came out of many students’ concerns."

Jessa: "There is a lot of outside opposition towards students going to the administration for help. Some people believe that by going to the administration we are the ones that sacrifice the constitution and our democratic system. Unfortunately when your student government is corrupt to begin with, and fails to collaborate on any other option remains. On several occasions students had asked the President for financial documents. He continues to this day to ask that students make appointments to speak to him about these documents and still fails to publish them as the Council is required to. We see the administration to be the only reliable source of information and therefore the solution was obvious, we had to go to them. It should also be understood that we went to them for information. Any action that we decided to take based on that information (ie. Impeachment) would be done in the constitution provides through the union."

**QUESTION #5: Do you feel like this petition fulfilled its purpose?**

Chad: "Yes it got students interested in what’s going on."

Genevieve: "Ultimately, a forensic audit is being conducted."

Adam: "Really we don’t know, the administration only decided to investigate the financial matter. The other things that we asked for in the petition were not covered in the administrative investigation. So we have yet to see the full purpose it will serve."

**QUESTION #6: Two of your members were previously members of the GCSU. Did this petition start because of personal issues and resentment towards the GCSU?**

Chad: "For us this was never a personal issue. For us every accusation that has been made has been about a professional issue. Anyone who is in, or wants to be in politics must understand that politics cannot be personal and it cannot be taken personally. Any action you take in on with our government and our student life, and it is Council’s responsibility to foster student life."

**QUESTION #7: Do you believe that all members of the GCSU are acting in a direct disregard towards the Glendon student community?**

Genevieve: "We do not believe that all members are acting in self interest. There is evidence that members have been fulfilling their duties. There are four examples that come to mind at this time."

"Genevieve then reads from the GCSU record of Minutes for their meeting Sat. Dec. 4th 2004."

1) Jenni-Lee Mun our part time student Representative has proposed and organized a leadership camp that either will not happen or will be postponed due to the recent events. (I saw the title page of a proposal in the email archives of the GCSU).

2) A keep all members informed on the current events. (Read part of the email archives of the GCSU).

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the office and questioned Miss. Mun about this event. I don’t know if it is in the minutes).

2) Another example is Dan Wolfe who keeps on mentioning through the Dec 4th meeting about the translation of both French and English documents, all meetings must be held in French and English. Dan does fight for the francophones and tries to encourage council to publish and participate in both languages. Councilor Dan Wolfe encourages bilingualism several times throughout the Council meeting held on December 4th 2004, as seen in the Council minutes. For example, after having heard Director of Clubs and Services Carlos Finch read a motion regarding the use of legal action in the case between the GCsuU, Pro Tem and the university administration, Mr. Wolfe states that “he would like for a translation in French”. He continues to pursue bilingualism twice more during the same meeting; once requesting that a letter proposed by Councilor Greg Junop be also available in French and second, he reminds Council that meetings should be held in French and English. He later tanker half of his Council report in French.

3) Recorded in the same meeting minutes, Councilor Greg Junop encouraged Council to put together a letter informing students of what is currently going on in Council. He proposed the following:

*Greg: “I would like motion put forward that a letter be drawn for the public” and he continues to say that all members should have copies and it should be available to all students so that they are aware of what is happening. This is clear evidence that some members are making efforts to communicate with the students.

*Dan: “I would like motion put forward that a letter be drawn for the public, each member has a copy of it and can hand it out to the students so they know what is happening. Lack of false info.”

*Dan: “In French also...”

Later on the meeting minutes:

*Dan: “All meetings must be held in French and English.”

***Take note to the GCsuU meeting agenda notes Sat Dec 4 in the Senate Chamber**

4) Councilor Mahreen Nabi suggested that the student body be informed before making a decision regarding legal action. She was recorded in the Council meeting minutes for December 4 2004 saying “would it not be easier to ensure that the entire student body be informed after a town hall meeting.”

The response to her suggestion came from our President, who said: “It is too late for that, the matter arises now and we need to deal with it now. Many students are too busy with exams to come to a town hall meeting... There will be a town hall meeting in January as necessitated by exams. This is not now and has been going on since February of last year.”

**QUESTION #8: How did this new petition begin?**

Jesi: “Everything shifted after the administration suspended the GCsuU and closed down their office. When we came back in January the GCsuU informed Adam and I that they had gone to court and the court ordered their offices to be re-opened. This really shifted the whole situation away from the investigation. On January 4th Adam and I spoke to the GCsuU President where Adam told him that it was a group of students that had written the petition and he accepted and acknowledged that and said that it made him feel better “to know” then he told us that he was going to launch a lawsuit and he was leaving for a press conference. The next day we were upset and shocked to read in the Toronto Star article not only that we were suing the University for $2.7M but also that he was quoting him “he’s never seen the petition and doesn’t know the precise nature of the allegations.” The next day Hossein said on Radio-Canada that they requested it 3 times and they didn’t receive it which leads him to believe that the administration had made it up. As a result of that a lot of students got upset about this and started joining the SFGG. Now the time has come to take action. On a side note: Recently the President explained that the one reason that because his definition of petition includes signatures and because there were no signatures shown to him, he had not in fact seen the petition. To Dhabi, a dictionary that he claimed he was quoting makes no reference to signatures and defines petition as a request.”

Adam: “We wanted to run a campaign to show that we were opposed to this lawsuit.”

Yonat: “Ultimately it was our responsibility as students to start this petition.”

Jesi: “We felt that at this moment that it just appeared that the GCsuU was hiding behind this lawsuit so they do not have to deal with the allegations. Now it is time for the students to take action and hold them accountable.”

**QUESTION #9: What are the basic demands of this new petition?**

Yonat: “The petition demands are basically: 1) Withdraw the lawsuit 2) That there be an impartial speaker appointed by the university with the GCsuU in agreement 3) We are proposing the impeachment of the President- Vice-President from the council and we want them to call a general meeting to ratify this (1/20th of the student body must be present to vote) and 4) To tell all members of council comply with the investigation conducted by the university and they comply with the administrations results into the investigation.”

