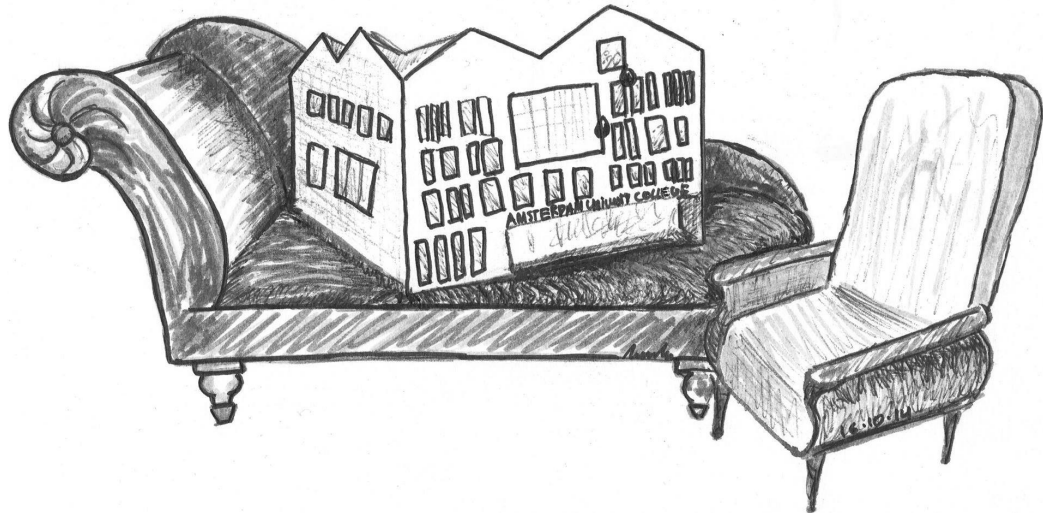

Issue 10

Scriptus
scriptus@aucsa.nl



October 2014

Foreword

It has begun again! As our tans and sense of organisation slowly fade away, we once again find ourselves in a blur of academia, committee responsibilities, and the dregs of yesterday's hangover. The first years have not disappointed with their wild parties three times a week, nor have the third years with their grumpy complaints and threats of doing something drastic. DUWO caused an uproar with their outrageous service costs, causing a significant increase in the visitor count to the site Meme Generator, as people expressed their fury in creative and wonderful ways. AUC turned five, and celebrated with a big AUC Lustrum bash, complete with a specially brewed AUC beer (tested, tasted, and approved of by the Dean herself!). AUCafe has launched itself with a bang, hosting glorious parties with a wide range of wonderful booze varieties and collaborations with Solace. The campus politics have certainly been stirred up once once with the Dean's shock announcement of her plans to leave AUC at the end of the year. Who will be her successor? And how will this affect AUC students? What happened at the GA? What's the deal with DUWO? Where is our psychologist? And what of the mysterious October break? Things are ever-ambiguous and interesting here at AUC. With the incorporation of the results from our June, 2014 survey, we have tried our best to improve Scriptus, tailoring it to the needs and wants of our readers. As always, comments, questions, and criticisms are welcome! And now, dearest reader, we present to you the first issue of Scriptus for the academic year. Enjoy!

Emma Goodman

board members:

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- Martin Hoffman (Head Editor)*
- Yin Hsieh (Head of Illustration/Photography)*
- Willem Pije (Secretary)*
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Disclaimer: Scriptus is written, edited and designed entirely by the students of Amsterdam University College. The news magazine does not reflect or express the official view of AUC. Comments, questions and criticisms welcome at scriptus@aucsa.nl.

this issue in numbers:
300 copies
4 red bulls & 5 martinis
4 new board members

Get
Involved

WANTED:
WRITERS.
PHOTOGRAPHERS.
ARTISTS.
ILLUSTRATORS

Scriptus is always looking for new contributors. If you have an idea for an article and you think AUC should read it, here's your chance! Find us on Facebook, or email us at scriptus@aucsa.nl

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- Charlotte Verboom*
- Anonymous AUC student*
- Ernest Wright*
- Tallulah Lilith*
- Diana Ghidanac*
- Hester Louter*

changes, updates, statements

1. An all new board- including the additions of head of illustration, and TWO designers
2. Sexy new board photo (complete with beautiful bearded man)
3. Rumor has it our fb page is hot and happening
4. Due to (unpopular) demand, we have ditched the themes for good
5. New sections, including a steamy love and sex and magic section
6. A new commitment to committees, manifested in our new committee page
7. More photographs, because why not

Cover by Nina Maria Leach



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AMSTERDAM

Study outside the bubble

The busy lives of us AUC students are filled with tests, essays and presentations, so we have to study a lot. Unfortunately, the academic building isn't always the right place to do that, whether it is because our friends keep distracting us or there is just not enough free space (especially during finals and midterms...). But don't worry, Scriptus is here to offer you five alternatives!

*UvA Science park
Science Park 904*

Just across the street from the academic building is the UvA faculty for mathematics and computer science, as most of you will know. With its big windows and quiet library, this is a really good place to study if you focus best in complete silence in a light and open space. There are also separate glass cubicles where you can work together with one or two other students. If you have a group project with more people, there is also a possibility to make a reservation for special project rooms.

*Centrale Openbare Bibliotheek Amsterdam
Oosterdokskade 143*

Even though this library is located in the city centre, it won't take long to get there from Science Park because it is located at the Oosterdokskade near Central Station. This location is suited for almost everyone, as there are both quiet corners where you can sit behind a desk, and more relaxed couches in between the bookshelves. Moreover, this is the perfect place to work on your essays, with a lot of electricity sockets throughout the entire library. Lastly, the Central OBA is the biggest library in the Netherlands, so there is enough space even during those crazy busy midterms and finals!

*Bunghuis
Spuistraat 210*

Do you prefer cozy and 'gezellige' study spots? Then the Bunghuis might be just the place for you! This small library with approximately 30 spots is perfect if you just want to do some readings. Make sure to bring your own laptop, as there are no computers available. If you plan on studying in Bunghuis but there is no free space anymore, there is always the P.C. Hoofthuis just around the corner!

*Coffee company
Waterlooplein 129*

Fed up with all the libraries and other students? Then you might find the Coffee Company at Waterlooplein the perfect place to write your essay or prepare for your exam. Unlike most Coffee Companies, the one at Waterlooplein offers free WiFi for the entire day! So no need to spend a fortune on coffee just to be able to have Internet access.

Flex workers also often frequent this Coffee Company, so there is a relaxed yet productive atmosphere. Combined with the great couches and good facilities (coffee!), this makes for a really nice place to study.

*Artis bibliotheek
Plantage Middenlaan 45*

Somewhat closer to home than some other spots on this list, the Artis library is perfect if you want to get out of the Science park bubble but don't want to be too far away either (we totally understand, it is a love/hate relationship with The Bubble right?). The facilities aren't necessarily state of the art, but the beautiful historic building may help you to forget about the distractions of the Modern World (Internet... Need we say more?).





