

**CL**

**THE  
HORROR  
ISSUE**

**HELLO, DOLLY!**

**CAN YOU ESCAPE THE VAULT?**

BY CATHY SALUSTRI P.21

**PLUS: MINI LIGHTS | ZOMBIE SURVIVAL | UNHAPPY MEALS**

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# inside



JENNIFER RING

“... a persistent sense of foreboding about what was going to happen next...”

Cathy Salustri on *The Vault of Souls*, p. 21.

**DO THIS.....4**  
**NEWS OF THE WEIRD.....7**  
**NEWS+VIEWS.....9**  
**FOOD+DRINK.....13**  
**A+E.....21**  
**MUSIC.....37**  
**ASTROLOGY.....46**  
**CROSSWORD.....47**



PIXABAY/AMHADRZ489

“You never know what you’ll have to climb in order to escape certain death.”

Kate Bradshaw on keeping up your cardio in case of a zombie apocalypse, p. 9.

**ON THE COVER:** Photo from *The Vault of Souls* by Jennifer Ring. Cover design by Julio Ramos.

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JENNIFER RING

**/arts** So much more Horror Issue coolness

**/music** Previews, reviews, maybe a pic of you if you went out

**/food** They make beer right here in town

**/news** The real horror, every day

~ CURTIS HIXON PARK ~

2017

# O'ZAPFT IS!

FRI: 4PM - 11PM

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SUN: 11AM - 6PM

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# do this

THU OCTOBER 12-WED OCTOBER 18

## words Florida writes, right?

**THURSDAY-SATURDAY:** Florida teems with inspiration for aspiring and seasoned writers alike, with over a dozen literary magazines, fun literary tours and festivals and some ace book fairs and writing conferences. Speaking of writing conferences... Did you know the **Other Words Literary Conference** takes place in Tampa this year? The conference packs seven writing workshops, 11 readings, a book fair, a tour of the University of Tampa letterpress laboratory, a flash play festival and over a dozen discussions — into three days. The theme this year? One of the most universally beloved (and currently super-hip) subjects around: Food. The readings feature several well-known Florida authors, including Peter Meinke (Florida's Poet Laureate), *Tampa Bay Times's* Craig Pittman and our very own Cathy Salustri, reading from her Florida travelogue, *Backroads of Paradise*. So come out and meet the locals. We'll be there. *University of Tampa, 401 W. Kennedy, Tampa. Oct. 12-14. \$25-\$95. local.cltampa.com. —Jennifer Ring*



## hurricane Puerto Ricans: Also Americans without power

**SUNDAY:** After Irma, power trucks from across the U.S. (and Canada) swarmed into Florida like snowbirds after a blizzard and there were so many relief efforts for different impacted Floridians it made us dizzy. After Maria beat Puerto Rico to the mat, though, the response was... embarrassing. As Georgetown GAI Fellow Matt Glassman said, "If 3 million U.S. citizens were potentially going to be without electricity for 3-6 months following a natural disaster, you'd think it would be the lead news story on everyone's mind," but, as the *New York Times* mentioned, over half of all Stateside Americans don't realize Puerto Ricans are U.S. citizens. Don't be a colonialist; party at Punky's for the **Come OUT St. Pete Caribbean Relief Concert**, which raises money for two agencies doing a shitload of good to help islander-Americans rebuild — and survive. *Punky's Bar & Grill, 3063 Central Ave., St. Pete. Oct. 15: 3-9 p.m. local.cltampa.com. —Cathy Salustri*



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CATHY SALUSTRI

## halloween Costumed Justice Warriors

**WEDNESDAY:** Our managing editor has a love affair with Hawthorne Bottle Shoppe, and we can kinda see why — it's fun in there. And **Cocktails & Conversation's October Edition** should prove no exception. It's a monthly League of Women Voters event, but the premise this month is different: Wear a costume and try, just for one night, to forget how supremely awful much of this past year has been, politically (and otherwise). Also, they'll have costumes there if you need one for the night. And, since dogs can be there (and have an easier time not getting upset about politics), don't be shocked if you find I Dream of Weenie on the patio, eager for her share of an HBS sandwich (and not at all pleased with her costume). *Hawthorne Bottle Shoppe, 2927 Central Ave., St. Pete. Oct. 18: 6 p.m. 727-800-2810. local.cltampa.com. —CS*

## halloween Ghosts, center stage

**FRIDAY:** There's something alluring about the idea of theater ghosts. Every theater, it seems, has stories of a ghostly apparition in the balcony, someone who was murdered there and whose spirit simply won't move on to the next realm, and an actor or actress who roams the catacombs (do modern theaters even have catacombs?), forever in search of... well, something. Locally, we can't imagine a theater *more* likely to be haunted than Tampa Theatre. Come on: it's old, it has a basement, it has marvelous Rococo decor that is practically alive even without the ghosts that apparently (or should we say *apparitionally*?) call this majestic theater palace home. Take a **Ghost Tour of Tampa Theatre** and see for yourself: Is it haunted, simply creepy when not filled with people, or something else? *Tampa Theatre, 711 N. Franklin St., Tampa. Oct. 13: 10. local.cltampa.com. —CS*



KEIR MACGILLAS

## film Born with a tail

**TUESDAY:** In 1968, Roman Polanski brought the world ***Rosemary's Baby***, and while film scholars talk about it in artistic terms (to wit, a press release touted it as a film that "depicts isolation and trauma with staggering empathy"), the rest of the world just thought it was scary AF when it hit theaters. Not because — again, from the press release — "*Rosemary's Baby* transmutes a lurid pulp premise into a lucid examination of patriarchy and repression" but because the idea that the devil rapes a young wife and she has a demon baby, all because of their neighbors, makes for the psychological type of horror that stays with you long after the credits roll. A work of art for that alone, but also beautiful to watch. Popcorn and wine included. *Florida Museum of Photographic Arts, 400 Ashley Dr., Cube 200, Tampa. Oct. 17: 7:30 p.m. local.cltampa.com. —CS*



## daybyday

**FRI 13**

Ah, Friday the 13th October, complete with a **free ghost tour**. Patty and Friends has three tours and a trio of ghosts —The Seamstress, The Protector and The Tinkerer. 6 p.m. 1241 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. N., St. Pete.

**SAT 14**

Help the Humane Society of Tampa Bay by heading to Tampa Convention Center for the annual **Tuxes and Tails**. This year the party takes you to Rio Carnival, so it should be a night full of sizzle, cocktails, food and fun. 5:30-11 p.m. Tampa.

**SUN 15**

If there's a more bad-ass church than Allendale Methodist, we've yet to find it. They're showing ***Hidden Figures*** in partnership with NOW for free. Because that's what Jesus would do. 2 p.m. 3803 Haines Rd. N.

**WED 18**

Hey, if we don't list at least one yoga event here every week, it's like we're not doing our job. Check out **Yoga on Tap at 3 Daughters**, with beer and yoga (pro tip: yoga first, then beer). 6 p.m. 222 22nd St. S., St. Pete.

**THU 19**

Fun thing to say: **Cooters Crab Fest**. The four-day crab party starts today, with stones as the superstar—but kings, dungeness and other crawly yummy things are there, too. 4 p.m., then until Oct. 22 at 8 p.m. 432 Poinsettia Ave., Clearwater.



# SKIPPER'S SMOKEHOUSE

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<b>FRI OCT 13</b> 8PM \$10/13	<b>COME BACK ALICE</b> DOES LED-ZEPPELIN with Holey Miss Moley doing The Meters
<b>SAT OCT 14</b> 8PM \$10/13	<b>STARDUST MEMORIES: DAVID BOWIE TRIBUTE</b> w/ Talk To Mark & Donna Lu
<b>SUN OCT 15</b> 5PM \$7/10	<b>GLORIA WEST &amp; THE GENTS</b> with Chris Walker Band
<b>WED OCT 18</b> 8PM \$10/13	<b>Lynette Skynyrd</b> with Tennessee Iron
<b>CLOSED MONDAYS</b>	
<b>THURSDAYS AT 8PM</b> <b>GRATEFUL DEAD NIGHT</b> <span style="background-color: white; color: purple; border-radius: 50%; padding: 2px;">FREE ADMISSION</span> w/ <b>UNCLE JOHN'S BAND</b>	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">UPCOMING SHOWS</h2>	
<b>FR 10/20 Tommy Castro</b> (BLUES/SOUL/ROCK) and Samantha Fish <b>8PM \$20/25</b>	
<b>SA 10/21 Igor and The Red Elvises</b> (SIBERIAN SURF ROCK) w/ The Steady 45s <b>8PM \$12/15</b>	
<b>SU 10/22 The Battle of The Jimmy's -</b> Jimmy Thackery & The Jimmy's (BLUES) <b>5PM \$10/13</b>	
<b>FR 10/27 38th ANNUAL FREAKER'S BALL-VOODOO ON THE BAYOU</b> w/ T-Bone Hamilton <b>8PM \$10</b>	
<b>SA 10/28 Zappaween</b> w/ Bogus Pomp <b>8PM \$20</b>	
<b>SU 10/29 RUNNIN' DOWN A DREAM:</b> The WMNF Memorial Tribute To Tom Petty <b>4PM \$12/15</b>	
<b>SA 11/4 WMNF PRESENTS: BRITISH INVASION</b> <b>6PM \$TBA</b>	
<b>SU 11/5 Roger "Hurricane" Wilson &amp; The Hurricane Homeboys</b> <b>5PM \$7</b>	
<b>FR 11/10 Cigar City Blues Band &amp; Southern Train</b> <b>8PM \$10/13</b>	
<b>SA 11/11 WMNF Presents: Reckless Kelly</b> (ALT COUNTRY/ROCK) w/ Cottondale Swamp <b>8PM \$20/25</b>	
<b>SU 11/12 Lauren Mitchell and Joe Moss</b> <b>5PM \$7/10</b>	
<b>SU 11/19 Tommy Z Band</b> (BLUES) <b>5PM \$7/10</b>	
<b>FR 11/24 Come Back Alice</b> w/ TBA <b>8PM \$10/13</b>	
<b>FR 12/1 Chubby Carrier</b> (ZYDECO) w/ Gumbo Boogie Band <b>8PM \$10/13</b>	
<b>SA 12/2 Halcyon TOYS FOR TOTS</b> <b>8PM \$15</b>	
<b>FR 12/22 Jim Chambers Music Box Event</b> <b>8PM \$TBA</b>	

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**FRIDAY  
OCT. 13**

COME OUT, STAY OUT LGBT SENIOR RESOURCE FAIR @ SUNSHINE SENIOR CENTER • GRAND CENTRAL ZOMBIE PUB CRAWL • TIGLFF MOVIES @ SUNDIAL • METRO'S COME OUT YOUTH NIGHT

**SATURDAY  
OCT. 14**

COMMUNITY CONVERSATION WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS • BRIDGING THE BAY LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY MARCH • GRAND CENTRAL PROUD FESTIVAL • SECOND SATURDAY COME OUT ARTWALK • CROISEURS DELLA NOCHE, A GENDER-BENDING FASHION EXTRAVAGANZA

**SUNDAY  
OCT. 15**

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# NEWS OF THE **weird**

By The Editors at  
Andrews McMeel

## OOPS!

A family in Coventry, England, are “quite mortified” after calling the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in September to rescue a lizard peeking from underneath a bed in their home. But when officer Vic Hurr arrived at the home, she discovered the “lizard” was not a “lizard at all, it was a pink stripy sock.” “I think the family eventually saw the funny side,” an RSPCA spokeswoman told the *Independent*. “The sock had obviously been there quite a while. It was a typical teenager’s bedroom, I suppose.”

The Caving Club at Indiana University explored Sullivan Cave in southern Indiana on Sept. 17, but when they headed back to campus, they forgot one thing: a 19-year-old freshman physics major who had become separated from the group and was trapped behind a locked gate. When the club president realized two days later that a caver had been left behind, members rushed back to save him. “You could tell they were pretty shaken up,” the caver told the *Indiana Daily Student*. “They did near kill me.” The student reported he licked moisture off the cave walls during the ordeal and wrote goodbye letters to his family on his iPhone until the battery died.

## MOTHER OF THE YEAR

Ebony Woody, 34, of Columbus, Ohio, was nothing if not thorough on the morning of Sept. 18 when, following an argument with her daughter, she purposely drove her car onto the sidewalk and struck the 17-year-old, who was walking to school, according to Columbus police. After knocking the girl down and running over her leg, Woody stopped and backed up, driving over the leg a second time. QFM96 reported Woody generously gave the girl a ride to her father’s house, where she dropped her off without reporting the incident. Woody later turned herself in at police headquarters and faces charges of felonious assault, aggravated vehicular assault and endangering children. The daughter was treated for two fractures to her left leg.

## ANIMALS ON THE LAM

Auburn, Massachusetts, police received a number of calls over the weekend of Sept. 15-17 about a wayward goat, but it wasn’t until the wee hours of Monday, Sept. 18, that No. 448 was finally corralled at the La Quinta Inn in Auburn, reported CBS Boston. The “mischievous runaway farm animal” was seen on surveillance video entering the lobby of the hotel and wandering the halls. Peter Blash, No. 448’s owner, said the goat jumped a 5-foot-high fence and “took off like a criminal.” However, Blash said, “I had one that made it all the way to Sturbridge.”

## QUESTIONABLE JUDGMENT

Coolidge, Arizona, resident Victor Pratt boasts that he’s played with snakes his whole life. So when a rattlesnake slithered by during a family party at a nearby lake on Sept. 7, Pratt grabbed the venomous member of the viper family and s

howed the kids “how to catch it and I was playing with it like little kids do. I wasn’t thinking. I was showing off,” he admitted to FOX 10 News. The rattler apparently didn’t want to play along and bit Pratt on his face and neck. Pratt’s sons quickly drove him to a nearby emergency room, from which he was later airlifted to Banner-University Medical Center Phoenix, where Dr. Steven Curry treated him for the bites. “There is a 100 percent chance he would have died if he’d not made it to the hospital within minutes,” Curry noted of the severity of the victim’s injuries. Pratt remained unconscious for several days. He told reporters he had learned his lesson and would not play with rattlesnakes again.

## BRIGHT IDEAS

Kevin Michael Cook, 24, of New Castle, Pennsylvania, was too drunk to drive on Sept. 3, so he enlisted the help of an 8-year-old girl. WPXI News reports the girl told Darlington Township police that Cook, a family friend, ordered her into a car at her grandmother’s house and forced her to drive him toward East Palestine, Ohio. The car stopped after nearly wrecking twice, as bystanders called 911. Police gave Cook a sobriety test, but he was too impaired to finish it. He was charged with endangering the welfare of a child, driving under the influence and driving without a license.

