



Emerald Media

SEPT. 27, 2021

Week of Welcome

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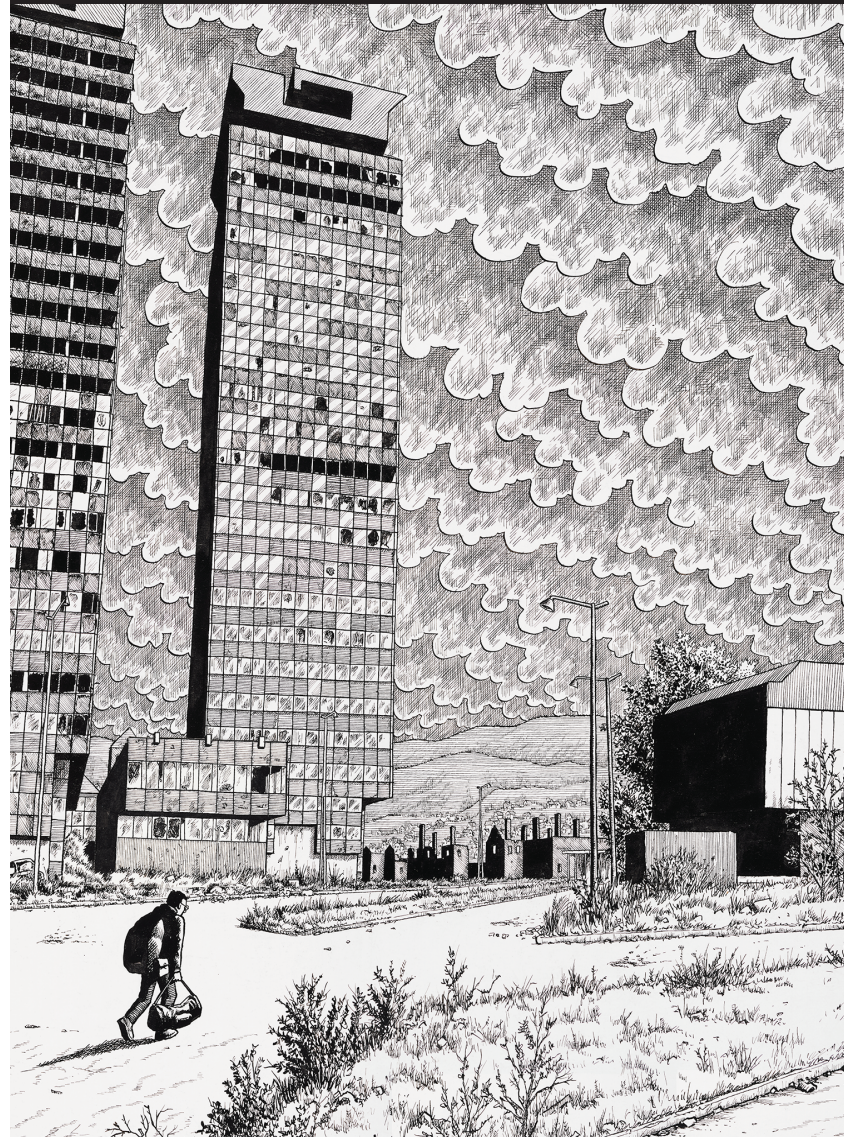
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Joe Sacco, Page 12 from "The Fixer" (detail) (2009 [2003])

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The Art of the News is the first major retrospective devoted to the increasingly influential genre of visual narrative, comics journalism. The exhibition spotlights the groundbreaking work of author-artist Joe Sacco, a foundational figure in the field—and a graduate of the UO. Accompanying Sacco's work are key pieces from an international group of artists who have developed comics journalism and are pushing the genre in new directions, including Gerardo Alba, Dan Archer, Thi Bui, Tracy Chahwan, Jesús Cossio, Sarah Glidden, Omar Khouri, Viktoria Lomasko, Sarah Mirk, Ben Passmore, Yazan al-Saadi, and Andy Warner.

<https://jsma.uoregon.edu/ComicsJournalism>

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Curated by Katherine Kelp-Stebbins, Professor of Comic Studies, UO Department of English, in consultation with Ben Saunders, Professor of Comics Studies, UO Department of English.



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EO/AA/ADA institution committed to cultural diversity





Farmers Union Coffee Roasters is located on 5th Street in Eugene, Ore. May 9, 2019. (Madi Mather/Emerald)

3 EUGENE CAFES WITH ADMIRABLE AMBIANCES

Customers and employees at these local cafes say they appreciate the art and atmosphere that each location offers.

BY BRANDON ROTH

Students, families and people of all ages congregate at local cafes in search of a relaxed space to work, study, meet with people and destress. Pressure from the outside world dissipates when stepping into a place filled with social chatter, the aroma of coffee and pleasant scenery. Employees and customers alike said these cafes, filled with local art, vintage goods and historical architecture, help visitors focus and relax.

Farmers Union Coffee – contemporary farmhouse

This repurposed 20th-century egg production facility invites its community into an expansive space with high, exposed ceilings. Ornamented farm animals, such as chickens, create a quirky and playful atmosphere. The cafe displays its environmental efforts through the solar panels attached to the roof and the reusable coffee containers on the shelves.

Co-owner Thomas Pettus-Czar embraces the Pacific Northwest aesthetic of restoring retro buildings and presenting its history. Pettus-Czar believes his cafe's open space creates a "thought-provoking, playful and warm" environment for guests to immerse themselves in.

"When you're in a space with this kind of history, it's imbued with a spirit of sorts that you can feel immediately upon walking in," Pettus-Czar said. "Much of the decor in here is vintage and antique objects that were scored at local thrift stores and antique malls."

University of Oregon alumnus and Masters student Hunter, 25, travels 100 miles from Portland almost every weekend to read or study within the Farmers

Union's space, she said. Hunter's spirit improves when she comes to Farmers Union because there is "always a sense of warmth and comfort." She enjoys spending her time under the natural illumination of the skylight in the ceiling.

"Farmers Union gets me out of my house," Hunter said. "It is a fun outing for me and helps me focus on what I am doing. I feel good about myself every time I leave."

Vero Espresso – comfort with antique charm

In this quaint, yellow house, Vero Espresso has been transporting guests to a bygone era since 2009. Vero is a comfortable place for visitors to relax in plush chairs under stained glass windows. Throughout the day, Vero is crowded with students, business professionals and community members. Despite the long lines, UO sophomore Sarah Madden waits patiently with her friends because she knows she can unwind in a calm environment, she said.