AUC LIFE

UI STORY

Note: The UI stands for and promotes "unreliable information"

DUWO ANNOUNCES PLANS FOR NEW TRANSPARENCY

by Ernest Wright

DUWO and the Tenants Association have been inundated with complaints concerning a number of issues at their Carolina-MacGillavry-laan-student-residences. One of the main issues that was discussed was the need for transparency. DUWO has listened. In a statement released yesterday a DUWO representative explained:

"The Tenants Association has been advising us to increase communication with our tenants. One of the ways in which we are committed to this is a new transparency policy. Primarily, this includes the renewal of curtains. The clear plastic material of the new curtains will allow for optimized security and eye-to-eye communication. At the same time it encourages cleanliness and reduces noisy bodily engagements. Also, this will diminish cleaning costs, as the new curtains are stain-resistant. If there is a further need to increase transparency, we will apply another measure that we discussed in our last meeting. This would involve the installation of plexiglass doors. These have the same safety-standards of the current ones, but with the added quality of transparency. If DUWO agrees upon this, students will be requested to remove their doors. The notice and request concerning this will be sent well in advance (at least two days). Students are advised to check their spam folders on a regular basis."

The AUC social media reacted very strongly to this statement. Social media experts reviewed 423 posts concerning this issue on Facebook. One student wrote: "DUWO is fucking us royally! we have to pay for this shit so we should be able to decide what changes are made to our living environments. clearly DUWO hasnt been listening to our complaints about the mice... to find their nests OBVIOUSLY we need transparent walls!!11!"

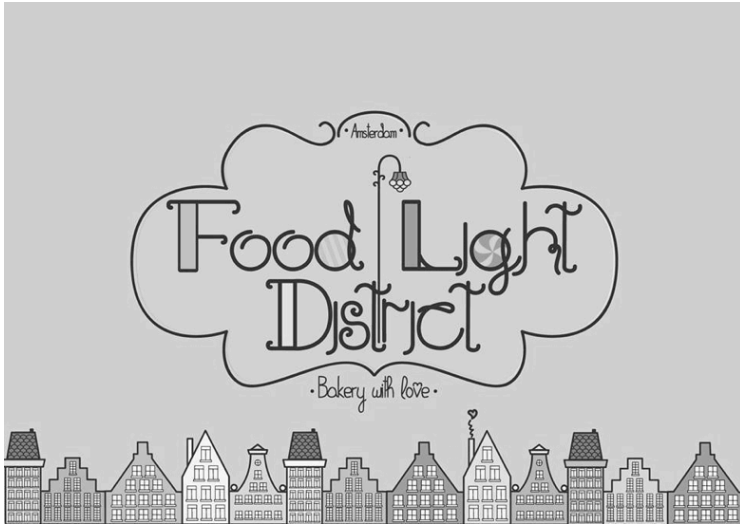
This comment gathered 974 likes, as well as a number of wholeheartedly supportive memes. Others disagreed. One tenant commented: "People are dying in Afrika! Stop bitching about first world problems. WE agreed to live here... so yeah." This comment also received many likes, as well as several replies, including "FINALLY! Somebody says what everyone is thinking!"

The Tenants Association is still in negotiations with DUWO as well as the AUC management concerning this proposal. Scriptus will keep you posted on further developments in the next issue [next year perhaps].



FIVE WAYS TO IDENTIFY AN AUC STUDENT

- 1 Plans a spontaneous movie night.
- 2 Writes anti-establishment manifestos on Macbook
- 3 Thinks the journey to Badhuis is both long and perilous
- 4 Has an appropriate meme for every situation
- 5 Complains about high cafeteria prices. Buys sandwich anyway.



AUC celebrated it's fifth birthday in style: balloons, big tents, VIPs (the US ambassador for one), performances, speeches, exhibits and, of course, plenty of excellent booze.

AUC AD

by Food Light District

Do you like desserts? So do we! For this reason we created Food Light District; our dorms based bakery! We are two AUC girls who LOVE baking! Come to our next bakesale on the 29th of October to meet us and check out our awesome and super cheap cakes, cheesecakes, tarts, pies, brownies and other things! Like us on Facebook @ Food Light District so you can be updated about our upcoming events! Hope to see you soon.

Love, hugs & cookies, Maria Veronica & Poppy.

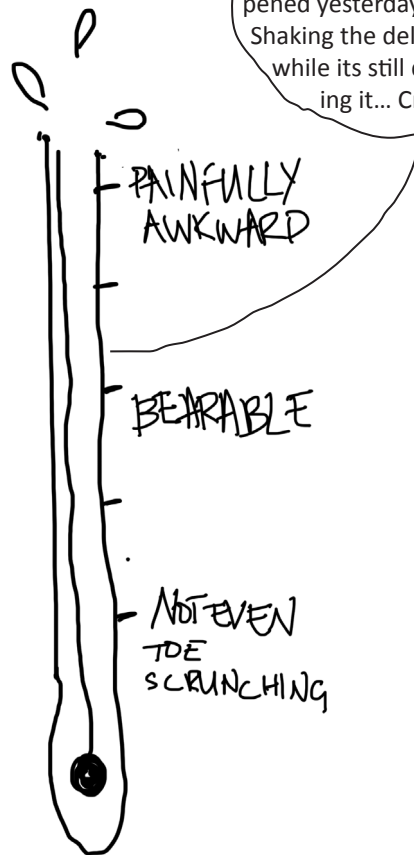


DID YOU KNOW
A hippo can open its mouth wide enough to fit a four ft tall child inside

The infamous and ever-controversial excellence list was released on Tuesday 30th of August...and promptly taken down again without warning

AWKWARD CORNER

"This has happened like 8 times, but I'm on the goddamned toilet taking a shit and the doorbell rings! Happened yesterday for crying out loud. Shaking the delivery mans hand while its still damp from washing it... Cringe."



A Killing

by Tusi Tala



adorned in black and mourning Adorno,
as my steps caress K Road, i'm ever the 'journo'
with inner monologue rattling as i take to the streets,
yet my pen is at home, in this posttraumatic disease

in the city at night, rain yawns away her worries,
laying a calm over men, in South Pacific flurries
but nobody is interested in the old cities here,
known only by the quality of their export beer

and the wolves of the hyperreal devour at will,
as heterogeneity reigns a terrible chill
when the fire in my belly begins to gutter out,
i voluntarily invoke my inner 'larger-lout'

the season is Winter, yet it's not one that i know,
a metaphysical climax of situation and scenario
between the liminality of Autumn and exhausted thoughts,
months in Amsterdam wondering, confirmed by "sweet as"
retorts

in introweek it's a sea of "so why did you come here?"
each question succeeding in piercing my veneer
yet domestic students dismiss me as a tourist souvenir,
how i pity your forthcoming student exchange, my dear

ah! how i loathe the incessant rain that drowns my soul,
every morning as i wake to the "exchange student" role
that curious character stumbling into class late,
their accent marauding feelings of hate

in the Swiss cheese of lecture halls, fragmented faces avoid
eyes,
and you would complain about a big class size?
i ask about culture and 20 law students stare vaguely,
no i will not drink a flat white "matey"

and i have taken up smoking, oh don't you know,
my blackened lungs shall be ripped out with one swift blow
and thrust upon a platter of bureaucracy to feed upon,
"HE WAS THE EXCHANGE STUDENT!" they'll exclaim with 'jan-
dals' on

yet, i am no prophet, i ask you not to heed my call
so upon my return, should i pass you in the hall
"and what have you learned?", you may be inclined to ask
do not turn away, your face aghast

if i answer swiftly, with this couplet true,
"Benjamin Braddock, I am not you."



