

# B&W

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## FROM THE (OTHER) SPINNY CHAIR

BY ALEXANDRA BENNETT

Hello fellow Concordians!

Re-imagination: what does it mean? If to imagine is to bring something before the mind, to re-imagine is to bring something before the mind in a way it hasn't been before. In that spirit, this issue of the Blue & White represents some radical re-conceptualizations that have been going on behind the scenes. Here in the office (and elsewhere around Concordia) we have been rethinking what it means to be a school newspaper.

As you may have noticed, The Blue & White has gotten a bit of a make-

over! This fresh look comes along with a few new and exciting changes. Most importantly we are embarking on a journey of reconnection... with you, dear readers! We now have a fully functioning website that will be loaded with extras and discussion boards to compliment our print edition. Follow us on Twitter and look for us on Facebook; we want to be your friend!

So go on, get out there! Say what needs to be said; we love hearing from you.

## ETS NOW COMES TO OUR DOOR!

BY SARA CAMPOS-SILVIUS

ETS direct shuttle service (bus #399) from Coliseum Station to Concordia campus began January 6 and the trial period runs for an 8-week duration until March. The shuttle runs from 7:30 - 10:30 in the morning and 3:30 - 6:30 in the afternoon. You can find the schedule at the doors of the Hole Academic Centre, on the Concordia website, or on takeets.com. ETS and the Concordia Student's Association hope to encourage increased ridership by Concordia students and demonstrate the conve-

nience of ETS. By leaving their cars at home, students can save money, improve traffic congestion, and decrease air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Not to mention it's a safer and less stressful alternative to driving on those slippery sub-zero snow days. The shuttle has proved to be both useful and well-used thus far, with many students saving 20 to 40 minutes off their usual transit ride time. Have YOU tried it yet? What are you waiting for?

## ZERBIN

AN EDMONTON-BASED ROCK FUSION BAND,  
THIS CONCERT IS GUARANTEED TO BLOW YOUR  
MIND.

CONCORDIA TEGLER CENTRE  
FEBRUARY 11TH, 2011  
7:00PM

TICKETS \$8 AT THE DOOR  
PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS  
THE CONCORDIA MISSION TRIP

\*CHECK OUT THEIR WEBSITE:

[HTTP://WWW.ZERBINMUSIC.COM](http://www.zerbinmusic.com)



## CVCS: NOT JUST FOR THE COOL KIDS

BY JORDAN MORGAN

Do you remember the days as a child when the three most important things were food, cartoons, and video games? Just about everyone remembers playing Super Mario Bros. on the old Nintendo Entertainment System; it was the beginning of a new source of entertainment and now plays a significant part in our society. Major Blockbuster films have been using characters and storylines from video games as late as 1993 with such films as Super Mario Bros., Resident Evil, Street Fighter, Mortal Kombat, Lara Croft Tomb Raider, and Prince of Persia to name a few. Video game characters often make appearances on multiple platforms of fashion from t-shirts to belt buckles. Overall, these adaptations caused by the popularity of video games contribute to the identity of members of the video

game or "gamer" subculture. Like any culture, there are stereotypes such as the overweight male who lives in his parents' basement spending most of his time playing World of Warcraft. It's amazing how a simple piece of technology has evolved into an entire culture with its own characteristics, traits, style, misconceptions, and even a way of life. Video game consoles are literally the seed that has brought games onto almost every electronic hand held device to date.

If you are enjoying talking about the impact video games have had on society or simply enjoying playing them or wish to then checkout CVCS, Concordia Visual Culture Society. We meet monthly, join us on facebook (under groups) Concordia Visual Culture Society.

*Advertise your event in the Blue & White! Email  
[bw.concordia@gmail.com](mailto:bw.concordia@gmail.com)*

# RE-IMAGINING... JUNK

BY SARA CAMPOS-SILVUS

One person's trash is another person's treasure. But the problem is, we have too much junk. Did you know that as a species, we have run out of space for our garbage? And guess what? Industrialized nations like Canada and the U.S. actually ship garbage and recyclables around the world for either dumping or processing. There is a garbage pile so massive in the Philippines, that it has its own "earthquakes" or shifts in mass --- and people have been killed by it. Many people, including children, spend the day picking through the garbage in hopes of re-selling metals, glass, elements from electronic goods and other things to scrape by a living. And that story is repeated in nations around the world. So, in 2011, reimagine your junk, 'cause when you are long gone, your Styrofoam, plastic, and the tungsten in your cell phone will still be here.