"Vero is very cozy," Madden said. "It feels homey and modern. It is nice to be in a place where you can be with friends and do homework. Everyone is very productive."

According to Vero's assistant manager Amanda Brandow, college students seek this cafe for its "home away from home" atmosphere. Brandow strives to make the cafe's culture neighborly and casual. The charming space is filled with unique art which helps strengthen the feeling of being invited into someone's home.

"My favorite thing about the art displayed in Vero is that two of our pieces were done by one of our regular

customers," Brandow said. "Those paintings catch my eye from time to time and they are a reminder of Vero's history as well as its evolution over the past 12 years."

Espresso Roma – vibrant student hot spot

A block from the UO campus, Espresso Roma's staff treat regulars and newcomers like old friends. The cafe is adorned with paintings made by local artists and often has soothing jazz instrumentals playing in the background. Chico, a barista at Espresso Roma, believes the outside patio brings the whole place together by putting people at ease.

"Roma is a very calm and welcoming place," Chico said. "Professors and students come here knowing they have a local place to study. It is the best place to visit because it has a nice open patio outback."

After years of studying at Espresso Roma, UO senior Ethan Rife associates his "productive workflow" with the cafe. Rife visits at least a few times a week when he is in town, he said. He appreciates being greeted by the staff by name when walking in.

"I always have a good feeling when I come in here," Rife said. "Roma has been the place where I have done things I have been proud of in terms of school work and meeting people I care about. I am comfortable knowing I can always show up and do what I need to do."

For many, cafes represent the need to have control over a busy life. They also help people ease into work and solidify friendships. Wherever one chooses to grab coffee, the perfect setting that appeals to the senses should be part of the experience.



Farmers Union Coffee Roasters provides a modern atmosphere, along with its in-store San Franciscan Roaster. Farmers Union Coffee Roasters is located on 5th Street in Eugene, Ore. May 9, 2019. (Madi Mather/Emerald)



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GET IN TOUCH

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THE DAILY EMERALD

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ON THE COVER

A student looks towards the camera during move in on September 23 at the University of Oregon. University of Oregon students are preparing to resume in person activities across campus during fall term. (Will Geschke/Emerald)

everything you need to know
EVERYTHING UO

QUICK HITS

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

BY ELIJAH ALEXANDER

I'm Eli, a fourth year undergrad and former Resident Assistant for the University of Oregon's housing department. I've worked with housing for the past three years of my undergraduate career. I've loved my time in housing and was certain I would continue my involvement with them into grad school and beyond. Unfortunately, my experience as an RA left a sour taste in my mouth in regards to how the housing department treats their student employees.

It's well known that the RA position comes with a host of negative connotations and horror stories, but it is also a position sought after by individuals with low socioeconomic backgrounds. The opportunity for free housing and board is something many low-income students cannot turn down – and, with UO knowing this, Housing exercises its power to show blatant disregard for its student staff.

My own negative experience with housing is not an isolated circumstance. Many, many former employees have their own reasons for leaving the department; better job opportunities, misunderstandings amongst supervisors, poor work conditions, inequitable expulsions, etc. A major point of contention for me is the inequitable

disbursement of pay for the RAs. As of last year, across all of the residence halls on campus, every RA is paid in monthly installments from a \$800 stipend.

The issue with this is RAs in the Hamilton Hall on average have more residents, hour-long rounds, have smaller rooms and less amenities (communal bathrooms shared by 20+ residents, no kitchen and no elevators in the four story building).

On the other hand, RAs in higher end residence halls, like Kalapuya Ilihi, have larger rooms, personal bathrooms, shorter rounds – around 20 minutes due to elevator access – fewer residents per RA, a community kitchen, an art room and study rooms, while being paid with the same meal plan and monthly stipend as a Hamilton RA who does more work on average. This could be permissible if senior RAs were put into the higher cost residence halls, but hall assignments are done at the whim of the community directors or upper housing staff without regard to seniority.

There are countless other issues with Housing, which should ultimately be a department that serves so many students and aims to do good for the University. Unfortunately, the backbone of the entire department – the student employees – are not shown even basic consideration.

Emerald Recommends

Lil Nas X breaks the internet again in "Montero"

In his latest album, the rapper tells a story of longing, pain and desire. The song "That's What I Want" made a bang with a music video that does not hide from queer love. Every song in the album makes listeners want to sing along. At only 41 minutes long, "Montero" is an easy album to listen to on repeat. - NIKA BARTOO-SMITH

The Morning Show returns with a punchy new season

Season two of The Morning Show just debuted on Apple TV+ and just a few episodes into the season it is already proving to be truly fantastic television. Each episode is filled to the brim with loud and rambunctious fights, mountains of tension and jaw dropping moments. Fans of the first season will not be disappointed. New episodes are dropped every Friday. - GRACE MURRAY



AROUND CAMPUS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES DISCUSSES IN-PERSON

CAMPUS: The Board of Trustees met on Sept. 20 and 21 to discuss the university's vaccine requirement, face covering mandates and other COVID-19 protocols. It was the board's first in-person meeting since March 2020. Multiple representatives, including UO's associate vice president for student life Kris Winter and ASUO President Isaiah Boyd, stressed their commitment to make, as Boyd put it, "campus feel like campus again."

- DUNCAN BAUMGARTEN

PAC-12 FOOTBALL STRUGGLES EARLY IN SEASON: No. 3

Oregon withstanding, the Pac-12 conference has struggled mightily through the opening weeks of the football season. No team aside from the Ducks – who helped deliver a signature win for the conference in week two's wire-to-wire win over Ohio State – is undefeated through the season's first four weeks.

- SHANE HOFFMANN



(Will Geschke/Emerald)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES WELCOMES SEVEN NEW

MEMBERS: The Board of Trustees formally welcomed seven new members to the 15-person body at its Sept. 20 and 21 meeting. Oregon Gov. Kate Brown nominated the new members, and the Oregon Senate confirmed them earlier this year. The number of new trustees – almost half the Board's members – is the most UO has seen since it formed the Board in 2013.