NEWS FROM ABROAD

INTERVIEW

by Martin Hoffman

The Inside View of Israeli Protest: An Interview with Hilla Dayan



Hilla Dayan teaches Comparative Democracy, The Middle East Today, Sociology of the Other and Global Civil Society. She has taken positions as a Parliamentary assistant, a policy advisor, has worked with a number of NGOs, and is a co-founder of gate48, a platform for critical Israelis in the Netherlands.

Scriptus: Israel has seen decades of war by now, what are the effects on a society that sustains a conflict for so long?

Hilla: There is a lot of fear and also reluctance towards war. Israeli public opinion gets extremely agitated when there is too much loss of life, especially soldiers' life. It used to be generally accepted that military campaigns should cost minimum casualties, that soldiers should not be killed, which is what they're supposed to do in our defense. And that needs some explanation: I think that this summer has changed this paradigm. This time around there a policy called the Hannibal procedure, which provided justification for killing a soldier that Hamas captured. So from the moment the kidnapping was found out a huge area was wiped out in an attempt to try to kill the soldier and everyone around him. The IDF killed its own along with 130 civilians. Israelis are the world champions in justifying and rationalizing their wars, and every military campaign is justified in some way, because the painful truth and horror of the war are sublimated very strongly. And the conduct of the enemy always justifies whatever wrongs you are doing. So this is a way of distancing yourself psychologically from the horror. But this justification is just in the context of routine rounds of violence, which tend to be seen in Israel as erupting out of nowhere or from ancient hatred of Israel, and never in the context of the occupation.

Gaza did not explode for no good reason. Of course, there were political considerations of Hamas to light up the fire; it's not one-sided, it never is. But the fact remains that Israel is occupying Gaza. Gaza is under a cruel siege since 2006. Many Israelis deny that.

Scriptus: And so you don't see the other side?

Hilla: No, there is a lot of dehumanization. "we cannot give up control, because they are savage and just want to kill us," and that sort of reasoning.

Scriptus: It seems like, in the west, there is an extreme reluctance to address Israel and its policy. What could be ways for the west to formulate due critique without making it anti-Semitic?

Hilla: You know, on the issue of antisemitism; I think it is a serious problem, but should definitely not eliminate critique of Israel. The politics here in Europe is extremely devoid of a sense of responsibility. We tend to blame it on the governments and not look at our own complicity as European citizens. The idea that we should not criticize Israel runs deep but even more troubling is the denial of complicity. On the one hand, governments don't want to criticize Israel; on the other hand, they sign weapons deals. Germany, particularly, has delivered a lot of weapons just before this operation. A whole fleet of cluster-bombs and a submarine. So there are economic interests that drive these countries to support Israeli policy, but beyond that the support for Israel is more of a social phenomenon. But there are significant cracks and there are certainly groups that are very critical, also among Jews in Europe. And yes, some critical voices are high-jacking the Palestinian agenda. They have other motives connected to their own social marginalization. The whole discourse in Europe however lacks a sense of citizens' responsibility. If you are a citizen concerned about Gaza, your first responsibility is to hold your own government accountable; then criticize Israel.

Scriptus: You have been staging a number of protests in Israel, what were your experiences and is there a resistance to protest?

Hilla: This really goes to the heart of what I would like to continue researching: Is there resistance and any shred of non-hegemonic forces in Israel today that can create conditions for change? It's very difficult to defend hope at the moment. Those people that have protested against their government, risking street violence, jobs, and their personal careers, in numbers, are negligible. But there is a lot going on especially since 2011 in Israel and in the region at large that we have yet to fully appreciate and that has vanished from view because all we see is the misery and the wars.

I'm a hopeless optimist in the sense that if you think about hegemony, it's never complete, it's always incomplete. Foucault says: "Where there is power, there is resistance." Israel has to work very hard in order to produce the consensus for war, because Israel is a very torn society that has a lot of internal conflicts and schisms. These have the potential to crystallize into a momentous historical change, whose course and trajectory we cannot foresee but should never stop believing in.

JOYCE GOGGIN ON REPETITIVE PLEASURES: ADDICTION AND MODERNITY

by Emma Goodman

On October 9th in room 1.02, Joyce Goggin presented her take on contemporary addiction. Some students thought her thesis was relevant and intriguing, while some felt it was far too general. A couple of students were on the verge of being offended by the way in which she addressed one student as “buddy in the back” (he questioned her outside of question time... the cheek!). Despite this, Goggin made a number of interesting points about the use of drugs, cleverly linking it to capitalism. Apparently, video game addicts are more likely to become junkies, failure is the best motivator, addiction is good for the economy, and the abundance of tea-drinking in England is a result of the 18th century financial sector’s addiction to caffeine. Who’d have thought?



17th BUDGET GA REPORT

by Nicholas Handfield-Jones
photo by Diana Ghidanac

4.5 hours. 28 committees. 3 teams. 1 long GA. On October 15th, students attended the budget GA where they discussed the budgets of the committees, teams, and AUUSA itself. Over the course of the evening, all groups were granted the amounts they wanted, albeit after many motions and debates. Major clashes included Cuisine’s last-minute budget debacle, the location of AUUSA’s extra money, an extended discussion about PlayUC’s chairs, and a proposal to increase AUUSA’s board to 7 members. Though productive, there was a general feeling of exhaustion by the end that not even pizza, pop, and 3 breaks could not extinguish. Props to Chair Lia and the rest of AUUSA for delegating and moving things forward. It was needed.



THE IMPORTANCE OF CLASSICS

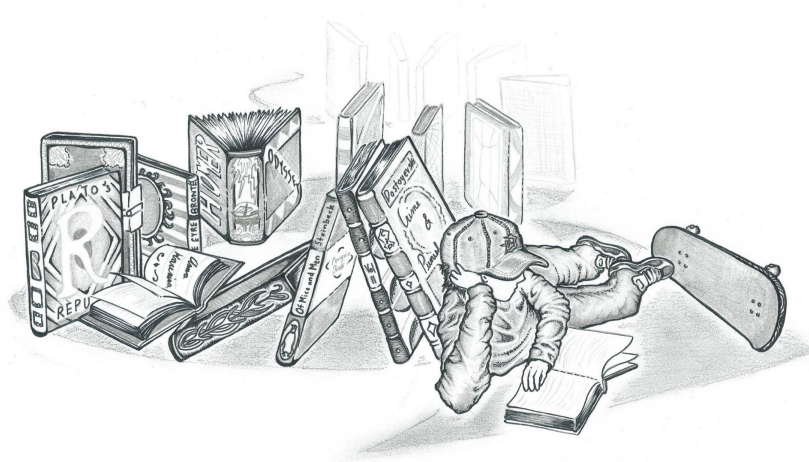
by Willem Pije

illustration by Yin-Chen Hsieh

When I started reading the English version of *Crime and Punishment*, the famous 19th century novel by Dostoyevski, I was a 14-year-old mediocre English speaker/reader. Somewhere along the way, I picked up that this book was a part of the canon of must-read literature and my enormously pretentious 14-year old self saw a chance to boast about reading this book on the surprisingly few parties he was invited to. Most of the reading experience consisted of me having no clue what was going on and feeling accomplished if I understood the mere gist of the story. Nonetheless, this experience started a still enduring love for literature and taught me the value of reading books, that require a bit of an effort. Books from the canon of critically acclaimed literature are not known for being accessible and especially with older classics this is completely understandable. This “image-problem” of classics causes certain people to refrain from even trying to read them. I believe this is a great loss, because some books deserve to be read by everyone.