1. Leave your money at home, it's no good here.

The Free Store is at 8405 118Th Avenue. Yes, it's a store, and it's free. You only pay \$2 to drop off a box of your good-quality, used items. And if you want to "buy" items, they are free! What better use for all the excess clothes, electric items and other things piling up in the closet?

2. If you don't need the 5 cents, someone else will.

You already know that you pay a deposit on Tetra Paks, plastic drink bottles, and alcohol bottles. It may not be a big deal to you, but many people in Edmonton collect bottles out of trash cans, dumpsters, and blue bins and you can make it cleaner and easier for them. So be sure not to throw it in the trash --- and think about putting it in a special returnables-only bag or box beside your recycling bin. Or, recycle your empties in specially marked boxes at Concordia and help put that money towards the yearly mission trip!

3. It's a garbage dump the size of Texas...and it's in the middle of the ocean.

The Great Pacific Garbage Patch is a floating garbage pile full of plastics - grocery bags, bottles, food jars, coffee cups --- and tons of other human products. It floats in the Pacific ocean, moving with the currents like a giant inflatable island of...well, garbage. Make use of reusable mugs and cloth bags, and recycle your empties in the recycling bin, not the trash can.

4. Electronics: don't be a tosser.

Electronics like cell phones, TVs, VCRs, DVD players, computers, printers etc. are full of plastics and metals that are either toxic or can be recycled. Some stores like Lon-

don Drugs let you return your old purchases for recycling right at the store; you can recycle phones at any cell phone store, and Edmonton also has several Eco-Centres where you can return used electronics and other harmful household goods like paint, drain cleaners, hairspray, car batteries, etc.

5. The pitch: Don't buy it.

You reuse and recycle, kiddo - good on you! But those are the easy parts of the Three R's that we learned in grade school. What about Reduce? The truth is, reducing our consumption in the first place is the biggest step towards turning around the real problem: too much crap, not enough space. Question your purchases in the first place - are you buying something as a status symbol? To fit in with

friends? On impulse because shopping makes you feel good? Did you want it only when you saw the commercial for it? Changing your habits can make the world a better place, and hey, your wallet will thank you too.

Resources:

"The Story of Stuff" on Youtube

Eco Centre locations:

Ambleside: 14710 Ellerslie Road SW  
Coronation: 11440-143 Street  
Strathcona: 5150-99 Street - Enter on 99 Street only

Winter hours are Tuesday-Saturday, 9 - 4:30

[nativevillage.org](http://nativevillage.org)  
[top-10-list.org](http://top-10-list.org)



Above: A man canoes through the Great Pacific Garbage Patch

*Does this inspire, incite, or interest you? Let us know at [bw.concordia@gmail.com](mailto:bw.concordia@gmail.com)*

## RETHINKING ADMIRATION

BY ALLISON COMPTON

Far too often in our society we overlook the contributions of people who really matter and who make a significant difference in people's lives everyday: doctors/nurses, teachers, childcare workers, police officers, and this is not an exhaustive list. The financial rewards are unequally distributed and these people are often left overworked and unappreciated for their hard work and sacrifices.

Doctors spend years in school and have extremely stressful jobs dealing with ill and injured people everyday. Teachers care for children and face increasing demands - to be educator, back-up parent, social worker, and psychologist all rolled into one. They spend hours outside of class time preparing materials and lesson plans. For those of you that think a teacher's day ends at 3:30, think again! Police officers take the risk of

having violence committed against them every time they pull someone over, even for a minor traffic violation. Why is it that people will pay their car mechanic more than their childcare worker? Why do we depreciate such important work?

If society was reorganized, these people would receive the proper financial rewards and prestige that comes from giving back to humanity. They would be the people that children admire, not Justin Bieber or Miley Cyrus. Movie stars and entertainers wouldn't make millions while contributing very little to the world. People would be more compassionate, caring, and giving, if these people were held up as role models and society as a whole would benefit from it. Just something to think about.