Read more weird news at [WeirdUniverse.net](http://WeirdUniverse.net); send items to [WeirdNews@earthlink.net](mailto:WeirdNews@earthlink.net). 🐛

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# NEWS <sup>+VIEWS</sup>

POLITICS ISSUES OPINION

## Z-state

Your (political) guide to the zombie apocalypse.

By Kate Bradshaw

Horror sub-genres seem to go in and out of vogue every decade or so. But zombie fiction appears to have endured like no other. It's easy to see why.

Cannibalistic undead humans shambling through the ruins of civilized society can be terrifying metaphors for a number of things that terrify us about ourselves: mindless consumerism, blind lust, drug addiction. The cause of a given work's zombie epidemic can also serve as the author's way of warning us about the possible consequences of disregarding the environment or failing to invest in, say, researching its root cause and potential antidote.

Some zombies are comically slow and easy to control or dispense with (*Shaun of the Dead*). Some are fast and zombify not from a virus, but from fungus like cordyceps (*The Girl With all the Gifts*, *The Last of Us*), a strain of which happens to turn ants who come across it into rage zombies *IRL* (!). But all offer us a way to place ourselves within a milieu in which the protagonists navigate a dystopian hellscape in which most humans — some of whom they knew and loved — have turned into ghastly monsters that want to chew on their innards. And often, it's the survivors who end up being the real monsters.

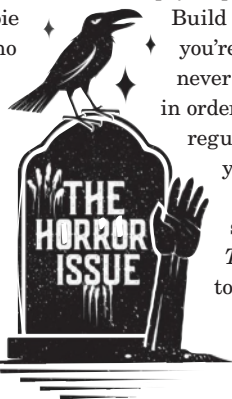
Of course, actually being plunged into an alternate reality where water, food, gas and other basics are scarce and highways are clogged — as many of us were last month as Hurricane Irma approached — is not fun at all, especially for those who weren't able to prepare.

So in honor of this year's Horror Issue, we offer a zombie apocalypse survival guide. Because you never know. (Okay, hordes of people rising from the dead to feast on the living is probably not going to happen. But most of these things are probably a good idea anyway.)

Here are some practical tips to help you and your loved ones survive the undead onslaught.

### Cardio

Whether they are fast zombies or slow zombies, we'd like to repeat key advice we heard at the beginning of *Zombieland*. Get on that treadmill as often as you can. Fuel will be scarce and there will be zombies and probably



psychopathic villains coming after you. Build up that endurance and while you're at it, do a pull-up or two. You never know what you'll have to climb in order to escape certain death. Plus, regular physical exercise is good for your brain. Your survival may depend on your being mentally sharp (or, if you're a Eugene from *The Walking Dead*, your ability to pretend you're sharp).

### Cancel all bear hunts

Here in Florida, the somehow-extant question of whether or not to shoot bears because

some people are moving to remote environs that infringe on their habitats sparked a raging debate in 2015 and 2016. Though bears have been in the clear over the last couple of years, the specter of another proposed hunt looms in 2018 and beyond. Because some people just can't be convinced that bears have a right to be here, too. But were the zombie apocalypse to occur here (and you know damn well Patient Zero would be from Florida), bears and other apex predators could help cull undead populations. The fact that you don't see bears, cougars or larger birds of prey picking off walkers on *The Walking Dead*, despite it largely taking place in the rural South, is a little annoying (but of course we still love it!). So if we preserve and restore their habitat (which is an awesome thing to do anyway), we could, in theory, preemptively control the zombie population.

### Buy solar panels, like, now

We should probably all be doing this anyway because, you know, carbon emissions and stuffs. Despite pushback from power companies and the legislators they purchase, solar is expanding in the Sunshine State and it's more affordable than ever. You can get solar through a co-op, you can lease panels; it's easy. Get on that shit now. Because once the power grid goes down, there's no bringing it back. You're probably saying to yourself, *hey, it's cool, I have a generator*. Well, one, it will eventually run out of gas and, two, perhaps most importantly, the loud noise it makes will lead the herds of rotting, reanimated corpses directly to you. Solar is clean, it's quiet, it's much more reliable in a post-apocalyptic wasteland than pretty much any other energy source.

continued on page 10



**STAND-UP GUYS:** The question of whether or not someone stood for the national anthem seems kind of silly after all.

## THURSDAY 5

**The St. Pete City Council** makes history and perhaps puts itself in the legal crosshairs of big-monied political interests by passing an ordinance severely limiting the campaign contributions PACs and super PACs can make in local elections. Nice try, and not at all in the sarcastic way.



Just a few days after redeeming himself by kicking a game-winning field goal after multiple missed attempts, **Bucs kicker Nick Folk** misses three FGs against

the Patriots, and the Bucs lose 19-14. That's all, Folk!

## FRIDAY 6

A 19-year-old is arrested in Lakeland after he allegedly goes into a Family Dollar store and points a gun first at a customer and then at a cashier, then just sort of gives up half-way through **both attempted robberies**, putting the gun away and leaving. PSA: It's still a crime even if you're just practicing.



## SATURDAY 7



God punishes the Tampa Bay Lightning for letting forward **J.T. Brown** raise his fist in protest before Friday's game by making the Bolts lose to the Panthers, because obviously God is white and American and unaware of His privilege.

## TUESDAY 10

Hillsborough County deputies burn **more than 800 pounds of marijuana** seized from grow houses. A pharmaceutical executive is unable to comment, as he is busy choking on a \$2,000 cigar he'd lighted using some old lady's receipt for a prescription for oxycodone.



Read Shit Happened every weekday at [cltampa.com/news](http://cltampa.com/news).

→ continued from page 9

### Start stocking your bar

This one is obvious, and you probably did this ahead of Hurricane Irma. You don't want to have to, say, sneak into an abandoned country club still crawling with walkers just to get a crusty swig of old mint schnapps. And make sure you go with something that's palatable at room temperature, since refrigeration is going to be a rarity. Grab some mixers with a long-ish shelf life while you're at it as well as...you know...nonperishable food and some seeds so you can grow stuff (by the way, you might want to Google "how to grow stuff" while you're at it).

### That penny-ice thing everyone did

You know — so you can estimate how long it had been since the power went out at your place while you spent days scavenging and fighting off unspeakably hideous ghouls and renegade former-accountant motorcycle gangs. Remember, freeze the water in a Tupperware container and put the penny on top, then toss it right back into the freezer, just like you did before evacuating ahead of Irma. Hopefully the immense psychological trauma of having to bludgeon what had previously been the skull of your kid's second grade teacher won't keep you from having the presence of mind to check on the penny right when you get back.

### Sensible gun legislation?

This was a tough one. On one hand, having unbridled access to guns across the nation



**GIRLS JUST WANNA...** It'll be easy to make new friends during the apocalypse.

means that you can easily find these handy tools for dispensing of the undead and, as needed, defend yourself from guys in leather jackets just about anywhere — and feel like a real American in doing so. Buuut it also means that said leather jacket-sporting dudes will have access to firearms

they probably owned before the fall of civilization (and weren't really background-checked for), and they probably will have raided abandoned houses for guns well before you even thought about it. Also, swords and crossbows and garden tools and other items are, unlike firearms, quiet and they don't run out of ammo at exactly the wrong moment. So maybe if we err on the side of gun control now, when all hell breaks loose, there will be fewer sociopaths that already have their own small arsenal. Just a thought.

## Swords and crossbows are quiet and don't run out of ammo at exactly the wrong moment.

### Maybe adequately fund the CDC, EPA, etc.?

Remember when the ebola scare unfolded a few years back? And then Zika, now-ish? Well, the reason that neither took more of a toll in the U.S., probably, is that we each contribute some of our hard-earned dollars to the federal government, which in turn uses some of it to pay scientists to, like, do research with the goal of finding a cure or at least a vaccine as well as the mechanisms that can potentially cause a pandemic and whether hand sanitizer will cut it. Some of our money also goes toward preventing environmental conditions that threaten public health — it used to, anyway. Now it funds expensive trips to golf resorts. So, by supporting candidates who want to make sure agencies that conduct actual science are not underfunded, you could be staving off oblivion. By supporting candidates who think these agencies deserve the funding level of, like, a meth lab, well... hellooo, zombies! 🧟

## THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

**IT'S TIME AGAIN FOR GUN TALK WITH YOUR HOST, THE GLIB SOCIOPATH**

HELLO, FELLOW PATRIOTS, AND THANKS FOR SUBSCRIBING TO MY YOUTUBE CHANNEL! AS YOU'VE UNDOUBTEDLY HEARD FROM THE HYSTERICAL FAKE NEWS MEDIA, THERE'S BEEN ANOTHER MASS MORTALITY INCIDENT WHICH HAPPENED TO INVOLVE FIREARMS!

OF COURSE, THE LIBERALS IMMEDIATELY STARTED WHINING ABOUT GUN CONTROL--AS IF THAT WOULD SOLVE ANYTHING! HONESTLY, THEY'RE SO EMOTIONAL!

WHY CAN'T THEY BE RATIONAL AND DISPASSIONATE, LIKE ME? AND WHY CAN'T THEY KEEP THEIR GUN GRABBING HANDS OFF MY PRECIOUS GUNS?!!

IT'S MUCH TOO SOON TO POLITICIZE THE ISSUE! WE MUST OFFER OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS TO THOSE AFFECTED BY THIS UTTERLY UNPREVENTABLE INCIDENT, AND THEN GET ON WITH OUR LIVES AS IF NONE OF IT EVER HAPPENED!

IT'S THE ONLY DECENT THING TO DO!

AND WE CERTAINLY MUSTN'T ALLOW THIS INCIDENT TO BE USED AS AN EXCUSE TO IMPOSE NEW LAWS, WHICH CRIMINALS WILL SIMPLY IGNORE!

IF A LAW'S NOT GUARANTEED TO BE 100% EFFECTIVE, THERE'S NO POINT IN HAVING IT! THAT'S JUST HOW OUR LEGAL SYSTEM WORKS!

I MEAN, WHAT IF THE KILLER WHO HAPPENED TO USE FIREARMS HAD DRIVEN A TRUCK INTO THE CROWD? WOULD LIBERALS INSIST ON TRUCK CONTROL? WOULD THEY WANT TO REGISTER TRUCKS AND REQUIRE SPECIAL LICENSING AND TESTING OF TRUCK USERS? CAN YOU EVEN IMAGINE?

NOTE TO SELF--THIS PART MAY NEED SOME MINOR EDITING.

IN CLOSING--OUR SECOND-HALF-OF-THE-SECOND-AMENDMENT RIGHTS ARE SACROSANCT! THE OCCASIONAL MASS MORTALITY INCIDENT WHICH HAPPENS TO INVOLVE FIREARMS IS JUST THE PRICE WE PAY--FOR FREEDOM!

BESIDES, WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT OURSELVES! THERE'S A LOT OF NUTJOBS WITH GUNS OUT THERE!



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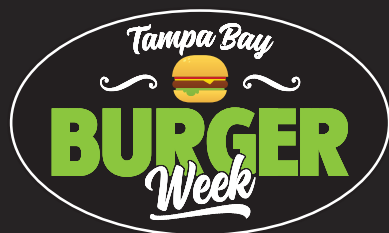


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# FOOD + DRINK

RESTAURANTS RECIPES DINING GUIDES

## The Inedibles

CL's restaurant critic recalls past treats that felt like tricks.

By Jon Palmer Claridge

In more than five years of writing food columns for CL, I still get excited as I enter a new restaurant. There's usually something positive to report, and sometimes I discover a dish that's truly thrilling. In fact, it's really rare to encounter an item that's flat-out horrible. I've found Bay area chefs and restaurants work hard to please their clientele.

But, there are occasions when things go awry. That's why for this year's Horror Issue, we're revisiting The Inedibles.

I've left out names or identifying details to protect the guilty — although several have gone out of business — because I'm not here to pour even gourmet sea salt in the wounds. Each week I endeavor honestly to report my experience. I look for balance while I hope for surprise. As chef Thomas Keller, of French Laundry and Per Se fame, once said in a TED Talk, "cooking = ingredients + execution." It's no urban legend that attention to detail and freshness are half the battle.

What if no one cares, though? I've only given a single one-star review, and it remains the nadir of my critical experience. Almost everything we were served — including a sangria so medicinal we had to return it — made us question whether there was any guidance in the kitchen or any concern on the part of the owners. The wait staff didn't help — relaxed, yes, but also distracted and untrained. The bottom-line issue: The restaurant had no idea of what it was trying to be.

In other restaurant encounters, I've run into single dishes that turn the whole meal into a misadventure.

At times, the issue is one of unpleasant texture — like an all-too-memorable tomato bisque, so thick and cheesy I felt like "a first grader with a paste fetish."

Or there are off flavors that never should've left the kitchen, like the Caesar salad that tasted "like old fish, not anchovies, and not in a good way."

And speaking of seafood, sometimes you run into not-so-fresh fish that tastes like it came from the periodic table of elements, not the sea: like the sushi that tasted "mushy



instead of firm, with a metallic after-taste in place of ocean brine." In short, inedible.

I still remember the shock on my tongue from a beautiful-looking dish with sour dressing that was well on its way to becoming the base for a fruity beer: "The roasted peach and prosciutto salad is a nice idea, but the raspberry vinaigrette is bitter and tastes slightly fermented."

And there was the unfortunate cassoulet in which the white beans were soggy and the kitchen seemed to have

had way too much thyme on its hands. The dish was so woefully over-seasoned that we couldn't believe anyone in the restaurant had tasted it before it left the kitchen.

Every once in a while, a serving piece provides an unwelcome surprise — like a plate with not very strategically placed dips, so that before I noticed "a flowing stream of water has snaked its way from the lovely sculptural plate off the table and onto my seat cushion to create a startling lake between my legs."

Oh, my.

Other times, you wonder what a chef was thinking in the creation of a new dish: "The dense, rubbery dessert that tastes of sugary artificial fruit infusion is only made worse by a garnish of breakfast cereal that most palates eschew by the time they're old enough to read."

What about a schizophrenic offering where perfection meets disaster?

"The thick, cracklingly crisp crust is as perfect as any crème brûlée I can remember.

That's why the Tahitian vanilla bean custard underneath is so maddeningly disappointing; it has zero flavor. The custard is creamy enough, but it is neither sweet nor vanilla. I kept going back to the wonderful glass-like topping, only to return to the custard thinking that surely I must be mistaken. Sadly, it seems that the sugar and vanilla bean ran off and got hitched in another dessert."

