

THE

# UNITER

FREE. WEEKLY.  
VOLUME 68 // ISSUE 16 // JANUARY 16

THE **NEW MUSIC** ISSUE

THE RESULTS ARE IN!

*Your Uniter Fiver*

SIBYL

PANTS

FINN

GREEK RIOTS

HEARING TREES

RUSTY MATYAS

DARCY PENNER

MATT PETERS

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Sibyl, photographed for The Uniter  
by Kaitlyn Emslie Farrell.

# SO MUCH NEW MUSIC.

Every January *The Uniter* takes a look at five local artists that our staff thinks will be worth watching, but this year we decided to flip it over to you. We opened it up to new bands that formed in the last two years and artists that had only been performing under their own names for the same amount of time. They submitted videos via Twitter and we posted them at [uniter.ca](http://uniter.ca) and everyone voted. The top five acts (profiled in this issue) were invited to play an industry showcase at the Park Theatre on January 17 (only \$10 at the door - starts at 8pm). The "winner", chosen by an industry panel that included Jared McKetiak of 101.5 UFMF, Donna Evans of Manitoba Music and musician Rusty Matyas (Weakerthans, Imaginary Cities) is featured on the cover of this very issue and will get to record a single with Matyas as producer and Cam Loeppky (Greg MacPherson, Cannon Bros.) as engineer.

The idea behind the whole thing is simply to put the spotlight on some new bands. It's hard when you're just starting out to get shows, get ink, or even get your music heard - this way, a lot of people heard some songs, voiced opinions and will hopefully come out to the show to experience some new sounds.

In addition to The Uniter Fiver, we decided to do an entire issue of music-related content. There's pieces written by musicians (Matt from Royal Canoe and Darcy from Salinas), about venues, about how to make a record, about the visual components of music, about the people that play the music on campus radio and so much more.

Be proud of your scene, Winnipeg. There's a lot going on here.

## ONLINE EXCLUSIVES

GRAB A COPY OF SIBYL'S "APRIL SHOWERS" FROM THE *BASEMENT SOUNDS* EP AT [UNITER.CA](http://UNITER.CA) AND CHECK OUT THE BAND LIVE AT THE PARK THEATRE ON JANUARY 17.



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# WHOSE HOUSE? RUSTY'S HOUSE.

## NO TEMPORARY RESIDENT

Imaginary Cities member Rusty Matyas calls Winnipeg home, and that's not changing any time soon

KAITLYN EMSLIE FARRELL

@KEMSLIEFARRELL

ARTS REPORTER

Dana "Rusty" Matyas recently let the *Uniter* into his home to show us all his cool stuff. The 33-year-old Winnipegger is a video game fanatic, a backyard bonfire enthusiast and a Heinz tomato ketchup addict, but you probably know him from somewhere else.

Along with vocalist Marti Sarbit, Matyas is the co-leader of a little band called Imaginary Cities. The multi-instrumentalist/songwriter/producer/non-stop music machine is also known for his work with the Waking Eyes and his occasional appearances with the Weakerthans.

"Each band is a different beast for sure," Matyas says. "With Imaginary Cities I take on the role of a musical director. In the Weakerthans I just do whatever they want me to do and in the Waking Eyes it was very much a four-person collaboration. It's all great experiences and you grow from each one."

Imaginary Cities, which released its sophomore album *Fall of Romance* last year, will be playing with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra March 28-30 as part of its Pops series. Additionally, Matyas has played a few solo gigs with plans to record his debut solo album soon.

"I've been writing music for 15 years but it's always been part of a greater thing, so it'd be nice to just be totally selfish and make a solo record," Matyas says.

With Imaginary Cities gaining popularity across Canada, the U.S. and overseas, you have to wonder, Rusty, why Winnipeg?

"There's no pretense when it comes to the people and the attitude here," Matyas says. "We don't have any sort of cool factor to live up to. We know Winnipeg's not super cool."

### 1) TV/COUCH AREA

"I definitely spend some time on this couch watching TV every day or playing Xbox."

### 2) MUSIC/RECORDING ROOM

"To be able to have any sort of room where I can record stuff has always been a long time coming and now to have it is pretty awesome."

### 3) VIDEO GAME CAVE

"This is my little cave of video game consoles I've got from the '90s. I always sit down here and play video games."

### 4) WEDDING SIGN

"This was the sign/backsplash from our wedding that I really liked. It was hand made by a guy in Winnipeg."



### 5) PIANO

"Obviously this piano."

### 6) BARBEQUE

"I cook, like, every day on this thing. Even when it's -50, I'm out cooking on here. There's something about the process itself. It's stupidly primal, I just love it."

### 7) RUM DECANTER

"It's totally pointless, I could just pour it out of the bottle, but it feels so much cooler coming out of this decanter. It looks classy but really it's from Value Village."

THE UWSA PRESENTS

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# MAKING RECORDS

Local artists say start small and create a live connection

MELANIE DAHLING

@SUGARDAHLING

BEAT REPORTER



MIKE SUDOMA

As recording technology becomes more accessible, there are many options available to a new artist seeking to get their songs out there.

"Artists are recording all the time, to the point where it has become part of the creative process," says Sean McManus, Program Manager at Manitoba Music. "There are things anyone can do on a laptop and the idea that you need to make that one big breakout hit is not true anymore. You can build a following piece by piece, and it's a little more organic that way."

While it is certainly important to have recorded material available, McManus and many local artists say to focus more on making that human connection with fans first. "The Internet has had a huge effect, but people still want to see bands live",

McManus says. "Albums aren't a huge revenue generator, so we've seen a resurgence of the live world. You want to put together a really great show."

Not only is this a great way to build a following and get people interested in your recorded material, it is an excellent networking tool. "When you have friends and community, opportunities tend to present themselves in a natural way in their own time," says folk singer/songwriter Dan Frechette. "Someone can befriend other musicians and become part of the community and find other like-minded musicians who would like to make a first album. Collaboration is easy in a city as big as Winnipeg."

While you're building those connections, focussing on a high quality recording isn't necessary. Brett Nelson, another

notable Winnipeg talent, feels passionately about taking a more hands-on approach to start. "People are excited to get something handmade, and it shows that you care about your craft enough to put the effort in," he says. "I've spent a lot of time listening to the early work of some of my favourite artists, and more often than not the recordings are awful, but the songs are great... When I started recording, I used an 8-track console, computer programs I could get for free, and tape recorders."

The time to invest more money is when your work is in demand for radio airplay or television soundtracks, McManus says. "When you put your work next to other songs in a playlist on iTunes, you want them to stand up. Mastering is a mysterious process to many artists because

they don't know what it is, and they have trouble justifying spending the money. It can cost anywhere from \$500-\$5000 to get something properly mastered, but it's about getting the E.Q. and tone to sound right so that the performance can really sparkle."

For artists at any point in the process, Manitoba Music is a recommended source. Located centrally at 376 Donald street, There are producers available for consultations as well as seminars and workshops held by experienced performers. The staff also has a wealth of information about grants and producing live shows or tours. McManus suggests you "come in, sit down, and ask questions."

For more information on upcoming workshops, visit [manitobamusic.com](http://manitobamusic.com)

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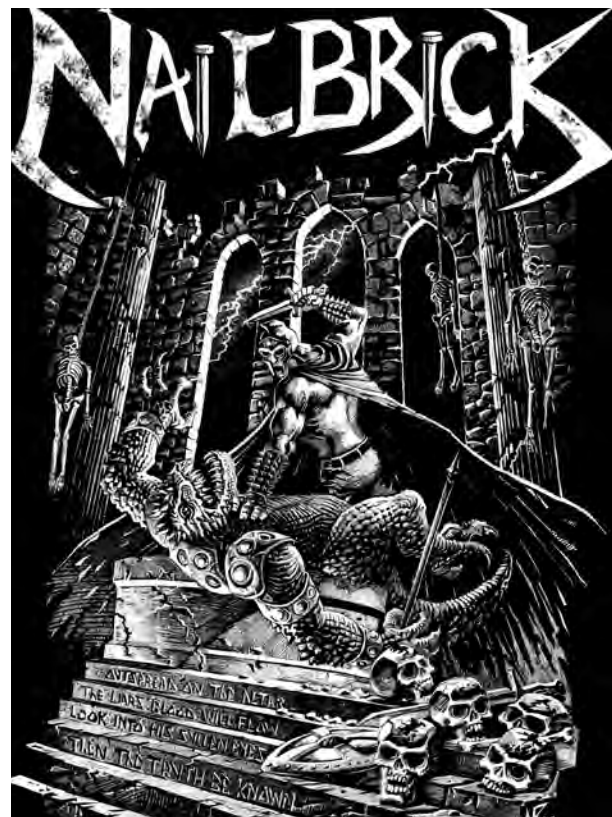
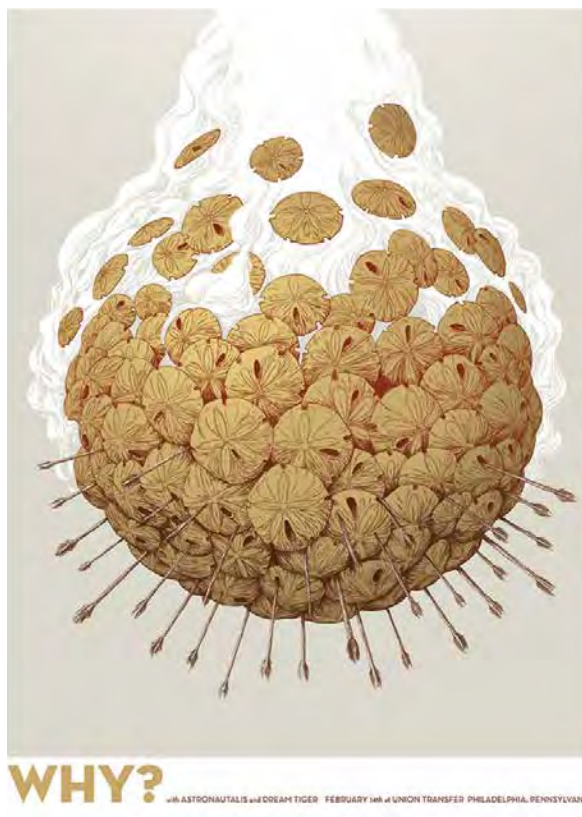
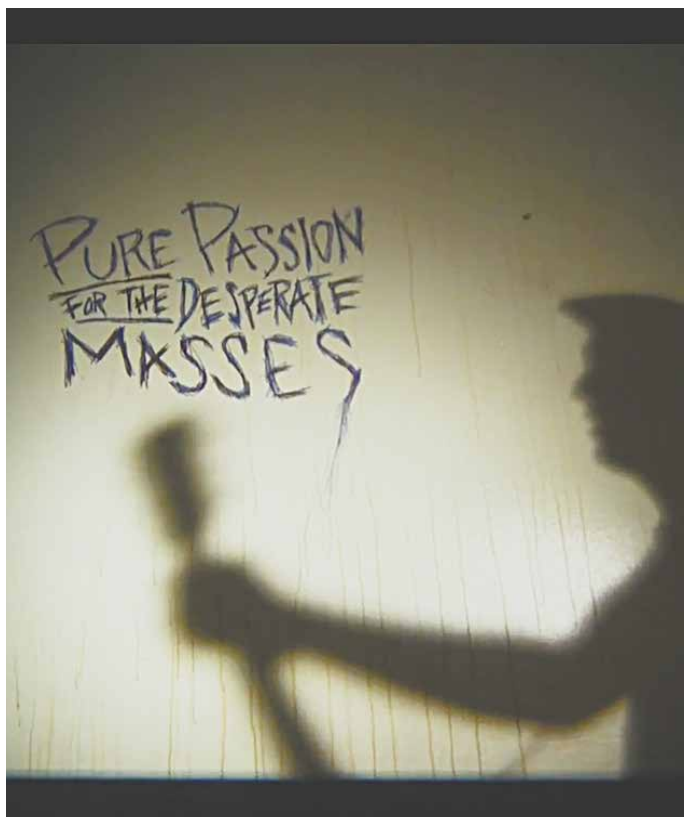
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## SEE SONGS