**QUESTION #10: How many Glendon students have to sign this petition in order for it to become active?**

Jesi: “We need at least 25% of our student body to sign this petition, at least 500 students but only 10% is needed, according to the Constitution.”

**QUESTION #11: Why are you appointing a new speaker?**

Jesi: “The reason that we are asking Council and the administration to appoint a new speaker is that our current speaker, Mr. Samianz is biased. The point of the speaker is to impartially interpret the constitution. When the speaker of the union goes on national Radio Canada and accuses the university of conspiracy he is clearly expressing an opinion and therefore taking a side that he should not be taking as speaker.”

**QUESTION #12: Can you explain the ‘bias’ comment?**

Chad: “The President Ron Fedtkow was Hossein Samianz’s employee in his role as pub manager. The speaker two years ago was appointed the Director of Clubs and Services and last year was elected as Vice President and held signing authority on the cheque book, three weeks into September 2004. This is one of the main points in the investigation. He has a very clear opinion and supports the lawsuit. Any one of these things makes him biased.”

Adam: Also last year as Vice President he appointed himself as the Business Manager, however the Vice President is suppose to oversee the Business Manager. Hossein being both created a conflict of interest. How can someone who violated the constitution be our constitutional interpreter?”

**QUESTION #13: If you could look past this lawsuit and hit the core of a problem, what would be the core of the GCsuU’s problem?**

Chad: “Very few student governments are paid, and I think part of the reason we have so many problems is that we are paying people and they run because they can be paid and with very little accountability and even less university oversight. The worse our government becomes the more apathetic our student body becomes. It’s a horrible cycle.”

**QUESTION #14: What do you think about the 2.7 million the GCsuU is asking for?**

Jesi: “We were not only upset and disappointed that the President of the GCsuU had denied the petition in the Toronto Star article but we were also shocked about the amount of money they were suing for. We were also upset about the council suing in the students’ representation with Glendon College Student Union as the plaintiff. This means that everyone of us is suing the administration.”

**QUESTION #15: So you are saying that I, along with every other Glendon student is suing our own University?**

Chad: “The stated plaintiff in the statement of claim is the Glendon College Student Union. The union according to our constitution is comprised of all registered Glendon students, which means all Glendon students are plaintiffs and are entitled to contact their attorney, Xavier Navarette.”

**QUESTION #16: What would you like the students of Glendon to do?**

Yonat: “We want students to actually come out and stand up to send a message to the York community saying we will not tolerate such low standards of performance by our council in a school created for diplomacy and politics.”

**QUESTION #17: Send a message to the Glendon Community.**

Yonat: “I feel like students think this (SFGG) is an elite club, but it’s important that they know that anyone can join.”

Jesi: “This is our big chance to make Glendon what it can be. We want to combine the principles it was founded on and what it can and should be. Students need to understand that when our student government fails to operate properly, they tarnish the reputation of our faculty and our university. And most importantly they embarrass the student body as their representatives. We need to stand up and say it’s enough: Show that we care about our university, we want to make it better, we can make it better and we won’t accept such failure. About half of Glendon students are enrolled in International Studies or Political Science. This means they spend a lot of their time in classes learning about good governance, about the failures of governments around the world, and about how we can make the world better. They are being given the tools to one day go out into this world and make a difference, as Escott Reid intended. How will we ever be able to do that for the world, if our own local example of governance is flawed and we do nothing to improve it? Students need to look around their campus and envision their dream of what they want Glendon to be. Let’s take that dream and make it a reality, together we can.”

Contact: If you would like more information you can visit the SFGG’s website www.sfgg.ca or email them at contact.sfgg@gmail.com
After Professor Taylor has just had a lecture on it in class) we head off to her office for the interview to take place. I choose to conduct the interview not only because she is one of my Professors for the Literary Tradition of English class, but because of the positive responses I have observed in regards to her teaching. Professor Taylor is unique, her teaching style for students is what coffee is for early risers, absolutely needed. Students leave class awake and energized, exhilarated with knowledge, and if they aren’t rushing off to their next class most stay behind to chat with this amiable Professor.

Professor Taylor

AB: Where are you originally from?
TT: Toronto. My family is originally from Jamaica, but most of them emigrated to Canada and the United States. I am especially fond of my ‘winter getaway’ relatives - like my cousin Denise in Miami!

AB: I bet! If you had not become an English Professor what career path would you have chosen?
TT: My family is typically West Indian: supportive and very pro-education. From early on, I was strongly encouraged to be a lawyer. The plan was for me to get a B.A. in English, write the LSAT and head off to law school. What actually happened was that I fell in love with literature. Looking back, the situation was pretty funny. You see, I was too chicken to confess that I didn’t want to be lawyer, so I started leading a double life - law school applicant by day, English scholar by night - like Superman or Wonderwoman... but much nerdier. Anyhow, after a few years of unnecessary anxiety and secrecy, I announced that I wanted to be a Professor and that I had been accepted into an M.A. programme in English. Of course, everything was just fine.

AB: How would you describe your teaching style?
TT: I would say that it is well informed and accessible: a blend of old and new teaching philosophies. I strongly believe in being as prepared as I can be so that I can persuade each and every student to be interested in the material that we are studying. It is very important to me that my students feel that they have learned something new and interesting each class. Ultimately, the best compliment for me is when a student tells me that because of what they have learned in my class, they are getting better marks in all of their courses.

AB: What is your favourite television show?
TT: Newlyweds. Have you seen the new US Magazine, apparently Nick is cheating on Jessica with a stripper. Do you think he would do that?

TT: Silence of the Lambs. AB: Actually yeah I have seen that. I don’t think Nick would, he’s too dependent on Jessica, and she’s the one bringing in the money. Favourite movie?