The books that together form the literary canon are there for a reason. The passing of time has not undone their relevance and solely for this they deserve to be studied and read. The *Odyssey* is not still widely read, because we are interested in the adventures of some obscure ancient Greek guy and *Anna Karenina* is not only famous for the melodramatic suicide of an aristocratic Russian lady (No spoiler alert here, the book is more than a century old). Despair, love, treason, etc. are themes present through all of history and the classics explore and deepen our understanding of these universal aspects of being a human on this earth. Although the reading process may be more difficult than your average literary thriller, a good book does not only provide entertainment, but challenges and confronts the reader to expand their horizon to that of a literary genius. All these claims may sound grand (and a little pretentious, damn my 14-year old self), but the joys of reading classics should not be underestimated.

BOOKS



Since the start of the semester, our Facebook pages has been a sea of rage against our landlord. We spoke with the Tenants Association who represent us as tenants, and who are in contact with them on a regular basis, to understand what has been going on.

Scriptus: There has been a number of things that people have been angry about concerning DUWO. Firstly, the "thefts" by them. Is there an estimate of how many things have been taken?

Aram: I think the main thing was what happened in one string in the first building, where people complained, and items were recovered by DUWO. Then, they really started being more careful.

Scriptus: In my own string, they were going to throw out the oven on a one-day's notice.

Aram: That's because they can't know what's from people in the string, and what's from people that have graduated. They said they posted notices well in advance, but, personally, I'm not too sure about that. On the other hand, there is a supervisor with all the cleaners, and it is also possible that it was someone from outside who came in.

Lien: Maybe something went wrong with DUWO, but, I think, many of the complaints didn't have to do with the cleaners.

Aram: Yes, DUWO is always the target. In our experience, they are always quite reasonable, but that may also be because we're representatives.

Lien: The difficulty is that all the things going wrong at the moment created a feeling towards DUWO that nothing goes right. And this communication is something that we try to resolve.

Scriptus: What is the contact with DUWO like?

Aram: I'd say, every other week we are in touch with them, and get replies very timely, and they're actually quite helpful. We find it easier to communicate with students than DUWO. I mean, the e-mails they've sent don't quite hit the nail on the head, but on the thumb of students. We also try to manage the Facebook discussions.

Lien: And that is the big difference between AUC and the other campuses that DUWO has. We are in touch with each other, and issues keep resurfacing.

Aram: For instance, people getting evicted for subletting is – painful. We disagree with the zero-tolerance policy, but it's in the contract. We also have concerns about privacy and sharing information with AUC,

but apparently they have a contract, too. Everything they do is within the law.

Scriptus: On the issue of the service-costs, that have, for some people exploded, and imploded for others, are there new updates?

Lien: They were going to send us an explanation that we can put on Facebook, but what we did was going through all the cases individually. From that, they constructed one list that explains most of the issues; and that is what we published.

Aram: In general, we got back €50.000 as a campus, which is more than last year. Last year we had to approve the new service-costs, and there was no difference to this year. So it all adds up.

Lien: Most of the complaints were resolved or explainable.

Scriptus: How many people are affected by this?

Lien: Until now we received about 80 complaints.

Aram: But it's more! I think about 160 seems fair.

Scriptus: How can you check personally?

Aram: You can contact DUWO, and you can ask for your specification of how much gas and electricity you use; and they have to specify this. It's a lot of work for them, but, most of the time, it's worth the effort for you.

Scriptus: A lot of people have complained about the costs of the caretaker have going up, when the perception of the service has been going down. What is their position on this?

Aram: What DUWO say is that Adel did too much, and didn't get paid for what he did. It wasn't in his job description to go fix things in someone's room. The caretaker is supposed to ensure the general functioning of the building.

Lien: They also told us that the new caretaker does more behind the curtains than Adel did. Aram: Also, the technical manager is here a lot and fixes a lot of things. They're all really helpful; you just have to catch them in the right moment.



AUC LIFE

by Clara Sophia Eijkman

Statistics don't lie, although they can confuse: it is a global phenomenon that university students have a tendency to experience psychological issues such as (severe) anxiety and depression. Our own academic environment with its great emphasis on excelling is particularly conducive to these problems. A survey held by the AUC student council last year found that out of 141 responses, 76% of respondents felt the need, during their time at AUC, to see a psychologist or counsellor. Only 23% of respondents had actually been to a psychologist, begging the questions: what are the possibilities for psychological care for AUC students, and why is there such a gap between students that feel they need this care but do not seek or find it?

In 2013, the well-being team was established in AUC thanks to a student initiative. The team now consists of our Resident Assistants, the Peer Support group and the Senior welfare advisor Diederik van Werven. When AUC students experience psychological issues in their daily lives at AUC, these are the people they can go to. Another option for AUC students is to visit the psychologists at the UvA. However, for many AUC students the steps appear hard to take. Maaïke, a member of the Peer Support group, confides: 'We are working very hard to create visibility [...] we expected more people to come to us, but this semester we didn't have many cases come to us.'

'The Peer Support people are great and they really try to help' says Linda, 'but in the end, I worry about their confidentiality. They are my neighbours after all!' Maaïke from Peer Support insists that there is absolute confidentiality. 'Even amongst ourselves, we do not speak at all about situations.' Linda's sentiment, however, is repeatedly expressed amongst AUC students, who also worry about how tutors speak to each other ('they gossip a lot, I swear'), and about encountering one in an academic situation after having confided personal issues in them.

Linda has been to the psychologists at the UvA, and she has had mixed experiences. When UvA psychologists feel you need more than five sessions to sort out your issues, they send you to a psychologist that has been chosen according to your needs 'But I don't know how she was chosen according to my needs- she has a lot of trouble speaking English [...] I worry that there are terms and explanations she just won't be able to give in English.' Another issue for AUC students is that UvA psychologists do not have a lot of experience with the completely different academic environment of AUC. 'First you need to explain to them how AUC works; there is also a long waiting list...'