In the music industry, good visuals are almost as important as good sounds

SAMANTHA SARTY

 @SARTYSARTY

VOLUNTEER STAFF

To get your band noticed amongst the sea of sounds, you need eye-catching music videos, album art and merchandise, even in the iTunes age.

Thankfully, Winnipeg musicians have some more than amazing visual artists at their disposal to help with the visible side of music.

Randy Frykas, 33, a professional filmmaker and freelance editor, produces and edits music videos on his own time. He started in 2008, editing the video for the track "Reconcile" by Sights and Sounds, and then went on to direct and edit "Boxes" by Hope Atlantic in 2010. Since then, Frykas has produced videos for such 'Peg city artists as JP Hoe, High Five Drive and Kids on Fire. He also edits music videos for Clipwing, a local punk band he plays guitar in.

Frykas' moving images are always complementary to the core of the song, either creating a story to illustrate the song's meaning or showing the band play.

"The story should help garner more interest for the song," says Frykas, who also wrote and directed the 2009 documentary *Call to Arms: The Story of the Royal Albert* about the troubled music venue.

"I aim at creating images that support the song and don't distract the viewer."

Frykas' videos are a great help for bands

that want to beef up their promotional materials or to propel themselves into the Internet realm, AKA getting views on YouTube. But what about other artistic and visual methods of promoting albums, gigs and tours?

Randy Ortiz is an internationally known freelance illustrator who got his start here in Winnipeg.

"It was a pretty fun little ecosystem of small artists helping other small artists," says Ortiz of Winnipeg's music/visual art scene.

After thriving locally while creating gig posters and the like, Ortiz moved on to work with indie rock/rap group WHY?, California progressive metal band Intro-naut, Swedish grinders Gadget and Winnipeg's own KEN mode.

Ortiz insists on a respectful coexistence between artists and bands.

"I see too often bands taking advantage of artists sometimes," Ortiz says. "They get them to work for very little money or

Art from Randy Frykas, Randy Ortiz and Nyco Rudolph.

SUPPLIED

sometimes for free."

Nyco Rudolph is a Winnipeg illustrator and has been drawing since he was able to lift a pencil. He has drawn promotional work for bands such as Saskatchewan stoner rockers Chronobot, Calgary metal band Blackest Sin and Winnipeg thrashers Nailbrick. Rudolph has also designed unique guitar straps with Winnipeg based Levy's Leathers.

Rudolph says the music industry is evolving towards being more competitive, and that musicians need more than just a good sound.

"The challenge for any creator is to stand out, and this is where I think musicians and filmmakers are realizing how working together with visual artists can help them achieve this goal," he says.

## WE WANT THE AIRWAVES

CKUW 95.9 FM is powered by dedicated volunteer staff

LUKAS THIESSEN

 @LUKASBENJAMINT

BEAT REPORTER

CKUW 95.9 FM, the University of Winnipeg's campus and community radio station, is the place to volunteer if you adore radio.

"Right from the very beginning we emphasize this is a radio station, but it's as much a community centre as it is a radio station," says Victoria King, the station's volunteer coordinator.

King says she has a similar style to former coordinator/Peg City Groove co-host Kent Davies, planning workshops and offering new opportunities. She even brought in a member of the local improv comedy troupe Outside Joke to teach improvising on air.

She says that while CKUW's vibe is inclusive – it welcomes both men and women and includes volunteers with

disabilities – she hopes to continue to improve wherever possible.

Two recent volunteers welcomed to the station are Daniel Emberg, 30, and Sam Doucet, 22.

"I knew I wanted to be involved with a community, campus-based station," says Emberg, who previously worked at CKCU in Ottawa and CJSR in Edmonton.

"CKUW has been a really positive experience for me so far, really good people, welcoming."

Emberg's show Smorgasoundbord airs Wednesdays at 10 pm.

"Each week I pick a different instrument or piece of technology or technique from the sound and music world and try and make it accessible to someone who hasn't heard of it," he says.

"I'm trying to pick topics that don't get much love. One of the most well received shows I did was on eefing... It started as farmers trying to imitate their turkeys and hogs. Some people call it hillbilly beatboxing. I don't, that's fair though."

Doucet also did a show at CJSR and after a few years' hiatus from hosting a flying by the seat of his pants grindcore program, he's brought a sense of planning to Blast or Bust. The show, 9 pm on Wednesdays, is Winnipeg's only show devoted to the extreme music genre.

Doucet says Winnipeg's grindcore scene is in a grim situation compared to Edmonton's, with our scene being rather insular. However, he's quick to name exciting events happening in Winnipeg, such



as having Violent Gorge play what he says will be a ridiculous and hilarious acoustic set on his show during CKUW's annual Fundrive. He is also excited for the Head Hits Concrete show at the Windsor Hotel in February.

Not just a Winnipeg show, Blast or Bust features grindcore from all over the globe. Doucet wants to entice more people to check out grindcore music

"I'm a compulsive music collector and downloader," Doucet says. "I push myself

CKUW 95.9 DJ Daniel Emberg.

SUPPLIED

to play music from all around the world that even huge grindcore fans haven't heard of. I try and reach out... Grindcore is for everybody."

In addition to the dial, CKUW shows are available to stream and download at [ckuw.ca](http://ckuw.ca). If you want to volunteer at the station, contact Victoria King at 204-786-9998 or by emailing [ckuw.volunteercoordinator@gmail.com](mailto:ckuw.volunteercoordinator@gmail.com).



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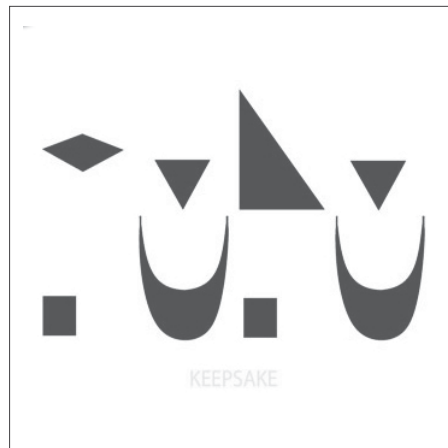
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### Dead Ranch

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### The Mailman's Children

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### Naysa

Troubled Heart  
Independent

★★★★☆

This 34-minute, eight song set from one of Winnipeg's buzziest quartets beats you to death with opener "Ice Desert", resuscitates you with "Attack of the Sky Creatures" and then stomps on your family while you watch with "Mudwalker/River Drinker". The disc methodically blends current trends with the heaviest from the 90s (which I'm sure is what the boys were brought up on) but the sound is decidedly Dead Ranch's own, which I like to call "fun/evil". "Waterpark Shark" creates a wall of sound that "Pheromone" tears down, while closer "La Petite Mort" delivers an epic punishing that only the abused can comprehend.

- Nicholas Friesen

Properly played/produced/mixed/mastered/everything, this four song EP from a few people that were in local 2000s dance/rockers Alverstone hop on another bandwagon - indie dance pop - and deliver semi-glorious results. The hooky as fuck "Find the Light" showcases Kevin Desjarlais' vocals in a bed of synths and real-sounding drums, while the nauseating "Message to the Sea" is skip-worthy, falling too far into the love-letter writing that other bands have already mailed to The Cure. "Up and Down" hits video game/rave territory (dating it to sound 90s in a bad way) but the title track saves the day. Something tells me this would have worked better as a 12" single, including only tracks one and four.

- Nicholas Friesen

Are you ready for the rock radio disc of 1998? Opening with the noodle and groove-heavy "Undercover", the latest EP from Winnipeg/Minneapolis four piece The Mailman's Children will sit nicely on your CD shelf next to Tin Foil Phoenix, Doctor and Big Wreck. With the disco-rock of "Crazy Without You", the acoustic vs bass wankery of "Do You Wanna Be Right" and the obligatory ballad ("Walls Have Ears") that might get them an opening slot for present day Goo Goo Dolls or Staind, the six songs make up a disc that is technically proficient, but it's another case of another band lost in a sound that is so dated that even casino/bar bands wouldn't return a MySpace friend request from these guys. There aren't any profound lyrics to jump out and save the day, either. These guys might just be the reason Canada Post is cutting all those jobs.

- Nicholas Friesen

Local quintet Naysa delivers its second EP of 2013 and it's filled with four tracks of upbeat, loose, sporadic pop rock that would make fans out of people who dig *Clouds Taste Metallic*-era Flaming Lips, *Makeout Videotape* or the first Yuck LP. Naysa's singer/guitarist, Dave Todd, has a sunny Tim DeLaughter warble that marries well with the only semi-Ann Veal qualities of keyboardist Hayley Smith on the moody "It's Nice To Meet You". "Friday On My Own" is a paranoia-popper with in jokes to spare, and closer "Push Me Aside" showcases the keyboardist's vocals a whole lot better - it's a shame that this is not a band for pop radio-ready voices, as Smith's vocals simply don't work with the ramshackle genius of the other tracks. The nice thing about EPs is that they don't need to be cohesive, especially when a young band is still finding its sound. Despite this one flaw (that Smith may be too "technically good" to be in the band) it's a real winner.