## CALLING ALL POETS!

Ever dream of getting your work out there? Well, here's your chance!

### PRESENTING THE BLUE & WHITE'S 2011

#### POETRY CONTEST

Submit a short poem up to 200 words in length

Submission deadline: February 28, 2011

The poems will be judged by Concordia's very own Lisa Martin-DeMoor!

Winners will get a PRIZE (TBA), and be featured in the Blue & White!

Fame, fortune, and PRIZES could be yours!

Enter today!

Send your poem to [bw.concordia@gmail.com](mailto:bw.concordia@gmail.com)

## LOVE'S WORST CRIME: A REVIEW

BY DAVID SUPINA

Make no mistake, Love's Worst Crime is about the voice of one Serafin LaRiviere. Fortunately, it's a lovely voice that cuts effortlessly through the jazz bystanders with a vocal quality that sits on the edge between a tenor and an alto range, a traditionally male and a traditional female vocal quality, a jazz and pop tone quality. It's an interesting meeting place for a number of things. The instrumentation seems to recognize what the true star of this album is, and concerns itself often with laying the harmonious structural support and staying out of the way of Serafin's voice. The effect is that you'll often find yourself remembering listening to Serafin sing, but not much in terms of context. This is not to say that the arrangements are not sharp, or the playing is incompetent, but rather that it is competent to the point of often being secondary to the voice it complements. A notable exception is the haunting arpeggiations on Disabled, Disillusioned and Blind. Sometimes this extends to the songs themselves. There is certainly good taste shown in the four covers on this album. One of the weaknesses of songwriters is that it tends to expose you as either a singer, a poet or a tune-smith that happens to do the other two. Serafin is a singer who crafts memorable melodies that express his emotions potently, but his poetry lags behind. There are certainly worse lyricists, and even

judged on its own merits, it is well crafted, occasionally striking you with an emotionally disarming phrase, but there is a shift in language between mere articulation and pure poetry. At times, Serafin falls firmly on the side of articulation, although it is still articulated well, meaning that much like the instrumentation, the lyrics often set the foundational backdrop while not forming much of an impression. At the same time, they certainly give context for the overarching sense of heartbreak hinted at by the album's Love's Worst Crime title. It is certainly Serafin's voice that you will remember. He constructs elegant, though sometimes merely reasonable, foundations for his remarkable phrasing and sound, and then delivers a voice you won't forget, wrought both with genuine emotion and a distinct sound that will linger with you.



## CONCERT CHOIR

BY DAVID SUPINA

Once again I come bringing word of the Concordia Concert Choir.

If the Sacred Music Festival is our first major test, then the Christmas Concert is our real litmus test. It's where we bring together an entire semester's worth of singing. Usually, it's not terribly nerve-wracking. Christmas usually puts us in good spirits, and given the rigorous, stressful demands of multiple exams, it was relaxing in some ways to just show up and sing. The Christmas Concert officially ended the season for the Concert Choir. It's always curious to perform; given that our repertoire consists of much sacred work, we can usually shoe-horn just about any of our pieces into the performance. This leads to an always interesting variety of Christmas hymns, thematically related repertoire from classical composers, and contemporary work reflecting relatively modern gospels. We were a bit cramped, as our side of the stage was pretty small for a group our size, but we're a relatively tight bunch, so

we just tried to enjoy ourselves and sing out.

Christmas break meant we felt a little rusty when we got back in January. And it wasn't long before our next concert - the Hymn Festival was at the end of only the second full week back from the break. It was a bit daunting, but before long, we had gotten back up to speed on the pieces we were working on before the break, and felt confident going in. It was nice at the hymn festival to have so many songs that we could sing with everyone who attended. In a way, it was the most direct way we could share the pleasure of singing in a choir.