- LEO BAUDHUIN

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ESCAPE FROM AFGHANISTAN

BY ALEXIS WEISEND

University of Oregon student Mashal Rahmati was trying to arrange plans to get her family to the Kabul International Airport in Afghanistan when two suicide bombers set off explosions at the airport on Aug. 26. After hearing about the suicide bombers, she said she called her cousin in Kabul who told her he heard another bomb go off near his house minutes before he answered the phone.

"I broke down and started crying after that," Rahmati said. "You know, it's just really, really scary." Rahmati began raising money to fund her family's escape from Afghanistan and provide for their basic living expenses after the Taliban's seizure.

Her family is Hazara, an ethnic minority in Afghanistan. Most Hazaras are also Shia Muslims – a religious minority in a country that primarily follows Sunni Islam.

For more than a century, Afghan Hazaras have faced discrimination and violence, including several genocides. The Taliban committed genocide against Hazaras during its 1998 rule. Rahmati said the Taliban's seizure of Afghanistan this year is especially dangerous for Hazaras because of that history.

Rahmati said she is not only concerned about her family's safety in Afghanistan, but also their ability to get out of the country.

At checkpoints, the Taliban will often turn away Hazara families trying to escape even if they have the proper documentation, she said.

Fatima Haidari, a friend of Rahmati's living in British Columbia, told Rahmati about the experience of her 19 Hazara family members who fled Afghanistan.

Soldiers prevented Haidari's family from crossing the border into Pakistan five times because they were Hazara, Haidari said. Her family would try to hide their faces

UO STUDENT MASHAL RAHMATI IS ASKING FOR HER COMMUNITY'S HELP GETTING HER HAZARA FAMILY OUT OF AFGHANISTAN.

with burqas or blend in with another family.

The soldiers were often violent with her family, beating them back and even spraining the elbow of her 9-year-old cousin, Haidari said. "They didn't even have mercy on the children," she said.

In addition to prospects of violence, Rahmati said the journey through dangerous territory to the border presents another barrier for her family. Some members of her family are not able-bodied, including young children, people with disabilities and a relative who is eight months pregnant, she said.

Haidari said it took her family 15 hours to drive to the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, a trip they repeated because they had to turn back five times. Once they were allowed to pass, it took her family three hours to walk across the border.

Rahmati began circulating the fundraiser to help her family escape from Afghanistan on Aug. 24. "It is my birthday today," she tweeted. "Please help my family escape." Rahmati is trying to raise \$100,000 to help her 34 family members evacuate from Afghanistan.

The money she raises will go toward living expenses while her family is in Afghanistan, housing and transportation once they escape, between \$2,000-\$4,000 in attorney fees and about \$20,000 for applications for humanitarian parole.

Two of Rahmati's family members worked for the previous Afghan administration and are being actively hunted by the Taliban, she said. The International Monetary Fund also suspended Afghanistan's access to its resources, freezing the salaries of those family members.

"Imagine if that happened here," Rahmati said. "You would just have the cash in your pocket, you know, and it was like, 'Okay, how are you going to get out and survive?'"

UO graduate and founder of Fire+Bird Films Ephraim Payne helped create a video to promote Rahmati's fundraiser. He said members of his family were killed in the Holocaust.

"I was compelled to try to raise awareness of similar things happening to other people," he said.

Rahmati has raised \$20,000 of her \$100,000 goal. However, she said donations have slowed down in recent weeks.

A UO alumna heard about Rahmati and reached out to Katie Jo Walter, the International Alumni Digital Engagement Manager for the university, who then connected Rahmati to an immigration attorney in the UO community, Rahmati said.

"She had already done much on her own," Walter said. "I wanted to support her important efforts and overall wellness."

Rahmati said she is overwhelmed and exhausted at the prospects of continuing her effort as she returns to school. She has been working on a summer research project and must begin applying to doctorate programs this fall, she said.

She said she feels very isolated in Eugene, since many people are not familiar with Hazaras or the issues they face. She said she hopes people will educate themselves about Hazaras.

Rahmati is raising funds through her Venmo and PayPal – both @MashalRahmati.



(Jessica Bolden/Emerald)

EUGENE EMERALDS WIN HIGH-A WEST IN THEIR FIRST YEAR AS A FULL- SEASON TEAM

The Emeralds showcased a variety of talent en route to a division title in their first season as a part of the San Francisco Giants organization.

BY MOJO HILL · TWITTER @MOJOHILL22

Ricardo Genoves (16) waits to swing at an incoming pitch. The Eugene Emeralds, who played under their alternate name Monarcas de Eugene, defeated the Tri-City Dust Devils 11-4 on Tuesday, Aug. 3, at PK Park in Eugene, Oregon. (Will Geschke/Emerald)

In early July, Eugene Emeralds manager Dennis Pelfrey said he wanted to set the team apart from the rest of the High-A West. He wanted to show everyone that the Emeralds are “the gold standard of baseball.”

The Emeralds did just that in their first year as a full-season team and as the High-A affiliate of the San Francisco Giants. They finished the regular season with a record of 69-50, vaulting them to first place atop the High-A West. They went on to win the High-A West Championship Series, taking three out of four games over the Spokane Indians.

It was a rollercoaster of a season. But, with contributions from a variety of players, timely hitting and a heap of strikeouts on the mound, Eugene proved victorious.

The roster was a revolving door

The Emeralds saw a lot of different faces through the course of the season. Waves of talent passed through Eugene, but they had enough depth within the organization to piece together a successful season.

First-rounders Hunter Bishop, Patrick Bailey and Will Wilson were a big sell entering the year. Of those three, only Wilson had the campaign Giants fans were hoping for.

But the Emeralds had plenty of backup. Tyler Fitzgerald led the Emeralds in games played, alternating between shortstop and second base as necessary while posting an .837 OPS. He had one of the most memorable moments of the season too, when he hit for the cycle.

Speedster Ismael Munguia was a mainstay in the outfield. He was also the High-A batting champion, leading the entire High-A level among qualified players with his .336 average.

Utility man Brett Auerbach also filled in nicely down the stretch run. Standing at 5-foot-9, he played primarily catcher while also seeing a lot of time at second base and center field. He won the fans' hearts with his hustle, homers, versatility and goofy antics – such as playing football with his baseball glove before games.

Sean Roby and Franklin Labour were two relatively quiet but consistent contributors, each playing around 100 games and posting OPSs in the high-.700's range.

Emeralds fans got a nice surprise in early August when shortstop Marco Luciano was promoted to Eugene. Luciano – just 19 years old at the time – was dominating in Low-A San Jose. He's the consensus top prospect in the Giants' farm system, and

is ranked by MLB.com as the No. 5 prospect in all of baseball.