Jan is a former member of the student council, and was involved with a proposal to get a counsellor at AUC. After meetings with the UvA psychologists, tutors, and others involved, the conclusion for the focus group tasked with this situation was clear- what AUC needed was an AUC-specific counsellor who would not be connected to the university



g for a sellor

AUC LIFE

and who would be available about twice a week for people to talk to. Jan and the other members of the SC worked on a 17-page proposal for a Student Life Officer, a proposal supported by many tutors as well as AUC students. 'The management basically responded: "We see that this is necessary, but it is not feasible." We were very disappointed.' According to the AUC management, AUC is just another faculty of the UvA and the VU, which both offer psychological care services. Some correspondents spoke of monetary issues with the proposal too. Diederik van Werven, former head tutor at AUC, was appointed senior welfare adviser. His appointment represents many of the SC wishes, but there is one important discrepancy with their proposal 'You see, the whole idea was he can't be a teacher or tutor because then you may well have a conflict of interest.' Dr van Werven himself has experienced the introduction of a confidential counsellor in Roosevelt College. 'It was an enormous relief, and it took a lot of pressure off tutors [...] the fact that it was confidential was crucial.' He has good experiences with UvA psychologists, but he admits that there are several issues. 'UvA psychologists haven't managed to build a relationship yet with AUC students; it means people start with a negative opinion.' He himself considers the AUC situation of communal residence a cause for emotional problems. 'It is very rich ground for building interesting activities, but there is also increased peer-pressure, self-doubt, identification problems.' Dr van Werven himself estimates that AUC is in fact one of the few if not the only university college without an internal, confidential counsellor.

Certainly there are plenty of possibilities for communication of psychological problems within AUC. Some tutors are willing to talk to you about them, although technically it is not part of their job description. The peer support group is there for needs big and small, and if necessary the UvA psychologists are well-trained and available. Some people even perceive the change in pace of going to the UvA psychologists a positive one, allowing them to leave the 'AUC bubble' for a while. However, the need for these professionals to speak excellent English, be fully aware of the AUC environment and have experience with international exchange seems high, especially if we do not have an AUC-specific counsellor as the SC proposed to the management. As it is now, for half of the respondents to the SC (and perhaps for many others), psychological care appears to be a bridge too far.

All student names are fictional.

((Do you feel the need to speak to someone about your (psychological) problems? Please feel free to contact the Peer Support members (auc-peersupporters@auc.nl), send an email to Diederik van Werven (d.l.vanwerven@auc.nl) or look up the UvA psychologists online or call 020-5258080!))

To the Dean

“Time has come for me to leave AUC at the end of this calendar year” (van der Wende, 2014)

Rarely has so short a sentence had such an impact on AUC’s faculty and student community, a buzz of “have you heard?” rippled through the building. In all honesty, most were probably in concordance. Our Dean is leaving AUC after eight years of work on her part, and five years of studying on ours.

Throughout those years AUC has grown as an institution and a community, while discussions about AUC mentioned Aristotelean tyranny, papers were written on AUC as a Foucauldian panopticon, and the institution as a whole was the butt of jokes aplenty. No, AUC isn’t perfect and there’s still room for improvement, but on the other hand: it is here.

AUC is here, and we are here; diverse, excellent, engaged students with no qualms in criticising the institution that’s teaching us to be critical thinkers. And, understandably if inexcusably, the brunt of this criticism has been born by the almost-abstract figure of ‘The Dean’ – the use of this title rather than her name is telling in its own right. Compare this to criticism of monarchies, which in turn have been compared to Stephen Fry’s nose (by Fry himself in his 1999 biography *Moab Is My Washpot*). The nose may not be perfect, but it distracts from whatever other problems can be found with the face. Changing the nose will not make us like the face any more, it will just highlight the issues with the eyes, lips, or teeth, that we used to blame on the nose.

It is not really the Dean that is to blame for the (let’s face it, fairly minor and very first world) issues within AUC’s institution, in fact we have a lot to thank her for.

Because the time has also come for us to admit to a debt of gratitude. In the Dutch academic climate it takes more than idealism to found a University College, let alone as a collaboration between two Amsterdam institutions between which cooperation is seldom smooth. It takes a certain kind courage and drive to pull that off, and it is no small achievement. Marijk, thank you.

While you are pursuing other projects abroad, at Harvard, in China, and elsewhere, AUC will continue to develop under the influence of new leadership. Your successor will indeed inherit a lively, robust, and maturing college, with a management team, faculty, student body and student representatives, that they can build on. It’s a complicated process, change, whatever its nature. We look forward with interest, and perhaps trepidation, to the future of AUC.

Time has come for a new chapter for everyone, thank you for what you’ve given AUC. Good luck, and goodbye.

Warm regards,
AUC Student



WITHIN OR WITHOUT NATURE?

by Cathy Yeats

Science is knowledge about our world. Knowledge is Power. With great power comes great responsibility. This article could be entirely written in clichés, and it might still communicate some understanding. However, I will attempt to place these into our current setting, one in which a human conscience seems to be growing in response to the human ravaging of the nature that supports us.

Last month the largest global march for climate took place in cities all over the world. Slowly, the world is mobilizing itself in order to recognize and tackle the key problem of our time. Climate change itself has become a tag word and one that faces dispute from some dogged disbelievers. Perhaps a more suitable culprit for the problem at the root of these environmental issues is our separation from our natural world, brought to you, by science.

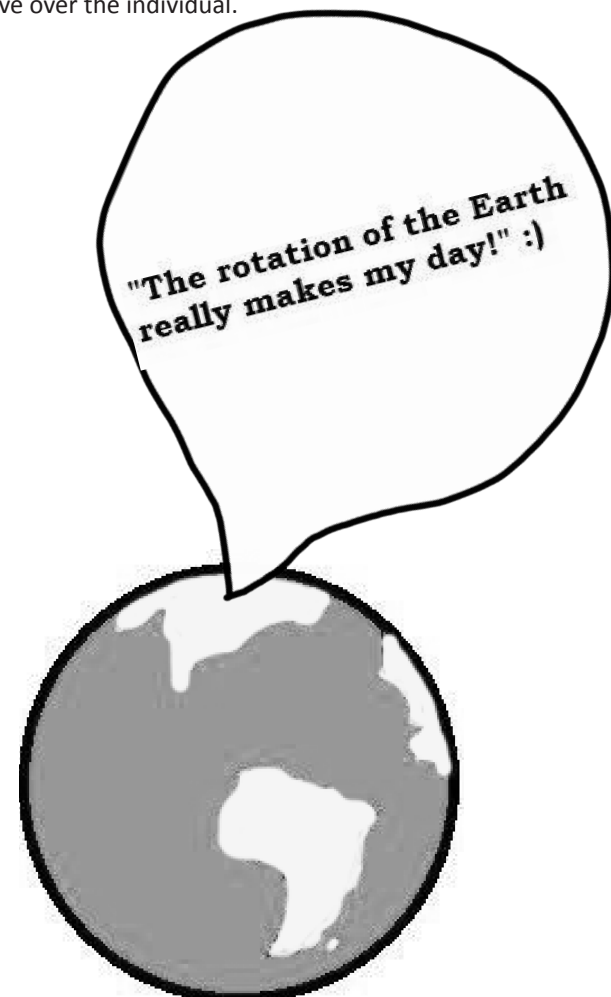
This article does not dispute climate change, but seeks to point out that the larger problem is caused not by CO2 emissions, but by our superiority to the natural order. We live far longer than nature would allow, we can travel far greater distances than our natural bodies can take us; we have superseded nature through our scientific knowledge. When is a human in nature and when are they out? My definition, while tentative and uncertain, looks at science as our way around nature. When we come to understand it and start to manipulate it, we are placing ourselves above the natural order of life to which we intrinsically belong. The tired old description of scientific endeavors as 'playing God' springs to mind.