TT: The shuttle. Just kidding. It was opportunity. Before I began working here, I had only been to Glendon once to do an interview and I had no idea from want. Essentially, I wish for all people to have the same opportunities I have had in life. Self-Wish: I never want to be irrelevant or stagnant. I want to always to be learning and enjoying what life has to offer. My Future Wish: To get a puppy. I never had a pet growing up and I have always yearned for one - I would love a Pug or Bull Terrier.

AB: Do you have any pet peeves?
TT: My major pet peeve is people that approach you with ophthalmic assistant... just to name a few. But, the worst job I have ever had was when I worked as a receptionist for a Laser Hair Removal Clinic. For some strange reason, the clients didn’t think that it was sufficient to tell me about the excessive hair that they wanted to remove - they had to show me. When I started having nightmares about women with beards and men with hairy ears, I knew it was time to quit!

AB: The blond hair, a stereotype for stupidity bothered me before. Then I got to thinking about the intelligence of the people that actually think hair colour affects how smart you are, made me laugh! What is the last concert you’ve been to?
TT: Sade and India Arie around two years ago.

AB: What did you do last Saturday?
TT: Last Saturday I went to the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair and took pictures of sheep for a lecture I’m doing on Pastoral. I ran into some students there, which was very cool.

AB: What are the benefits of teaching?
TT: The benefit for me is immeasurable. It still amazes me that reading poetry and literature, seeing plays, researching and discussing ideas - things that I truly love to do - are my job! Besides, being around so many diverse and interesting students prevents me from becoming bored and dull. Just last week, for example, I got a fashion update on “Uggs” - fabulous!

AB: What are some of the other jobs you’ve had?
TT: I have been in retail sales at a clothing boutique, a shooter girl at O’Toole’s, a medical secretary, an ophthalmic assistant... just to name a few. But, the worst job I have ever had was when I worked as a receptionist for a Laser Hair Removal Clinic. For some strange reason, the clients didn’t think that it was sufficient to tell me about the excessive hair that they wanted to remove - they had to show me. When I started having nightmares about women with beards and men with hairy ears, I knew it was time to quit!

What Professor/Staff Member of Glendon would you like to see interviewed in the next issue of Pro Blem?
Renover pour en finir avec le Manoir Glendon

L'architecture du manoir Glendon témoigne peut-être de ce mauvais goût de la richissime haute-bourgeoisie canadienne qui, au début de ce siècle, s'entoulait des produits culturels devenus déjà stériles par leur standardisation. Styles pastichés, évoquant cette Europe que nous n'étions guère, et que nous ne serions jamais. Un vilain pastiche d'approbation ou de désapprobation artistique. L'Europe pastichée comme standard de ce qui est de bon goût pour tous ces Nord-américains qui en avaient point. Car le manoir Glendon n'est pas beau. L'affirmation serait de se laisser prendre au jeu de l'apparence. Et l'analogie qui voudrait le sauver en le comparant à la monotonie glauque de ce milieu qui l'entoure, relie sans doute de l'observation de l'inessentiel puisqu'elle ne serait point son essence particulière, ni sa particularité. Lui contraster la beauté qui l'entoure, la beauté qui le cerne, ne fait que confirmer que la certitude sensible suffit à satisfaire celui qui aura choisi de vivre sa vie dans la nuit où toutes les vaches sont noires. L'importance de ce que nous avons perdus, en perdant le manoir, Glendon, n'est pas là. À la manière du compositeur Schubert, le manoir, de face, est petit, médiocrement charpenté, laid et timide. Mais à nouveau, là n'est pas l'essence.

En conséquence, prénoms, s笺isions Schubert de profil, et à travers lui, ce que nous perdons dans le manoir Glendon. "Schubert au piano" (1899). Tableau connu et aimé des admirateurs de Klimt. Notre compositeur est assis de profil, les mains exercées au clavier, entouré majoritairement de femmes qui sont plus belles les unes que les autres, aux allures délicates, ornées de visages transposant cette douceur qui caractérise ordinairement les tableaux d'icônes. La scène est faiblement éclairée à l'aide de bougies, insuffisantes. Si l'artiste ici joue, son jeu ne peut être que par le suivi de ces regards qui le tiennent. Oeuvre d'art, conçue l'apportant l'art lui-même. Mais il y a plus. La peinture qui représente ce qui est joué juit de la terre et donne expression au monde de Schubert et de ses auditeurs. Un monde où l'affirmation musicale fait l'objet d'une sollicitude et de suites. Comme il est fragile ce monde de l'intérieur! Création et réception. La nuit, non pas noire, mais proposée au rassemblement, à la délicatesse, au raffinement, à travers la jouissance des sens et de l'intellect, une certaine prise de distance avec le monde qui règne à l'extérieur. Ce monde qui entoure le tableau de ses besoins et de ses exigences. Ce monde dans lequel il est situé est de compter. La véritable beauté de ces femmes -belles qui embrillent jusqu'à Schubert- est leur présence méditative. Elles incarnent une pensée méditative. Le regard qu'elles posent est joueur. Grâce à elles (le monde où l'art est convoqué par le sort que lui accorde la communauté) nous prêtons conscience de ce qui est primordial pour nous tous: les œuvres d'art ne peuvent exister sans créateurs. Mais à ce premier postulat, nous ne serons jamais, et autour de lui la communauté qui le constituait. Avec sa disparition, nous touchons à la perte d'un milieu où l'expérience pouvait encore se dire puisque les liens d'une solidarité méditante facilitaient sa présence.