High-A was more of an adjustment for him, as he posted a .577 OPS and struck out nearly 40% of the time in 36 games. But Emeralds fans still got a glimpse of the future, as he showed flashes of being an electric player with his raw power and speed around the bases.

Despite all the different faces in the lineup, the offense was able to get it done. Certainly helping matters was the fact that they posted the highest team OPS in the High-A West in late and close situations. Talent replaced talent, and the Emeralds had a deep lineup regardless of what the roster looked like at any given moment.

Pitchers collected a ton of strikeouts

One of the biggest storylines of the season was the Emeralds' strikeout numbers. They started off absurdly strong and cooled off a bit in the middle of the season, but finished strong.

They led the High-A West with 1,311 strikeouts – the third-highest mark in all of Minor League Baseball. The team with the most strikeouts was none other than the San Jose Giants, the affiliate one level below the Emeralds.

Of those strikeouts, 695 came from Emeralds relievers, who posted the fewest bullpen losses (nine) of any team in Minor League Baseball. Chris Wright and Austin Reich were particularly dominant as a one-two punch out of the bullpen, especially near the end of the season.

The Emerald with perhaps the strangest season was starting pitcher Seth Corry, who began the year as the Giants' No. 5 prospect. He racked up 100 strikeouts and only allowed 53 hits in 67 2/3 innings, but he walked a ghastly 63, while hitting 15 batters. He was put on a developmental assignment in early August, and his control looked improved when he came back in the final weeks of the season.

It wasn't a smooth ride as the Emeralds found themselves in a three-team race in the final weeks of the season.

The Emeralds were able to take down the scalding hot Indians in the High-A West Championship Series.

All told, there were plenty of positives and a fair amount of negatives, but it was a successful season for the Emeralds in their jump from short-season to full-season ball. They showcased some of the top talent in the Giants' organization and all of baseball; the Emeralds also provided a glimpse into the future of what's to come for Giants fans.

COLLEGE EXPERIMENTATION TROPE HARMS LGBTQ+ PEOPLE

Hollywood refuses to accept that a queer subplot simply does not count as representation for the LGBTQ+ community.

BY EMMA NELSON



(Mary Vertulfo/Emerald)

The trope of “experimenting in college” may result in a joke or two, but Hollywood’s depiction of LGBTQ+ plotlines as a passing phase is far more harmful than humorous. Rather than including a queer character, the “experimentation” of a protagonist allows shows to include a short, queer subplot before moving on without any real character building or diverse storytelling.

The trope of college experimentation appears in many comedic shows as a way of getting an easy laugh out of the audience. When a man is subject to the trope, their former “experimentation” is often brought up as a way of questioning the character’s masculinity or simply forcing them to vehemently deny any homosexuality.

In a Saturday Night Live skit from 2000, Dwayne “The Rock” Johnson takes on the role of Superman disguised as Clark Kent. All of Kent’s coworkers are aware that he is Superman, leading to a poorly written exchange that was played for laughs: Coworker Jimmy Olsen says, “And it’s also weird that that guy Superman is a full on out-of-the-closet homosexual.” Kent defensively replies, “Superman isn’t gay!... I always heard he was pretty manly... Sure, he experimented a little in Smallville, but that doesn’t make him gay!”

Disregarding the fact that homosexuality is not weird and doesn’t make someone less manly, the purpose of the interaction was to show that Superman was in a same-sex relationship, resulting

in laughter from both the audience and characters.

While SNL skits typically don’t have enough time for well-written character development, writers do have the time to challenge the idea of masculinity by throwing in a quick joke about same-sex relationships.

The college experimentation trope may also be used to portray woman characters as adventurous or even sexy, further promoting the damaging fetishization of lesbian relationships by their male peers.

For instance, in the 2010 film “Scott Pilgrim vs. the World,” Scott Pilgrim (Michael Cera) must fight Ramona Flowers’ (Mary Elizabeth Winstead) seven evil exes in order to date her. The discovery that one of Ramona’s exes was a woman leads to a brief interaction: “Oh, calm down, Scott; it was just a phase,” Flowers says. “You had a sexy phase?!” Scott replies.

The purpose of this throw away line was to joke about the unfortunate reality that many heterosexual men treat woman-on-woman intimacy as if it exists solely for their sexual pleasure instead of recognizing these legitimate relationships.

“Friends” is another example of how media exploit the experimentation trope, revealing how men overtly sexualize lesbian couples. Although the episode “The One With All The Haste” doesn’t take place in college, it does feature Monica (Courteney Cox) and Rachel (Jennifer Aniston) coming to an agreement with Chandler (Matthew Perry) and Joey (Matt LeBlanc): they’ll kiss if they can keep the larger apartment. The scene then cuts to the two men

walking back into their smaller apartment, stating it was “totally worth it.”

By continuously featuring lesbian relationships as something to be joyously ogled at by men, writers promote the idea that the women loving women are performative rather than passionate.

I shouldn’t have to question whether or not I’m in a genuine relationship now that I’m in college. I shouldn’t have to behave differently in public than I do in private to avoid the wandering eyes of unwanted sexualizers. Why can Hollywood decide that I’m a plot point that’ll be used to prove the staunch heterosexuality of a protagonist?

This is not to say that no one should “experiment,” or that no one will ever find themselves in an intimate position with someone of the same sex despite identifying as heterosexual. The trope itself isn’t even the issue: it’s how writers use it to discount homosexual relationships or romantic encounters.

Discussing a character’s experimentation with same-sex relations may be used to show an openness to trying new things, confidence in their own identity or defiance against compulsory heterosexuality. Same-sex relationships shouldn’t be used as the punchline when two men are involved and shouldn’t be promoted as purely erotic when referencing two women.

In truth, we’ll start seeing accurate media representation of homosexuality once writers stop devaluing these relationships until they’re nothing but jokes.

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From **TWO WEEKS** to **18 MONTHS**

BY ABBY SOURWINE AND SILAS SLOAN

After a year-and-a-half of online college, students and faculty start a primarily in-person term with new COVID-19 guidelines.

Most University of Oregon students have not set foot inside a classroom since winter 2019. A year-and-a-half later, there's a buzz of excitement among both new and returning students, as well as instructors and staff members.