I just wanted to cry.

When a restaurant gets sloppy in storing its food, unwanted flavors may appear, too.

"As it turns out, the layers of thinly sliced potatoes bathed in cream are perfectly tender. Sadly, they taste funky, as though they were made ahead and not stored properly."

Luckily, the horrors of dishes that look like dog food (a phrase that never saw print) or taste of freezer burn are hard to come by. The same is true for metallic fish and fermented salads.

More often, dining out is not as capricious as asking, "Trick or treat?" 🍬



**CEREAL KILLER:** Bad ingredients can ruin a dish as surely as poor, um, execution.

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# I want candy

Beers that taste just as good as your favorite Halloween confections.

By Meaghan Habuda

Craft beer and candy might seem like a strange match at first. But brewers near and far have been making these two opposites attract for quite some time. In fact, Norasha-Nya Burton, general manager at Centro Ybor's Brass Tap, says curating a flight of beers from her draft list that mirrors the experience of downing your favorite Halloween confections with a complementary brew — minus the extra calories — is a breeze.

"I'm giving the guests a trip down candy lane where the beer industry is taking us — where I can give you the mental image that you're eating this specific candy or that specific candy," Burton told CL. "I could do a flight pairing right now, and you could be eating an Almond Joy, Reese's, Smarties and a Tootsie Pop just from four different beers."

As Burton puts it, these adventurous creations that push the envelope — which aren't necessarily candy-inspired, but do trigger a similar, complex flavor profile — are where beer is headed. While they might not've been around five or so years ago, the industry has evolved in such a way that beer lovers can essentially eliminate the candy part of the suds-meet-candy pairing.

Sweet Baby Jesus!, a chocolate peanut butter porter from Baltimore-based DuClaw Brewing

MEAGHAN HABUDA



**NO SNICKERING:** Pick a brew with a similar, complex flavor profile instead.

Co., is reminiscent of a Reese's cup, for example, while an MIA Beer Company fruited Berliner Weisse, Encanto De Amor, conjures Sour Patch Kids.

"I love that we can manipulate beer in such a way that you can eliminate the candy. That's sort of where I stand on it. Not that I don't think that they can be paired, but the experience through beer should be how we mimic real life. And we're accomplishing that so well right now that you almost don't need to have a pairing," Burton said.

So, if you *were* thinking about marrying candy and beer to ring in the upcoming holiday, here's a roundup of s'more brews that taste just as good as the real thing. Think of it as, like, adult trick-or-treating. Or something.

**Beer:** Bell Cow Milk Chocolate Porter

**Brewed by:** JDub's Brewing Company, Sarasota

**FFO:** Hershey's

According to Burton, the brewery even uses Hershey's syrup in this one.

**Beer:** Peanut Butter Deja Moo Milk Stout

**Brewed by:** Hidden Springs Ale Works, Tampa Heights

**FFO:** Reese's

Deja Moo is served on a nitro tap, resulting in a super-smooth pour that's comparable to the beloved peanut butter rounds. It's also a good choice for the Snickers fiend in your life.

**Beer:** Blackberry Harvest Berliner

**Brewed by:** Urban Family Brewing Co., Seattle

**FFO:** Jolly Rancher

"Sours, I would stick with SweetTarts or Smarties or something along the lines of a slightly tarted candy," said Burton.

**Beer:** Sumatra Mountain Brown

**Brewed by:** Founders Brewing Co., Michigan

**FFO:** Raisinets

Chocolate-covered raisins. Chocolate-covered peanuts. Really, chocolate-covered anything.

**Beer:** Lucky Lucy Strawberry Blonde

**Brewed by:** Pair O' Dice Brewing Company, Clearwater

**FFO:** SweetTarts

"I mean, honestly, with a strawberry ale," Burton said, "even putting your Tootsie Pop in it would actually be tasty." 🍬

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# No tricks — just treats

Tampa Bay sweets a-plenty this Halloween season.

By Alexandria Jones

No one — and I mean no one — is too old to get into the Halloween spirit. Even if you don't plan on dressing up for the spooky occasion, there are plenty of holiday treats to go around in Tampa Bay — everything from cotton candy that resembles cobwebs to a purple-colored mutant waffle topped with ice cream — starting now.

After all, it's all about the sweets this time of year, whether you're headed to a friend's costume party or your couch for a horror movie marathon.

**Alessi Bakery** Spine-chilling cakes that come decorated in creep-tastic varieties like monster brains and tombstones (pumpkin-shaped cakes are available for the scaredy-cats). Cookie lovers can choose from Frankenstein, ghosts or cats. And the zombie gingerbread cookies sound like they were made for snacking in between trick-or-treater doorbell rings. \$1.95-\$4.00 & up. 2909 W. Cypress St., Tampa. 813-879-4544, [alessibakery.com](http://alessibakery.com).

**Baken Babes** Take home this Hall on Franklin bakery's bloody red velvet cupcakes and pumpkin whoopie pies, or scarf 'em down on-site. Be on the lookout for other Halloween specials throughout the month. \$4-\$4.25. 1701 N. Franklin St., Tampa. 813-405-4008, [bakenbabes.com](http://bakenbabes.com).

**Cake Affection** A lineup of holiday delights — among them gourmet cupcakes with edible toppers, organic cotton candy as creepy cobwebs (little spiders and all), and cake pops featuring eyeballs, mummies and ghosts. Loafers receive a 5 percent discount when they mention "CL" at checkout. \$2.75-\$5. 4901 100th Way N., St. Petersburg. 727-800-9000, [cakeaffection.com](http://cakeaffection.com).

**Chef Inspired Popcorn Company** Put a twist on another Halloween movie night staple with Chef Inspired Popcorn, whose fit-for-the-season selection includes pumpkin spice, pumpkin-caramel and caramel espresso. The recently relocated shop's Oct. 31 happy hour features buy one, get one bags of popcorn from 4 to 6 p.m., and trick-or-treaters in costume also land a sample size of Spooktacular, a mix of the black cherry, orange and grape flavors. Regular and specialty sizes vary in price. 3204 W. Bay to Bay Blvd., Tampa. 813-559-1292, [cipopcorn.com](http://cipopcorn.com).

**Chocolate Pi** Candy corn, candy apple and kettle corn are the Epicurean Hotel confectionery's new macaron offerings. Available by the slice or as a 6-inch round, the Skellington — pumpkin

cake with pumpkin ganache and cream cheese icing — is sure to be frightfully good. \$2-\$45 & up. 1205 S. Howard Ave., Tampa. 813-831-2195, [sweetchocolatepi.com](http://sweetchocolatepi.com).

**The Cupcake Spot** Need a sweet fix for Halloween? Pumpkin and coffee are among the flavor options. \$34 for a dozen. 405 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. 727-825-0572, [thecupcakespotinc.com](http://thecupcakespotinc.com).

**Dough** Expect a variety of themed cupcakes from this ante-upping South Tampa bakery, plus eyeball, Frankenstein, jack-o'-lantern, spiderweb and vampire doughnuts. \$1.99-\$4.99. 2602 S. MacDill Ave., Tampa. 813-902-1979, [bestdoughnuts.com](http://bestdoughnuts.com).

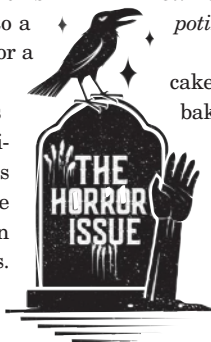
**Farmacy Vegan Kitchen + Bakery** Pumpkin-infused vegan goodies — that're sometimes gluten-free — galore. Offerings include pumpkin spice blondies packed with healthy fats and protein; maple-pumpkin doughnuts (and, OK, non-pumpkin flavors such as German chocolate); and chocolate chip pumpkin muffins. \$3-\$4. 803 N. Tampa St., Tampa. 786-214-0671, [farmacyvegan-kitchen.com](http://farmacyvegan-kitchen.com).

**The Hyppo Gourmet Ice Pops** Fall highlights include pumpkin cheesecake, pumpkin pie, maple mamey and creamy walnut. From Oct. 27 till Halloween, patrons who stop in wearing a costume receive one free chocolate dip to accompany their order. \$3.75. 627 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. 727-498-6536, [thehyppo.com](http://thehyppo.com).

**Sweet!** Cupcakes from this downtown St. Pete bakery go "boo!" with ghost and spiderweb shapes topping flavors like vanilla red velvet and Billion Dollar Chocolate. \$34 for a dozen. 405 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. 727-498-8587, [sweetstpetersburg.com](http://sweetstpetersburg.com).

**Urban Creamery** Indulge in Urban's new caramel marshmallow-pumpkin spice ice cream, which arrives with orange whipped cream, chocolate sprinkles and marshmallow sauce on top of a purple-colored mutant waffle. \$9.50. 689 Central Ave., St. Petersburg. 727-895-5953, [urbancreamerystpete.com](http://urbancreamerystpete.com).

**Whatever Pops & Bowls** I'm sure the zombie-flavored popsicle — a combination of yogurt, raspberry and Oreos — won't turn you into one of those living-dead characters from *The Walking Dead*. Pretty sure, anyway. \$3.75. 5127 N. Florida Ave., Tampa. 813-559-7677, [whateverpops.com](http://whateverpops.com). ☞



**BLOODY GOOD:** Bloody red velvet cupcakes? Yes, please.

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**81BAY BREWING CO.** South Tampa's first craft brewery boasts a wide variety of styles. 4465 W. Gandy Blvd., Tampa. 813-837-BREW, 81baybrewco.com.

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**BIG TOP BREWING** Perhaps Sarasota's premier purveyor of locally crafted beer, Big Top's reputation has spread far beyond the region. 6111 Porter Way, Sarasota. 941-371-2939, bigtopbrewing.com.

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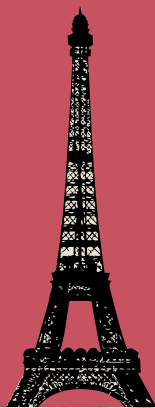
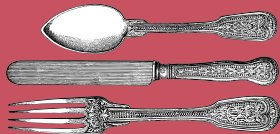
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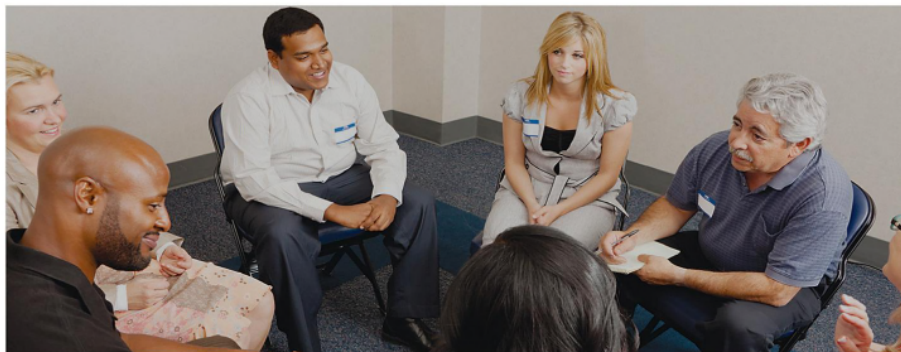
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## Unlocking horror

An escape room for spirits.

By Cathy Salustri

For two years, guests at the Vault of Souls have had the chance to explore every nook and cranny as they wandered the rooms, looking for clues and learning the stories and subplots contained in the Vault. If you missed something the first year, you had a chance to delve deeper the second. Not so this year: The organizers have completely revamped the storyline — and how you navigate it.

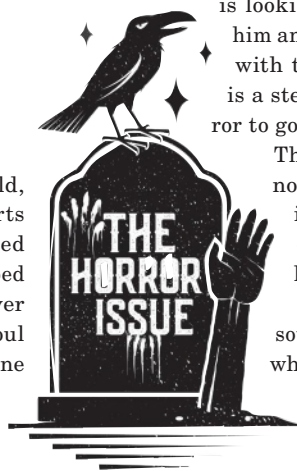
The delightfully talented Scott Swenson and his staff of creatives have taken the soul of the Vault of Souls — an almost claustrophobic sense of psychological terror — and morphed it into something more interactive, if that's possible. The location remains the same, a gorgeous old bank building with an actual vault, as does the pre-show, in which elegantly ghoulish artists — a ghostly ballerina, a haunting couple dancing, the creepiest mime ever — appear and disappear throughout the night. But this year, while you sip on your cocktails in the exquisitely cavernous, almost-all-white lobby, you wait for The Tabulator to call you to one of four experiences, preselected by you when you buy the ticket.

Those experiences are part *Sleep No More*, part escape room — except neither of those analogies really does justice to the entire experience. In years past, you would wander through different live plays, silently seeking clues while wearing a creepy anonymous white mask. You could spend as much time as you liked anywhere in the Vault, but once you left you couldn't return. This go-round, you get to choose your experience, and to leave the experience you must complete your mission: to find a way to release the soul of the ghost trapped inside the rooms. Yes, rooms — the individual experiences aren't necessarily limited to one room. How do you complete your mission? You must solve a series of puzzles. Gone are the masks and the vow of silence, and each small group heads into the vault with a bank teller who may or may not channel the spirit of the soul wishing for release. Your teller will offer as much or as little help as you need to find the clues to release the soul.

"We want everyone to have a good experience," Swenson said.

And we did.

I shied away from The Child, the experience where John Roberts waits. John Roberts, you see, died as a child for reasons only described as mysterious, and, for whatever reason, his parents stored his soul in the vault for safekeeping (as one does) — but, like all the other souls wanting release, after 95 years in the "paranormal purgatory" (although I dearly wish I'd written that phrase, that's actually what they call it), the souls become the property of The Exchange National Bank. So, this young dead child



### The Vault of Souls

611 N. Franklin St., Tampa.  
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is looking for playmates to play with him and release him. It's also the room with the decaying child/doll, which is a step further than I'd like my terror to go.

The Dominatrix mission — which none of us experienced — looks intriguing, although it immediately evokes images of haunted S&M.

We had hoped to release the soul of Dr. Truth. A practitioner of what they call "dark psychology," the Doctor is trapped reliving his own dark practices.

However, his experience sold out for the night we tried the Vault of Souls' new format. Fast. Apparently, Dr. Truth is fascinating, and, according to others who visited that particular room, also quite attractive.