Et j'ose estimer que c'est cela que nous avons perdu en perdant le manoir Glendon. La photo en couverture d'un numéro de Pro Tem de l'année dernière (Vol. 43, # 7) suffit pour nous en convaincre. Dossiers, documents, mémoires de recherche, autant de manifestations de la pensée méditative vouées au recyclage, voire l'inexistence. On pourrait dire que cette photo qu'elle est une véritable monade de ce qui est arrivé à la pensée méditante dans une société qui lui accordait de moins en moins de place (et de locaux). Aux futurs étudiants du campus Glendon, cette photo, paradoxalement, doit rendre compte de la perte de la mémoire dont elle est si tristement la témoin. Désormais, ce sera l'administration qui s'y installera. La plomberie! Et avec elle, une certaine régularité efficace. Notre pauvre petit manoir, laud et boudou, deviendra en partie une cathédrale de la gestion. Sans doute le "bon fonctionnement" de l'université y gagnera-t-il quelque chose. Mais déjà nous voyons dans ce déménagement forcé un dérèglement multiforme, un trait caractéristique de notre époque. Le lecteur avisé n'aura qu'à songer à la disparition des anciennes solidarités, des nœuds de salons et de recueillement artistique, de réflexions, ainsi qu'aux continuités d'ici. C'est ce lieu, plus que physique, qui vient de disparaître, et autour de lui la communauté qui le constituait. Avec sa disparition, nous touchons à la perte d'un milieu où l'expérience pouvait encore se dire puisque les liens d'une solidarité méditante facilitaient sa présence.

-Jozina Vanna Klok

The Diary of a Glendon Exchange Student

La bouffe. Mon cousin m'a demandé de lui envoyer une spécialité française pour Noël, mais je ne pouvais pas lui envoyer. Par conséquent, c'est les Français qui parlent plus de la gastronomie, surtout en mangeant. Ceci a été mis en évidence durant mon séjour chez la famille de ma coloc Delphine pour Noël, et je vous confirme que cette théorie est vraie. Je vais décrire par le plus grand repas de l'année: celui de Noël. Commencons par l'entrée froide, on a mangé le foie gras avec de la confiture d'oignons et du pain frais, et une petite salade à côté. L'entrée chaude a consisté en une quenelle de bœuf (du poisson), avec des noix de pétanque, des crevettes et des champignons tous dans une sauce rose de fruits. C'est la plus belle de toutes les autres.

Et avec elle, une certaine régularité efficace. Notre pauvre petit manoir, laud et boudou, deviendra en partie une cathédrale de la gestion. Sans doute le "bon fonctionnement" de l'université y gagnera-t-il quelque chose. Mais déjà nous voyons dans ce déménagement forcé un dérèglement multiforme, un trait caractéristique de notre époque. Le lecteur avisé n'aura qu'à songer à la disparition des anciennes solidarités, des nœuds de salons et de recueillement artistique, de réflexions, ainsi qu'aux continuités d'ici. C'est ce lieu, plus que physique, qui vient de disparaître, et autour de lui la communauté qui le constituait. Avec sa disparition, nous touchons à la perte d'un milieu où l'expérience pouvait encore se dire puisque les liens d'une solidarité méditante facilitaient sa présence.

-Normand Raymond
What's wrong with the ugly duckling?

Elizabeth Sahadeo

It seems there is a new fad in reality television - plastic surgery. Skimming through the channels one lovely Monday evening I came across a show that takes dull looking women and magically transforms them into beautiful fake women. Are they really beautiful if they are just fake? I would think not, seeing that they now only serve to be a shell on their prior selves. Who came up with such a ridiculous idea? Aren't women plagued enough with the stereotypical image of what beauty is deemed to be in today's society? Why must media constantly concoct ways in which to raise the bar of what beauty is? Have they ever heard of the saying that beauty is in the eyes of the beholder?

The show that I'm raving about as you might have guessed is Fox's The Swan airing Mondays at 9 pm. There are other softer variations of this show, such as Extreme Makeover, which I also am against but at least it is not as outrageous as The Swan. First off, women who are considered "ugly" by societies' standards are chosen to go through a full body transformation to make them as beautiful as they can be. I personally think all of the women chosen are beautiful in their own way, but I'm just an ordinary woman so what do I know. You would think that after countless operations including such things as plastic surgery, teeth implants and so on the show's objective would be achieved. Nope, guess again. The women now having reached their beauty potential are then pinned against other women who’ve/went through the same process to compete in a pageant to see who in fact is the most beautiful of them all. Sounds like a line from Snow White. Maybe the creator of The Swan is the Evil Queen from Snow White in disguise.

The women that are selected obviously possess low self esteem, which is why they first agreed to go on the show. So it only makes sense to make them pretty, raise their self-esteem and then put them against other women and when they've lost, their self-esteem plummet once again, like a yo-yo; enforcing the fact that they can never be good enough, they can never be pretty enough, a goal that can never be achieved. All this for entertainment, how disgusting. A coming episode of The Swan puts two sisters against each other in a pageant. Why stop at transforming perfectly normal women might as well break up a family while you're at it. There seems to be no limits to what the media is willingly to do to get those extra ratings. Society is constantly being manipulated by visions of beauty portrayed by the media. Did you know that the average model wears below size 0; I guess for some that skinny unhealthy look is appealing.

So when you're skimming through the channels one lovely evening and you come across a show like The Swan don't let it break your rhythm, keep on skimming because the more we pay attention the more these mindless images of perfection will plague us. And maybe one day when the media realises we aren't caring anymore they will think of other ways of capturing us, maybe a way that will benefit society rather than crippling it.

-Elizabeth Sahadeo

The history of beauty:

I know i'm beautiful, tell me i'm smart

It's 5pm and I'm standing in a hallway crowded with girls; no two alike. Brunette, blonde, rehead, tall, not so tall, slender, curvey. Two things that we all have in common: each of us pretty in our own, unique way, each of us waiting for someone to tell us that we're beautiful. Welcome to the world of modelling. Believe me, it's as superficial and demeaning as you can imagine.

I stand around, having been assigned my number, clutching my portfolio, and size up the competition. All the while aware that someone else is dissecting how I look, what I'm wearing, how my hair's done, how I stand. I tell myself, and I believe it too, that I've nothing to be self-conscious about. Sure, I may not be the hottest thing on the block, but I'm no sloch either so, really, what's to worry about? Nothing, except I'm still standing here, waiting, and soon someone else will look me up and down, mentally pick me apart, and decide, based on things I have no problem with, whether I'm good enough to be in the video, or the ad, or whatever. Sick.