But Oregon has seen over 300 thousand COVID-19 cases and over 3,000 deaths throughout the pandemic. Faculty, staff and the campus community weighed in on what has changed in the past 18 months and what to expect from UO as it tries to strike a balance between safety and its stated purpose of "educating the whole person."

Shots, shots, shots

The return to mostly in-person operations at UO this fall has hinged on COVID-19 safety. UO president Michael Schill made vaccinations a key component to campus safety plans, announcing in May that all students and faculty who do not receive exemptions must be fully vaccinated before returning to campus.

As of Sept. 26, about 89% of UO students have reported their vaccination status, according to UO's Vaccine Dashboard. Of those who reported, about 91% are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Among employees, about 95% have reported their status and about 95% of those are fully vaccinated.

For the small percentage of students and employees who are exempt from receiving the vaccine, UO will employ education and testing to mitigate the spread, UO spokesperson Saul Hubbard said.

Everyone seeking an exemption must watch an educational video, acknowledge and accept the risks outlined and agree to additional health requirements including weekly COVID-19 testing, mandatory isolation if exposed to COVID-19 and possible exclusion from certain activities, Hubbard said in a statement to the Emerald.

As all requirements are the same no matter the reason for the exemption, UO did not track how many of those exemptions were medical versus religious or philosophical, Hubbard said.

Lane County Public Health spokesperson Jason Davis said he expects UO's high vaccination rate to largely protect the campus from an outbreak. Should an outbreak occur on campus, UO has mechanisms in place to mitigate the spread.

If a asymptomatic student suspects they have been in close contact with someone who is sick, UO Health Center's assistant vice president Deb Beck said they should go get tested. UO's Monitoring and Assessment Program will provide free saliva-based tests.

If a student tests positive, UO's Corona Corps will

step in and assist with the isolation process, Beck said. The Graduate Village apartment complex will be the primary area for isolating students, which has caused frustration among its residents.

If the situation dictates it, Beck said the university will transport them to a hospital.

From the classroom to the weight room

While COVID-19 restrictions will be more relaxed this year, some rules remain. UO requires face coverings indoors in all facilities, regardless of vaccination status. This means students should expect to wear a mask in all classes, regardless of the number of students or size of space.

Masks may be removed while actively eating or drinking – so, it's okay to have a sip of water in class – and an instructor can remove their mask when at least 6 feet of distance can be maintained. Students must otherwise remain masked unless they have exemptions.

Students can receive mask exemptions through the Accessible Education Center, according to UO's COVID-19 dashboard. If approved, students will receive an official letter displaying the exemption and will have to show that letter to their instructors.

UO encourages symptom self-checks and personal hygiene, asking students and staff to stay home if they feel sick. Masks and sanitizing stations are available across campus and in classrooms. In an Around the O article, UO said that it is working to maximize airflow in classrooms. But Avinnash Tiwari, an English and composition department instructor and the president of UO's United Academics union, said these precautions come with complications.

In some classrooms, open windows are essential to ventilation, Tiwari said. But sometimes those windows are old and damaged. "And what happens when it gets cold?" he said.

Tiwari said ventilation is one of the focal concerns for members of UA. Members are also worried about instructing students who may need to take time away from class due to sickness, he said. UO has not given overarching guidance for instructing students in quarantine or isolation because each class is different, Tiwari said.

"Ultimately, what I think is going to happen is that a lot of faculty members are going to do the extra work of preparing for two modalities of both teaching in person and being prepared for remote," he said. "Because, at the end of the day, we care that our students get what they're supposed to get out of our classes."

Tiwari said he is confident that instructors will support students who need to take time away from



A sign reminding people to wear their masks sits outside the EMU on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene, Ore. on Sept. 24, 2021. As students come back to campus, the University of Oregon community is navigating moving forward with COVID still as a concern (Isaac Wasserman/Emerald)



Junior Sara Harvey holds a sign reminding people to wear masks on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene, Ore. on Sept. 24, 2021. As students come back to campus, the University of Oregon community is navigating moving forward with COVID still as a concern (Isaac Wasserman/Emerald)



Sophomore Will Calton, left, junior Sara Harvey, center, and senior Josh Mastalski, right, stand by the EMU reminding people to wear their masks on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene, Ore. on Sept. 24, 2021. As students come back to campus, the University of Oregon community is navigating moving forward with COVID still as a concern (Isaac Wasserman/ Emerald)



class, but he worries about the increased labor for those instructors. He said he is actively trying to find ways to reduce the weight elsewhere.

Because of the high vaccine uptake and aggressive safety protocols compared to other universities nationwide, Tiwari said UO is in a good position to have a successful term.

Student hubs like the Rec Center, the Erb Memorial Union and libraries provide community, but can come with a risk. The Rec “is going to look a little bit more like it did prior to the pandemic,” director Lynn Nester said.

The Rec will not require reservations, capacity is less limited than last year, locker rooms are open and classes are mostly in-person, Nester said. The Rec encourages users to sanitize their work areas, and employees will still monitor for capacity and cleanliness.

Face coverings are required at all times at the Rec, and it has stopped using hand scanners. Nester said the goal is to offer the advantages of the Rec while following COVID-19 guidelines.

If guidelines were to change, Nester said the Rec is ready to adapt since it implemented new procedures at different points over the last year-and-a-half. Over the course of the year, it moved from normal operations to an outdoor tent with workout equipment to requiring reservations indoors to temporarily lifting the mask mandate.

“I think that’s something that we can institute quicker than we did last year,” Nester said.

UO libraries will be open to students, staff and faculty. Only the Allan Price Science Library requires key card access.

The EMU is open as usual, no check-in required, and is hosting in-person events like Ducks After Dark, open houses and activity fairs. Its website features a running estimate of how many people are at the EMU to help people decide if they want to visit.

Re-building community in the dorms

Editor’s note: Two RAs were anonymously interviewed for this story. Anonymity was granted to protect the sources’ job security, as the RA contract instructs RAs not to respond to requests from the media. One of the reporters, Abby Sourwine, works as an RA for UO. She did not contribute reporting to this section of the story.

Last year was challenging for UO’s Resident Assistants. Not only were they performing their normal duties, such as enforcing noise restrictions and helping students with on-campus life, but they also had to do their best to prevent a COVID-19 outbreak.

The first RA interviewed said that “everyone was pretty beat down by spring term” from the

extra work and being understaffed, but they are excited for this coming year. They said they are excited to be living in Eugene and working with residents in a less restrictive way.