And so we released the soul of Mr. Plutus, the bank guard. His soul resides alongside some of the coolest of the bank's physical objects, and I was immediately struck by how much this option felt like where Indiana Jones's soul might wait for final judgment. You can pick up and touch anything you like, but you may not disassemble or remove anything, lest you anger the soul you're trying to help — or any of the other wandering souls. (And about that: As you go through your mission, you will see no other living creatures, except for your teller. You will run across the odd soul. Talk to one of them, or in any way react to them, and your teller may think you're seeing things.)

As for the puzzle, even without the creepy dead baby/doll room experience of John Roberts, our experience reminded me a great deal of *The 7th Guest*, the '90s interactive movie puzzle video game, only an immersive

continued on page 23 ➔



CHILD'S PLAY: Play with child ghost John Roberts... if you dare.



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◆ continued from page 21

version. We had to solve the puzzles in one room to get to the next, and there was a persistent sense of foreboding about what was going to happen next. While I knew there was no real danger, the experience does unnerve.

The teller perfectly blended her craft with the atmosphere and created the exact type of experience we wanted. When we struggled with a clue and she offered help the first time, we welcomed it. The second time, my fiancé mumbled (in his delightful “cranky boat captain” way), “We’re being led too much.” She either heard him or sensed that we didn’t want much help, and she backed off, which allowed us to solve the puzzles and make our own discoveries.

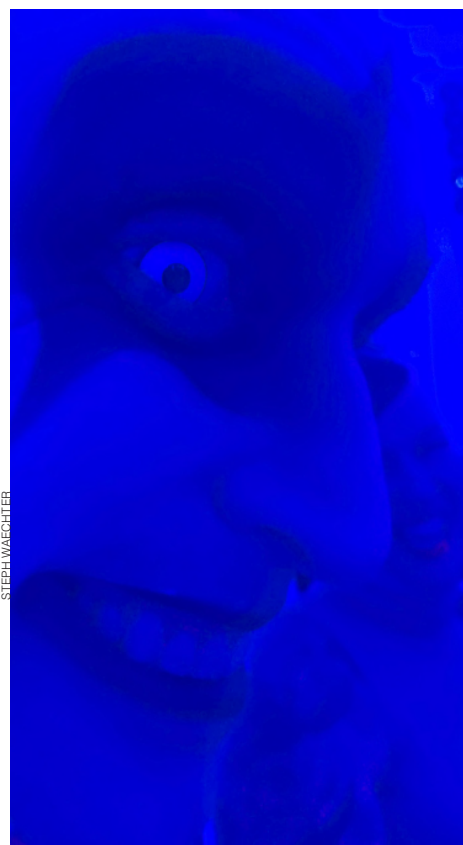
Here’s where we made our mistake: We only made reservations for one room (you can reserve a second for half price), and, even though our group consisted of three people, we finished in 12 minutes (they set a soft 20-minute limit). Since the evening cost half of what it did last year, we should have booked two. However, while I’d like to tell you to book one at the start of the evening (7:30 p.m.) and one at the end, the two remaining weekends are so close to sold out that they’re asking folks not to do that.

I would suggest you book before the after-dinner crowds arrive, because the longer the night goes on, the more, er, lubricated people

are when they get down to solve the puzzle, and the longer it takes them. Despite the best efforts of the Vault tellers and organizers to avoid running behind, we actually waited over an hour (we had an 8:45 p.m. check-in) because, as the creepy, giggling elevator operator explained to us, “*People are drunnnnnnnnk.*” Get there early and avoid that. The pre-show dancers, musicians, buskers and haunted vibe delighted us, but even with four experiences running simultaneously, it’s hard to keep to a schedule when people don’t want to leave the experience.

If you can’t get an early booking, ask if your experience is running behind when you check in, and by how much. If there’s a significant wait, perhaps pop next door to the Gin Joint, which has softly opened as an all-the-time restaurant and bar (as opposed to its former incarnation as an annual Vault of Souls-only after-party experience). If the block of Italian white cheddar cheese they allowed us to sample while waiting to go down to the Vault is any indication, the food will make the wait more enjoyable.

After you release your soul, your teller will take you upstairs, where you can share a drink with friends, watch the aerialist, mingle with spirits and meet the soul who, thanks to you, has escaped spending eternity in a bank vault. **CL**



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# Mini lights, mini lights...

In Roser Park, you never say this three times.

By Resie Waechter

**M**ini lights,  
mini lights,  
come out tonight.

Do you dare to say it thrice?

Despite being born and raised in St. Pete, I had not heard of the mini lights urban legend until my wife and I moved to Roser Park two years ago. Walking around Roser — a small and still-eclectic neighborhood despite its steady gentrification — I asked various neighbors: Have you heard of the mini lights?

I got mixed responses, though not one person volunteered to repeat the chant the three times required in order to conjure up the spirits of the minis.

Like many tales passed down through oral tradition, the legend of the mini lights has multiple versions. Though the exact location and names vary slightly depending on whom you ask, the most-oft agreed upon version of the folktale goes something like this: Residing under the bridge alongside Booker Creek in Historic Roser Park, tiny green people (the “mini lights”) await

in the dark. Some sources say the little people were part of a circus from centuries past; others say the creatures belonged to a voodoo priestess who once lived in Roser Park.

All agree on one thing, though: Any time someone calls out “Mini lights, mini lights, come out tonight” three times, the minis will chase them down.

While the majority of my neighbors have indeed heard the legend, the source of their knowledge varies. Those who have lived in Roser Park for generations are well-versed. However much truth it holds, the story was traditionally told to local kids as a cautionary tale:

*Do not enter the park after dark.*

Recently, the mini lights legend has risen in popularity. The *Tampa Bay Times* wrote an article about it in 2016 and longtime local muralists the Vitale Brothers

are currently making a “skater horror film” based on the folktale. The Vitale Brothers’ fundraising campaign has been an overwhelming success and Roser residents have already seen evidence of filming.

I walk along Booker Creek regularly. With its broad brick roads, hundred-plus-year-old oaks and sloping hills that belie the fact we are just blocks away from downtown St. Pete, Roser Park is quiet and serene and just *different* somehow. Spend an hour lounging in the grassy hills by the creek and you have a fair chance of seeing a bald eagle or otters; even manatees are known to drift by.

Stay after sunset, though, and a certain eeriness descends. The sense of solitude celebrated just hours prior grows spooky all of a sudden; something feels “off.” The quiet is no longer soothing. The animals have disappeared, and it seems I should, too.

Has anyone actually seen the mini lights? Nobody I have met, though a few know someone who knows someone who has. I toy with the idea of walking through Roser after dark; my dad and I consider a night hike down the streets

and into neighboring Greenwood Cemetery. Ultimately I decide I’d rather not take my chances. I guess the superstition is beginning to sink in.

The mini lights legend (and its evolution) speaks volumes about the history of development in south St. Pete. You can tell a lot about a place by the way its folktales are told; even more by focusing on who is doing the telling. I am intrigued to see the Vitale Brothers’ film. I am hopeful the story will be done justice.

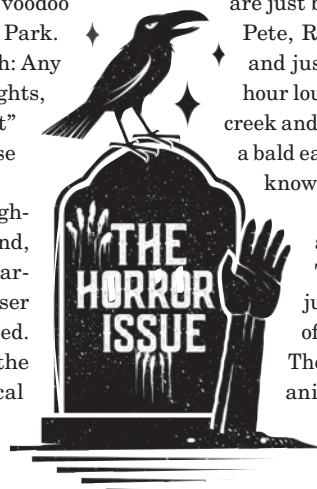
When asked whether or not our neighborhood is “safe” by potential buyers who spend Sunday afternoons driving slowly down the streets now full of construction company signs and freshly cleared lots reeking of recently chopped oak, I can guess at what I’m really being asked. Yes, there is some crime; no, we don’t want to move. My wife and I describe the ups and the downs, the strong sense of community, and the tensions sometimes felt.

We never mention the mini lights.

On a recent visit to the park with our dogs, Steph and I pause at the sound of a car full of teenagers yelling out.

*“Mini lights, mini lights, come out tonight.”*

Upon seeing us, the teens pull to a stop and ask if we’ve heard of the legend; if we think it’s real. I smile, shrug my shoulders and wink. **EW**



**GOING GREEN:** One version of this urban legend claims green creatures lurk in Booker Creek storm drains.

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# Head trip

Travel to Sarasota next week for a performance festival like no other at the Ringling Museum.

By David Warner

It's a safe bet that you will see something at Sarasota's Ringling International Arts Festival that you have never seen before — like last year's aptly named acrobatic troupe Gravity & Other Myths or performance artist Thaddeus Phillips's *Border Crossing*, a one-man, multilingual world tour.

This year promises to be no less eye-opening, with performances ranging from flip-book storytelling to a live-action video game. One event, a solo play called *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*, will not only be a surprise to the audience but to everyone involved in the production — because nobody knows what's in the script until the actor tears open an envelope.

Dwight Currie, the Ringling Museum of Art's Curator of Performance, is the man responsible

for assembling all this eclectic artistry into the four days' wonder that is RIAF, now entering its ninth season. According to Currie, the festival owes its existence to Florida State Senator John McKay and his unlikely alliance with, of all people, Mikhail Baryshnikov. The senator had connected with the world-famous dancer through a mutual acquaintance; once Baryshnikov's name was attached to the project, along with a proposed partnership between RIAF and his eponymous Arts Center in NYC, funding followed relatively easily.

The initiation of the festival coincided with what the museum likes to think of as “the Ringling renaissance,” says Currie, when over a period of years beginning in the early 2000s four new structures were added to its campus,

allowing for an expansion in programming. In a city well-served by traditional arts, the idea of a festival that offered something different — something new, more experimental — made sense. Baryshnikov's celebrity helped bring it immediate attention — adding an unforgettable frisson to opening-night parties in the museum courtyard, when you'd see him wandering amongst the throngs like, you know, a regular human — and that affiliation lasted a successful five years. But now, says Currie, the festival has really found its stride.

“It's not as high-profile as it was when we had one of the most celebrated artists in the world affiliated with it,” he says. “On the other hand, we will sell 4,000 to 5,000 tickets, a huge number when you take that as a percent of the local market.”

RIAF, and the performances Currie curates throughout the year at the Ringling, fill a niche, he says, one that's different from what's offered by, say, Sarasota Opera or the Van Wezel. “Sarasota has long had its Broadway, has long had its Lincoln Center,” he says, “but hasn't had until recently a downtown equivalent.”

Nor, when you think of it, does Tampa Bay. It's rare to see adventurous, internationally known artists of this caliber anywhere around here, which makes RIAF that much more of a treasure. Plus, it's reasonably priced; no performances (other than the opening night

celebration) are more than \$35 a ticket, with student tickets available at \$10 apiece. All tickets include free admission to the museums, the gorgeous seaside Ca' d'Zan, and the gardens, and there are eateries on the grounds so you can catch a bite between the 2, 5 and 8 p.m. performances without having to drive elsewhere.

Here's a breakdown of the 2017 lineup, with comments by Currie.

## FEST PREVIEW

### Ringling International Arts Festival

Oct. 18-21, The John and Mable Ringling Museum of Art, 5401 Bay Shore Rd., Sarasota. Individual show tickets, \$35; students, \$10. First Night, \$100. Members save 10 percent on all tickets. Non-members save 10 percent when purchasing four or more RIAF tickets. All performance tickets include free admission to the Museum of Art, Circus Museum and first-floor walk-through of Ca' d'Zan. 941-360-7399, ringling.org/riaf.



**White Rabbit Red Rabbit.** A co-production of RIAF and Urbanite Theatre (a successful new company that, like RIAF, has proven that Sarasota audiences are willing to take a chance on the unpredictable), this is the play-in-an-envelope. Written by an Iranian playwright, Nassim Soleimanpour, who at the time of its writing was forbidden from leaving his country, *WRRR* has been described as part theater entertainment, part social experiment. It had a successful run in NY starring the likes of Whoopi Goldberg, Patrick Wilson and Nathan Lane, but if you want to experience it as the RIAF actors will, don't Google. Not even Currie knows what's in the script: “I made an active decision to *not* know.” The play will be performed four times at RIAF by four different actors, then 10 more times (by 10 other actors) at Urbanite. (RIAF: Oct. 19, 2 & 8 p.m.; Oct. 20 & 21 at 2 p.m.)



**PRODIGAL SON:** McGinn Again's *Ing an Die* by Sarasota native James McGinn.



**Happy Hour.** You've never been to an office party like this one. Two goofball party-crashers fulfill Monica Bill Barnes & Company's mission “to bring dance where it does not belong,” finding a reason to celebrate no matter what. “Wonderfully affirming and funny and accessible,” says Currie. (Oct. 19 & 21, 5 p.m.; Oct. 20, 5 & 8 p.m.)



FRANZ HITSCHEL

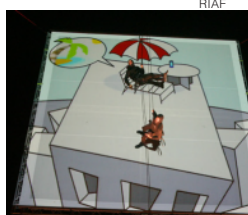
**HE'LL FLIP:** Volker Gerling on stage in *Portraits in Motion*.

**Portraits in Motion.** Volker Gerling's "thumb cinema" employs the simplest of elements: an overhead projector and a flipbook of photos he took of people during a 2,174-mile journey through his native Germany. The result? "A simply beautiful expression of storytelling," says Currie. Winner of the Total Theatre Award for Innovation at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. (Oct. 19, 5 p.m.; Oct. 20, 2 p.m.)

choreographer brings what's described on RIAF's website as "a shape-shifting love story told amidst a pre-apocalyptic landscape." The accompanying trailer is bloody, unsettling and quite beautiful. (Oct. 19, 8 p.m.; Oct. 20 & 21, 5 p.m.)

**eVenti Verticali: Wanted.** Wow. If

this Italian troupe is half as much fun in person as they are on video, we're in for tricks and treats of mind-boggling proportions. Think Keystone Kops meets Super Mario Bros., suspended by harnesses in front of a three-story-high outdoor video screen. (Oct. 19 & 20, 8 p.m.; also performed during the Opening Night Party on Oct. 18.)



RIAF

**ensemblenewSRQ.** A Sarasota ensemble devoted to contemporary classical music presents two intriguing programs at RIAF. The first, "John Luther Adams's The Space Around You: Musical Reflections," is performed, appropriately enough, in James Turrell's sublime *Skyspace* installation. The second, "The Magical World of Berio's Sequenzas," explores the Italian composer's virtuoso works for solo instruments; it will be performed in the museum's Huntington Gallery. (Program One: Oct. 19 & 20, 5 p.m.; Program Two: Oct. 20, 2 p.m.; Oct. 21, 2 & 5 p.m.)