The performance was also notable for the large number of solos that were sung by various members of the choir. By my count, there were at least nine, possibly more, solos sung by various members. We also had supporting instrumentation done by members of our own choir,

### *Some thoughts on imagination:*

*Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there is to know and understand.*

*-Albert Einstein*

*Imagination is the eye of the soul.*  
*-Joseph Joubert*

friends from the music department at Concordia, and even a faculty member at Concordia provided instrumental support. It was great to hear that so many of our individual voices, and individual musical talents, could help carry the music independently.

It is also worth noting that several members of the choir have been selected to appear in the musical that the drama department is putting on this semester. Keep your eyes peeled for posters later on in the semester advertising Honk!, a new musical starring some very talented and at-

tractive choristers/musical theatre performers.

We still have much work to do. With a number of pieces from last semester in good shape, we will likely be shifting our focus to pieces we have begun more recently in preparation for upcoming concerts. Our next appearance will be February 4th in Tegler, where we will be having a silent auction to fundraise for the Concert Choir. Come out and bid, listen to us sing, and support our goal to bring four part harmony to as many places in the world as we can.

## A LIFE WITHOUT MY CELL PHONE

BY ALLISON COMPTON

For reasons of clumsiness, I was forced to go without my cell phone all of last week. This forced me to really notice how much people have come to rely on them. It made me think about what the world would be like without cell phones. Of course there was a time before the mobile telephone, but a lot of us seem to forget that time and that those people survived perfectly well without it. Here is what a world without cell phones would look like:

- \* We would sit down for a meal with a family member or friend and give them our undivided attention. We wouldn't compulsively check our phones. Students also wouldn't disrespect their teachers and professors by using their phones during class.

- \* We would make more of an effort to see our friends and family and not misconstrue text messaging as real human connection.

- \* We would not be rude to

cashiers and clerks by chatting on our phones and trying to look oh so important while they are trying to do their job and communicate with us.

- \* There would be no accidents due to distracted drivers talking or texting on cell phones.

- \* We wouldn't, on average, work two extra hours a day because of answering emails and phone calls pertaining to work.

- \* We wouldn't have to pay \$50-\$75 a month to have our cell phone.

- \* The environmental damage resultant from creating and using cell phones would not exist.

I challenge every reader to put away the cell phone for the day, actually go see friends in person for communication, abstain from answering the heap of incoming phone calls, and see how refreshing mobile-free life really can be.

## OUR HERO, THE ROCK - INSTALLMENT # 8

BY DAVID SUPINA

*The eighth of our weekly installments of David Supina's serial novel, Our Hero, A Rock. If you miss an installment (yeah, right!) you can catch up on David's Blog: <http://ourhero-arock.blogspot.com/>*

"I hate that guy," George said, pacing the room. "I am going to get him good, that's for sure." "George," said Daisy cautiously, "You're not going to hurt him, are you?" "No, of course not," George soothed. "Nothing permanent." "George!" Daisy scolded. "I won't let you do anything to Mr. Snuffterdorfe just because he's not always the nicest man!"

Coming from Daisy, that was a grave condemnation indeed.

"What are the rules?" Rose said suddenly.

Her friends looked at her questioningly. "I want to know what the rules are for this thing, Rock... sir. Did Jello really appear in the real world? Or is this even real?" The rock sighed. "It's not... entirely." They paused. "Not entirely..." Rose asked, after a while. "...what, exactly?" "Not entirely anything at all. It's not quite real, but not quite a dream. It's not entirely happening, but not entirely imaginary either..."

"So is this happening?" George asked, sounding confused. "Almost," said the rock. "What do you mean, 'al-

most'? Is this just a dream?" "Mostly," the rock agreed.

"I don't think these are the right questions..." Rose slowly intoned. "Just tell us what happens... are we going to wake up? What happens then?" "Better questions!" The rock said warmly. "You'll remember everything, but if you run all night, you won't be tired when you wake up. Everyone else will remember everything as a dream." "So my brothers..." George said, starting to smile. "Will wake with Jello nightmares." The rock finished.

"All right..." George said, beginning to pace with a strange smile. "This changes things quite a bit..."

"George..." Daisy warned.

Rose had seen this before. One of the few things that could make George happy was a good prank. And one of the few things that could upset Daisy was George about to, playing or suffering the consequences of a prank. She sighed. The world was suddenly wonderful and strange and new, but her friends were very much the same.