The second RA interviewed said they feel more confident going into this year. Relaxed COVID-19 restrictions will make the social part of the job easier, which they said is a good thing for morale because citing COVID-19 violations took a lot out of them and felt very punitive.

Not only were RAs taking on more than they wanted, but the second RA said they didn’t even know what they would be taking on.

“The burden of enforcing COVID policies and protocols rested on the shoulders of ours,” they said. “It wasn’t really properly communicated that we would be the gatekeepers of campus safety regarding COVID.”

However, both RAs and UO residence life director Anna Schmidt-MacKenzie anticipate that communication will be better this year. Even though COVID-19 guidelines change, Schmidt-MacKenzie said UO has a year of experience adapting to changes under its belt.

“[Adapting] seemed extraordinarily hard the first time around,” Schmidt-MacKenzie said. “I think people are generally excited to redefine how we engage with each other.”

But returning to campus will not be a breeze, both RAs said. The first RA said, in addition to having over 1,000 more students in the dorms, there will be RAs who haven’t even set foot on campus. Not only will freshmen be learning how to navigate campus, but so will the RAs they look to for guidance.

“That’s a weird thing to be working with someone that’s never even stepped in a dorm, and they’re a housing authority person,” the first RA said. “They’ve been a college student because they’ve taken college classes, but they’ve never been a college student.”

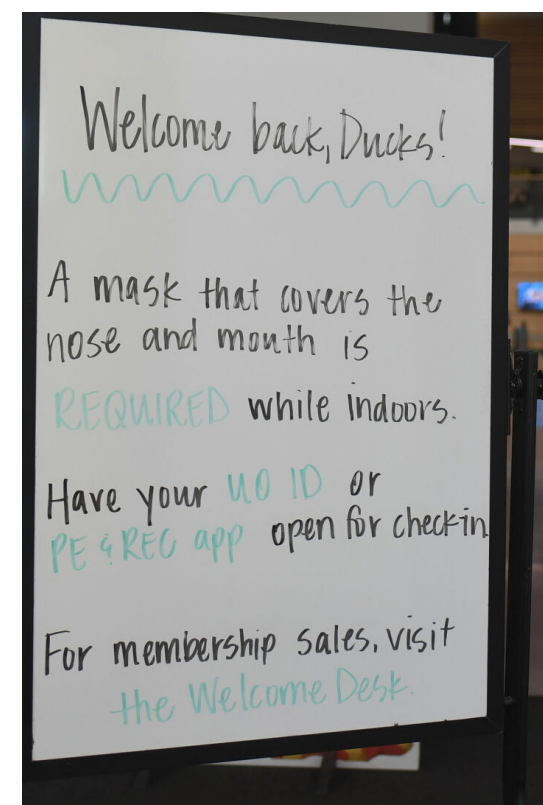
Schmidt-MacKenzie highlighted how the university relaxed COVID-19 restrictions this year. Students will be allowed to have guests in their room, lounge capacity will be greater and there will be no regular testing. Only unvaccinated students in the dorms – about 200, Schmidt-MacKenzie said – will be subject to regular testing.

The relaxed rules will not only make enforcement easier for RAs, but they will be able to better build community among residents, the second RA said, which is important to them. They said they want to help the incoming class that missed out on social interactions during online high school.

“I really want to help cultivate that type of social community,” the second RA said. “It doesn’t necessarily make up for lost time, but I think helps to reignite that type of social belonging.”



Senior Shyanne Russell holds a sign reminding people to wear their masks at the club fair outside the EMU on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene, Ore. on Sept. 24, 2021. As students come back to campus, the University of Oregon community is navigating moving forward with COVID still as a concern (Isaac Wasserman/ Emerald)



A sign reminding people to wear their masks sits inside the Student Rec Center on the University of Oregon campus in Eugene, Ore. on Sept. 24, 2021. (Isaac Wasserman/ Emerald)

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GREEK!

JUSTIN HERBERT

high-performance athleticism blueprint

Former Duck footballer Justin Herbert continues to display the quiet professionalism athletes should strive for.

BY MERRILL BUCZEK



Oregon Ducks quarterback Justin Herbert (10) warms up before the game. Oregon Ducks football takes on Arizona State at Autzen Stadium in Eugene Ore. on Nov. 17, 2018. (Devin Roux/Emerald)

In a culture where football players are put on pedestals from a young age, former Duck and current Chargers quarterback Justin Herbert remains uninterested in the popularity contest. Though sports journalists routinely ask him questions about his luscious locks and rise to greatness, Herbert could not care any less. Herbert is a vocal quarterback but draws back in order to listen to his teammates. Essentially Herbert is a servant leader. Good athletes talk about how great they are; great athletes let their performance do the talking. Herbert has done dozens of interviews, is featured in HBO's *Hard Knocks* and has hundreds of articles written about him.

Despite his fame, it seems like the only time Herbert cares to watch recordings of himself is on practice films. Any coach would sell their soul for the opportunity to coach an athlete such as Herbert. To play the game solely for the love of football is rare and reflects his character as an athlete.

Herbert's humble Eugene beginnings and slow recruiting process demonstrate the silent work

Herbert did to get where he is today. While attending Sheldon High School, Herbert had a short list of colleges he sought the attention of. Unlike other high school recruits who often use social media accounts to easily contact coaches and post highlights, Herbert did things the old fashioned way. He slowly and quietly became a better quarterback. According to *The Seattle Times*, Herbert was recruited with little help and landed a spot on the Ducks football team.

While playing for the Ducks, Herbert maintained his professionalism. In post-game interviews, Herbert was reserved and consistently praised his teammates. Journalists often tried to get him to gush over his hair and newfound clout – Herbert would simply crack a smile and redirect the conversation to his team and coaches. Rising to notoriety in his junior and senior year, Herbert became a first-round draft pick for the NFL. As a Charger, Herbert repeatedly dodges cameras, the media team and the microphones. In a recent *Mic'd Up* YouTube video, Herbert opens with a witty, "You better enjoy this. This will be the last

time this ever happens." Despite it being his first time *Mic'd Up*, Herbert kept things simple with dad jokes and grunts.

Prior to joining the Los Angeles Chargers, Herbert did not have a social media account and was one of the most off-the-grid football players. Now, Herbert uses his Instagram for his sponsorships and charities, a striking contrast from many of his equally famous peers. Herbert's persistence to remain humble to his Eugene success story speaks to the humility every athlete should strive for.