**RIAF 2017 First Night.** A kick-off celebration in the museum's West Courtyard with hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer and soft drinks; previews of the festival ahead; and at 8 p.m., a performance by eVenti Verticali of *Wanted*. (Oct. 18, 6:30-10 p.m.)



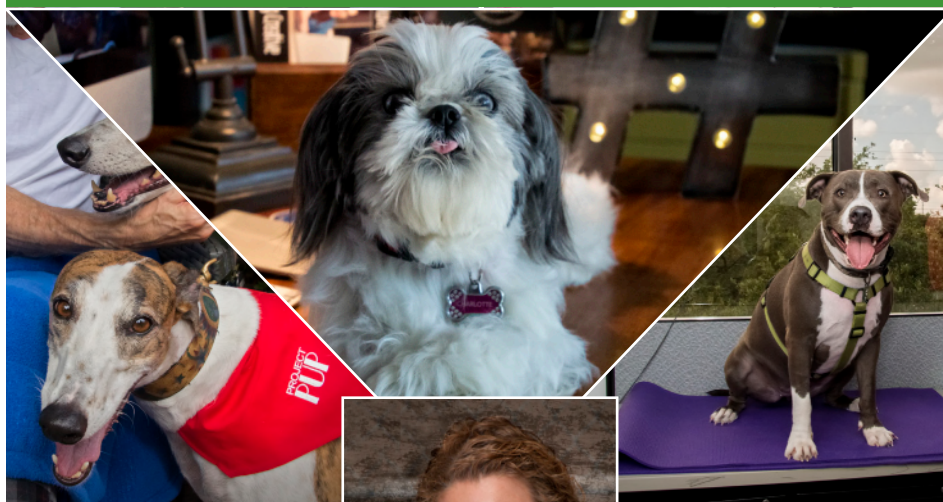
WERNER PUNTINGAM/EAR EYE

**Nobuntu.** An a cappella quintet from Zimbabwe whose repertoire includes folk songs, Afrojazz and gospel, Nobuntu is "enormously popular and loved in their own country and now they're coming to the U.S. for the first time," says Currie. "They're really thrilled." (Oct. 19 & 21, 2 p.m.; Oct. 20, 8 p.m.)

**Ingan Die.** "High-concept dance," says Currie, from Sarasota expatriate James McGinn. Now based in Belgium with his multidisciplinary family art collective, McGinn Again, the dancer/

# LAURIE ROSS PHOTOGRAPHY

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The show is a complement to her 2013 book and a prelude to her next Shop Dogs book: **"SHOP DOGS, A PHOTO ESSAY OF DOGS THAT GO TO WORK"**



Laure Ross

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Laurie Ross will have many fun photos on exhibit of dogs that go to work in the Tampa Bay area.

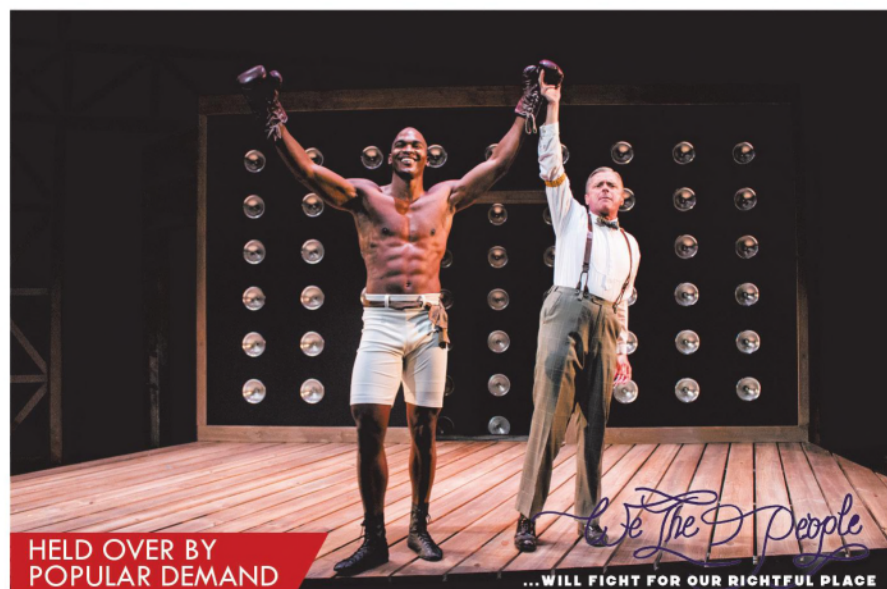
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### Want to spread the word about a cool event?

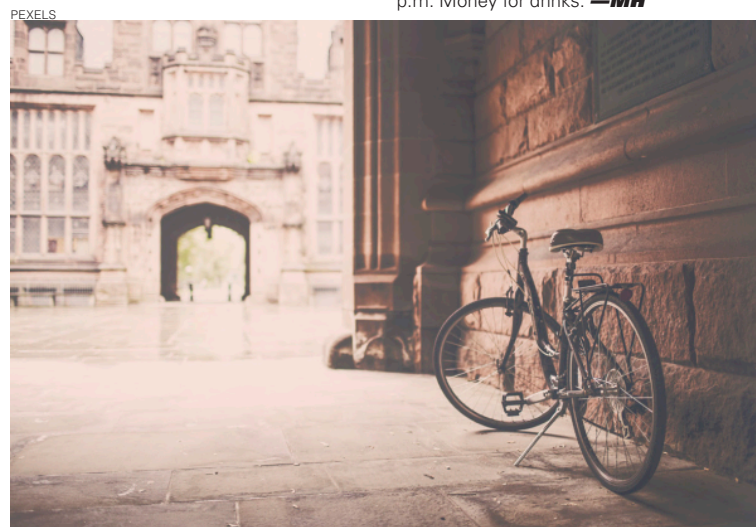
Submit the info at least 10 days before the pertinent issue date to [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com). Please include high-resolution art (three megs or greater) and a brief description (no all caps, exclamation points (!) or ad-speak, please). To read more about events listed here — and others not listed — see Do This on p. 4 and visit [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com).

## Horrrify Me

**A Nightmare on Franklin Street** *Ho boy...* this event took Tampa Theatre 14 pages to describe, but we're going to keep it shorter than that. Throughout the month they're showing 42 films (our favorite number), tours of the haunted (because of course it is) theater, ghost films with filmmaker-run Q&A sessions. Starting Oct. 21, each day has a theme: *Movies That Suck... Your Blood, Homegrown Horror, Franken-What?* and *Creeped Out Kids* are a few, but I love *Fang You Very Much* the best. Look, they sent us a "cheat sheet" to make it easier, and *that* was four pages, so do this: Go to [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com), click on "holidays" — then search by Halloween (scroll down). We list every film, event, haunt and scary thing. (*Pro tip: This also shows you all Tampa Bay Halloween events*). All events at Tampa Theatre, 711 N. Franklin St., Tampa. Oct. 13-31. —**Cathy Salustri**

**Behind the Curtain: Monster Mash Makeup Workshop** Want to create that perfect zombie handmaiden look this year (bet you a beer we'll see this)? The Patel Conservatory has a hands-on monster makeup workshop. It includes — we love this — "monster skin textures." Don't you just hate it when you're going for Gill Man skin texture (*Creature from the Black Lagoon*) but it looks more like Samara (*The Ring*)? Patel Conservatory, Straz Center for Performing Arts, 1010 N. WC MacInnes Place, Tampa. Oct. 21: 2 p.m. \$25. *News + Views* editor Kate Bradshaw got made over into something grotesque. Check out her new look at [cltampa.com/arts](http://cltampa.com/arts). —**CS**

**Doggie Halloween Sunday Soiree** If you've finally found the perfect firefighter costume for your Dalmatian or bumblebee costume for your Lab, tell them to wear them proudly at this dog-friendly, not-so-scary (well, unless you're a squirrel trapped on the dog-friendly patio) Halloween event that includes a fashion show (no humans allowed), raffles and a special \$5 dog menu (we hear they have specials for humans, too). Catcher and the Rye, 917 11th St., Palm Harbor. Oct. 15: 4-7 p.m. —**CS**



Haunted Tampa, by bike.

**Doggie Walk of the Dead** A dog walk — really, it's going to be a parade of creative dog costumes — that starts at The Dog House and ends at Crooked Thumb, where, at 2 p.m., your pup can win Best Zombie Dog or Non-Zombie Dog in the costume contest (they have the same categories for human families, too). Raise \$25 for the walk and you'll get a limited edition T-shirt from Suncoast Animal League; raise \$50 and your pup gets a bandana. Take a chance on the raffle and while you're waiting to see if you won, sample Crooked Thumb's special Doggie Walking Dead beer. Pet walk from The Dog House, 737 Main St., #106 to Crooked Thumb Brewery, 555 10th Ave. S., Safety Harbor. Oct. 21: 12:45 p.m., dog walk (The Dog House), \$25; 3 p.m., costume contest, free. —**CS**

**Eerie Evening** Is the Tampa Bay Hotel (you may know it as the main building for the University of Tampa) haunted? Oh, hell, probably. They've had a double suicide there, and it simply *looks* like it should be haunted. For one evening only, take intimate tours through the museum as guides try and bring you as close to the veil as possible while talking about funeral customs and Victorian mourning, poisons, soldiers and death. Yes, please. Henry B. Plant Museum, 401 W. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa Oct. 28: 7:30 & 8:30 p.m. tours. \$25; \$20, members. Event expected to sell out; make reservations. 813-258-7302. —**CS**

**Grand Central Zombie Pub Crawl** A spirited celebration with the living dead, hosted as part of the multi-event Come Out St. Pete celebration. Punky's is the starting point for this Halloween bar hop, which hits 10 Grand Central District spots — among them Lucky Star Lounge, Hawthorne Bottle Shoppe, The Queens Head, Dog Bar and Right Around the Corner. Some locations have themed specials like *Walking Dead* and Negan shots, and if you need your face zombie-fied, a professional makeup artist at Punky's has you covered. Even sweeter: Prizes throughout the night include local gift certificates and two tickets to Kenwood's annual BungalowFest. Punky's Bar & Grill, 3063 Central Ave., St. Pete. Oct. 13: 6-9 p.m. Money for drinks. —**MH**

**Pumpkin Patch** Quick, before the best ones are gone: Head to the Humane Society of Tampa Bay's Pumpkin Patch to get a pumpkin — and help homeless animals. Humane Society of Tampa, 3607 N. Armenia Ave., Tampa. Through Oct. 31: Mon.-Fri., 12-7 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Prices vary by pumpkin.

**Remembering (and Forgetting) Dead Infants in Late-Roman and Early Medieval Britain** Dr. Robin Fleming — a Boston College professor of Viking, Roman and medieval history visiting USF for one week only — will talk about dead babies. That's... maybe not as gross as it sounds, but it's definitely worth mentioning in this horror issue. Her talk will focus on Roman folkways surrounding death and burial ceremonies — and how that changed when the Roman empire went to hell. She's a fellow of the Massachusetts Historical Society, the Royal Historical Society, and the London Society of Antiquaries. CW Bill Young Hall (CWY206), USF 4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa. Oct. 17: 6 p.m. —**CS**

**Pumpkin Carving Contest** Carving pumpkins, once reserved for parents sawing triangle eyes and a saw-toothed smile into a hapless gourd, has evolved into something of an art form. If you have mad skills — you can carve the "Mona Lisa" (or a cute cat, fur and all) into a pumpkin — perhaps this is the contest for you. All tools, pumpkins and stencils provided — but you may create your own design. Each entry includes one drink (soda for the kids). One prize to best kiddo pumpkin, one to best adult pumpkin. Brew Bus Terminal & Brewery, 4101 N. Florida Ave., Tampa. Oct. 25: 6:30 p.m. \$15; \$10, adults.

**Haunted Tampa on non-haunted bikes (we hope)** Ride your way into Tampa's haunted history: Check in at Bizou Brasserie at Le Méridien Tampa with your own bike (it must have front and rear lights, and, yes, they're going to check). After drinks and apps, take a two-hour hauntingly good tour, courtesy of History Bike Tampa. The ride ends at the most daunting of haunted places, Tampa Theatre, where you can have more drinks (hey, you need fortification to steel yourself against all the apparitions), take a tour of the theater and see who won the raffle. Oh, did we not mention that? Yeah, there's a raffle. See you there. Bizou Brasserie, 601 N. Florida Ave., Tampa. Oct. 19: 6 p.m. \$20. 813-816-2818. Please call to pre-register or check out the listing at [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com). —**CS**

**Night of the Living Dead** The play, not the movie. What's that? You didn't realize it was a play? Well, it was a movie first, but this version is based on George Romero's screenplay. The movie launched the zombie genre; honor the history of the ultimate (and pretty campy, really) zombie flick by seeing real-life zombies. Um, wait... is that a thing? Hat Trick Theatre at Ruth Eckerd Hall, 111 McMullen Booth Rd., Clearwater. Oct. 26-Nov. 5: Thurs.-Sat., 7:30 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. \$24; \$20, students and military. —**CS**

**Read No More** For the third year running, Wordier Than Thou brings local writers and performers together its literary homage to *Sleep No More*. For two weekends, four rooms in this old house will have murders replayed across four decades. This year, Becca McCoy will show people one possible fate of Sue from Sheila Cowley's *Flying* in a piece inspired by the four-star play that recently closed at Tampa Rep (although Cowley did not write the piece, it has been done with her blessing). 3009 54th St. S., Gulfport. Through Oct. 28: Fri. & Sat., hourly from 6:30-9:30 p.m. \$14, advance; \$18, door.



TELOYD VIA CREATIVE COMMONS

### Is the Tampa Bay Hotel haunted? Find out on Oct. 28.

**The Witching Hour** Opera Tampa singers unite a quartet of evil witches. Are they, though? Elphaba? Not easy being green. Ursula? This is what happens when little girls get ridiculed for having tentacles. Maleficent? Read the original story: She was angry 'cause *she lived in the damn house and they forgot to invite her to the kid's christening* because they thought she was dead. The child-noshing *Hansel and Gretel* witch? Hey, women need protein, and her house is made of sugar — kinda feel for her. They celebrate the most evil season of all with songs from *Wicked*, *MacBeth* and others. Jaeb Courtyard, Straz Center, 1010 N. WC MacInnes Place, Tampa. Oct. 27: 7 p.m. —**CS**

## Curtains!

### Mid-run

**The Royale** From Mark E. Leib's 4.5-star review at [cltampa.com/arts](http://cltampa.com/arts): "Crackerjack direction, superb acting, and a poetically potent script make Marco Ramirez's *The Royale* ... one of the best productions this critic has seen in all of 2017. Based, like the 1969 Pulitzer Prize-winner *The Great White Hope*, on the life of black heavyweight champ Jack Johnson, Ramirez's play asks us to consider some ideas that the earlier work never addressed: the importance, to the black self-image, of its talented hero's rise, and the danger, to those same African Americans, of angry white backlash. Achieving almost military precision from her actors, director Lisa Tricomi also manages to give us deep emotion, winning comedy and some of the most highly stylized 'boxing' you'll ever see on stage. And with five actors all on top of their game — led by the impeccable Aygemang Clay as 'Jay Jackson' — there's nothing but pleasure to be had from this drama's 70 minutes. If only more new American theater were this moving and intelligent." American Stage, 163 3rd St. N., St. Pete. Extended through Oct. 22: Wed., 7 p.m.; Thurs.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., 3 p.m.