What is it that makes us personally as females feel as though we're not good enough? Because modelling's an extreme, but it's the female situation. Everyday we are judged, we are told whether we measure up, regardless of whether we want it or not. And no matter how confident you feel when you leave the house, you can't help but feel the weight put on your shoulders to be taken at face value alone.

So I stand in this hallway, listening to these other girls talk about breast implants, tummy tucks, microdermabrasion, and some of them are younger [much younger] than my 22 years. Tummy tucks at 17.

Insanity.

Again an extreme, but these girls are like me; we're doing our thing: going to school, going to work, trying to have fun and live life before it's too late. So if they're your average girls, and this is what's on their minds, the question becomes: who has done this to us? The answer is, sadly, that we've done it to ourselves. Nevermind the media telling us what's beautiful. If we're paying attention, as I feel we are, then we know that media images of beauty are totally fake. The model who gets this job will be airbrushed to oblivion, to the point where even she'll have a hard time recognizing herself in that picture. It's us ladies. We tell ourselves that if we're not 120lbs., if we don't have long silky hair, perfect complexion, "perfect" figures, that we're not good enough. Nonsense. I think I'm good enough, and trust me, it wasn't easy. Societal pressures aside, I can clearly remember comparing myself to my girlfriend's and feeling inadequate. Funny thing is, everyone of them has compared themselves to me at one point or another and come out feeling about the same way.

But I'm a little older now, and even if I find myself noting the teeny flatness of my best friend's tummy, I know that that's not all there is to a person. Or to myself.

It's not that we should never feel self-conscious, that's natural. Tyra Banks hates her mole. But it's important to know when to say: enough is enough. We are who we are and regardless of what anyone else thinks, we're the ones who have to live in our skins. So let's live in these and be happy with who we are. I didn't get that job, by the way, but all things considered, it's not even close to being the worst thing that could happen. Failing one of my midterms, that's another story.

-Carin Hollifred
The worst natural disaster in recorded history

On August 6th and 9th, 1945, the United States witnessed the first atomic bomb to be launched in warfare on the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, where approximately 103,000 innocent civilians lost their lives. Fifty-nine years later, on December 26th, 2004, the deadliest natural disaster known to humanity transpired. An earthquake off the coast of Sumatra, Indonesia, caused a giant wave to strike the eastern coast of Indonesia and the southern coast of Thailand. The wave traveled across the Indian Ocean, reaching as far as the coast of Sri Lanka, and ending in the Arabian Sea. The total death toll reached over 230,000 people.

Another factor that cannot be ignored is the delayed assistance to the tsunami-stricken countries. Countries like Australia have donated more than $800 million to the tsunami relief fund. Another factor is the lack of emergency preparedness in many countries. Countries that are prone to natural disasters need to have emergency plans in place to minimize the loss of life and property.

AIDS is an ongoing epidemic, and the lesson from the tsunami disaster is that it is not enough to focus on one disaster at a time. We need to continue to assist the countries that continue to face disease and famine before and after the tsunami occurrence. Africa's HIV/AIDS crisis is still a huge problem, and since last year, the situation has worsened with the outbreaks of cholera. Mercy Otun, a Kenyan HIV/AIDS advocate and fundraiser, told the Globe and Mail that there is a need to continue to support the countries that have been affected by the tsunami disaster.

Tsunami relief fund.

For anyone that is interested in donating to the Tsunami Relief fund or for any other international crises, please visit www.redcross.ca. Tax receipts are provided by the Red Cross for any donation of $20.00 or more.

This tsunami disaster will be marked in history books as the deadliest natural disaster suffered by human kind. It is a disaster that will not go away. The lesson from the tsunami disaster is that we need to continue to support the countries that continue to face disease and famine before and after the tsunami occurrence. Africa's HIV/AIDS crisis is still a huge problem, and since last year, the situation has worsened with the outbreaks of cholera. Mercy Otun, a Kenyan HIV/AIDS advocate and fundraiser, told the Globe and Mail that there is a need to continue to support the countries that have been affected by the tsunami disaster.

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Qui est Modigliani?
L’AGO dévoile l’homme derrière le mythe

1. Jeanne Hébuterne, 1888-1920

Amedeo Modigliani est probablement un des artistes les plus controversés du siècle passé. Bien des mythes ont été édifiés à son égard, et sa vie tumultueuse et bohème étant la source-même de ceux-ci.

L'artiste est né en 1884 àLivorno, près de Pisa. Durant sa jeunesse, il fut éduqué dans l'esprit des écoles artistiques réaliste et maniériste, recevant des connaissances précieuses pour son travail ultérieur. Comme notamment pour ses nombreux portraits, qu'il concourait aussi rapidement surtout dans les cafés de Montparnasse, parfois en échange d'un plat chaud, il s'est également remarqué dans le domaine de la sculpture, sa véritable ambition. Un élément remarquable et en même temps fascinant de ses portraits est la prédisposition de l'artiste pour les orbites oculaires vides, influence de l'art africain. Quelques-uns de ses portraits présentent des personnes ayant seulement une orbite vide. Une de ses amies est même fâchée contre lui de lui avoir représenté les yeux ainsi, mais sa réponse fut que l'un des yeux resterait tourné vers l'intérieur; il y a là une manière tout à fait originale de suggérer l'idée d'introspection. De toute façon, il semble que le plus fascinant "segment" de son œuvre reste, à part ses gracieuses cariatides, la série de nus conservés à ce temps-là excessivement audacieux. Modigliani représentait le corps féminin en tout détail anatomique ce qui à l'époque était jugé impudique et de mauvais goût. D'ailleurs, l'unique exposition organisée pendant sa vie, à Paris, avec le concours de la Galerie Berthe Weill, fut inaugurée et fermée le même jour, justement à cause du scandale provoqué par un de ces nus, qu'on avait placés à la fenêtre donnant sur la rue.