While Herbert doesn't showboat for the camera, clearly it isn't for lack of charisma and leadership. Despite the considerable challenges of adapting to a new environment, leading a group of highly qualified professionals and being the starting quarterback for a top 20 NFL team – all as a 22-year-old – is impressive. Herbert's ethos as a leader shines through. He consistently lifts his teammates up and focuses on what he can do for them, not what they can do for him.

"Movie Star" is Laundry's fourth self-released album, all of which have been mixed and produced by Kiki Paroissien's father, Edwin Paroissien. Eugene band Laundry released their fourth album titled, "Movie Star" on Sept. 18, 2021. (Ian Enger/Emerald)



Kiki Paroissien plays guitar and provides vocals in Laundry.

Kiki Paroissien

Riley Somers, recent 2021 University of Oregon graduate, plays guitar and sings in Laundry.

Riley Somers

Cal Fenner plays bass in Laundry.

Cal Fenner

Nik Barber joins Fender in the rhythm section and plays drums in Laundry.

Nik Barber

LAUNDRY'S LATEST KEEPS US LISTENING

The Eugene heavy hitters give us the inside look at their new album, "Movie Star."

BY MALENA SAADEH · TWITTER @TWEETS

There are three things in my mind that act as sure pillars of Eugenean life: A Jagerbomb at Max's Tavern, Greg at House of Records and Laundry – and I'm not just talking about my weekly chores.

I'd give any UO local five bucks if they haven't heard "Lonely Mess." In fact, I'd give 'em ten. Cal Fenner, Nik Barber, Riley Somers and Kiki Paroissien make up Laundry, and the band's reputation surely precedes them in these parts.

In case you missed the memo, the band splits the vocal duties between Fenner, Paroissien and Somers, and the shredding between Somers and Paroissien. Intertwined with that menagerie, Barber and Fenner keep the rhythm section ever-funky. It's a mouthful to explain, but with each member wearing many hats, Laundry's sound is hard to tire of because of the sheer variety in each album.

On Sept. 18, the four-piece put out their latest LP, "Movie Star," taking a walk on the mellow side of the aisle and tipping a cap to a more coy delivery than

their past work. This isn't to say that this album doesn't bounce; if there's one thing to count on from Laundry, it's tracks that demand a good move and shake.

Things start off strong with the Fenner-led title track, "Movie Star," setting the tone of the LP as utterly different right from the giddy up. At first listen, I deemed the album a stab at the conceptual – with its thematic turn away from the introspection seen on its last two albums, "Affirmation" and "Fast Cars." The band members said the mantra of the work fell into their laps through circumstance. The meat of this album was curated in the midst of the infamous 2020 COVID lockdown, so Laundry leaned into the amount of movies, TV and media they all consumed as the LP's inspiration.

The album opener sent me far from our tiny Oregon town and plopped me right down in the heart of Hollywood. However, there isn't much time to relish in this California sun because a seamless transition goes right into the next track, "Biggest Fan." This effect gives

us a bit of The Who's "Tommy," but with three Roger Daltreys spitting vocals and one hell of a Keith Moon keeping the beat up behind them. Paroissien said this transition and the structure of the short-track laden LP was inspired by the side-two medley on "Abbey Road." As the lyrics "I'm your biggest fan, I watch you every night" come through my stereo, I feel the same grin that "Mean Mr. Mustard" gives me start to slide across my face – I believe her.

Two songs down the hatch so far and it's no surprise to hear this album was meticulously puzzled together. "Movie Star" was the first work of Laundry's that wasn't crowd tested before the band got into the studio. While this element of total surprise may have left some feeling entirely uncertain, the band made the most of this extra time to take the album to its full potential.

"In the past, we'd been really excited to play new stuff for people and being forced to not do that changed the way we made the album," Paroissien said. "There's always a sort of finality when you play a

song live – it's not that it's on record, but it feels finalized in a certain way when we play it for people. Instead, we were just alone and had as much freedom to change anything as many times as possible."

Somers picked up where Paroissien left off. "We never played them a single time, but in the same vein, they saw so much more practice than any of our songs ever have," he said. "Our parts felt really ironed out. But, more so, we tried playing them a million different ways to see if we'd landed on the best thing."

This extra mile taken to toy with the delivery makes itself known on tracks like "Always Something," where the listener rides Somers' vocal inflection like a wave, following its curve as he plays with the delivery of the lyrics. That ripping outro then goes into possibly my favorite high point on the album, a Paroissien-sung track, "Slot Machine."

"I hate Las Vegas," Paroissien said with a laugh while the band shared a glance behind her. "I knew I wanted to write a song about this specific memory we saw on tour, and that became 'Slot Machine.' We went inside of a drugstore and I came across the saddest thing I'd ever seen in my life. There were maybe five slot machines with these people on them who looked so exhausted and hungry, just staring blankly into the screens tapping as fast as they possibly could."

This sorry sight on the strip birthed a track of such jarring juxtaposition. It's the feeling of heart shaped sunglasses and daiquiris in the double time tempo – and the eerie pink glow of the MGM Grand in its breakdown. At first glance, it's ultra luxurious – but with a jaded twist and a rough underbelly.

I left Sin City with this next song and found myself back at home on the couch with a clicker in hand. "Watch TV" was the lead single on "Movie Star," and it's the most classically Laundry moment on the whole album. It oozes in as a lightened up take on "I'm The Slime" from Frank Zappa's "Overnite Sensation," carrying over the swank in his initial step. "Commercials" follows and holds onto the same playfulness in a way that stays totally danceable. Accompanying "Commercials" is my personal favorite Laundry music video of the collection that was filmed, directed and produced by their total Scorsese of a bassist, Fenner, who also made shorts for other songs on the album.

The band no doubt pulled out all the stops on this LP, but they weren't the only ones. Echo Hill producer Edwin Paroissien also had as vital a hand in the making of "Movie Star" as he had on Laundry's previous albums, "Fast Cars" and "Affirmation," with his atmospheric production.

"Each time we go up to record with Ed, he has a new trick up his sleeve," Barber said.

"There's always something new he wants us to implement, and each time he brings what we make to the next level," Somers added. "He's the opposite of stuck-in-his-ways." With the members refining their writing and a producer who keeps his repertoire ever-changing, the bar is raised with every album Laundry puts out, and "Movie Star" follows that upward trajectory.