- Nicholas Friesen



# THE UNITER FIVER

From December 5 to January 1, new Winnipeg musicians submitted videos and our readers voted. The result is the 2014 Uniter Fiver - five new and exciting bands that deserve to be on your radar. Each band featured here will get a one year membership to Manitoba Music, the chance to record a session at 101.5 UMF, and (obviously) a story in this very issue. They'll also take the stage together at the Uniter Fiver Showcase on January 17 at the Park Theatre. Additionally Sibyl was picked by an industry panel to be featured on our cover - they'll also step into the studio with producer Rusty Matyas of Imaginary Cities and engineer Cam Loepky (John K Samson) to record a single.



## HARDCOVER BAND

Winnipeg folk group Sibyl is heavily inspired by literature

JARED STORY

ARTS AND CULTURE EDITOR

A few years ago, Winnipeg folk group Sibyl set out performing renditions of Sufjan Stevens and Nathan songs. Although the band soon made the switch to original material, one could argue it's still a cover band. A hardcover band that is.

Sibyl takes its name from Sibyl Vane, the main character of Oscar Wilde's novel *The Picture of Dorian Gray*. In fact, the Winnipeg folk group originally went by Sibyl Vane, shortening its handle after discovering there were at least five other bands with the same name.

And that's not the band's only literary reference. Sibyl member Daniel Guezen (guitar, slide guitar, harmonica and percussion) is writing his master's thesis on

French poetry at the University of Manitoba, a fact that is evident on the band's debut recording *Basement Sounds*, a five-song EP released in December.

"The one song, 'Half Moon', part of the chorus is inspired by a poem by Sylvia Plath," says Guezen, 23. "We recently wrote a song where we've had the chords for a year and a half and we loved the feeling of it, but had nothing to put on top. There was a few tries to put some words on top of it and it just wasn't working, so we took a poem by W.B. Yeats and put it on top and it works beautifully."

"It's always good to have a resident poet in the band," adds Jeremy Penner, 32, a former member of Hope Atlantic, who now plays guitar, piano, glockenspiel, snare, spoons and accordion in Sibyl.

Sibyl is well-versed musically, as each member plays multiple instruments. Guezen and Penner are joined in the band

by lead vocalist Tesia Rhind (bodhrán, flute and shaker) and Jeremy's sisters Melanie (banjo, guitar and flute) and Roslyn Penner (guitar, piano and glockenspiel).

"I feel like we will all dabble in different instruments," says Jeremy, who holds a music degree from Canadian Mennonite University.

"Our dad was really big into playing trumpet and our mom plays the piano," adds Roslyn, 30. "And we all grew up taking piano lessons."

From You Know I Know (formerly Inward Eye) to the Lytics to the Bros. Landreth, it seems like every band in Winnipeg has a set of...

"Penners," says Roslyn, finishing my sentence intended to say "siblings."

"Mennonites are all pretty musical in my experience," she says. "We have another sister and she did sing with us once. She's also a really good flute player."

"We were going to call ourselves as a joke 'The Mennos and the Mennonot,'" says Rhind, who started the band with Roslyn and Melanie.

There's also another Penner in the Sibyl fold. Jeremy's baby son Judah is simultaneously Sibyl's biggest and smallest fan.

"He came to our EP release [at the Times Change(d) in December] and he was just jumping and smiling and laughing the whole time. He just loves music," Rhind says.

"I don't know how many babies have been in the Times Change(d), and he only cried when we stopped playing," Guezen says.

"During band practice he sits in his highchair and dances along," Roslyn says.

"It makes it so much more fun," Rhind adds.

Check out *Basement Sounds* at [bandsibyl.bandcamp.com](http://bandsibyl.bandcamp.com).

KAITLYN EMSLIE FARRELL



# GREEK RIOTS

Enjoy a great show by the friendly staff of Stella's Cafe and Bakery

MIKE SUDOMA

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@SUGARDAHLING

BEAT REPORTER

After playing together in different bands for years, Jacques Richer and Duncan Murta began collaborating as recently as November 2013 in Greek Riots. The duo has a newness about it that, coupled with the chemistry that comes from an existing friendship, makes for a promising group to check out live.

"We actually haven't played a show as Greek Riots yet," says vocalist/rhythm guitarist/drummer Richer. "Our first show will be the Uniter Fiver, and we had to quickly get a live band together, but this was too good of an opportunity to miss."

"We got lucky," adds Murta, on guitar and bass. "The people we were able to get are phenomenal musicians." Curiously,

many of the connections they've made with other locals have been through working at Stella's Café and Bakery. "It's unbelievable how many artists work or have worked there."

The two are excited about the success they've had in a couple of short months, but there are always concerns that go with being a new group that's suddenly in demand. "We were genuinely concerned that [The Uniter] would ask us to play an hour long set. That would have been an unmitigated disaster."

At the Uniter Fiver Showcase on January 17 at the Park Theatre, Greek Riots will play through the five songs from an upcoming self-recorded EP, which should be available by March 1, when they will be playing their second show at The Garrick Hotel.

Richer and Murta have a great work

ethic and are dedicated to making clean recordings with what they have available.

"We figured it out as we went," Murta says. "We had to do some experimenting with no experience and no money. There was a vocal mic hanging from the ceiling, and another one taped to the bass drum. But we were sitting there after eight hours going 'hey, that actually came together.'"

"We owe it to luck and good EQ-ing" Richer adds. "Duncan has good gear, and he's good at mixing while I usually do the editing. I don't actually know what mastering is, so I don't know if we do that," he says with a laugh.

As for what you can expect sound-wise, the band lists several Canadian artists as influences including Japandroids, Said the Whale and Wolf Parade, additionally drawing inspiration from such other bands as Bloc Party and The Strokes.

When asked about their "image," Greek Riots aren't too wrapped up in that. "Our demographic is pretty much anyone who will listen. We aren't overly concerned with being taken seriously. I'm not going to say we must only be photographed staring off into the distance. We want candid," Richer says, with Murta adding one important stipulation: "No freeze jumps."



To check out two tunes from Greek Riots, visit <http://greekriots.bandcamp.com>



# COMFORTABLY NUMB

FINN is chill with wintry Winnipeg

DEREK MARTENS

LUKAS THIESSEN

@LUKASBENJAMINT

BEAT REPORTER

"I got back from Cuba this past week," says Daniel Baron, frontman, guitarist and eldest member of Winnipeg's Industrial Revolution-inspired folk band FINN. He says the frigidty of this prairie locale satisfies his sense of home.

"I did escape for a little bit, but I found there was comfort in coming back to this city. I was kind of craving a cold burst of wind in my face... It's too hot and sticky there. There's no place like home."

Speaking of such, FINN records in a cold, unfinished basement belonging to members of Royal Canoe.

Baron is one of three regal FINN mem-

bers, the other Barons being his younger brothers Matthew (keyboards) and John (bass). The siblings are joined in FINN by drummer Cody Iwasiuk and guitarist Darren Hebner.

All the members, except Baron, are classically trained musicians, composers, vocalists and producers, but that hasn't prevented the frontman from amazing his colleagues. In fact, he wrote all the parts of FINN's first five songs.

"Dan writes stuff easily, and we don't always get it," says Matt, who is currently studying music at the Canadian Mennonite University.

"You'll [Daniel] end up writing something and for you, that felt really natural in that spot and then we try to play it and

we're like 'Whoa! That's so hard! How did you just come up with that?'" says Iwasiuk, who studied music at the University of Brandon with John and Hebner.

Songwriting is now done by the entire group, with lyrics by the Barons. The brothers agree there is a strong storytelling component to their lyrical style.

Asked about their name, the band gets silent as everyone looks to Daniel for a response.

"It's a classic Irish name," says the history buff. "There were lots of Irish immigrants that came to Canada during the Industrial Revolution escaping the potato famine.

"Also, it is the last name of one of my favourite literary characters, Huckleberry Finn."

So why is FINN spelled in all capital letters?

"That just happened. I have no idea why that happened," says Daniel, inciting laughter.

"And Darren likes to make puns," adds John.

The rest of the group chimes in. "That was a lot of FINN. FINNtastic."



To download FINN's song "Cold Comfort", check out [www.finnmusic.ca](http://www.finnmusic.ca).



# WHAT THE POETS ARE DOING

Hearing Trees incorporate poetry into its Tragically Hip-influenced sound



SUPPLIED

DEBORAH REMUS

@DEBORAHREMUS

ARTS REPORTER

Despite just forming in February 2013, Winnipeg indie rock quartet Hearing Trees has already played around 14 shows and is in pre-production for its debut EP, which will be produced by Les Jupes frontman and Head in the Sand record label head Michael Petkau Falk.

"I'd been trying to start a band for years and then it finally happened," vocalist/guitarist Graham Hnatiuk says. "I'd been playing at open mics, doing a lot of art stuff all over the place, looking for people. I started to think there was no one who wanted to make indie rock in Winnipeg because everyone wants to do lots of other stuff."

Hnatiuk says he was finally able to solidify the current line-up of bassist Joel Heidinger, drummer Kyle Kunkel and guitarist Ava Glendinning last June.

"My influences are very different from the rest of the band," Hnatiuk says. "I'm really influenced by Canadian rock, bands like the Tragically Hip. But, at the end of the day, we just all wanted to make music and we all wanted to perform and do the band thing. That won out over our individual egos."

While this might be Hnatiuk's first time writing lyrics for a band, the 27-year-old used to run a political blog called Progressive Winnipeg and also publishes a poetry blog called Prose From 204 ([prosefrom204.tumblr.com](http://prosefrom204.tumblr.com)), which sometimes makes its way into the music.

"A lot of poetry doesn't fit into the

music necessarily, but I do try and find a way to get it in there," he says. "Not sure if we can do this at the Uniter Fiver show since it's only 25 minutes, but we've done improv music poetry sections during past shows. It's an interesting experiment and it's something we can get away with now, especially because no one knows who we are."

Hearing Trees has also been drawing attention for creating Suite 421, a makeshift venue it founded over the summer.

"We had trouble getting gigs. I didn't really know anybody and that was a real uphill battle at first so we said 'Screw it, let's just build our own stage.' So we did and we kind of tripped it out," Hnatiuk says. "I'm really into art as well, so I invited other artists to put their art on the wall. So far it's been very successful and we try to

do a show once a month."

Right now the band has just released a few demos on its Manitoba Music profile, but last month the group spent a day recording a song at the Mid-Ocean School of Media Arts and hopes to release the Petkau Falk-produced EP sometime this spring.