Modigliani avait un talent tout particulier de rendre avec exactitude les détails les plus sensuels du corps féminin, même quand l'attitude des modèles était loin d'inviter à la sensualité. Les lignes, les courbes et les couleurs se combinent dans une recette artistique complètement nouvelle - bien que le nu ne soit pas une innovation de l'artiste. Tout au contraire, des artistes européens tels Goya ou Manet (dont les œuvres avaient inspiré Modigliani), avaient abordé ce sujet, mais jamais avec la même expressivité. Si la plupart des artistes célèbres se sont impliqués dans des amours avec les modèles de leurs nus, Modigliani a réservé son affection pour d'autres personnes et n'a jamais peint ses amantes nus. Une figure représentative de la vie amoureuse de l'artiste fut Jeanne Hébuterne, étudiante en Beaux Arts qu'on retrouve dans plusieurs tableaux du peintre (une collection de ses œuvres, parmi lesquels des portraits de Modigliani, fut exposée au yeux du public dans les années 60). La femme, enceinte de leur deuxième enfant, s'est suicidée deux jours après la mort du peintre en 1920.

Le curieux est que, au fur et à mesure que sa santé devenait de plus en plus faible à cause d'abus d'alcool et de drogues, et, en général, de son style de vie, les peintures de l'artiste devenaient de plus en plus sereines et diaphanes (comme "Lunia Czechowska", 1919, œuvre exécutée un an avant sa mort, un de ses tableaux les plus réussis; on remarque la différence entre celui-ci et, par exemple, le "Portrait de Beatrice Hastings", 1916). C'est peut-être ici que gît le paradoxe tout entier de ce peintre mal compris à cette époque-là et même aujourd'hui.

Plus curieux encore c'est que, même après une visite à la Galerie, ou à quelque autre exposition de l'artiste que l'on choisisse, on reste avec la question initiale: après tout, qui est, en fait, Modigliani?

-Paula Anastasiade

(toute œuvre est prise sur le site internet www.inter-art.com/en/modigliani.htm)
Out of the ordinary

Opera Atelier boldly puts a brave new spin on Mozart’s classic “Don Giovanni”.

For those who envision a night at the opera as being a rather dull experience, this modern twist on Mozart’s Don Giovanni, which has been captivating audiences since 1787, will be the show that will leave you wanting more. The story of Don Giovanni is a moral example of the inevitable fate that finds the wrongdoer. A chronic seducer, Giovanni finds himself the center of a manhunt after his one-too-many exploits have acquired him numerous enemies. In a particularly damning incident, he accidentally murders the Commendatore in a battle following the failed conquest of the Commendatore’s daughter, Donna Anna. Donna Anna and her fiancé, Don Ottavio, vow revenge against Giovanni for the Commendatore’s death and are soon accompanied by other enemies of the villain. These enemies, to name the few, include Donna Elvira, a betrayed ex-lover that desperately loves Giovanni, but will kill him if he doesn’t return her love. Finally, fate meets an unrepentant Don Giovanni, when the Commendatore returns to earth, himself, in the form of a statue, to personally escort Giovanni to the depths of hell. Previous productions have frequently portrayed Don Giovanni as a man that hated women, hence his inability to achieve true intimacy despite his excessively numerous encounters. However, much of this perception of the famous opera stemmed from the puritanical movement of the 19th century, which was a backlash against the more liberal ideas of the 18th century. Opera Atelier attempts to break free of this puritan ideal and, instead, aims to realize this production in the context of the Italian Commedia dell’Arte style, which director Marshall Pynkoski regards as being the true roots of the original work. This superb cast displays a caliber of talent that borders on flawless, as well as being unusually gorgeous (thankfully, opera is no longer synonymous with obese). The especially handsome Michael Chioldi offers us a bright and refreshing performance in the lead role of Don Giovanni. Chioldi skilfully portrays the villainous Giovanni with ease, and successfully bonds the comedic with the lecherous, all the while providing his character with a certain laustrious appeal. No easy feat for even the most seasoned actor! This production is brilliantly entertaining with its dramatic scenes, stage fights, and overall striking aesthetic. While many prior productions have cast Giovanni as a dark and aging character, Opera Atelier instead portrays him as a boastful young man who shamelessly loves all women and stubbornly loves himself to damnation. In both the old and the modern version the outcome remains the same, although the contemporary production offers a more innovative and youthful outlook.

Don Giovanni was performed Nov 11-21 2004 Elgin Theatre

Tia Brazda

Collected Apologies

Myke Harrison might have many things to apologize about, but his music is not one of them. Myke Harrison is not only an incredibly amiable individual but also an equally gifted musician. Roughly four years ago, for a one year period, I had the great fortune of living with Myke. He was my next-door neighbour and our common love for loud music kick-started our friendship. At that point in Myke’s life he was already greatly involved with music. He was continuously playing his guitar and was a member of a band named Novaedge. The band did well for a while, but unfortunately slowly fell apart. Despite the fact that Myke was now band-less, he continued to explore his creative abilities. His unremitting desire to be a great musician is finally starting to pay off, recently releasing his debut solo project, The Collected Apologies. I have always known Myke as a rocker who played music akin to bands such as Finger Eleven and Nickelback. Needless to say, it was amazing to discover how mellow his new album is. Of course, why should anyone have been surprised, Myke is a multifaceted musician! The Collected Apologies includes nine warm and heartfelt tracks, all of which ought to leave the listener with a smile. Tracks such as ‘Never’ and ‘You’ve Never Looked So Good’ are a tad more upbeat and very catchy. As a whole, the album displays Myke’s abilities to cleverly manipulate his guitar as well as his equally impressive vocal skills. Myke’s debut album is riveting and incredibly emotional. Collected Apologies proves that Myke Harris is an extremely talented musician, for sure with a prosperous career ahead of him. As an avid music collector, I was awfully pleased with the album. I only hope that Myke receives all the successes that he deserves, for other than his musical gifts he is one of the nicest people that I have ever met.