Yet the sun is rising, eco-villages are springing up all over the world, with a strong emphasis on a return not only to

nature, but also to community. In the Netherlands, between Rotterdam and The Hague, 'Het Carré' was built in 2003, an ecovillage where the tasks and difficulties of reducing energy costs are rendered manageable through collaboration of the collective, the central component of a communal social structure. Funding and plans are laid for another ecovillage in Brabant. Science is a vital part of this change - solar panels are crucial to the heating systems of these eco-villages and kettles, stoves, and other appliances are not given up. This looks like, nature is not being returned to, but we now treat her as an equal, one that needs to be respected in order to support our civilisation. And it is through science that this is possible for us.

So I began by stating that our downfall was led by science and end by saying we shall be saved by it. But science did not go from bad to good. Science is just a tool. It is the slow change in our mentality that is the only way forward for us. In order to preserve our luxuries, and live in equilibrium with nature, we must, as a collective, come to understand that continually grasping for more money, and more time is not possible within the bounds of nature, bounds which we have up until this point ignored. Long ago we survived immersed in nature through communities and it is through our own close involvement with a community that we can lose our destructive individualism. In this way we shall return to nature. So, I refute my previous definition of what it means for a person to act within or without nature. For a person to live within nature, they must live by a holistic worldview, and base their lives on the concept of the collective over the individual.

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DEBATE

Pro
Anonymous

In recent years, the World Wide Web become an essential part of everyday life, and while the majority of the population uses it regularly for harmless activities, some have been abusing the tools it offers, creating social issues that need to be addressed.

The Internet, praised for its rapidity and extremely far-reaching web, has become a misconceived space, in which everything is acceptable. Morality and law do not apply to the cyber world. The Internet is a sneaky weapon that everybody has access to and can abuse of in every moment. It is necessary for governments to intervene and protect the population.

Censorship on the Internet can occur at various levels, yet milder forms have been found to be largely ineffective. The intangible material which composes the Web easily slips through the erected fences. Only a more serious intervention

could prevent the population from having access to degrading sites and from being able to damage society from the comfort of one's bedrooms. Governments should be able to decide what is acceptable and what it is not, isolating those websites which allow for illegal activities.

Why would we agree to rules and regulations on media platforms such as television and newspapers but not on the Internet? In society, we aim for justice and order, but refusing to censor web sites that are creating damages, we are advocating anarchy and injustice.

This is not a matter of shutting down our freedom of speech, it is a matter of preventing people from doing wrong. In the words of the Canadian Prime Minister, John G. Diefenbaker, "Freedom is the right to be wrong, not the right to do wrong."



SHOULD WE CENSOR THE INTERNET?

Con
Tanushree Kaushal

The internet is to the 21st century what the Gutenberg printing press was to the 15th century. The internet today stands as the 4th pillar of distribution of power, as it increasingly contributes to the democratization process. One of the essential requirements of true democracy is that information is distributed between the people so that each individual of society can truly have a voice in the decision-making process. A democracy without access to information is a farce.

The critical question is: Which authority will be responsible for this potential censoring? Given the current power distribution, it will almost certainly be the State. This is definitely an anti-democratic move, as the State will try to ensure that the censoring of the internet is in favor of itself, hence attempting to suppress articles and news pieces that voice opinions that go against it. There have been some arguments raised in favor of

censoring the internet, largely based on the opinion that internet can be 'harmful' for children without adult supervision, or that it can instigate violence and uprisings especially when the information available on the internet is false. However, these problems cannot find solution in censoring of the internet, especially since the likely losses from this move are much higher than the possible 'gains'. For instance, adult supervision will be deemed necessary for other forms of information transfer such as magazines etc.

The major threat that censoring of the internet poses is the same as censoring any source of mass information poses – that this censoring is done by an authority which is likely to use the act to be able to protect itself successfully. This undermines the democratic values that we value and wish to expand.

by Tallulah Lilith

illustration by Yin-Chen Hsieh

Disillusions

"Hello."

"Hello!" - Anticipation, excitement. What will he say, will we kiss?

"So what's up with your friend?"

- Disillusion. "Nothing, why? This is X, what's your name?" Should I give it another shot?

Ten minutes later my friend and the cute Irish guy are kissing. I take another shot and laugh it off, my eyes already scanning the room for the next guy. The next challenge. I navigate towards a group of guys and ask them for a cigarette.

"Yes, sure. There you go." says the one with the interesting face.

"Do you also have a lighter?"

He holds the lighter up to my cigarette. Should I touch his hand? Yes, do it. He smiles, we talk, the cigarettes burn out and we head back to the dance floor. Separately.

"Everyone out. We are closing now."

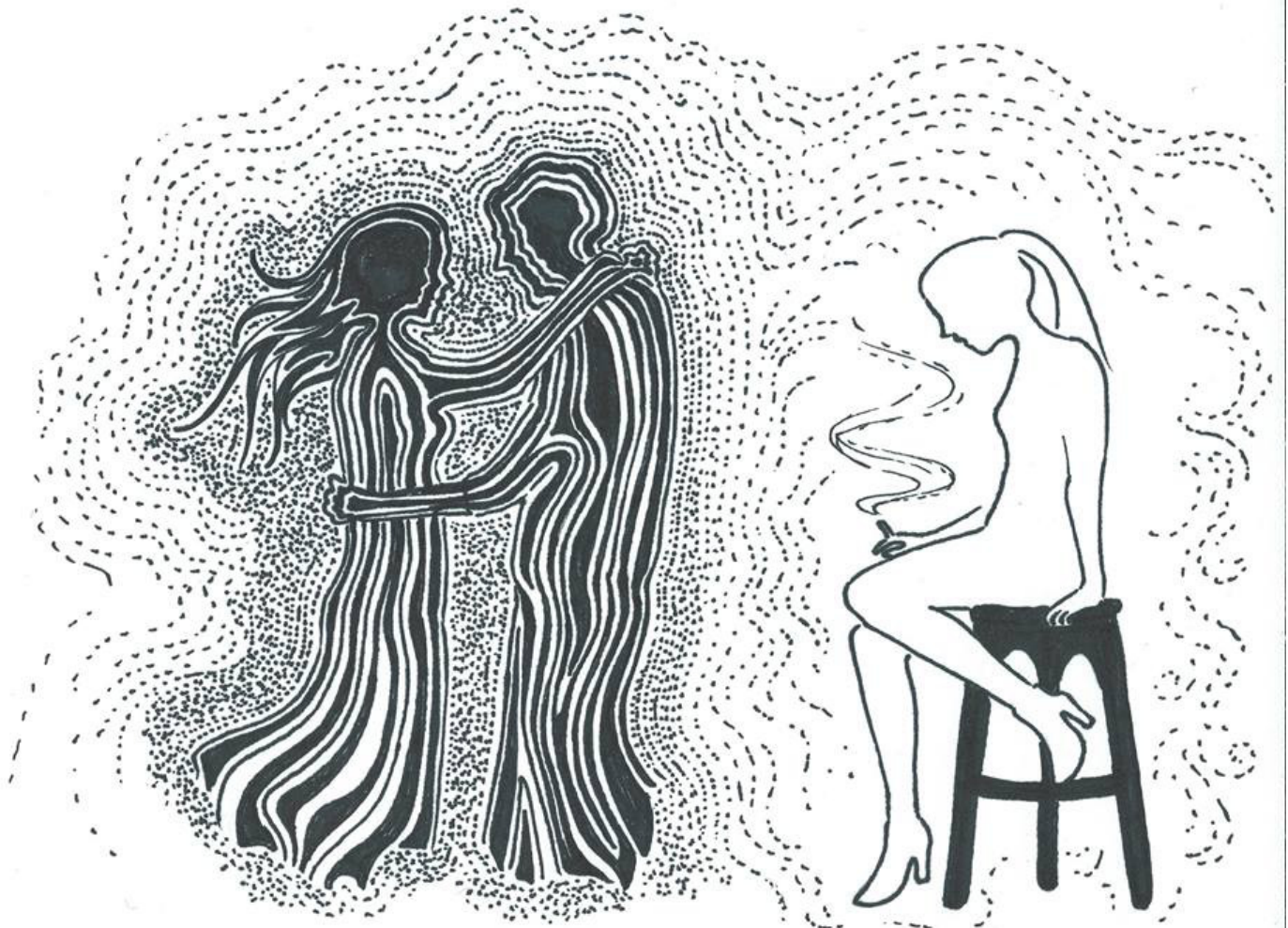
The crowd slowly dissolves; sweaty bodies, newfound friends and temporary lovers leave the club. I find myself within the arms of a tall, Dutch art student. He isn't a good kisser, but he has an impressive beard. My friends join us and we stay outside for another 20 minutes, talking, smoking and procrastinating the end of the night.