"I literally cold emailed [Petkau Falk] and he agreed to work with us," Hnatiuk says. "We knew we needed a producer so I spent a day on Rdio [a music subscription service] listening to everything local and contacted Mike because the Les Jupes EP [*Negative Space*] that was released in September has the sort of feeling that we're going for."



KEVIN LEGGE

# KICK IN THE PANTS

Winnipeg post-punk band PANTS goes from just jammin' to serious business

DEBORAH REMUS

@DEBORAHREMUS

ARTS REPORTER

In the spring of 2013, guitarist/vocalist Bill Pehinec, bassist Ryan McPherson and drummer Nyala Ali settled on the name PANTS. Thankfully, they also decided to take the band's music a little more seriously.

"Bill and I were jamming off and on, just making noise about a year and half ago, and then we decided we'd like to actually have a band and write some actual songs," McPherson says. "We just wanted to hang out and make music with people that aren't a total chore to be around."

While Pehinec used to perform in a cover band called Seller, and McPherson

played in a stoner rock band, both say they're pretty much starting from scratch with PANTS.

So far, the band has released two basement demos at [pantsmb.bandcamp.com](http://pantsmb.bandcamp.com) and is working on some new material it will debut at the Uniter Fiver Showcase at the Park Theatre on Jan. 17, alongside a demo sampler called *The Dunning-Kruger Sessions Vol. 1*.

"If we had to pick a genre, I guess we'd say post-punk," Ali says.

"Nyala and I are really big Steve Albini fans," McPherson adds. "We're both into Shellac and personally a lot of my influence comes from Joy Division, Jesus Lizard and that sort of post-punk noisy hard rock kind of stuff."

"When we started out we were just playing whatever, just trying different things out, which is the PANTS philosophy, try it and see if it works."

Writing seems to have been the band's main focus in 2013, although PANTS did play New Music Wednesdays at Ozzy's in the summer.

"Since then we've evolved so much in our writing, so a lot of stuff we played at that show we're never going to play again," Pehinec says.

One of the demo songs PANTS released in October is "Boundaries", which the trio shot a video for in late 2013.

"I used to work with a guy who decided corporate life wasn't for him and so he quit the job we both had, even though he was

doing quite well, to go work in a warehouse somewhere and he was much happier doing that," McPherson says. "For me the song is sort of about setting your personal limits, deciding what's over the line and what kind of life you want to lead."

The music video was edited by McPherson, shot by his girlfriend and features the band members performing with paper bags over their heads.

"The video was a ton of fun. None of us had ever done a video before that and now we're totally hooked so we're going to definitely do more videos over the summer," McPherson says.

"I think that video inspired us to be even more creative. It really gave us a lot of energy," Pehinec adds.

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# WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THAT ONE BAND?

Looking back at 25 local artists to watch

NICHOLAS FRIESEN

 @NICHOLASTRONAUT

MANAGING EDITOR

Every January since 2009, the Uniter has been putting the spotlight on local artists to watch (2008 profiled Canadians to watch, but included late locals the Liptonians). We thought we'd take a look back at the past picks and see what they're up to.

2009

## DEL BARBER

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 2,670**  
**ACCOLADES: NOMINATED FOR A 2011 JUNO AWARD, WINNER OF TWO WESTERN CANADIAN MUSIC AWARDS.**

Recent activity: Released *Headwaters* in 2012 on Six Shooter Records.

## DOMENICA

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 5,480**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent activity: Singer Bekki Friesen moved the project to LA in 2011, was featured on a Billy Ray Cyrus album and played on the Tonight Show with Jay Leno a few times. New record set for a 2014 release.

## THE LYTICS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 4,200**  
**ACCOLADES: 2010 AND 2013 NOMINEES AT THE WEST COAST MUSIC AWARDS**

Recent activity: *They Told Me* came out in 2012 on Camobear Records. This month saw the release of a stop-motion animated music video created by the Proctor Bros.

## DIANA POPS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 360**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent activity: Self-released the *For Bright Minds in Dark Corners* EP in 2012.

## SIGHTS AND SOUNDS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 6,400**  
**ACCOLADES: HAS TOURED WITH BILLY TALENT, MONEEN, MISERY SIGNALS AND MORE**

Recent activity: Released the *Silver Door* EP in 2013 on Pure Noise.

2010

## JICAH

**FACEBOOK LIKES: N/A**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent activity: The band moved to Europe a few years ago to make it big and were apparently never heard from again.

## KINGDOM OF SLEEP

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 365**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent activity: The band's last Facebook post from October, 2010:

"so last update was in august... yeah we're still alive, still drinking heavily, working on newer material that i know all you sludge fans will enjoy! we'll start doing some shows in the new year, maybe with some merch! stay tuned and invite your friends!"



DEL BARBER

SUPPLIED

## JODI KING

**FACEBOOK LIKES: SOLO - N/A, AS LOVE & THE OUTCOME - 12,061**  
**ACCOLADES: NOMINATED FOR FIVE GMA CANADA COVENANT AWARDS IN 2013**

Recent: Moved to Nashville with her husband Chris Rademaker to form Christian duo Love & the Outcome, which released its self-titled debut in 2013.

## ROYAL CANOE

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 6,237**  
**ACCOLADES: IN 2013 THE BAND MADE BEST OF LISTS FROM THE NEW YORK TIMES, KCRW AND CONSEQUENCE OF SOUND. "BATHTUBS" VIDEO FEATURED ON CBS.COM.**

Recent: Released *Today We're Believers* in 2013 (on Roll Call, Nevado and Nettwerk) to critical acclaim. Next up is a North American tour with Bombay Bicycle Club.

## SALINAS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 450**  
**ACCOLADES: BLOGS AND MAGAZINES ACROSS NORTH AMERICA ENJOYED THE BAND'S ALL THESE CHOICES EP.**

Recent: Shows and singles throughout 2013, still going strong as far as we know.

2011

## BEAN

**FACEBOOK LIKES: N/A (84 TWITTER FOLLOWERS)**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: Dana Bean did some music in a short film called *Chump Change* and her last YouTube video was two years ago, but her Twitter says she's working on some new tunes and playing the odd gig. **CANNON BROS. FACEBOOK LIKES: 816 ACCOLADES: 2011'S FIRECRACKER/CLOUDGLOW WAS LONG LISTED FOR THE 2012 POLARIS MUSIC PRIZE.**

Recent: Members keep busy in and out of such bands as Departures and Haunter (RIP) when not backing up Shotgun Jimmie and playing their own gigs.

## FAME

**FACEBOOK LIKES: N/A**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: The band seems to be done, but vocalist Nick Wiebe and guitarist Michael Fardoe now front Waster, which is a pretty

awesome metal group. You can get the group's 2013 LP *Thunder Pit* for free at [waster.bandcamp.com](http://waster.bandcamp.com)

## LORENZO

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 1,800**  
**ACCOLADES: VOTED BEST NEW SOLO ARTIST IN UPTOWN'S 2011 READER'S POLL.**

Recent: Lorenzo went back to his given name of Leonard Sumner and put out the *Rez Poetry* album in 2013.

## THIS HISSES

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 770**  
**ACCOLADES: LOTS OF SHOWCASING AT VARIOUS MUSIC CONFERENCES (NXNE, ETC).**

Recent: The band released its sophomore LP *Anhedonia* in 2013 on Transistor 66 Records and played its last show with guitarist Patrick Short in December.

2012

## THE BLISTERS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 240**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: The band's debut full length *Are You Awake?* finally came out, while various Blisters keep busy with solo projects and other bands (The Hoots, Bad Nerves, Lyzie Burt).

## THE BURNING KETTLES

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 274**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: The band is working on the follow up to its *Unlikely Event* EP, playing tons of shows and frontman Bryn Rieger has a noise-pop offshoot called Euro Vaca. Catch them at the Big Fun festival on January 26.

## FIRE & SMOKE

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 578**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: The duo is kaput, but Claire Morrison has a flourishing solo career and Daniel Pélouquin-Hopfner keeps busy in Red Moon Road.

## SOFTCORE

**FACEBOOK LIKES: N/A**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: The band ended but its mem-

bers are busy with various bands, films and art projects.

## STILL LIGHTS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: N/A**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: After an EP in 2012 the band seems to be donezo, but former members Kris Buhner and Jean-Louis Wittinger are focusing on electro pop duo Kezdet.

2013

**ANIMAL TEETH**  
**FACEBOOK LIKES: 252**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: The quartet released an EP in 2013, toured and shared its members with a few other bands, including Boats.

## EAGLE LAKE OWLS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 396**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: 2013 saw the release of an EP, a tour and an opening slot with the Rural Alberta Advantage. A new EP is in the works.

## FROM GIANTS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 387**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

Recent: The band played a slew of gigs in 2013, released an EP through Head in the Sand and shared members with Eagle Lake Owls and Man the Selector.

## OLDFOLKS HOME

**FACEBOOK LIKES: 845**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

After plenty of tours and a very well received LP, *Black & Blue*, the project called it a day after a December 2013 Christmas show.

## THE FAMOUS SANDHOGS

**FACEBOOK LIKES: N/A**  
**ACCOLADES: N/A**

We fell in love with the lo-fi goodness of 2013's *Vol. 2* and when *Vol. 3* appeared in our mailbox, complete with handmade liner notes, we were just as impressed.

## MUSIC LISTINGS



Tune in to 'Peg City Groove, Fridays at 5pm on CKUW 95.9 FM to get the scoop on the weekend's events when Kent and Darryl read the Rundown, brought to you by The Uniter.

**THURSDAY JAN. 16**

ACKNUACK at The Legion.

ROUTE 59 plays The Cavern.

DIANA KRALL and NEIL YOUNG play The Centennial Concert Hall.

VINCE ANDRUSHKO plays The Garrick Hotel.

SYMPHONY CRACK ORCHESTRA play The Pyramid.

SLOW MOTION WALTER play The Royal George.

DB AND THE DEADBEATS play The St. B. Hotel.

NEILFEST at The Times!

ANIMAL TEETH, THE BOKONONISTS, and THE LUYAS play Union.

**FRIDAY JAN. 17**

HARSH TOKES at Union.

THE WIZARDS OF WOLSELEY play The Cavern.

THE WSO performs *Four Horns and Beethoven* at The Centennial Concert Hall.

The Uniter presents HEARING TREES, GREEK RIOTS, PANTS and SIBYL at The Park Theatre.

CARA LUFT plays The Folk Exchange.

ROMI MAYES and SWEET ALIBI play The Times.

**SATURDAY JAN. 18**

THE SECRETS and DOWN TO FUNK play The Cavern.

THE WSO performs *Four Horns and Beethoven* at The Centennial Concert Hall.

7-DAYS, OVERTAKER and TALL DARK 'N' HAMMERED play The Park.

