



Gallery Lounge Art Review

Deb Salinger
Guest Columnist

Currently on display in the Penn State Harrisburg Gallery Lounge is a haunting exhibit by two artists, Catherine Cullens and Carol Hamish. Prepare yourself to release any inhibitions when viewing these works of sculpture and painting, for they are proof of how art breaks the boundaries of normality and draws the viewer into a world of sensuous mystery.

Catherine Cullens' sculpture is metamorphic, to say the least. Despite the human effort used to create the work in this exhibit, these sculptures seem to have shaped themselves. Time, has been lent to forms which otherwise, may have been forgotten. The texture and color of what may represent skins and previous finds, leads the viewer back in time. Here, in time forgotten, Cullens' draws the viewer into the moment.

The beauty of decay and the symbolism of time preserved and frozen is electric. Cullen has taken simple shapes and texture and has caused a reaction of the viewer. A reaction that distorts logic and executes an uncertainty of the subject. A curiosity of not what the viewer is seeing, but what he is not seeing. The viewer is to look beyond the sculptural representation and find the whole object in their mind. What was this at one time? If this is only a partial representation, what was the whole? Cullen has

presented a detail of decay but at the same time, a preservation of spirit.

Carol Hamish's paintings are not conceived as detailed forms, but as a reflection of the personality and inner spirit of the subject. The expressive feeling she bestows on the viewer with soft, blurred images and lighting are both peaceful and disturbing.

Hamish has crossed over the threshold in expressing life, death and an after-life. Her ghostly figures either set or walk unnoticed by those living. She has captured a dreamlike world with simple composition, straight-forward lighting, quiet dignity and the distinct message each of her paintings whispers to the viewer.

She has exhumed the certainty of death, the joy of birth and the curiosity of the next world. She has informed the viewer of the reality of life but at the same time, the next step in life, which is death. The idea of death being the merger of the soul with nature and the earth. The possible idea that the soul does not die, but continues on a journey only those alive can imagine. Her haunting figures pass each other in the night or sit without notice in a cloud of light.

Both Cullen and Hamish have textualized life and death. They have merged body and soul with time and expressed their emotions, and possibly fears, of these subjects in their own art form.

Don't miss these exciting pieces of art on display in the Penn State gallery.

Dear Nittany

Dear Nittany,
I room with my best friend. I recently introduced her to a male friend of mine and they've been dating ever since. It's not that I'm jealous, but she never has time for me anymore. I've tried to explain to her how I feel, but she doesn't seem to get it. It has even gotten to the point where she blows off the things we used to do together regularly, to spend that time with him because he doesn't like the same activities. How can I make her understand that I miss spending time hanging out with her, without her boyfriend always being there?
—Out in the Cold

Dear Out in the Cold,
Why do girls do this to each other? You may have to try and set her down again and tell her how her relationship is affecting your friendship. The cardinal rule in dating is to never ever let a guy come between two best friends. Guys will come and go, but best friends will always be best friends.

Dear Nittany,
There is a guy that I work with who I am extremely attracted to. Although I know he is seeing someone, it seems he pays more attention to me than to her even when she is with us. Everyone tells me he is interested, even his friends. Am I reading too much into this? Should I go for it or back off?
—Forbidden Fruit

Dear Forbidden Fruit,
As Nike says, "Just do it!" There is obviously something there between the two of you and if you deny it you may be losing a very intriguing possibility. Your heart will tell you what to do next. Spend more time with him. Enjoy and Good Luck!!

"Dear Nittany" is a regular column that will be featured in next semester's paper.



From the desk of editor Cathy Nolan...

Farewell, PSH

There was a time when I never thought the day would arrive when I would say those words. Although it's not officially here yet, it is getting frighteningly close.

Since this is my final column, however, I thought I would make it at least semi-serious, and address some "Letters to the Editor," we received this time around.

Elizabeth Caralyus wrote to us (see "Clubs Should Not Be Mandatory, this page) about Ali Pirinccioglu, saying his article was biased.

While I agree with Liz, I also must defend Ali. In the last issue, we inadvertently left off the identification tags on the top of the pages. Otherwise, it would have been clear the page with Ali's article was on, was the Editorial/Opinion page. I feel Ali was simply trying to get across the idea that everyone should get involved. While I may not agree with his ideas on how to accomplish this, it is his opinion and it deserves to be given space.