Wed.-Thurs. and weekend matinees, \$39; Fri.-Sat., \$49. 727-823-7529. *Read Leib's complete review, plus a profile of ensemble member Kim Sullivan, at [cltampa.com/arts](http://cltampa.com/arts).*

**White Fang** Playwright Jethro Compton "re-imagined" Jack London's classic about a hybrid wolf-dog in the unforgiving Yukon and Northwest Territories during the great Gold Rush. Compton also directs this dramatic adaptation and designed the full-sized White Fang puppet that's in nearly every scene. From here, this world premiere of a brand-new work from one of England's most-lauded contemporary theater-makers (they're still talking about his eerie and atmospheric 2014 adaptation of *The Man Who Shot Liberty Valance*) goes to London — and the world. freeFall Theatre, 6099 Central Ave., St. Pete. Through Oct. 29: Wed.-Thurs., 7 p.m.; Fri.-Sat.: 8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun.: 2 p.m.; and Oct. 15 & 19: 7 p.m. \$25-\$50. [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com). —**Bill DeYoung** *Read Mark Leib's 3.5 star review at [cltampa.com/arts](http://cltampa.com/arts).*

### Closing

**The Marvelous Wonderettes** Missy, Suzy, Cindy Lou and Betty Jean aren't characters from *Happy Days*, although they could be. They're fictional everyteens in a Midwest that doesn't exist — it's 1958, and they're singing at the Springfield High Super Senior Prom, wearing chiffon party dresses, Pepsodent smiles and bouffant hairdos. Welcome to the nostalgic world of *The Marvelous Wonderettes*, the season kickoff at Stageworks Theatre. Directed by Artistic Director Karla Hartley, Roger Bean's jukebox musical comedy has been favorably compared to that doo-wopping evergreen *Forever Plaid*. In this case, however, the harmony-singing quartet is an all-girl affair, and the period songs they perform — "Sincerely," "Mister Sandman," "Lollipop" and the like — are historically, famously from the female

continued on page 32 ►

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continued from page 31

perspective. (Oh, and the girls don't die in this show.) There's no fourth wall — we (the audience) are at the prom, watching the Marvelous Wonderettes perform — and eavesdropping on their between-song bitchiness. There's a twist in the second act, which takes place at the school's 10-year reunion, with (different) era-appropriate songs ("Wedding Bell Blues," "It's My Party," et cetera). "It's your classic awful, stereotypical sad-girl stories," Burns laughs. Sure, it's light-hearted froth — nothing more than fun, populist entertainment, but what's wrong with that? Stageworks Theatre, 1120 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa. Through Oct. 15: Fri.-Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. \$15-\$45. —**BDY** Read Bill DeYoung's interview with the cast and artistic staff, as well as Mark E. Leib's 2.5-star review, at [cltampa.com/arts](#).

## Health yeah!

**Poolside Yoga** The Body Electric and the Hollander Hotel somehow manage to line the pool deck with yogis every Saturday morning, so why not join them? OK, sure, it happens pretty early Saturday morning, but think of it this way: By the time it's over, you've earned a dip in the pool with a mimosa. There's also an AYCE buffet waiting for you. Plus, you get to feel superior all day for getting up early and being healthy. And isn't being able to feel superior to other people what yoga's really all about? The Hollander pool, 421 4th Ave. N., St. Pete. Oct. 16: 8:30 a.m. \$5, BE members: \$10, advance; \$15, poolside. —**Cathy Salustri**

**Yoga on Tap** Grab a mat and head to the taproom. Instructor Chris Acosta from St. Petersburg Yoga leads this weekly class, and admission includes yoga and a cold brew. Big Storm Brewing, 12707 49th St. N., Clearwater. Oct. 15: 9:30 a.m. \$10.

## Do Good

**"Borrow" a puppy or kitten for a few weeks** Seriously — check out the SPCA Tampa Bay's Foster Orientation. Learn to foster dogs and cats — take in a kitten and it helps adult cats get more attention (and get adopted more), plus you have all the fun of a kitten with none of the passive-aggressiveness of a

full-grown cat. Learn more at this foster orientation. Also, please don't tell my cat I said that. He's kind of a jerk sometimes. (Seriously, though, can you blame him? Check out his super-cool picture on page five: I did make him wear a witch hat. So maybe that's on me, but still, these kittens need you — if only for a few weeks or so.) I've done it and will again: It's fun, rewarding and much needed. SPCA Tampa Bay, 9099 130th Ave. N., Largo. Oct. 14: 10:30 a.m. —**CS**

## Get Smart

**Indiana Jones, Sarasota-style** (Archaeology Lecture Series: Gamble Plantation) This former sugar plantation, built in the first half of the 1800s, sits on the Manatee River and once housed Confederate officer and Confederate Secretary of State, Judah P. Benjamin. There's a bunch of other fascinating stuff, too — and there's archaeologists working to learn more. So, yeah, like a Florida-style Indiana Jones. And, instead of searching for and protecting the Ark of the Covenant, they're wanting to better discover and protect the history of the plantation slaves. Unlike super-secret Indy, though, these guys consider public involvement necessary, because they hope to learn a lot, and shouldn't everyone have access to that information? This past year they found artifacts involving the different jobs that people performed on the plantations. Dr. Diane Wallman will speak about all this and more. Best suited for adults. Please pre-register. Weedon Island Preserve, 1500 Weedon Island Dr., St. Pete. Oct. 19: 7 p.m. 727-453-6500. —**CS**

## Art this

### Closing

**Some Assembly Required** If I see one more snarky article about millennials ruining the world with avocado toast, my head will implode. While y'all bicker away, these undergrad USF students have been hard at work perfecting their craft. *Some Assembly Required* (a cheeky exhibition title teasing at the scrappiness of a no-themed show) presents the work of Catherine

continued on page 35 →

CATHY SALUSTRI

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10.26 E.T. THE EXTRA TERRESTRIAL  
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► continued from page 32

Gomez, Ryan Baillie, Shannon Barnett and Alexander Albano. You want one-line teasers of each artist, you say? Albano: Sculpture that doesn't want to stick with one medium. Baillie: Self-portrait-esque sculptures with geometric noggins. Barnett: Photographs of the artist's painted body (probably NSFW, and would be blocked on Facebook instantly). Gomez: Social engagement participatory project about migration (fitting for the times, eh?). Through Oct. 19. —**Caitlin Albritton**

**Sueños Americanos (American Dreams)** Latin painters, including local artists like Gabriela Valencia, explore the Latin notion of the "American Dream." Given the repeated attempts to ban certain cultural groups, most likely this event will speak to patrons differently than it would have three years ago. Cove, 5705 Park Blvd., Pinellas Park. Through Oct. 15: 12-6 p.m.; and Oct. 14: 23-6 p.m. Other hours by appointment.

## Mid-run

**Bryce Hammond: Structure** Hammond artistically represents the structure of our world. Art is numbers, people, and patterns. At least, we think so, and Hammond's work seems to support that. His work deals with paintings and structures and... sound? Yeah, we're gonna have to see this and, probably, meet the artist to chat about his work —and you can do the same, because he's having an artist talk Oct. 14. Morean Arts Center, 719 Central Ave., St. Pete. Through Oct. 29: Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 12-5 p.m. Artist talk: Oct. 14, 6 p.m.

**Casey McDonough & Kenny Jensen: (in)afinities** Look at the universe from micro to macro through the lens of art. How is everything related? Because it totally is, you know. Learn why — and maybe how — through their art. Morean Arts Center, 719 Central Ave., St. Pete. Through Oct. 29: Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 12-5 p.m.

**David Claerbout** It takes years for Belgian artist David Claerbout to get a piece of art the way he wants it. He uses still photography and moving images, with sound used to guide viewers through the work. He pays an incredible amount of attention to detail in his work — it's sorta his trademark — with the end goal of creating immersive environments that draw in the viewers, who can find themselves considering the work on not only a tangible level but a philosophical one as well. USF CAM, 3821 Holly Dr., Tampa. Through Oct. 28: Mon.-Wed. and Fri., 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thurs., 10 a.m.-8 p.m.; and Sat., 1-4 p.m. Free, but you must have a USF parking permit or pay by the space. 813-974-4133.

**Gateways to the Caribbean: Mapping the Cuba-Florida Connection** One of the best collections of Cuba and Florida maps in the southeast United States, along with related ephemera (like an old folding map of the Plant System, including not only his railroads but his steamships, because this guy pretty much owned everything). Tampa Bay History Center, 801 Old Water St., Tampa. Through Jan. 28. Daily: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. \$8.95-\$12.95. Read Cathy Salustri's story at [cltampa.com/arts](http://cltampa.com/arts).

**Josette Urso: More than Before** Works on paper from the artist — all of which come from what she senses in the environment, and then puts on that paper. Morean Arts Center, 719 Central Ave., St. Pete. Through Oct. 29: Mon.-Sat., 9 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sun., 12-5 p.m. Meet the artist Oct. 27: 5-7 p.m.

**Life Had Other Plans** Art and words come together in a glorious exhibit, *Life Had Other Plans — Stories of The Unexpected*. Artists Eileen Goldenberg, with mixed media torso sculptures all dressed with found objects and glittery things; Bea Dreier, with her abstract expressionist acrylics; Arielle Katarina, with beer-infused watercolors (beertercolors?); Dr. Greg LeSar, with his film and mixed media; Cassandra LeSar, with feminist Byzantine acrylics (uh-huh); Goose Pekarek, with photographs and charcoals; and Hidden Springs exhibitor virgin Jennifer Toth, with her abstract acrylics. Through Nov. 17 Hidden Springs, 1631 N. Franklin St., Tampa. Mon., Wed. and Thurs.: 5-10 p.m.; Fri.: 3 p.m.-midnight; Sat.: Noon-midnight; Sun.: 12-7 p.m.

**Members' Show: Contemporary Craft at its Finest** This national juried exhibition offers a peek at work from Florida CraftArt members. Sculpture from race cars? Delicate beaded jewelry? Ceramic

songbirds? 41 American artists contributed 89 works, and if you head to [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com) you'll find a list of the exhibiting artists. Florida Craft Art, 501 Central Ave., St. Pete. Through Oct. 21: Mon.-Sat.: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.; Sun.: 12-5 p.m.; and Second Saturday: 5:30-9 p.m.

**The Holocaust and the Book of Fire** Artist Murray Zimiles's work takes you to a place that's a storm of fire and ruin. Think about it: Where was God during the Holocaust? Where was civilization? Zimiles, while not a Holocaust survivor himself, is still a victim — he's the stepson of a survivor, and his second-hand brush with this horror compelled him to create paintings, drawings, print and artists' books to process this unthinkable dark spot of world history. Through the end of the year you can see his work in the exhibit *The Holocaust and the Book of Fire* at the Florida Holocaust Museum. And folks, we can't say this enough: If you think it couldn't happen again, history has proven that patently untrue. And, sadly, the present seems to be doing the same. How can anyone know what went through the minds of someone who died at Auschwitz? What about their last thoughts, or their emotions as their last shred of hope died? Locally, Keep St. Pete Lit has asked nine writers to do exactly that in the latest of KSPL's ekphrastic projects at the Florida Holocaust Museum. KSPL will have readings of works inspired by the exhibit. Readers include Poet Laureate (and CL contributor) Peter Meinke, Becca McCoy reading work by Frank Wells, Sheila Cowley, read by Fanni Green with dancer Paula Kramer, Bob Devin Jones (because he says yes to anything he gets asked to do), Sandra Gadsden, Bob Schwartz, Maureen McDole and Lisa Spencer. Oct. 14: 5:30 p.m. Florida Holocaust Museum, 55 5th St. S., St. Pete. Through Dec. 31: Daily, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Free with museum admission.

**Steven Chayt** Steven Chayt (Winter Haven) may be what some call an "underground" artist, but he's all about starting a conversation. He pissed some people off with his larger-than-life "potty chair" art in his Winter Haven neighborhood, but that didn't seem to bother him. Locally, you can see his digital work, *Binocular Series* — each piece has holes in a door, inspired by Duchamp's *Etant donnes*. It's seriously friggin' cool, so get to Flying Boat and get some new art combined with serious art history. Flying Boat Brewing Company, 1776 11th Ave. N., St. Pete. Through Oct. 25.

## What the pho?

**Vegetarian Pho** Health coach John van Vlaarding shows participants how to pull off vegetarian-friendly pho, an aromatic Vietnamese rice noodle soup, at home. Not your particular bowl of noodles? Check [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com) for all the cooking classes offered —all free —here. Nature's Food Patch, Patchworks Community Room, 1225 Cleveland St., Clearwater. Oct. 12: 6:30 p.m.

## Humpday Hangouts

**81Bay Brewing** The Tampa Bay Dream Team hosts weekly trivia, winners get bar tabs and you can pet a brewery cat. A brewery cat, y'all! Our question isn't so much "why haven't you played trivia here before?" as "why are you not there now?" Also, the cat cheats at trivia. Keep an eye out for that. 81Bay Brewing, 4465 W. Gandy Blvd., Ste. 600, Tampa. Oct. 18: 8 p.m.

**Trivia Wednesday** Trivia Night, hosted Cody Crawford, brings all the useless trivia floating around in your brain to the forefront every Wednesday night, so you can impress your friends, annoy your competitors (or maybe annoy your friends, too) and maybe win something cool. And hey, if you don't, remember, there's always beerstuffs. Peggy O's Kitchen & Taps, 1026 Florida Ave., Palm Harbor. Oct. 18: 7 p.m.