"Such a great beard", my friend says, "can I feel it?" He laughs, I laugh, she rubs her face against his.

"Well you know you could also kiss me."

"Sure, go ahead, kiss him. The beard is really soft." What's a kiss anyway. It's not like she wants to make out with him. She just wants to feel how it feels to kiss a guy with a beard, right? What do I even care?

A minute later my friend and him are making out. Disillusion. I have been replaced.



FASHION & FILM

FASHION ON THE BIG SCREEN

by Cristina Roca

Fashion and film have intertwined histories. Older films reflect the fashion of their era: French New Wave heroines have the 60's gamine look (think short-haired, Bambi-eyed girls). Movies like *Easy Rider* exemplify counterculture style. But the best (remembered) films don't just document fashion, they shape it. A memorable outfit or a character with a quirky sense of dress will steal the show, inspiring cinema audiences –and the fashion industry- and becoming, in some cases, a reference for an entire generation. It was hit series *Sex and the City* that turned designer Manolo Blahnik into a shoe god, while Stanley Kubrick's *Clockwork Orange* influenced punk subculture and inspired the first collection of now-celebrated Jean-Paul Gaultier. Life imitates art: we may not realize it, but we dress the way we do partly because of films. Here's my pick of 10+1 history-making style moments in film:

–the iconic ones –Halloween costume-hunters, take note.



• *Cher from Clueless*: 90's style, padded blazers, short skirts and plenty of plaid.

• *Mia Wallace from Pulp Fiction*. Her look is instantly recognizable: black bob, red nails, white men's shirt and cropped black pants. Add a cigarette milkshake –voilà.

• *Audrey Hepburn in Breakfast at Tiffany's...* and not just the black-dress-and-pearls scene.

• *Woody Allen's Annie Hall*: a funny, cooky girl who wears mismatched men's clothes with a playful attitude. A great inspirer of androgynous style. Borrow your dad/brother/boyfriend's formal attire and go crazy.

• *Practically every character from The Royal Tenenbaums*: they all have a 'signature look'. I love Margot's: polo dress, penny loafers and fur coat, styled with lots of eyeliner and the attitude of a depressed secret smoker. Eli's cowboy look also makes a great costume.

• If you're a guy looking for a costume, three words: *Rocky Horror Picture Show*.

–the film snob's recommendations –artsy films with great style.

• *La Dolce Vita* –high points: Mastroianni's nonchalant style and the beautiful gown in the famous fountain scene.

• *Buñuel's Belle de Jour* –*Catherine Deneuve at her best in YSL* - or *Diary of a Chambermaid* if you like your film fashion fixes dark and fetish-filled.

• *Blowup*: London 60's swing scene –oozes style.

• *Almodóvar loves stylish women* –must-watch: *Women at the Edge of a Nervous Breakdown* or *Broken Embraces*.

• *Breathless*: breathtaking chic in the capital of style.

PS: discover (lesser-known) films with a strong focus on style on fashioninfilm.com/films.

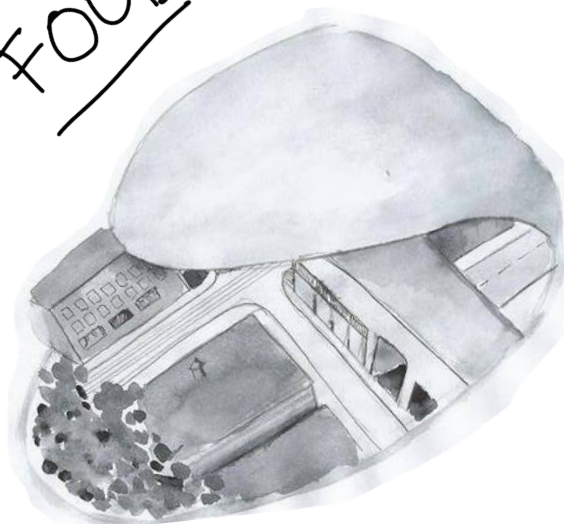
Turkish delight: The pizza kind

One of the great aspects of living in Amsterdam-Oost are the Turkish pizza places, which are pretty much everywhere in the neighbourhood. Turkish pizza is the cheapest fast food you can get, and is extremely filling and tasty. In the neighbourhood of Molukkenstraat, my personal favourite Turkish pizza place is the one right opposite to Lidl, next to the Surinaams fast food. What I like most about this place is that everything you order is prepared right in front of your eyes. Turkish pizza will be your fastest and cheapest option, but the place also offers an amazing linzensoep you must absolutely try, and a magnificent, meaty Adana kebab durum. For vegetarians, the falafels will certainly not disappoint you, and for pescetarians, you should definitely have the tuna peinirly. For dessert order sutlak, a milk and rice pudding, or baklava, a pistachio, honey and fillo experience. The most amazing part is that most of the food costs under 3 euros. So, next time you go to Lidl for groceries, take a stop to the fast food restaurant right opposite, for a warm fresh turkish pizza!

By Evi Hadjipeiri



FOOD



AUC LIFE

COMMITTEE NEWS

Solace Party: International Flavors



ASUSA: protecting the environment utilizing plastic bottles, 3D printing AUC logos



PlayUC Game Nights!



Lustrum debating sessions



SPORTS!
SPORTS SPORTS
BY CATCH



MUSIC

Interview with Minor Fall

by Juan de Miquel

It's a cold and rainy evening, so I'm glad to be welcome in Our Minor Fall's warm studio, sit around a cup of coffee, have a nice talk with AUC student Eva Lammers and the rest of the group, and listen to a couple of live songs.