CORIN RAYMOND plays The Times.

CO-OP, HORUS WHITE, FOUR COLOR ZACK, and LONNIE CE play Union.

DJ CHICO, DJ KING CABARET, and DJ MOD MARTY play The Windsor.

**SUNDAY JAN. 19**

J COLE plays The Burt.

GREG LOWE plays The Park Theatre.

CO-OP and HUNNICUT spin at The Forks.

BIG DAVE jams at The Times.

STEVE ST. LOUIS, NOT HALF, DJ KINETIC, BIRDA-PRES, ROB CROOKS and NESTOR WYNRUSH play Union.

**MONDAY JAN. 20**

BRETT ELRIDGE, KEITH URBAN and LITTLE BIG TOWN play The MTS.

CO-OP and HUNNICUT play The Park.

It's open mic time at The Purple Room.

**TUESDAY JAN. 21**

DR. HOTBOTTOM plays The Cavern.

TRANSCONA TROUBADORS play The Royal George.

**WEDNESDAY JAN. 22**

THE WEBSTER PROJECT live at The Bella.

SASSY JACK plays The Royal George.

CHRIS CARMICHAEL plays Shannon's.

YES WE MYSTIC, JAYME FRIESEN, and MICAH VISSER play The Ballroom to kick off BIG Fun Festival.



KEVIN ROY

SUPPLIED

# ANOTHER FIVER

2014 has some major local releases

NICHOLAS FRIESEN



@NICHOLASTRONAUT

MANAGING EDITOR

Having not even compiled a proper 2013 mix (yet), this music nerd is now quickly thrust into anticipating what is coming out in 2014. Here's a look at five artists with releases slated for the first few months of the year, as well as a short list of artists who have planned releases.

## DEL BARBER

**PRAIRIEOGRAPHY (FEBRUARY 4)**

Prairie poet Del Barber is currently out on a North American tour building up to the release of his fourth record, *Prairieography*, which marks his True North Records (Wailin' Jennys, Bruce Cockburn) debut next month. Mostly recorded in October of last year at Winnipeg's Empire Recording, the LP features organic audio snippets of augers and combines, captured on location. The reverb for each instrument was also achieved organically, by reproducing each performance in a 150-foot grain silo. Co-produced by Barber and his steel player, Bill Western, the initial tracks were captured on both analog tape and digitally. Taking risks in music is important, and Barber sounds like he's taking some cool ones.

## KEVIN ROY

**TALLER THAN THE TREES (FEBRUARY 7)**

Recorded last summer with Lloyd Peterson (Weakerthans), Kevin Roy marked the making of his debut EP with the quitting of his career to take on music full-time. This acoustic sampling from Kayla Lucky's former lead guitarist announces a strong voice and a steady hand. With a few gigs throughout January, he's releasing the record proper at the West End Cultural Centre on February 7.

## THE GIRTH

**SWEET ELIGIBLE MEN (FEBRUARY 8)**

Marked with the band's "first show in nearly a year and (their) last one for the foreseeable future" (according to Facebook), The Girth unveils a new EP that, if the last few releases have been any indication, will put a smile on your face and be filled with plenty of distorted

warbles and songs about fictional fuckery. The fact that much of what The Girth does is captured so spontaneously makes it that much more exciting to listen to. Great art should be immediate and not too terribly overthought - it's about going with your gut. Thankfully, Steve Basham and co. have plenty of guts. Check out the release show for *Sweet Eligible Men* at the Windsor on February 8 with The Catamounts and The Blisters.

## VAMPIRES

**EVERY KIND OF LIGHT EP (APRIL/TBA)**

What's possibly most interesting about Vampires is that the band went away and got more popular, locally and internationally. Musician David Dobbs pondered which other local group to join while watching his record climb the local charts, then, sensing a demand for his unique brand of dark, dizzy, chaotic rock, the band decided to return to playing live shows and making records. Catch them at Big Fun on January 24 with Wizards and Surprise Party.

## SHEENA GROBB

**THE BREAKLESS HEART (MAY 6)**

Sheena Grobb's latest record has taken its time getting to us, but knowing the intimacy and intricacy with which she delivers her music (four years in between 2006's *Safe Guarded Space* and 2010's *Grow*), it will be worth the wait. Hints that she was recording in the Whiteshell go back to July of 2012, with a teaser posted last May of a new tune called "Already There", which finds the Mezzo Soprano's vocals sounding bigger and better than ever. It's music for late night pondering and pining and nobody does it better than Grobb.

Here is a small sampling of artists with records slated for release in 2014.

BEEFDONUT  
BONADUCES  
BOX OF WOLVES  
TESIA COIL  
DANGERCAT  
DANIEL JOHN EMERSON  
FIELD////  
FEW WHO DO  
GREEK RIOTS  
HANA LULU  
HEY PILGRIM  
MARTIN R. HOWELL (FORMERLY  
JOHNNY SIZZLE)  
KAYR  
KIERAN WEST & HIS BUFFALO BAND  
LES JUPES  
MOON TAN  
NAYSA  
OVERSCRUB INTERSALUTE  
PALM TREES  
PATTLEZ  
THE SALVIA PROJECT  
STAGMUMMER  
THE THRASHERS  
TWIN  
VIOLENT SCREECH



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## THE BLUE BASS

An essential part of any desert island survival kit

MATT PETERS

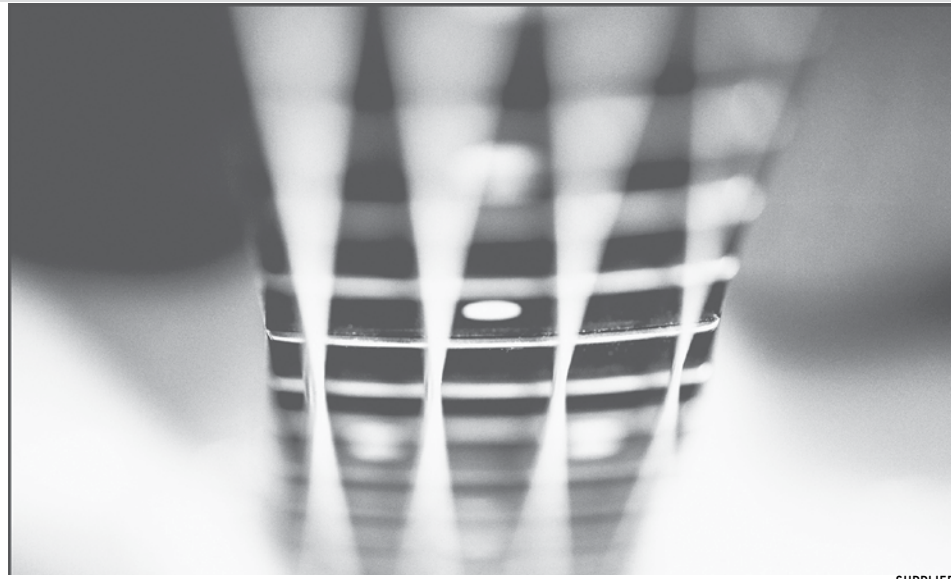
VOLUNTEER

A few years ago someone asked me if there was an instrument I would take with me were I ever stranded on a desert island. This seemed like a ridiculous question at first – if I were ever in fact “stranded on a desert island”, surely I wouldn’t have the opportunity to prepare for the stranding beforehand.

Anyway, after I got over myself I thought about it for a moment and realized there was only one instrument in my possession that I could not do without. This was, and still is, the Blue Bass.

A bass might seem like an odd choice at first, but this particular 1960s Teisco EB-220 short-scale bass is no ordinary instrument. To begin with, it is very good-looking. This may not seem exceptional, but in the extremely over-geeked world of bass players and basses there are such grotesque things as five-string basses, six-string basses, headless basses... you get the idea.

Generally, the bass is just not a sexy instrument to look at, which is part of what makes the Blue Bass so special. The body is painted a creamy steel-blue colour and cut into a



SUPPLIED

distinct hook shape reminiscent of what the future was supposed to look like had we not fucked up so horribly (no flying cars, no hover boards, no alien romances). At least we got this bass and the Internet.

Imagine a Klingon Bird of Prey – if you’ll permit me to go there – with a very short and playable fret-board jutting out of its nose. Bill Shatner would have tapped this bass.

Okay, I’m way off topic here, so let’s talk about how this thing sounds.

To be honest I’ve never been a very good guitar player. My first instrument is piano and because of that the guitar has always seemed so odd. The further you move to the right on the piano, the higher the pitch of the note; very straightforward. On guitar there are all of these strings and they’re all tuned to different pitches. It’s so chaotic.

This is all to say the Blue Bass is the only guitar I’ve ever played that makes sense to me. As soon as I pick it up and begin playing, the parts just seem to write themselves. The

notes come bubbling off the strings, each one a perfect little round bump of sound. Not too long, not too short. And somehow my fingers, usually so stiff and unsure on the guitar, feel suddenly loose, limber and long as they glide over the strings of this perfect instrument.

There is something so calming about these moments when everything is so easy and music comes spilling out. Such a simple, yet profound pleasure it is to make a beautiful sound. You don’t ever want it to end. One has to wonder if I would still feel as romantic though, alone on my little desert island hunched over the fret-board of the Blue Bass, wondering why the hell I brought this instrument without an amplifier, as I’m slowly crushed by the sun.

*Matt Peters is a singer and songwriter based in Winnipeg. He is the frontman of Royal Canoe. The band’s new record, Today We’re Believers, is available now.*

## TAKING A YEAR OF MUSIC BEYOND 2014

More liquor, more often

DARCY PENNER

@DARCPENNER

VOLUNTEER

2014 will be an exceptionally exciting year for Winnipeg’s music scene. It’s Manitoba’s Year of Music and we’re hosting JUNO week, Aboriginal People’s Choice Awards, Break-out West and the Western Canadian Music Awards, all on top of all the usual great Manitoba festivals.

Additionally, this year our liquor laws are being pulled out of the 1950s.

Inbound to Winnipeg, provincial and federal dollars will be followed by musicians and music fans from across the country. These national events will mean concert goers will have more opportunities to see top-rate acts, and Winnipeg’s finest will be showcased for movers, shakers, and tastemakers from across the continent.

While I’m excited as the next person about the remarkable shows I’ll consume in the next 12 months, I’m just as interested in the long-term impacts of this year. How will 2014 help Winnipeg’s grassroots music scene evolve to punch even higher above the population belt for top quality content?

Let’s talk about the driest component: changes to our liquor regulations.

I’ve had the opportunity to play bars and venues across many provinces and states,

spending afternoons and evenings exploring a new neighbourhood each day. My favourites? The ones filled with small coffee shops and smaller bars with even smaller stages.