Chris Gonda

Le Samedi 5 février 2005
à partir de 21 H
Au CLUB 22 à l’hôtel Windsor Arms
18 St. Thomas Street, Toronto, ON

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L’équipe Francophonique vous souhaite une très bonne année 2005!

Pour notre première soirée Clique de l’année nous avons choisi, le CLUB 22 situé dans l’encinture du très élégant hôtel « Windsor Arms ». Avec un décor qui marie un style moderne et classique, le Windsor Arms en fait un des plus beaux hôtels du Canada.

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Entrée : Gratuite toute la soirée pour les membres de Francophonique, demander le réseau Francophonique à la porte.

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RÉTROSPECTIVE CINÉMA
Hommage au grand maître du cinéma français

Cinémathèque Ontario présente: "Godard for ever and ever"

J'ai découvert récemment le premier film de Jean-Luc Godard, intitulé «À bout de souffle». Manifeste de la Nouvelle Vague, ce film non conformiste marque le début d'un bouleversement dans le cinéma traditionnel.

Dès le premier instant, j'ai été plongé dans cet univers à la fois intimiste et tranchant : paysages déserts avec nostalgie, personnalités énigmatiques admirablement interprétées dans ce film des années soixante par un certain Jean-Paul Belmondo et la très jeune et jolie Jean Seberg.

Les films de Godard se regardent et se regardent encore, comme une véritable oeuvre d'art. Et voici que la cinémathèque de Toronto propose « Godard for ever and ever » un signe du destin peut-être ? En tout cas, l'occasion rêvée de me replonger dans la pensée originale de ce réalisateur, à travers le film « L'Éloge de l'Amour », et de vous faire partager mes impressions.


En effet, Godard insiste beaucoup sur l'idée que les Américains du Nord n'ont pas de passé et que les films d'Hollywood font partie de la machine de l'impérialisme américain. Par exemple, il dit : « Américain, ça ne veut rien dire. Les Mexicains ou les Brésiliens sont aussi des Américains. Et le Brésil, aussi, ce sont des États-Unis ; le Canada également. » Comme dit Godard. Il représente comme un signe du destin peut-être ? En tout cas, l'occasion rêvée de me replonger dans la pensée originale de ce réalisateur, à travers le film « L'Éloge de l'Amour ».

Ce sujet de controverse fait sourire le public averti de la salle où il va, ni quel est son véritable projet. Il cherche à construire une pièce d'opéra ou bien à écrire un livre à propos des quatre moments de l'amour, c'est-à-dire la rencontre, la passion physique, la séparation et les retrouvailles. Tout compte fait, ce n'est pas la forme du projet qui est le plus important, mais plutôt de pouvoir choisir son histoire et de la raconter.

En sortant du cinéma, un spectateur court à ma rencontre et me demande : « ça vous a plus ? » Mais je n'ai pas encore goûté l'univers intimiste de Godard. Je ne fais pas très bien la différence entre la vie et le cinéma. D'ailleurs, y en a-t-il vraiment ? Et puis, des paroles ressemblent dans ma tête : « ce qui est intéressant, c'est de parler du film et non de la personne. » Le public ne voit pas, il voit ce qu'on lui a dit de voir ». Au contraire, moi je veux voir vraiment...

Géraldine Narié

How much do you know about Godard?

1. What is the title of Godard's first full-length movie (1960)?
   A) Band of Outsiders (La Bande à Part)
   B) Contempt (Le Mépris)
   C) Breathless (À bout de souffle)
   D) My Life to Live (Sa vie à vivre)

2. What Godard movie stars his first wife, Anna Karina, as a young woman turned prostitute in order to pay her rent?
   A) 2 or 3 Things I Know About Her
   B) La Jetée
   C) Breathless (À bout de souffle)
   D) My Life to Live (Sa vie à vivre)

3. What other name is Godard known under?
   A) Lucas Haas
   B) Hans Lucas
   C) Lucas Claus
   D) Klaus Mann

4. Godard's body of work is usually divided into how many periods?
   A) One
   B) Three
   C) Four
   D) Six

5. In the mid-70's Godard retired to a small village of Grenoble where he only concentrated on video production. What movie marks his return to commercial (regular) cinema?
   A) Slow Motion (Sauve Qui Peut : La vie)
   B) Detective
   C) Masculin/Féminin (Masculine/Feminine)
   D) Wind From the East (Vent de l'Est)

6. When did New Wave (Nouvelle Vague) flourish?
   A) Early '50s
   B) '60s
   C) Late '60s to early '80s
   D) '40s

7. What is the name of Godard's second period (1968-72)?
   A) New Wave
   B) Breton period
   C) Dziga Vertov stage
   D) Sonimage period

8. During this period Godard's movie reflect this philosophy
   A) Maoism/Communism
   B) Realism
   C) Existentialism
   D) Anarchism

9. Who is a joint founder of Godard's Sonimage company?
   A) Anne-Marie Miéville, his third wife
   B) François Truffaut, author of Breathless (the novel)
   C) Jean-Pierre Corin, Student movement leader during France May Revolution
   D) Anne Wiazemsky, his second wife

10. When he said "The children of Marx and Coca Cola is what this movie is all about, " what movie is Godard describing?
    A) The Chinese (La Chinoise)
    B) Everything's Fine (Tout Va Bien)
    C) Alphaville
    D) Masculin/Féminin

11. Before getting into movies, what did Godard study at the Sorbonne university?
    A) Law
    B) History of visual art
    C) European literature
    D) Ethnology

prepared by

Maria Repac
Ten years ago, Shani Mootoo never thought that she would become a writer. In fact she was living in Vancouver and earning a living as a visual artist and filmmaker. However, her talents soon turned to writing and, much to her surprise, she has spent the last 7 years at the centre of international acclaim for her first fiction novel, Cereus Blooms at Night. Her impressive debut novel led her to become a finalist for the prestigious Giller Book Prize in 1997. Her previous work includes a collection of short stories titled Out on Main Street, and Other Stories and more recently she has published a book of poetry, The Predicament of Or.