What better way to bookend this album than a reprise? This final taste of the title track is an ultra gratifying way to close things off. Laundry is a band that truly knows itself. The breath of space in the closer before the last track, "Rich and the Famous," laced together with the final hint of guitar wah is classic; it's truly the cherry on top of "Movie Star."

I can surely say this LP is Laundry's finest yet. It exudes a confidence in the matter-of-fact delivery, with no need for noisy overcompensation. It's mature and refreshing, showcasing a band sure of its abilities and only moving up.

“

IN THE PAST, WE'D BEEN REALLY EXCITED TO PLAY NEW STUFF FOR PEOPLE AND BEING FORCED TO NOT DO THAT CHANGED THE WAY WE MADE THE ALBUM"

-KIKI PAROISSIEN. *Guitarist and singer of Laundry*



Laundry is a band hailing from Eugene, Oregon, composed of four members: Cal Fenner, Riley Somers, Nik Barber, and Kiki Paroissien. Eugene band Laundry released their fourth album titled, "Movie Star," on Sept. 18, 2021. (Ian Enger/Emerald)

EMERALD TRUST PROJECT

FALL 2021

BY EMERALD STAFF

It is no secret that overall trust in the media is at an all-time low. In 2020, 27% of US adults had “not very much” trust in the media and 33% had “none at all” according to a Gallup poll.

As a newsroom working to build trust within the community, the Daily Emerald launched the Emerald Trust Project in 2019 with a goal “to increase transparency, inclusion and trust between members of the community and those who report the news.”

In order to build trust within and best serve the community, the Daily Emerald is committed to creating relationships on campus and telling stories that cover a wide range of experiences and accurately represent the UO community.

The Daily Emerald values equity, diversity, inclusion and transparency. But it is not enough to simply say that which is why we created the ETP along with a number of action steps for this year focused on building community trust.

Emerald Trust Project goals and strategies 2021:

1. Emerald ethics and editorial board

To set internal guidelines for ethical and transparent reporting, create a cohesive voice for the Daily Emerald and develop community engagement strategies, the Emerald will establish a board of Emerald staff and outside UO faculty and students. The board will meet monthly to review the Emerald’s progress in diversity and community engagement and discuss strategies for improvement and to develop editorial content.

2. Outreach at student clubs

To foster community connections, the Daily Emerald will promote outreach to student groups as a primary reporting strategy. The Emerald will emphasize creating two-way relationships with student groups to gain a better understanding of the stories that UO community members would like the Emerald to tell. Emerald management will encourage reporters to sit in on club meetings and create two-way relationships where those clubs also feel comfortable coming to the Daily Emerald with stories they want to make sure are told.

3. Transparency in reporting

To increase transparency, the Daily Emerald will continue working to be as clear as possible about sourcing and the reporting process.

Corrections made will be clearly labeled on stories online and in print. If readers find a factual error and would like to submit a correction, they can email editor@dailyemerald.com.

“How It’s Reported” is a podcast that looks behind the scenes at individual articles and interviews the reporter about their process in finding and reporting the story.

4. Workshops in the Newsroom

Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, the Daily Emerald management team will plan and host workshops to train staff in transparency and diversity in reporting and community engagement.



“The Daily Emerald values equity, diversity, inclusion and transparency.”

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WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

MEZ BOY **JERRY ROBINSON**

VIP FAN CLUB PACKAGES & MORE INFO

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THU
OCT 21

7PM DOORS
8PM SHOW



PURIFY

WITH DAWN RICHARD

SAT
OCT 23

7PM DOORS
8PM SHOW



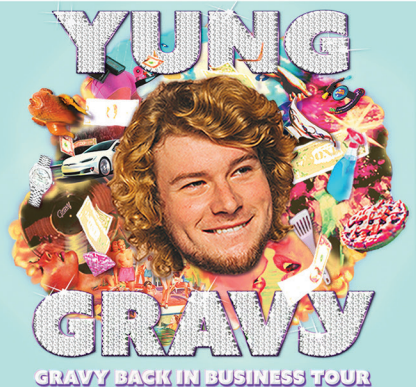
BEATS ANTIQUE SOUND SYSTEM

OPIUO



MON
NOV 15

7PM DOORS
8PM SHOW

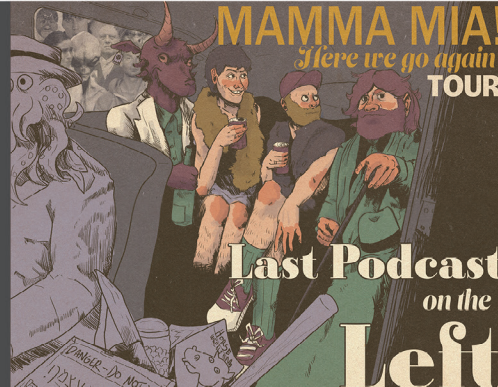


GRAVY
GRAVY BACK IN BUSINESS TOUR

SAT
DEC 04

7PM DOORS
8PM SHOW

RESERVED SEATING

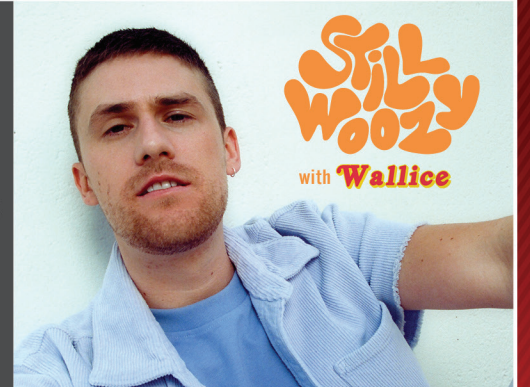


MAMMA MIA!
Here we go again TOUR!

Last Podcast on the **Left**

SUN
FEB 27

7PM DOORS
8PM SHOW



Stilly Woody
with **Wallice**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT [TICKETSWEST.COM](https://www.ticketswest.com)



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All McDonald Theatre patrons, attendees and event staff will be required to show proof of FULL vaccination at entry OR proof of a negative Covid test taken within 48 hours of the time of entry into the venue. Masks are required at this time. The McDonald Theatre will follow state, local guidance related to COVID-19. Any updates to shows will be available on our website, McDonaldTheatre.com, and ticket-holding patrons will be informed of any changes via their email used on TicketsWest.

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