As for her comments on students not caring what happens in SGA, that is probably true, but it is also scary. SGA controls the funds set aside by the school for clubs, over \$50,000 a year. Members also serve on campus committees, and help form the policies that affect this campus. I think everyone should know what happens at SGA meetings, because it does affect us all, whether involved in clubs or not. We have also printed stories complementing SGA, and will continue to do so (see the last two issues). We also donated free ad space for the Rites of Spring to SGA.

As for the other issues Liz would like to see covered, check this issue for stories on the parking fees. We tried to contact Joanne Coleman to discuss Meade Heights, but she was unresponsive.

We also received a letter from Daniel Kane at press time, which we did not have room to print. Therefore, I will simply state again that page 3 was an OPINION page, and cannot be viewed the same as the rest of the paper. You don't have to like what is written there, but it is not to be mistaken for hard news.

As for specific topics Mr. Kane addressed, let me just say that the "Buffalo Bill" letter in the Dear Nittany column was to be a joke, and that we knew exactly who wrote it. Otherwise, it wouldn't have been run. Oh, and by the way our GPA's, with the lowest on the staff being well above a 3.0, are just fine, thanks for asking!

Not much room is left, so I just want to quickly say goodbye to everyone who has made my time here memorable. I'll never forget any of you. And now, although I'm not really ready, I'm outta here.

P.S. One more thing - Red Dog 'til you're done! (Here's to you, SGA!!)

Clubs Should Not Be Mandatory

To the Editor:

There are a couple of issues which I would like to address concerning your April 19th edition.

First, although I personally think that Ali Pirinccioglu is a superb columnist, I feel that a rebuttal to his "Just Do It!" article is in order. Ali was extremely biased in his plea for greater club participation by students.

Granted, I too am involved in a school activity. However, I strongly disagree with Ali's belief that "joining at least one club should be made mandatory by this school's administration." Yes, it is true that just about everyone can manage to find free time in their hectic schedules. But a student should not be mandated to surrender that time to an activity which is not of his or her own choosing. That is, I am sure that once someone finds an hour or two of the week that is not filled with academic or employment or other commitments, he or she might rather use that time for personal enjoyment, i.e. relaxing or going out with friends or family. Conversely, some students choose to devote that free time to clubs and organizations.

Consequently, students who involve themselves in activities merely for the way "it will look on (their) resume(s)" are a waste of time to the cause of the organization. How many clubs on campus are teeming with individuals who are nothing more than names on paper? Those of us who are actively involved in school clubs and organizations may indeed realize the benefits of such affiliations are simply not a priority, and we as club members are in position to condescend.

It appears to me that some club members seem to think that belonging to an organization is equivalent to being counted among Penn State Harrisburg's "elite." This high school mentality is not only disappointing, but also extremely annoying. I am no longer speaking of Ali's column, but of clubs in general. These are activities, and just as some students participate in sports, or work, or parties, or studying, no one recreation is any better or more beneficial than another. Finally, on this topic I'd like to bring attention to the fact that students do not "own and run" clubs. There are so many rules and policies which govern us just like anything else on this campus. If anything, clubs exist because students participate, but students should not be made to participate just because clubs exist.

The second issue which I would like to briefly address concerns the domination of the SGA in this latest edition of The Capital Times.

I have spoken with many students who feel that the trivial goings-on of the Stu-

dent Government Association is not a primary concern on campus. Should it be? That answer must be left to personal conclusion. I fully realize that value of the SGA, and I personally appreciate the efforts of its members in addressing student needs and concerns. However, the recent issues that have been brought up concerning the SGA are giving me a headache, and I think The Capital Times could have covered other events in this issue besides how SGA violated their constitution. Is this pressing news? Perhaps articles containing information about the accomplishments of the SGA should be printed to complement their downfalls.

As a student, I would have rather seen articles exposing such topics as how Housing will be charging Meade Heights residents per room next semester, and assigning those rooms; the lack of use of parking fees toward the majorly dilapidated roads in the Heights; the alleged sum of money which will be used to

totally re-face campus landscaping; and the difficulty future students will have in entering some of PSH's academic degree programs because of stricter stipulations. Maybe you are aware of these issues, maybe you aren't. And I am in no way personally attacking the committed staff of writers with whom I share an office. I am only suggesting that not only the concerns of a small percentage of students be represented in the school paper. Many students do not know anything about SGA and other related topics, and frankly, many do not care.

Elizabeth Caralyus
Assistant Editor, Capitalite Yearbook

Keep sending us your letters expressing your opinions on major issues.

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