**Wednesday Game Night** Roll the dice at Pair O' Dice every Wednesday. The brewery has plenty of room for tabletop and card games, with new ones in the spotlight every two weeks (more information at [local.cltampa.com](http://local.cltampa.com), or check out their Facebook page), or you just come on by. Think of it as a game night you don't have to organize. Pair O'Dice, 4400 118th N., #208. Clearwater. Oct. 18: 7-10 p.m.

# INDUSTRY NIGHT

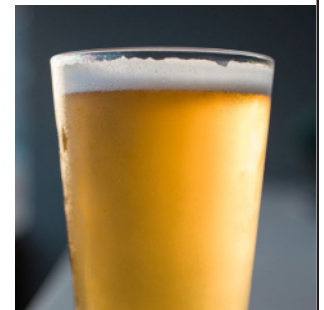


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# MUSIC

REVIEWS PROFILES MUSIC WEEK

## Sound and safety

Musicians and local fans react to the Vegas music-festival shooting.

By Ray Roa

It's been three weeks since bleary-eyed Floridians woke up to news that a gunman had killed several people at the Route 91 Harvest music festival in Las Vegas. As the hours rolled on, and the internet did what it does, videos bounced off social networks like Snapchat and Twitter and onto mainstream news channels, warning viewers about the graphic images they were about to see. A click transported you to the moment shots began to ring out from a 32nd-story balcony hundreds of yards from the stage.

Details unfolded, and we learned that the shooter — a 64-year-old, millionaire retired real estate investor named Stephen Paddock — stocked a massive arsenal of guns in the Mandalay Bay Hotel room from which he would fire upon the 22,000 people gathered to see country star Jason Aldean. What initially sounded like fireworks were actually bullets, fired from guns outfitted with bumpstocks (which allow semi-automatic weapons to fire more like automatic ones). As victims in the massive crowd were treated for wounds suffered on festival grounds, images of fallen festival attendees, lost Stetsons and crying cowboys made their way to the eyes of a watching world. Eventually, we learned that 59 people died in the terrorist attack media outlets have dubbed “the worst mass shooting in modern American history.”

Aldean — who was just in Tampa for a boozy summertime performance at the MidFlorida Credit Union Amphitheatre — took to Instagram to say that the events he witnessed were “beyond horrific.” He sent thoughts and prayers to everyone involved, along with just about everybody else with a Facebook

account. Nonprofit pro-gun lobby The National Rifle Association mostly remained silent, though, and pols reminded us that it just wasn't the right time to talk about gun control.

Still, at the center of it all was the truly horrific reminder of the reality that even concerts — where the world goes to be moved by

the simple sound of a song — were never truly sacred spaces safe from the twisted fantasies of some asshole with a gun.

“I don't know what to make of it, really. Like most people, I am in shock and a little bit of denial,” yacht-rock singer Michael McDonald told CL in an interview days after the shooting. McDonald, 65, is scheduled to play the Clearwater Jazz Holiday on October 21, and

noted that he hunted and collected guns in his younger days. “I was fascinated by guns, but for some reason this NRA lobby pro-

hibits us from even bringing up the subject of why we're making it easier for mentally impaired people to buy firearms.”

Against Me! guitarist James Bowman — who brings his punk band to play two nights of Big Pre-Fest in Ybor City at the end of this month — shelters his 5-year-old son from the news and said events like Vegas do stick in the back of his mind.

“You don't necessarily try to forget about it, but it's such a hard thing that does hit close to home because of the business we're in. We all know what happened, and it's the furthest thing you want to happen on any day,” Bowman, 37, said. “It doesn't come up in everyday conversation because it is so scary.”

But Bowman's tour rolls on, and so did Bay area concertgoers.

Two days after the attack, 15,000 Jack Johnson fans piled into the amphitheatre on the Florida State Fairgrounds. Kelsey and Joe Mitchals, both 27, sat on the lawn and brought their 2-year-old son Rylan and his 8-week-old brother Jackson. There was a little apprehension, but overall the vibe of the

show by Johnson — a laid-back pro surfer turned songwriter — was what their family needed. At a Sunday concert by rising R&B star SZA, a sold-out Orpheum crowd was triumphant in the way it sang back every word. Down the street at Crowbar's Ol' Dirty Sundays, it was business as usual with a packed concert crowd from a show

## CONCERT SECURITY

**The NRA remained mostly silent, and pols reminded us that it just wasn't the time to talk about gun control.**



FAN, BOY: Legend Billington, 8, attends a Band of Horses concert at Jannus Live.

by electro producer Com Truise mixing in with the B-boys and girls gathered for the late-night hip-hop party.

And at Friday's Band of Horses show at Jannus Live, a most enduring symbol of a collective scene's unbreakable spirit manifested itself in 8-year-old Legend Billington, who attended the concert with his mom Lauren. She admitted to being nervous about the plethora of dark windows that sit above and around the famed courtyard venue, but made a conscious decision to watch the show from the outer edge of the crowd.

“We paid attention to the exits, and I made sure Legend knew all his emergency numbers and his address,” Lauren, 43, told CL, adding that discussing a tragedy like Vegas is a fine line for a kid his age. “I have not had to explain it to him — instead we talk about good, critical thinking in the case of an emergency.”

But why would she bring an 8-year-old to a rock show?

“For one, he loves the band,” she said, adding that every memory she has is related to a song, lyric band or venue. Billington won't let anyone take that away from her or her family, and wants her kids to experience as much of the world as possible without being ruled by fear. “There are many risks we take daily. I'm more anxious about taking them to national monuments, Disney World, and sports events than I am about bringing them to smaller local concerts.

“I tell my sons all the time that ‘we only get each day once,’” she added before inadvertently explaining Bay area music fans' resilience in the face of horror:

“They are encouraged to be positive risk-takers and to do the things that they love with the people they love.”

Taking risks for the love of live music. That's the simple answer for why we go to concerts, and it's the simple reason why we'll never let anything take those experiences away from us. **3!**

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# music week

THUR OCTOBER 12-WED OCTOBER 18

By Ray Roa

CL recommends

## THU 12

**USF Homecoming Concert w/D.R.A.M./Kiara/Angel Haze** College kids have to cram for tests sometimes, so it's fitting that the University of South Florida homecoming committee made everyone wait until the 11th hour to see the lineup for its annual homecoming concert. This year features a buzzy rapper (D.R.A.M.) returning to play his second Bay area show in about a month (the 29-year old "Broccoli" singer just opened for Kendrick Lamar on September 1), and while we've only had less than two weeks to prepare for a show that includes a hot new name in hip-hop (Angel Haze), that still gives students enough time to claim free tickets and us the chance to find \$25 so we can scoop up the tickets available to the public. (USF Sun Dome at University of South Florida, Tampa)



**Ryan Alexander w/Fistful** Civilian's current five-week tour is taking the Nashville indie-rock act into almost every corner of America, and worked in between dates in Dallas, Santa Ana, New York City and Columbus is a show at Seminole Heights record shop Microgroove where frontman Ryan Alexander will play an acoustic show that'll give the defiant songs on Civilian's new album (*You Won't Believe What Privilege Costs*) a quiet space to really seep into the minds of fans bored of the run-of-the-mill, let's-ignore-important-issues rock that permeates the radio today. (Microgroove, Tampa)

**Four Year Strong w/Seaway/Like Pacific/Life Lessons/Grayscale** Crowbar — like so many venues in the Bay area — had a really shite week after Irma. The days since that bitch blew away have been busy, however, and shows like this one featuring a who's-who of upcoming pop-punk bands are a big reason why. Worcester, Massachusetts quartet Four Year Strong headlines in support of its new album *Some of You Will Like This, Some of You Won't* (released in September), and fans would do good to get there early to catch a set from Seaway. The Canadians just released their own new album (*Vacation*, Pure Noise Records), and longtime fans think it could be the batch of songs that breaks the band out of punk-rock purgatory. (Crowbar, Ybor City)

**Digitour w/Tyler Brown/Justin Blake/Bryce Hall/Jackson Krecioch/Mikey Barone/Larray/JJ Hannon** Collectively, the personalities on the DigiTour have several million followers on social networks like Instagram, Musical.ly, YouTube and Snapchat. To your old uncle Chad, these people mean nothing. That won't stop parents from shuttling hundreds of kids to Ybor as thousands of dollars get spent on tickets, VIP upgrades and merch at the all-ages, family-friendly mixer, however, and this is everyone's chance to see the next Corey Haim or Corey Feldman before the inevitable Bieber-esque implosion. (Orpheum, Ybor City)

**Florida Orchestra Coffee Concert: Orchestra Showpieces** Come for the free coffee and doughnuts, stay for the Stravinsky, Greig and Rimsky-Korsakov as Stuart Molina conducts this midday performance. Gold stars if you're up early enough for the 10 a.m. pre-concert conversation. (Mahaffey Theater, St. Petersburg)

## FRI 13

**Concerts in the Park w/The Alter Eagles** You should've caught The Alter Eagles last week at Skipper's (the Eagles tribute act was playing with a Crosby, Still, Nash and Young cover band), but here's a chance to "Take It Easy" on St. Pete Beach for a free show that even includes free valet parking (you fancy now, Boca Ciega!). (Horan Park, St. Pete Beach)

**Jazz With Jim w/Lorri Hafer/Marilyn Freemon/Tom Ziegelhofer** Jazz Cellar alum Jim Burge gets a little help on trumpet thanks to Tom Ziegelhofer and borrows the voices of Lorri Hafer (Hillside Singers) and gospel singer Marilyn Freemon for a pretty cool night out in the 'burbs. (Carrollwood Cultural Center, Tampa)

**Pilfers w/Joystick/Sketchie/Help! Police!** Pop, reggae, hardcore, dub, punk, and ska all come together when Pilfers (featuring ex-members of bands like the Toasters, Pietasters and Bim Skala Bim)

takes to this St. Pete tattoo shop where New Orleans skacore outfit Joystick opens alongside Sarasota punks Sketchie, and the Bay area's best punny ska group, Help! Police!. (Lucky You Tattoo, St. Petersburg)

**Serious Soul presents The Midnight Perverts w/Silver Fox/Brian Busto** Romeo Ugalde brings his Midnight Perverts project for a Central Florida debut at The Castle, where a body of work that's seen

the Mexican house and techno producer release music on labels like Wolkenfunken, Perplexand and Dialtone gets to thump all over the halls of one of Ybor's longest-running dance clubs. (The Castle, Ybor City)

**Florida Georgia Line w/Nelly/Russell Dickerson/Chris Lane** This show — where pop-country meets hip-hop — got even more interesting over the last week. It started on

continued on page 42 →

## Wordplay: Deezy Wee's local flavor

Thanks to Deezy Wee The Reaper, the slogan "Beyobe made this shit the other night" is as popular a tag in the Tampa Bay hip-hop community as "If Young Metro don't trust you" is in the genre at large — and that was the Bay area rapper's plan all along.

Deezy Wee The Reaper was born and raised here. When slapped against signature basslines from Tampa producer Beyobe's 808 drum machine/sampler — like it is on a new EP, *Pickled Oranges* — Deezy Wee's flair for whimsically narrating life in his hometown makes for an infectious sound that could score the muggiest of Tampa nights.

"The name, the content, all of it is just us having fun," Deezy Wee told CL. While the title *Pickled Oranges* does bring a certain level of childlike curiosity to mind, the EP holds a deeper meaning to The Reaper, and this project sparked a plan within the rapper to outdo his past work as a musician. After releasing an initial single "Jetro" in the spring of this year, Deezy Wee decided to halt all other projects to devote enough time to the EP. *Pickled Oranges* instantly became a two-week cabin fever-like recording session between Beyobe and The Reaper.

"The EP happened quickly. I would be in the studio making a beat, He'd walk in and just start writing. We might be in the studio for 12 hours at a time between him writing and me doing post-production stuff," Beyobe added.

"*Pickled Oranges* became a personal artist experiment between Beyobe and me," said Deezy Wee. "We were trying to build something bigger than money. We were building relationships that will last."

A wordsmith by trade and artist by nature, The Reaper was a drawn to an empty canvas at an early age. He hasn't been able to stop drawing since he could first hold a crayon, but music made its way into his life later. "I have my drawings from first grade at my mom's house. I kept everything. I kept homework if I doodled on it. I'm a hoarder when it comes to art," he chuckled.

In the sixth grade, The Reaper's relationship with music evolved into a knack for crafting wicked phrases, which led to freestyling and then finally to writing along with music. After experiencing the joy of making the sounds in his mind come alive, Deezy Wee knew he wanted to pursue music seriously. His focus has been slinging rhymes for the past eight years, and while inspiration is everywhere, finding a balance between music and art has proved difficult.

"I never like doing the same thing for too long," he said, adding that the drive has to come from within. "I try different things that challenge me because there isn't anybody else there to do that."

He spent the summer dropping teasers from the EP on social media, and on October 1, The Reaper released his second single from *Pickled Oranges*, "Pop Rocks." The track features high-energy production laced with ping-pong piano keys; Deezy Wee's southern diction and descriptive wordplay lead the way. The full EP hits streaming platforms on Halloween, an appropriate holiday to mark the end of The Reaper's trippy journey.