Rose shuffled over to the rock, which was currently sitting on the bed, and whispered to it. "Do you need me to carry you around, or can you... move somehow in this world?" "Well, what do you think, Rose?" the rock asked with a cautious tone.

"I think... it's a world in which you have to float somehow... because this is your world, and you can make something of it." The rock laughed, "that's exactly right Rose..." he rose from the bed. "Of course that's exactly how it goes. But you are on to something, you realize..." "You are NOT going to dunk Mr. Snuffterdorfe into a swimming pool filled with dead monkeys!" Daisy screamed, remarkably out of sorts for her. "Where did you even get such an idea, George?!"

"What would you like to do, Daisy," said the rock, floating over to her.

"I would..." Daisy blinked, staring at the talking, and now floating, rock. "Um, I just think that we're missing the point if we just do things that are pranks and jello." "We could get a tank and blow up Tokyo..." George offered. "I... wouldn't mind eating a ton of candy and not getting sick..." Rose contributed. "No," said Daisy. "We could discover so many things! We could go to Brazil and the rainfor-

est and see things that nobody's ever seen! Or we could go fly to the top of Mount Everest and not even be cold! Or..."

Rose whispered to the rock, "Mr. Rock, is this going to work out all right?"

"I don't know if any of you understand yet. But sometimes, it's best to just trust that things will work out."

"Okay, fine, no pool of monkey guts. But Mr. Snuffterdorfe is going to get it."

"What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to make him get eaten by his own math. And then I'm going to make that math chase him and try to eat him after he wakes up."

The idea was so ridiculous, that Rose burst out laughing, and even Daisy cracked a smile.

*To be continued...*

## APPLY FOR A LEADERSHIP AWARD TODAY!

### Available awards:

- The Laurence Decore award
- Student of the Year award
- The Chris Benedict award
- Dr. Gary McPherson Leadership Scholarship: \$2000 value!

**For more information see [concordia.ab.ca](http://concordia.ab.ca) and look under Financial Aid & Awards**

## CAREER SERVICES NEWS

JANUARY 31ST TO FEB 4, 2011

Resume Critiques will be on Tuesday and Thursday from 1 - 3. Volunteers are trained to assist you. Go to L265 on the Main Floor of the Library - Career Services Office.

- WORKSEARCH WORKSHOP - Looking for a full time job or summer job - Attend this workshop to build your strategies. There is more to it then you realize!

- o Tuesday, February 1, 1 - 1:55 - 3:00 p.m. - HA 113

- o Friday, February 4, - 1:55 - 3:00 p.m. - HA - 113

CAMP - Concordia Alumni Mentoring Program is a free service provided to student which matches students with alumni who share similar career fields, geographic locations and interest. Current students are given the opportunity to discuss their career path with someone who has been there.

Please see Career Services for more information or an mentor!

International Opportunities: Please see Career Services for opportunities soon!!

ATTENTION GRADUATES! Congratulations on your upcoming graduation!!

Should you need Career, Graduate Studies, Internship or Work Search Support,

Career Services can assist you with your plans. There are many opportunities and options to explore. Resume critiques and Interview Preparation for graduates are critical for success. Career Services is making special appointments to see graduates. Set up your time now! Go out Prepared!

Graduation Seminar - 'Now What? - After Graduation';

Options and Opportunities

Thursday, March 10 from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. - Peter Schiemann Centre

For more information or appointment - contact Doreen Kooy, Career Services Coordinator at

780-378-8461, or e-mail at [doreen.kooy@concordia.ab.ca](mailto:doreen.kooy@concordia.ab.ca) or [careerservices@concordia.ab.ca](mailto:careerservices@concordia.ab.ca)

Career Services provides Individual career consultations and numerous Career Resources. See

Career Services link on Concordia's main page.

## B&W Forum



Photo by: Mellisa Thew

### *A Final Thought:*

*My alphabet starts with this letter called yuzz. It's the letter I use to spell yuzz-a-ma-tuzz. You'll be sort of surprised what there is to be found once you go beyond 'Z' and start poking around.*

*-Dr. Seuss, On Beyond Zebra!*