Her success wasn’t just beginner’s luck. What sets Mootoo apart from other Canadian authors is her profound ability to present taboo issues with ease. Although this tale weaves together experiences of sexual abuse, mental illness, the struggle of gay identity and homophobia, it is more observant than judgmental.

Set on the fictional island of Lantanacamara, the tropical paradise sharply contrasts the nightmarish existence of the novel’s protagonist, Malà, who plays both the heroine and the victim. Malà’s story is that of a young girl who experiences such horrific events that, becoming overwhelmed by her existence, she resorts into insanity as an escape. Related through the narration of Tyler, an effeminate male nurse who becomes Malà’s caretaker in her old age, Malà and Nurse Tyler forge a unique bond that transcends her madness and ultimately leads them both to a more fulfilling existence.

Mootoo brings depth to her characters in this psychological drama through her explorations of emotion and society and creates strong visual scenes through her film-like use of imagery and attention to detail. Throughout the novel, as the title alludes to, the cereus flower symbolizes the journey of the story’s characters. This rare cactus blooms nocturnally, for only one night, withering before dawn. Its flowers, although seen only for a mere moment, are stunningly beautiful and emit what has been said to be “the smell of ecstasy”. This is reflective of the self-reconciliation that Mootoo’s characters ultimately achieve in this emotionally moving story.

Recently, Mootoo participated in York’s Canadian Authors in Person Series which included readings from her book of short stories as well as a preview reading of a not-yet-published fiction work that will incorporate the Canadian wilderness—a new step for this clearly adventurous author.

-Tia Brazda
Dear Elliot,

I am a 27 year old student. I only take a couple of classes here but I cannot seem to get out of this campus, and frankly I don't really think I even want to. What is wrong with me? Sometimes I even lie about my age to the younger students so I can feel accepted and welcome in clubs, classes and the classification of myself as a student.

- Donnie D.

Dear Elliot,

Looks to me like you got yourself a Van Wilder complex. Momma says that's why she never lets me in school cause I could of been subjected to such an evil spirit like the Van Wilder! This complex looks directly at students who cannot seem to get the halls out of school. Symptoms of this? Well your arrogant, cannot make decisions (i.e. your major), afraid of the future, don't love your classes but are them as an excuse to not get a job (i.e. your still 'learning') and oh yeah you will often try to rule over clubs because of your age. Is this you Dominic? You have an issue with reality and I say, get a freakin' life. Oh Momma says that too.

- Quiet Sally Wood

Dear Elliot,

I was once with a group of friends who told me never to talk when I'm around them. I could sit with them, but I just couldn't talk. I could follow them and watch them, but I was never allowed to voice my opinion or have a say in what we would do. I feel trapped, what should I do?

- Quiet Sally Wood

Some friends yah got yourself there! What's the point stiflin' yourself the right to speak huh? Sounds like this particular group of people are dictators, pompous asses who allow you to be their friend but won't let you even speak to them, or if you try they won't listen to yah. Now my Momma has told me to shut the hell up more times than I can count my toes but I could always speak. Perhaps you should get away from them and find a better community of friends. Let your voice be heard ShhhSally, screw!!!!!

- Quiet Sally Wood

Entertainment

Dear Elliot

I am a 27 year old student. I only take a couple of classes here but I cannot seem to get out of this campus, and frankly I don't really think I even want to. What is wrong with me? Sometimes I even lie about my age to the younger students so I can feel accepted and welcome in clubs, classes and the classification of myself as a student.

- Donnie D.

Horoscopes

By Lloyd Schumner Sr.
Retired Machinist and
A.A.P.B.-Certified Astrologer

Aries
(March 21—April 19)
You're not sure why, but you've never bought that one chicken's alleged reason for crossing the road.

Taurus
(April 20—May 20)
A trip to sunny Bermuda does not recharge your batteries due to the fact that your worker-robot casing isn't equipped for solar-energy uptake.

Gemini
(May 21—June 21)
Classical musicians worldwide will be out for your blood when you compose the brilliant but torturous-to-play Punishment Symphony For Orchestral Diphthongs.

Cancer
(June 22—July 22)
You'll balloon up to triple your weight after several months spent following a diet book typo that told you to eat 16,000 calories a day.

Leo
(July 23—Aug. 22)
You'll be held in contempt of court by several judges you haven't even met, which you have to admit is pretty good anticipation on their part.

Virgo
(Aug. 23—Sept. 22)
You'll be stripped, cleansed, oiled, and lovingly Briarwaxed even though you insist that you are not a 1930s craft project.

Libra
(Sept. 23—Oct. 22)
They say make-up sex is the hottest, so it's probably not a good idea to resolve that long-standing feud with your parents.

Scorpio
(Oct. 23—Nov. 21)
Eventually, they'll figure out who it was that broke into the safe, but they'll just laugh at you for taking the money when you could've had the secret pie recipe.

Sagittarius
(Nov. 22—Dec. 21)
You'll finally learn to stop looking like you've put your makeup on with a towel just as the hot new trend of towel-applied makeup catches on.

Capricorn
(Dec. 22—Jan. 19)
It's true that the best laid plans of mice and men go oft awry, but the mutant rodents in the sewers beneath your home have been planning your death for years.

Aquarius
(Jan. 20—Feb. 18)
You can remember a happier time when you were young and hopeful and Yaphet Kotto wasn't following you everywhere.

Pisces
( Feb. 19—March 20)
Executives at all the major networks will reject your idea for a fiction-based "non-reality show" as "too