Winnipeg has wonderful, arts-filled neighbourhoods, but our small venues are precarious and seemingly in constant flux (props to the few who have held it down over the years, but I prefer counting with more than one hand). Our music community has made due with many creative solutions – from art spaces to the basements of Thai restaurants, I’m constantly impressed with the ingenuity of hard working ‘Peggys.

But we can make it so much easier by liberalizing our liquor regulations.

This year, the Provincial government is loosening the requirements for holding a cabaret license: meant for music venues, it’s a liquor license allowing an establishment to serve alcohol without serving food. By removing the 200 person minimum-seating requirement and adding DJs to the list of acceptable entertainment required for the license, the province has taken good steps in allowing small venues to succeed.

When a bar is not forced to operate a kitchen, their overhead costs plummet. This

food-free license for venues means having bands play for small crowds is much easier on the establishment’s bottom line.

Yet this hardly goes far enough. The initial legislation has been a shot over the bow, and a lot of the policy will come together as the bill’s regulations are drafted. The cabaret license requires venues to book entertainment every night and limits its hours of operation (8 pm to 2 am). These clauses should be removed.

Even if my wildest alcohol-liberalization dreams are met, Winnipeg isn’t going to suddenly turn into Brooklyn or Montréal (something about population) – this is one of a thousand pieces. But at the least, by loosening up liquor regulations and allowing small venues more sources of revenue with less expenses, small establishments will have a better chance at turning a profit while cultivating our local musicians and allowing me to consume more great art and even more great hops.

See you at Big Fun, friends.

*Darcy Penner is a University of Winnipeg Politics graduate who currently works as a policy advisor for community economic development organizations. He plays in Les Jupes and Salinas.*



SUPPLIED

## ARTS LISTINGS

### FILM

WHEN JEWS WERE FUNNY is playing at Cinematheque until January 18.

FILMAGE: A Story Of The Descendants/All will be shown at The Park Theatre on Jan. 20 at 7pm.

### LITERATURE

Please join the Centre for Creative Writing & Oral Culture in welcoming LOUISE WALLWEIN, the University of Manitoba’s Winter 2014 Writer-in-Residence, on Jan. 17, at 11:30 am in the Great Hall, 218 University College, 220 Dysart Road on the University of Manitoba’s Fort Garry Campus. This event is free to the public.

### GALLERIES & MUSEUMS

WINDOW is pleased to present its tenth exhibition. This month’s showcase: LAURA MAGNUSSON’S mouth.

One Night Stand is pleased to present the solo exhibitions of Lethbridge, AB based artists MANDY ESPEZEL and DENTON FREDRICKSON. Please join us on Jan. 16 at LICA - 78 Lusted from 8 until 12AM.

The Edge Gallery presents *Residing On The Edge*, an exhibition by artists in residence at The Gallery. The Exhibition takes place from Jan. 3 - 16.

The CreBery presents *18(pieces) x 18(artists)*. Opening Reception is on Jan. 10. Exhibition ends on Jan. 18.

The Plug In Gallery will host its annual general meeting on Jan. 20 at 6:30pm. Everyone is welcome, but in order to vote you must be a member in good standing.

Gurevich Fine Arts presents *Small Works*, a collection of works by local artists. Exhibition runs from Jan. 3 - 25.

The Urban Shaman Gallery presents *Nomadic Bounce*, an exhibition by JASON BAERG. Opening reception is on Jan. 17 at 9pm. Exhibition ends Feb. 22.

ACE Art Inc. presents *Present at Hand*, an exhibition by MATTIEU SABOURIN. Opening reception takes place at 7pm on Jan. 10. Exhibition ends Feb. 14.

Gallery 1C03 presents *Water Memory Table*, an exhibition by PATRICK MAHONE. Opening reception takes place at 4pm on Jan. 16. Exhibition ends Feb. 15.

### THEATRE, DANCE & COMEDY

The Cavern invites you to begin laughing again on Sundays.

Comedy at the Rose n’ Bee is canceled due to the closing of the pub.

Check out the King’s Head Pub for your weekly dose of comedy every Tuesday at 9 p.m.



Sometimes people like to win contests, see how photo shoots happen, hear interesting behind-the-scenes stories or just be kept in the loop about every gosh darn thing that happens in Uniter-land. There’s an easy and efficient way to do this -

**FOLLOW @THEUNITER ON TWITTER & INSTAGRAM FOR EXCLUSIVE ONLINE CONTENT.**

# CITY

## VIBE OF THE HIVE

Student group bringing music lovers together in new University of Winnipeg space

SAMANTHA DUERKSEN

 @SAMDUERKSEN

CITY REPORTER

There's a new buzz on the University of Winnipeg campus. A recently created multi-purpose space called the HIVE is opening up new possibilities for student groups, and new opportunities for students to connect and share creatively.

UW student Thomas Aitken has taken advantage of the space by creating weekly musical jam sessions for fellow students.

"I kind of wandered here in the beginning of term, and I started meeting people here," Aitken says. "Last year I had the idea to make a student group, and I started texting up friends of mine who I know make music. There's a lot of musicians at this school."

From there the idea blossomed.

The student group Aitken runs is called the Hive Vibe, a casual, drop-in type group open to anyone – regardless of musical talent or student status. "Basically if you are interested in making music, listening to music, or just want to come chill, I'm here," he explains.

Currently the group is small but comfortable; Aitken says about only five or six people get together at a time. The group is



DANIEL CRUMP

still relatively new, having started in September of last year.

"I've decided to do Mellow Mondays, 1:30 to 3:30 pm approximately. I bring my acoustic guitar and basically we'll have some acoustic jams on Mondays. Then there's Wired Wednesday. Today's a Wednesday, so I brought my electric stuff."

Prior to July 2013, the space was designated as a prayer room for Muslim students (and before that it was a smoking room), but a change in location opened it up to new possibilities.

Nawal Tajdin, Vice President of Student Services at the University of Winnipeg Students Association, sees great potential for the Hive.

"My predecessor Lana Hastings, she was a big part of imagining what The

Hive could be for students in terms of an interactive space where you could have performances, a hang out meeting place, a study place, a super interactive modern, multi-purpose area for students," she says.

"The University of Winnipeg is lacking a nice hang out space that reflects the 21st century."

Tajdin throws out potential ideas for The Hive including events such as spoken word session, and hooking up speakers that can connect CKUW (campus radio) to the room.

Students are encouraged to share their ideas as well. Aitken has been in discussion with the designated renovators about possibly getting cupboards for musical instrument storage. He has a lot of ideas for the group that he hopes to see devel-

oped this year.

"I want to do every second Friday as a performance jam as well," he says. "Like a potluck jam type of thing where people can bring food if they want to."

"I'm hoping it turns into a steady student group that can stay past my time at U of W."



To find out more about The Hive Vibe, check out their Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/groups/1409686622582414](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1409686622582414)

## DRESSED FOR SUCCESS

Park Theatre's new renovations sophisticated, functional

SAMANTHA DUERKSEN

 @SAMDUERKSEN

CITY REPORTER

Remember how the Park Theatre's café and music venue had a feel similar to a 50s diner? Recent major renovations have left it starkly different. The old feel is but a distant memory.

The once 700-seat movie theatre now looks like a classy music venue – and one that's not only popular in Winnipeg, but gaining national status as well. It was nominated in 2012 and 2013 for 'Best Venue' at the Western Canadian Music Awards.

Many local musicians have been around long enough to witness its history, such as Carson Mauthe, member of punk band Perception Check. "The Park Theatre has been a part of my life for a long time since my first band, Against Belief, played there when I was 16," he says. "Since then I've

played a fair share of shows there, gone to many of their events, including (live soap opera) *Soapscum* almost every time it's on, and the experience has always been good."

As a music venue, the Park Theatre is still young. Current owner Erick Casselman only bought it eight years ago.

"He's slowly, bit by bit, changed it into what it is," says the Park's booker/designer and promoter Kevin Mozdzen.

The building still holds some of that old theatre charm, with a grand marquee on the outside, and a concession-to-theatre layout on the inside.

Adam Fuhr of local band Yes We Mystic has played multiple shows there, including the band's EP release. "It's a great place to

play just because it used to be a movie theatre and I think that really helps command attention to the stage," he says. "[In a bar] people are focused on their conversation or getting a drink, but there it always feels like the band is the focal point."

Almost all of the original seating in the theatre has been taken out, leaving a much larger area in front of the stage where people can dance and enjoy shows up-close. "Luxury benches" now line the outer perimeters of both the theatre and lounge, for those who like to sit back and enjoy a show.

For Mauthe, the change may take some getting used to, but overall it's a positive thing.

"I will admit that I'm still pretty nos-

talgie about the ketchup coloured booths and the untouched movie rental section," he says. "However, the new renovations make the place look a lot nicer. Nobody comes in to the Park to sit down and eat, nobody rents movies anymore, and moving the cashier towards the far end closest to the theatre means you don't need to walk that extra five meters to get another drink. Brilliant!"



For venue info and events visit [www.parktheatervideo.com](http://www.parktheatervideo.com).



KEVIN LEGGE



## WHERE THE MAGIC HAPPENS

Musical tradition of craftsmanship continuing on in familiar locales

BRIAN LORRAINE

@RED\_RIVER\_REBEL

CITY EDITOR

We know the musicians. They're on stage, in our iPhone earbuds, on the YouTube screen. But what about the people who craft the gear? Two of the world's finest independent instrument builders are right here in Winnipeg.

Al Beardsell and Florian Vorreiter are part of a growing number of luthiers who are making high-end, hand-crafted custom guitars for clients all over the world.

"It's a bit of a solitary existence," Beardsell says with a laugh.

While both men have a thriving reputation among clients outside of Winnipeg, a change in the location of each of their shops has helped make a difference with local clients.

Last March, Beardsell moved his workshop from his old garage in Wolseley into a space on St. Matthews previously occupied by the legendary Gar Gilles, founder of Garnet Amplifiers.

"Having this space has actually been really great to try and make some inroads locally," Beardsell says. "I don't have to explain where it is to too many people."

Vorreiter also moved around a bit before finally finding space for his business in another significant locale: the old Sled Dog Music building on Westminster.



These two particular luthiers do exceptional work, something that's obvious from the look, sound, and feel of their guitars, which can take anywhere from 150-300 hours to build. While Beardsell relies more on his extensive experience gained from making a living at his craft over the last 18 years, Vorreiter went down the path of a more formal education.

Regardless of that difference, they've both invested a ton of time and energy into honing their craft, and along with that comes pressure to succeed professionally.