Q: Eva, as a violin player, I guess you were into classical music before joining the band.

Eva: Daan (cellist) and I were raised classically, yes. The rest, they're all self-taught.

Q: How do you arrange the composing?

Daan: We're six people, so it can be very frustrating. We usually come together, play a motif, and then start putting things together. Our complex way of working makes our songs complex, too.

Q: Who are your biggest influences?

E: I guess we're kind of a mashup of many different things, which gives us a unique sound.

Luke: A girl can say "hey, you sound just like Mumford & Sons", while a 50-year-old guy could say "you're just like Peter Gabriel."

Alex: The most important aspect is having two people who grew up with a classical background, and the rest listening to contemporary pop music and digging into older stuff, too.

Q: You've been touring around the Netherlands this summer. What was the weirdest thing that happened?

D: Camping-festival Tentstock. We played inside a tiny three-person tent as part of a contest. It was really intimate. Then it started to rain really hard and everybody started screaming and looking for cover, and we played Darlene (which will be appearing in our upcoming EP) and the people inside started to cry. Then it stopped to rain, the sun was burning... When we opened the tent we saw like 60 people around it.

Q: I see you've been manufacturing your own merchandise bags per hand.

A: We wanted to offer something special. Same goes for music, we like to put a lot of effort in it, like with our upcoming EP, which is on vinyl.

E: We just feel this is a more authentic way to put our music out there.

Q: Is music losing its authenticity overall?

E: This is my Digital Anthropology class! For me, personally, yes.

A: It's very interesting to have access to a lot of music, but without the physical aspect there's no real connection, or not as much.

Q: You'll be touring around Ireland now.

E: Capstone writing and touring, oh yeah.

Q: How do you manage to combine everything?

E: I don't. I just do whatever comes first and see when my next deadline is. Our Minor Fall is number one in the list, and AUC is number two. I don't think Marijk van der Wende would like to hear that...

Q: Do you think you'll be able to make a living of Our Minor Fall?
Dorus: Hope so. It's hard, though. You have to give up everything else.

Q: Your EP will come out on the 14th of November. Is there going to be an official presentation?

E: We're going to have a very small, intimate event in Dokzaal. If you want to get a ticket, you've got to be fast. They'll be on sale soon. If you like us on Facebook, we'll keep you updated.

"I guess we're kind of a mashup of many different things, which gives us a unique sound."



Sound Advice

Musicians / Bands

The Tallest Man on Earth

Singer-songwriter The Tallest Man on Earth is not what you would expect from a singer-songwriter called The Tallest Man on Earth. He's not like most of the musicians in his genre, with their masochistic melancholy and the soft, slow strumming of chords. Neither is he, with a height of 1,67 m, the actual tallest guy alive. He's just The Tallest Man on Earth, with everything it implies: strongly intimate, poetic lyrics; superior skills that allow him an impossible plucking in the guitar; and a Bob Dylan-like gravelly voice that has given raise more than one comparison between him and the most popular folk legend alive.

Events

Justin Vernon, Frazey Ford, Matthew E. White: 16 December 2014, Paradiso

What happens when you mix artists like Bon Iver's prolific Justin Vernon, Canadian folk singer Frazey Ford, and multi-faceted, almost experimental producer and guitarist Matthew E. White? You will only know by being at the right time in the right place: 16th of December at Paradiso.

LOVE & SEX & MAGIC

Man Pills

Are Birth control pills for men a yay or a nay?

by Charlotte Verboom
illustration by Hester Louter

Every girl knows that feeling when you are about to squeeze that tiny little white thing out of its packaging on the day you should, but get totally confused since it doesn't say the right day! No, it says the day before yesterday! Shit. Not again. How can I be so stupid to keep forgetting these things? Combined oral contraceptive pills, as Wikipedia likes to call them, were invented in the early 60's for women as a birth control method. Besides condoms, 'The Pill' is one of the most popular birth control methods in the entire world these days (do know that it does NOT protect you from sexually transmitted diseases!). The question that popped up in my head, however, is: Should it only be a women's responsibility to prevent unwanted pregnancy? Turns out, I wasn't the only one who was wondering that. So when the first breaking study about the male contraceptive pill was launched, women were so excited as if it were a next step for feminism and gender equality (yay!). Instead of preventing one female egg, the 'Man Pill' has to block the transportation receptors of millions and millions of sperm cells throughout the whole day.



This 'Man Pill' may sound like a great invention, but what do guys think themselves? I asked a few male students about this daily, sperm-blocking pill, but, unfortunately, the comments weren't that exciting for women. These guys didn't really see the point of it, since it is not them who 'live in a fear of getting pregnant.' They also didn't like the idea of something blocking or affecting their 'cum-shot', and apparently it might diminish their manhood.

They made a good point, and to be able to separate fables from facts, I did some research on the internet. The 'Man Pill' is only for temporary infertility. This means that there would be "no long-term effects on the viability of sperm or the sexual or general health of men" (or at least that is what Dr. Ventura, the head researcher, is assuring you). Doesn't this sound promising? Despite some countries' laws that include a men's responsibility for his sown seed, it is mostly the women who has all the tasks and concerns. So should it only be a women's responsibility? It shouldn't be, but it often is. But dear guys, don't worry: This pill isn't on the market yet and if it is, it will probably be wise and accepted to wait a few years after its launching, since the medical word on new medication isn't always that trustworthy. However, if this pill someday does makes its real appearance, we should all be asking ourselves: "Who really is responsible?" And once the male contraceptive pill is a go, I think women should ask themselves whether guys can be trusted with taking this pill or not...

QUESTION

WE ASKED YOU!

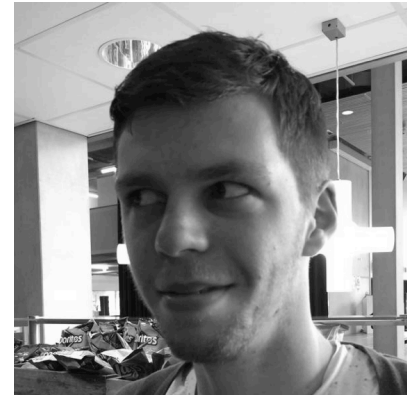
Life Hacks



"I use toilet paper rolls to keep the cables in my drawer neat."
-Ivan Seifert, 2nd year



"Use a binder clip in your fridge and you can stack beers and save space."
-Moos Hulsebosch, 1st year



"If you wanna look in the mirror after you take a shower, put a little bit of soap on the mirror so it doesn't get foggy" -Luuk van der Sterren, 2nd year



"Google life hacks, and you don't have to think of your own." -Lia Sinnige, 3rd year



"When you lock your bikes together, instead of locking the frames together, lock the chains together; then you can leave whenever you want." -Floris Cobben, 2nd year



"Boil your eggs in a kettle." -Charles Briguet-Lamarre, 3rd year



"Easy speaker: cut a hole in a toilet paper roll and put your phone in it." -Will Kuijper Dickson, 1st year



"Or just put your phone in a big red solo cup." -Josh van der Kroft, 1st year



"Or you can put it in your mouth." -Aaron Altaras, 1st year