

## Nocturnal goes down the rabbit hole



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Music is a sensation to the ears that has diverse effects on each individual. It can calm, irritate and excite the mind. Avid music lovers seek concerts to heighten their musical experience. The thrill of the dense crowd jumping and swaying to the beat of the music excites most and causes people to return for more. On the West Coast, electronic dance music has quickly penetrated mainstream music. DJs such as David Guetta, Deadmau5 (featured on the 2010 VMAs), and Benny Benassi have contributed to the growing hype.

In California, throngs of people jumped down the rabbit hole to experience the theatrics of the Alice in Wonderland-themed Nocturnal Music Festival. Due to its nightlife environment and theatrics, Nocturnal, in its 16th season, turned out to be one of the most sought after events of the season. Last Saturday, teens drove from miles around to reach the event in San Bernardino. Approximately 50 of the world's

best DJs took to the Wonderland-inspired stages. Of the many stages, the Labyrinth stage featured the mellow, smooth, pop, Cascada-like sounds of Ferry Corsten.

Orange Coast College sophomore and Speech Pathology major Miranda Nguyen says she went "crazy" for Ferry Corsten.

"I have so many favorite songs, but if I had to choose one it'd be 'Beautiful,'" says Nguyen.

The Alice stage featured Steve Angello, his music being more upbeat than Corsten; allowing for more opportunity to move to the beats. The Plump DJs played more of a harder vibe of electronic music on the Queen's stage, along with the Pretty Lights playing their laid back tunes. Nocturnal, being a colossal event, accommodated even more artists on stages such as the Upside Down Room and the Sunken Garden.

In keeping with the Wonderland theme, the atmosphere thrived with a potpourri of fantasy-like attractions. Life-sized art could be found throughout the venue. Some consisted of all metal beams, others shards of glass that towered over people. A few works even spat fire

to add to the dreamlike atmosphere. Stilt walkers, trapeze artists, fire twirlers, and even go-go dancers also roamed the grounds. There were slides, swings, and merry-go-rounds to transport fans back to their innocent childhood fairytale state. Even the vendor village offered body decorations for those wanting to further blend into the environment.

Like always, Insomniac Events, the promoters of Nocturnal, did not fail to put forth a legendary night. Their previous event, Electric Daisy Carnival, attracted a crowd of 185,000 fans, according to the Los Angeles Times.

Mollie Le Quan, a junior at the University of California Riverside says she enjoyed the social environment of the festival.

"Everybody was friendly and down to party," says Le Quan.

Based on this thriving chain of events, Insomniac should expect an even larger crowd at its next set of performances. It's only a matter of time before their addictive shows percolate throughout the rest of country.

## Findings



## Erie Poetry Scene

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When first walking into Erie Book Store, one would get the feeling they're stepping into a library due to the peaceful silence.

The store features a small, cozy set up that is filled with new, used, rare, and out of print books at good prices. The Erie Book Store even houses a small coffee and pastry bar so that their customers can enjoy a warm beverage or dessert while perusing their latest read. Any purchase made at the store can be gift wrapped for free.

While this sounds like the perfect atmosphere for a bookstore, what happens here on Friday nights is what really makes the Erie Book Store unique.

Every Friday evening, beginning around 6:30 p.m., the bookstore gradually fills up with poets and poetry fans. Chuck Joy hosts the "Poetry Scene" and he starts each night by making a couple of announcements, then leaving the stand open to anyone.

Each poet takes their turn, reading a couple of poems until that week's featured poet reads for the remainder of the time.

There are many styles of poetry recited and the poets themselves are even more diverse. The subject matter of their poems cover every topic imaginable, such as terrorist attacks, romance, loneliness, alternate universes, lust, and even going out to eat. Hearing the poems read by their authors add a type of emotion that cannot be achieved in any other way.

The readings typically wrap up around 8 p.m., but the program sometimes ends a little earlier. Joyends the program similar to the way he started it: by repeating the information from earlier and announcing the next week's featured poet.

Anyone that enjoys poetry or is an aspiring poet should attend the Poetry Scene at least once to give it a try. Be sure to at least stop by to visit the shop and prepare to be greeted by the cat that roams the store.

## Erie Horror Fest 2010

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At this year's Erie Horror Fest, 42 short films and 19 feature films will be showcased. Special guests include Brian O'Halloran (*Clerks*), Fred Williamson (*From Dusk Till Dawn*), and Seamus Davey-Fitzpatrick (*The Omen - 2006*). There will be *Dawn of the Dead* (1978) and *Day of the Dead* (1985) mini-reunions! The festival takes place October 7 through October 10 from 1:00 PM to after midnight in most cases at the Warner Theatre on State Street.

Two of the viewings are of *H1N1 Virus X* and *The Man Who Collected Food*. *H1N1 Virus X* highlights a group of scientists contaminated with a highly evolved, grotesque strain of the H1N1 virus. They're kept as an experiment, and it's going to be harder than they think to gain the cure because a strange man is keeping them from leaving the facility.

*The Man Who Collected Food* takes the opposite end of the horror spectrum with slightly comedic extents. It's about a man named Miguel who collects different foods in his house and enshrines them. He won't eat any of the food or open the packages, so he's forced to resort to cannibalism. Other selections include:

- *El Monstro Del Mar*, an Australian creature feature with some amazing characterization and stunning gore;
- Influenced by the great comedic elements and styles from seventies slasher films comes *Death Stop Holocaust*;
- *Hotel Chelsea* tells the story of a woman whose husband is murdered on their honeymoon in the Chelsea Hotel (a star-studded cast featuring Daniel Wilkinson and Anthony Laurent);
- *Morke Sjeler (Dark Souls)*, a Norwegian production involving the mix of murderous souls and zombie hybrids;
- Teens stumble onto a secret lab and soon discover they've been duplicated in *Recreator*;
- After the accidental death of their son, a family moves to country to discover something even more disturbing in *They Came From the Attic*;

## Alcohol Fact,

Did you know more money is spent promoting alcohol each year than any other product? In all of this advertizing you never see this one fact : alcohol is a drug.

It is the most widely used and commonly abused psychoactive drug in the world.

Even at low doses, alcohol significantly impairs the judgment and coordination required to drive a car or operate machinery safely. Low to moderate doses of alcohol can also increase the incidence of a variety of aggressive acts.

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