"When you study for six years and immediate success doesn't kick in after one or two years, you get a little antsy," Vorreiter admits. "Because you're like 'you know, I put in this much work so it better be worth it.'"

It's evident that personality and experimentation go into the craftsmanship, as both Beardsell and Vorreiter have distinct qualities in the design of their instruments.

Beardsell has made several multi-scale

guitars that have a unique 'fan fret' design, allowing for a more even tone and tension in all of the strings, leading to greater stability and consistency, even with the low string(s) tuned down. He also has unique shapes and placements for the sound holes on his instruments, often putting them on the side creating a different sound experience for the player.

Vorreiter meanwhile, has been invited to New York's Center for Transformative Media to share his ideas stemming from projects such as his 'Fusion Guitar'. "They invited me to speak about the future of the guitar, because I try to play with that to push the limits a bit," he explains.

Some locals are taking the opportunity to learn from Vorreiter too, such that he has a waiting list of people wanting to enrol in his guitar building course. On top of building and repairing instruments, he somehow finds the time to teach his programs and also do research work on the side.

An electric guitar being built by Al Beardsell for one of his local customers, John K. Sampson.

DANIEL CRUMP

Despite their own accomplishments, they each point to world-renowned Winnipeg luthier, Daryl Perry, as the senior figure of hand-crafted instruments being made here.

"He's really sort of the granddaddy of guitar-making in Winnipeg, Beardsell says. "He's been at it for 25-30 years."



Check out Al Beardsell's work here: [www.beardsellguitars.com](http://www.beardsellguitars.com) and Florian Vorreiter's work here: [www.vorreiterguitars.com](http://www.vorreiterguitars.com)



## BACHELOR OF EDUCATION

The unique, highly supportive and inclusive 2-year Bachelor of Education program at St. Mary's University College will prepare you to be a leader in your career as a teacher in both Catholic and public schools.

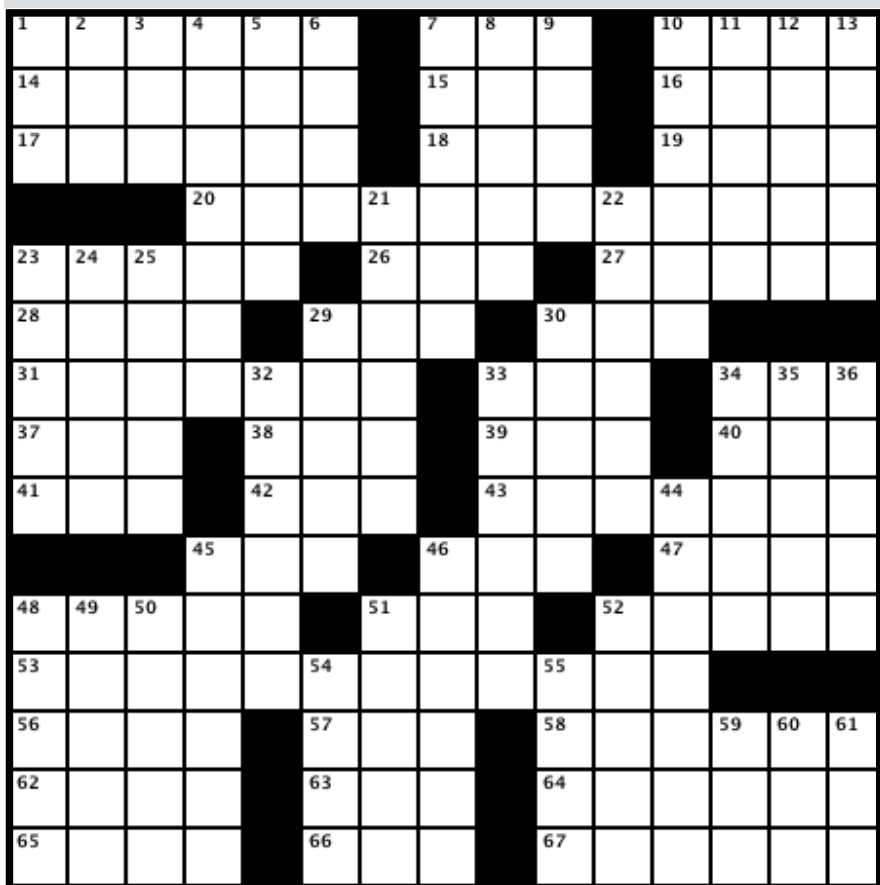
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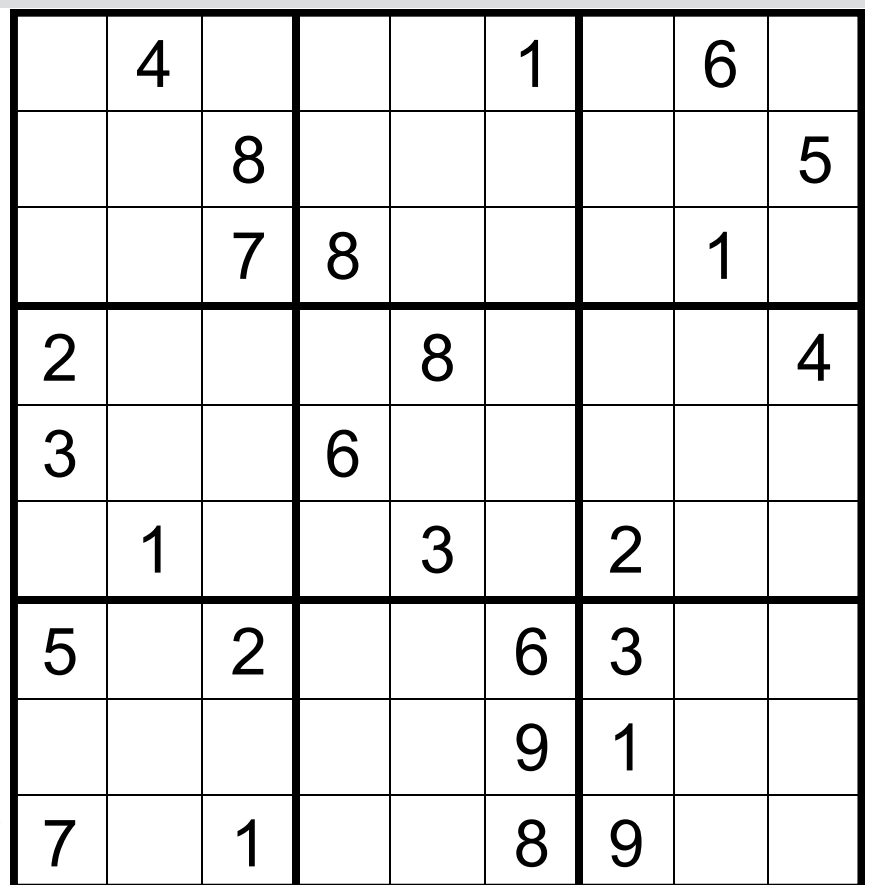


The Uniter Fashion Streeter is an ongoing documentation of creative fashion in Winnipeg inspired by the Helsinki fashion blog [www.hel-looks.com](http://www.hel-looks.com). Each issue will feature a new look from our city's streets and bars in an attempt to encourage individual expression and celebrate that you are really, really good looking.

# DIVERSIONS



BESTCROSSWORDS.COM



PDFPAD.COM/SUDOKU

## ACROSS

- 1- Humbert Humbert's obsession;  
7- Bran source;  
10- Sacks;  
14- Yom Kippur observer;  
15- Debate side;  
16- I'd hate to break up \_\_\_;  
17- Diminutive;  
18- Cabinet dept.;  
19- \_\_\_ boy!;  
20- State of being tranquil;

- 23- Female demon;  
26- Hung. neighbor;  
27- Buenos \_\_\_;  
28- Home furnishings chain;  
29- King Kong, e.g.;  
30- The loneliest number;  
31- Bellboy;  
33- Old California fort;  
34- Conscripting org.;  
37- Lilly of pharmaceuticals;  
38- Mined mineral;  
39- Neckwear;  
40- Tony winner Hagen;

- 41- Fond du \_\_\_;  
42- Old Ford;  
43- Rug rat;  
45- Palm Pilot, e.g.;  
46- \_\_\_-X;  
47- \_\_\_ mater;  
48- Chilean pianist Claudio;  
51- Craggy hill;  
52- Rubbish;  
53- Reprint;  
56- Jump;  
57- Surgery sites, briefly;  
58- Black Sea peninsula;

## DOWN

- 1- Once around the track;  
2- Suffix with Capri;  
3- Destiny;  
4- First;  
5- Aquarium fish;

- 6- Neighborhood;  
7- Not allowing light to pass through;  
8- Watchful guardian;  
9- Actress Spelling;  
10- Magistrate;  
11- Moving;  
12- Beau \_\_\_;  
13- Remains;  
21- Snoozed;  
22- Acred;  
23- Defamation;  
24- Pack leader;

- 25- Pertaining to song;  
29- It comes from the heart;  
30- The Hunter;  
32- Robbery at gunpoint;  
33- Furry swimmers;  
34- Roman general;  
35- Stalks;  
36- Mother of Isaac;  
44- Articles to be mended;  
45- Grassy plains of Argentina;  
46- Idle talk;  
48- City on the Rhone;  
49- Orchestra section;

- 50- Cheerful;  
51- Earth;  
52- Baseball manager Joe;  
54- \_\_\_ Hashanah;  
55- Chilled;  
59- Debussy subject;  
60- End for Siam;  
61- Dug in;



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Student Services

You of W



The Student Services staff of The University of Winnipeg provides the student body with current information and opportunities. This information is updated weekly.

### ACADEMIC ADVISING

#### PERMISSION TO REGISTER LATE

Are you on a waitlist? If you get a permission form from your professor to register for a class after January 17, you will need to see an academic advisor within 3 working days before you can submit the form to Student Central. Please come in during Drop In hours.

#### EXTENDED DROP-IN HOURS

Do you have a quick question for an Academic Advisor? Daily Drop In hours, in 1C16, are extended in January.

9:00 -10:30 am  
1:30- 4:00 pm

#### STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOPS

Workshops are FREE and no registration is required.

Dates: January 8-23  
Location: Room 3M69 (3rd Floor -Manitoba Hall)

#### Workshop Topic Schedule

Academic Writing: Tues. January 21, 2:30-3:45  
Memory and Test-Taking Strategies: Wed. January 22, 12:30-1:20  
Dealing with Exam Anxiety: Thu. January 23, 2:30-3:45

For more information on the workshops, visit: [www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-adv-study-skills-workshops](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-adv-study-skills-workshops)

### ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

Accessibility Services provides a number of accommodations and supports to students with documented disabilities as well as

short & long-term medical conditions. If you think you may have a disability, we can also provide you with information and support.

Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 8:30AM to 4:30PM  
Location: Room 1A08 - 1st Floor, Ashdown Hall  
Website address: [www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/accessibility)  
General Information: [accessibility@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:accessibility@uwinnipeg.ca)  
Phone: 786-9771

### AWARDS & FINANCIAL AID

#### GOVERNMENT STUDENT AID AND WINTER TERM TUITION PAYMENT

If you applied for government student aid through your home province for the Fall/Winter session (Sept.-April), and have already received your Fall term funding, you will automatically be placed on our Fee Deferral list.

Fee Deferral means you have been given a one month grace period so that while we wait for your government student aid payment to arrive:

- your registration is not cancelled, and
- you are not charged late payment fees,

You must have applied for government student aid funding for your Fall/Winter session or Winter term session by December 2 in order to be placed on our Fee Deferral list.

\*Check your WebMail account for the email that confirms you are on this list.

If you an out-of-province and/or part-time student and applied for funding by December 2 but you did not receive an email, as long as the Awards & Financial Aid office confirms your enrollment and/or signs your loan documents by January 24, you will be added to the Tuition Fee Deferral list.

NOTE: Most provinces, such as Manitoba, will pay the tuition fees owing directly to

the UW. However, some provinces send the funds directly to the student, and they are expected to pay their tuition on their own. Out-of-province students should check their account or with their provincial student aid branch to verify which will occur.

#### AWARD APPLICATIONS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE:

Graduate and Professional Studies Expenses Bursary - For students in the final year of their undergraduate program who are applying for entry into a Graduate or Professional Studies Program with financial need.

General Bursary - These bursaries are meant to provide additional support to those who have unmet financial need after they have accessed all financial resources available to them.

Both application forms are available online: [www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awds-current-continuing](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/services-awds-current-continuing)

#### INFORMATION SESSIONS ON GOVERNMENT STUDENT AID FUNDING

If you are a Canadian citizen and/or permanent resident with financial need, you may be interested in our upcoming "Government Student Aid Information Session" held in Room 2M70-2nd Floor, Manitoba Hall on the following dates:

Wednesday, January 29, 5:30-6:30 p.m.  
Thursday, January 30, 11 a.m.-Noon

These sessions are FREE. The first half of each session will be a presentation on when and how to apply as well as the types of funding available. The second half will be an open Question & Answer period so come prepared to have all your questions and concerns about the program answered.

Please email [awards@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:awards@uwinnipeg.ca) by Monday, January 27, 2014 with the session date you would like to attend. (Registration is limited so sign up early to reserve your

spot!)

If you are unable to attend but would like more information, please visit our Government Student Aid webpage ([www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/portal-awards-financial-aid](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/portal-awards-financial-aid)), or stop by the Awards & Financial Aid office during drop-in hours, 8:30-2 p.m. Monday-Friday, Room 1C22-1st Floor, Centennial Hall.

### STUDENT CENTRAL

Need somewhere to store your jacket and boots? Rent a locker from Student Central! There are lockers still available on the 1st-4th floors of Centennial Hall, in the basement of MB Hall and on the 3rd floor of Richardson College. Locker rentals are \$20 per person for Winter Term.

Just send a Webmail email to [student-central@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:student-central@uwinnipeg.ca) with your preferred location or visit us at Student Central.

#### U2013FW COURSE DROPS

Tuesday, January 21st, 2014 is the last day to drop a U2013FW course. No refund is applicable.

#### U2013W ADD/DROP PERIOD

The Add/Drop Period for U2013W is January 6th to 17th. The last day to add a U2013W course is January 17th. U2013W courses dropped during this time are eligible for a 100% refund of tuition, student association and student association building fund fees.

#### PAYMENT PLANS

Still haven't paid your tuition fees? Are you unable to pay your entire tuition at once? If you can pay at least 25% of the amount due immediately, you can set up a payment plan at Student Central. \$25/course late fees are applicable. Payment plans must be completed by Feb. 28th, 2014. Come to Student Central today!

### G2013W TUITION FEES

G2013W (Graduate Studies) tuition fees are due January 17, 2014. Pay online through your bank's website! Set up the U of W as a bill. Your seven-digit student number is the account number. (The University does not charge a convenience fee for this payment method.)

### U2013F GRADES

U2013F grades will be approved and posted on WebAdvisor about Jan. 21st. Click on the "Transcript" link to view.

### ATTENTION SPRING GRADS:

The deadline to apply for Spring Graduation is Feb. 14th, 2014

Applications for Graduation are available at and are submitted to Student Central.

### OPEN HOUSE 2014

Wednesday, February 19th

9am - 2pm, 5:30pm - 8:00pm

Thinking about changing your major?

Have a friend or family member who is considering coming to UWinnipeg next year?

Open House 2014 will be the perfect chance for all students to find out more about all of the different majors UWinnipeg offers. Current students will discover what possible majors, minors or electives they could choose from. Future students will get to meet with professors, tour our buildings and labs, apply on the spot for admission and see why UWinnipeg is the right choice for their studies.

If you are a current student, take this opportunity to explore your options and tell future students about YOUR University of Winnipeg!

For more information visit: [uwinnipeg.ca/openhouse](http://uwinnipeg.ca/openhouse) or call 779.UWIN (8946)

ASK! You of W

PHONE: 204.779.UWIN (8946) | EMAIL: [studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca](mailto:studentcentral@uwinnipeg.ca)

THE UNITER, MANITOBA MUSIC AND THE PARK THEATRE PRESENT

# THE UNITER FIVER

*showcase*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17 • 8PM • THE PARK THEATRE • \$10

*featuring*

**SIBYL  
PANTS  
FINN  
GREEK RIOTS  
HEARING TREES**

*hosted by Ryan Ash*

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#UNITERFIVER **THE UNITER** manitoba music **THE PARK THEATRE**



THE UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

# CAREER FAIR

**JANUARY 16, 2014 • 10AM-3PM  
DUCKWORTH GYMNASIUM**

Come find out about careers, part-time and summer positions as well as internships and volunteer opportunities.

**BE PREPARED:**  
Bring copies of your most recent resume.  
Research companies and prepare questions.  
Make sure you can talk about yourself, your future goals and what you have to offer an employer.

**204.779.UWIN (8946) • CAREERS@UWINNIPEG.CA**  
[www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/career-services-summer-job-fair](http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/index/career-services-summer-job-fair)

## THE BACK PAGE LIST

**1. STEVEN CARROLL IS THE NEW GM OF THE WEST END CULTURAL CENTRE**

Casually mentions The Weakerthans are "not active and there's no foreseeable activity planned" in the Free Press.

**2. THE JETS HIRE PAUL MAURICE AS HEAD COACH**

The Grimace was unavailable for comment.

**3. 19-YEAR-OLD WINNIPEG MAN CHARGED WITH KIDNAPPING FAMILY FRIEND**

Not the plot to the next episode of *WindCity*.

**4. AMERICAN HUSTLE WINS GOLDEN GLOBE FOR BEST MUSICAL/COMEDY**

J. Law angrily clean/dancing to "Live and Let Die" was funny, but yeah.

**5. THE GIRLS PREMIERE**

We're a Jessa.

**6. AMERICAN HUSTLE WINS GOLDEN GLOBE FOR BEST MUSICAL/COMEDY**

Oh yeah, "science oven" was also a really funny part.

**7. @COFFEE\_DAD**

He really likes ##coffee and misses his son.

**8. KASY ANNE HILL**

Being an American Apparel model/Kanye dancer/YouTube singer/redhead is 2014's finding out your father is Gavin Rossdale.

**9. THE ROSE N' BEE SHUTS ITS DOORS**

They gave a stage to weirdos and safe bets. For that, we are grateful to the brothers Rosenby.

**10. COULD THE VIRUS KILL THE GRIMACE?**

Nothing can kill the Grimace.

SOLUTIONS TO LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES.

1	A	S	E	A		5	I	D	E	A	S		10	M	A	R	C		
14	N	E	A	L		15	N	A	N	N	Y		16	E	R	O	O		
17	I	N	R	I		18	N	Y	L	O	N		19	L	A	I	N		
20	T	O	T	E	M	S		22	A	D	O	R	A	B	L	E			
24	A	R	O	N	I		25	T	I	E	D	I	N						
						26	O	D	O	R			28	L	I	S	P	S	
32	Y	E	A	R		35	P	E	A			37	S	E	N	O	R	A	
38	O	I	L			39	E	E	L	E	R		41	P	A	N			
42	G	N	O	M	I	C		45	E	T	A		46	A	S	Y	E		
47	A	E	G	I	S			48	T	S	K	S							
						50	N	A	S	A	U		54	I	S	S	S	U	E
58	I	N	S	A	N	I	T	Y		61	A	D	U	L	T	S			
62	S	A	A	R		63	N	E	E	D	S		65	A	Y	E	S		
66	A	P	S	E		67	C	E	R	E	S		68	G	E	R	E		
69	T	E	S	T		70	E	P	S	O	N		71	E	R	I	N		

2	4	7	3	5	9	8	1	6
9	5	6	1	8	2	4	7	3
8	1	3	7	6	4	2	9	5
6	3	5	4	9	8	7	2	1
7	9	8	2	1	5	6	3	4
1	2	4	6	7	3	9	5	8
5	7	1	8	2	6	3	4	9
3	8	2	9	4	1	5	6	7
4	6	9	5	3	7	1	8	2

## CIRCLE HEADS



bigfunfestival.com

#bigfun2014

# \* BIG FUN



## 2014 JANUARY 22-26

### METZ

Venetian Snares

B.A. Johnston

Mahogany Frog

Les Jupes

Boats

The Bros. Landreth

Dead Ranch

Demetra

Vampires

Indicator Indicator

Wizards

### SMRT TYPE

Warsaw

Surprise Party

J.R Hill and the  
Magic Bears

Potatoes

Yes We Mystic

Pop Crimes

Mobina Galore

Kieran West and his  
Buffalo Band

Zachary Lucky

French Press

### Alanna Gurr

The Reckless Heroes

Jaymie Friesen

Burning Kettles

Paul Allen

Steve & Diz

Tunic

Micah Visser

Chris Bennett

ATLAAS

Kipp Kocay

AND MORE!

UNITER

HALF PINTS  
BREWING CO.

Stylus  
magazine

POP  
fruit.

40 CITY  
CARS  
BIKE, WALK, RIDE,  
AND SOMETHING DRIVE.

UNION COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY

5  
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manitoba  
music

FACTOR

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