"Being focused is what's trippy because people often stray away from their plan," he said. "I stuck to mine and that was make *Pickled Oranges* and do it right." —Casey Jeanite



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## music week continued from page 39

Thursday with country duo Florida Georgia Line totally distancing itself from the NRA in the days following a Las Vegas terror attack that killed 59 people at the Harvest Route 91 music festival, and ended on Saturday when Nelly was arrested in on second-degree rape charges stemming from an incident after a show in Washington state. The 42-year-old "Country Grammar" rapper was released from custody without being formally charged a few hours later, and his lawyer has called the allegation "completely fabricated" and "scurrilous." (MidFlorida Credit Union Amphitheatre, Tampa)

• **Zakk Sabbath** Here's yet another show being moved to a new venue as a result of renovations that have reduced the State Theatre's capacity from 705 to 450. That's good news for fans who may have missed out had this one — featuring the namesake former Ozzy Osbourne guitarist — sold out. If Zakk Wyld's output with Ozzy and Black Label Society is any indication, then he should be just fine in a venue this big, too. (Jannus Live, St. Petersburg)

• **Sleeping Pills LP Release w/Apoc Siren/Vault Classic/MTVH1N1** In August, Sleeping Pills frontman Phil Taylor told CL that he was already working on a follow-up when the band's self-titled debut was released in December. On Friday, he shares that album — *A Maze In A Wave* — with friends and fans who've come to appreciate the way Taylor turns an affection for the Buzzcocks, Johnny Thunders and Gray Matter into his brand of lonely rock and roll. Have a look at a video from the album via [cltampa.com/music](http://cltampa.com/music) and call your local record store to see if it'll carry the release after Rahim Samad's Vault Classic opens this show along with a pair of new-ish Bay area experimental rock acts, Apoc Siren and MTVH1N1. (The Hub, Tampa)

• **Blood On The Turntables w/DJ Craze/Monk/Nick James/High5ive and Doctor Boom (B2B)/DJ Archaea/The Create Bros.** Things are different in Ybor City now that the Czar and Filthy Richard parties don't have permanent homes, but that's not stopping the same crew from coming out of their coffins on "Filthy the 13th" to revive its "Blood on the Turntables" throwdown. "Bloody and classic horror film, '80s Camp Crystal Lake counselor and camper victim attire encouraged but not required," at this event where DJ Craze — a three-time DMC World Champion — is set to spin alongside Filthy residents like DJ Monk (Rabbit in the Moon) and Nick James, plus party favorites DJ Archaea and the Crate Bros. (Orpheum, Ybor City)

• **Shephard's Beach Resort 40th Anniversary w/Vertical Horizon/Leonard Brothers Band** Some of you music purists might think that a set from '90s alt-rockers Vertical Horizon is scary, but what's actually scary cool is that long-running Clearwater Beach nightspot Shephard's is celebrating 40 years of partying on the sand, so congrats to that crew — let 'em celebrate however they want. (Shephard's Beach Resort, Clearwater)

• **Comics & Comics w/Wally Clark** BOTB-winning button makers Bronze Age Buttons bring a love for comedy (another BOTB-winner, Matt Fernandez headlines) and comic books together for a show that features yet another BOTB-winner (anime-loving



Turnover

futurebeat maker Wally Clark) handling the ones and twos. Greatness, and laughs for days, guaranteed. (Crowbar, Ybor City)

• **Come Back Alice Does Led Zeppelin w/Holey Miss Moley Doing The Meters** Bay area jam-rock outfit Come Back Alice had its Halloween scare already thanks to a post-Irma double-whammy in which the roof on its studio caved in just before someone stole guitarist Tony Tyler's guitars out of his car, so expect the band to give nothing but a whole lot of love and gratitude at this show where it'll tackle Led Zeppelin right after another adored local act — Holey Miss Moley — plays a Meters cover set. (Skipper's Smokehouse, Tampa)

## SAT 14

• **Stardust Memories W/Talk to Mark and Donna Lu** Skipper's is the place for tribute shows this week (a Led Zeppelin and Meters night happens on Friday, and "Lynette Skynyrd" plays on Wednesday), but this one tackling the Thin White Duke is probably the best of the nostalgic nights thanks to the addition of two of the better Bay area rock acts gigging right now — Talk to Mark and Donna Lu. (Skipper's Smokehouse, Tampa)

• **Eye Ball Gala w/Ravi Drums** Chamberlain High grad Ravi Jakhotia (aka Ravi Drums) made the controversial decision to play Trump's inauguration, but he shoots for absolution of his sins with this charity gig, where he'll use his fame (Ravi was the house DJ at the Playboy Mansion and MTV's Video Music Awards and has performed at the Super Bowl) to raise money for the Lion's Eye Institute, which provides funds for underprivileged patients to get life-changing corneal surgery. A gala kicks off the evening, but doors for the concert open at 9 p.m. for anyone that doesn't want to spend a mortgage payment on VIP tickets. More information is at [lionseyeinstitute.com](http://lionseyeinstitute.com). (T. Pepin Hospitality Center, Tampa)

• **Tarpon Springs Outdoor Music Festival** In its 22nd year, the Outdoor Music Festival (OMF) continues a tradition of bringing

more than two dozen high school marching bands to Tarpon Springs for a family-friendly day of fanfare. (Tarpon Springs High School, Tarpon Springs)

• **Turnover w/Elvis Depressedly/Emma Ruth Rundle** Matthew Lee Cothran and Delaney Mills' lo-fi indie rock project Elvis Depressedly takes second billing at this show, but hearing cuts from the band's hazy, yet cutting 2016 album *California Dreamin'* come to life before Turnover — A Virginia Beach trio touring in support of a band new LP of lovelorn dream-pop, *Good Nature* — takes the stage should make for a more-than-fine Saturday night. (Orpheum, Ybor City)

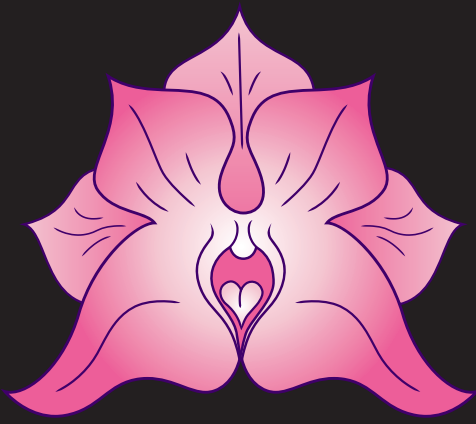
• **Daddy Kool Zine Fest & Cassette Store Day** A cassette-based DJ will play tunes as BOTB-winning St. Pete record shop Daddy Kool stages its annual Zine Fest in conjunction with Cassette Store Day. Collectors should definitely consider heading out since another past BOTB-winner, Ricky Seelbach of St. Pete rock band Reality Asylum, is giving away free copies of a local music cassette he curated to mark the occasion. (Daddy Kool Records, St. Petersburg)

• **Airsickness w/Safewaters/Southview** Operation Coexist — a nonprofit outreach that aims to give foster kids a chance at music education — stages a benefit show featuring Tampa rock outfit Airsickness (RIYL: Set It Off, Hawthorne Heights). Proceeds benefit the organization, so don't be butt and donate some loot. (The Bends, St. Petersburg)

## SUN 15

• **Gloria West & The Gents w/Chris Walker Band** Gloria West and Chris Walker might as well be the jazz and blues power couple of Tampa Bay, and we're excited to see what West — who crafts a vintage, Billie Holiday-loving sound with her band, The Gents — and guitar-virtuoso Walker cook up at this co-headlining show. (Skipper's Smokehouse, Tampa)

continued on page 45 →



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☑ **92.5 Maxima Hispanic Heritage Concert w/Farruko/Victor Manuelle/ Jacob Forever/Nacho/Jowell y Randy A** full day of Latin music by the sea goes down on Sunday as Latin Grammy-nominated Puerto Rican songwriter Farruko headlines 92.5 Maxima's Hispanic Heritage Concert along with Victor Manuelle, who's been ruling *Billboard's* Tropical Songs chart with hits like "Que Suenen Los Tambores," "Asi Es La Mujer," "Sal A Bailar" and more. What's even cooler is that one half of Venezuelan pop duo Chino and Nacho is on the bill, too. And if you don't make it in time to see Miguel Ignacio Mendoza Donatti (aka Nacho), then head the the Ritz in Ybor City on Wednesday, where he's playing a free show alongside "A Ella" singer Karol G. (Coachman Park, Clearwater)

**Will Hoge** Nashville songwriter Will Hoge celebrates the release of a new album (*Anchors*, released this summer via Thirty Tigers) with an intimate listening room gig that fans of The Byrds and Tom Petty might want to check out. (The Attic at Rock Brothers Brewing, Ybor City)

**MON 16**

**Wow! A Remixer's Music Box w/ Bradford Blackburn** As a bassoonist, Bradford Blackburn's career has landed him a seat amongst a handful of symphonies, philharmonics and orchestras, but this lecture finds the University of Tampa professor waxing on new forms of musical expression that exist outside of Western tuning systems. Free, weird and on a Monday? Way better than *Bachelor In Paradise*, for sure. (Trustee's Board Room at University of Tampa, Tampa)

**TUE 17**

☑ **Mild High Club w/FayRoy/Hello Joyce** Mild High Club is what happens when the stoner band kid who loves Steely Dan and Todd Rundgren gets a record deal with one of the most respected under-

ground labels in L.A. — and we like it. Alexander Brettin played the flute before majoring in jazz studies, and these days he's a songwriter in the vein of Mac DeMarco. Just listen to the hazy, modern-day AM Gold he's making on his latest LP, last year's laid-back, psych-pop mushroom trip *Skiptracing*. (Crowbar, Ybor City)

**Insane Clown Posse** It's probably best that this one got moved from St. Pete to Ybor City (the balcony at State Theatre is still under renovation, making capacity for a show like this a major issue). The move should make it easier for clean-up crews to mop up the gallons of Faygo that will inevitably get sprayed all over the place as Violent J and Shaggy 2 Dope — collectively known as Insane Clown Posse — work through a brand of hardcore that's earned ICP enough fans to stage a march on Washington after the Justice Department's National Gang Intelligence Center deemed said fans (aka Juggalos) a "loosely organized hybrid gang." Confused? Find an Michigan ACLU video where the duo explains why it's suing the FBI, and then head to the Cuban Club to see it all go down in real life. (Cuban Club, Ybor City)

**Melody Artisans of the Crooked Thumb: Foreshadowing Songs** Part songwriter's workshop, part concert. This is a chance to kick back at one of the Bay area's many breweries while a group of strummers works through a themed night of song. This one tackles the idea of using foreshadowing to get a listener to invest into the whole tune. (Crooked Thumb Brewery, Safety Harbor)

☑ **Willie Nelson & Family** It's only 60 miles from Ybor City to Sarasota's Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall (less if you start in St. Pete), and we'd say that's more than worth it to see 84-year-old activist, poet, songwriter and country music legend Willie Nelson as he makes his rounds in support of — yes, you're reading this right — a new album of original music, *God's Problem Child*. We know you don't make it across the Sunshine Skyway too often, so if you get lost just follow the big puffs of weed smoke. (Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, Sarasota)

See even more of the Bay area concert calendar via [cltampa.com/musicweek](http://cltampa.com/musicweek).



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## October 12

### Libra The Scales

(Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

"I am more interested in human beings than in writing," said author Anais Nin, "more interested in lovemaking than in writing, more interested in living than in writing. More interested in becoming a work of art than in creating one." I invite you to adopt that perspective as your own for the next twelve months, Libra. During this upcoming chapter of your story, you can generate long-lasting upgrades if you regard your life as a gorgeous masterpiece worthy of your highest craftsmanship.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Scorpio actress Tara Reid told the magazine *Us Weekly* about how her cosmetic surgeries had made her look worse than she had been in her natural state. "I'll never be perfect again," she mourned. I bring this up in the hope that it will inspire you. You're at a tuning point when it's crucial to appreciate and foster everything about yourself that's natural and innate and soulfully authentic.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): I didn't go to work today. I woke up late, lingered over a leisurely breakfast, and enjoyed a long walk in the autumn woods. When I found a spot that filled me with a wild sense of peace, I asked my gut wisdom what

I should advise you Sagittarians to attend to. And my gut wisdom told me that you should temporarily escape at least one of your duties for at least three days. My gut wisdom also suggested that you get extra sleep, enjoy leisurely meals, and go on long walks to spots that fill you with a wild sense of peace.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): A snail climbed to the top of a big turtle's shell as it was sleeping under a bush. When the turtle awoke and began to lumber away in search of food, the snail was at first alarmed but eventually thrilled by how fast they were going and how far they were able to travel. "Wheeee!", the snail thought to itself. I suspect, Capricorn, that this little tale is a useful metaphor for what you can look forward to in the coming weeks.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): "If these years have taught me anything, it is this," wrote novelist Junot Diaz. "You can never run away. Not ever. The only way out is in." That's your plucky wisdom for the coming weeks, Aquarius. You have arrived at a pivotal phase in your life cycle when you can't achieve liberation by fleeing, avoiding, or ignoring. To commune with the only kind of freedom that matters, you must head directly into the heart of the commotion.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): J. Allan Hobson is a scientist who does sleep research at Harvard. He says we dream all the time; our subconscious minds never stop churning out streams of images. During the waking hours, though, our conscious minds operate at such intensity that the lower-level flow mostly stays subliminal. But I suspect your dream-generator is running so hot right now that its stories may leak into your waking awareness. This could be disconcerting, but now that you know, I hope you'll tap into the

undercurrent to glean some useful intuitions.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): In his book *The Logic of Failure*, Dietrich Dornier discusses the visionaries who built the Aswan Dam in Egypt. Their efforts brought an abundance of cheap electricity to millions of people, but the Nile River below the dam no longer flooded its banks or fertilized the surrounding land every year. As a result, farmers had to resort to chemical fertilizers at great expense. Water pollution increased, and aquatic life suffered. I hope this thought will motivate you to carefully think through the possible consequences of decisions you're contemplating.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): Are you primed to seek out new colleagues and strengthen your existing alliances? Are you curious about what it would take to infuse your best partnerships with maximum emotional intelligence? From an astrological perspective, the next nine weeks will be a favorable time to do these things. You will have opportunities to deepen your engagement with collaborators who cultivate integrity and communicate effectively.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): "I was satisfied with haiku until I met you," Dean Young tells a new lover in his poem "Changing Genres." But Young goes on to say that he's no longer content with that terse genre. "Now I want a Russian novel," he proclaims, "a 50-page description of you sleeping, another 75 of what you think starting out a window." I bring Young's meditations to your attention, Gemini, because I suspect that you, too, are primed to move into a more expansive genre with a more sumptuous plot.

## FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

By Rob Breznsy

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): Statistical evidence suggests that Fridays falling on the 13th of the month are safer than other Fridays. The numbers of fires and traffic accidents are lower then, for example. I find this interesting in light of your current situation. According to my analysis, this October's Friday the 13th marks a turning point in your ongoing efforts to cultivate stability and security. On this day, as well as the seven days before and seven days after, you should receive especially helpful clues about the future work you can do to feel even safer and more protected than you already do.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): Too much propaganda and not enough real information are circulating through your personal sphere. You're tempted to traffic in stories that are rooted more in fear than insight. Gossip and hype and delusion are crowding out useful facts. No wonder it's a challenge for you to sort out the truths from the half-truths! But I predict that you will thrive anyway. You'll discover helpful clues lodged in the barrage of bunkum. You'll pluck pithy revelations from amidst the distracting ramblings. Somehow you will manage to be both extra sensitive and super-discriminating.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A journalist named Jenkin Lloyd Jones coined the term "Afghanism," which he defined as "concentrating on problems in distant parts of the world while ignoring controversial local issues." I want to urge you Virgos to avoid engaging in a personal version of Afghanism. In other words, focus on issues that are close at hand, even if they seem sticky or prickly. Don't you dare let your attention get consumed by the dreamy distractions of faraway places and times. For the foreseeable future, the best use of your energy is HERE and NOW.

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