

SP

30
November
1998

FELIX

KEEP THE CAT FREE EST. 1949

Issue
1128

The Students' Newspaper at Imperial College

Wade in Resignation Nightmare

IC School of Medicine Union has suffered its third key resignation in a little over a month, with the departure of Education Rep Oliver Warren. This has brought to the surface deep divisions within the Union Executive, and has raised questions from several quarters over the competency of the Med School President, Mr Wade Gayed.

Mr Warren's reasons for resignation, given both in a letter to Felix and in person, would seem to be twofold. Firstly, he had been "extremely angered by the loss of £3000 from the medical school reserve funds" which resulted from the cancelled Graduation Ball. Again, the finger of blame is pointed, with Mr Warren adding, "members of the SU from Mary's were not even aware this was going to occur until less than a week before Graduation Day". This loss was, in Mr Warren's words, "So precious in a year when there is talk of charging clubs more money for minibuses..." Indeed it comes on top of

By David Roberts

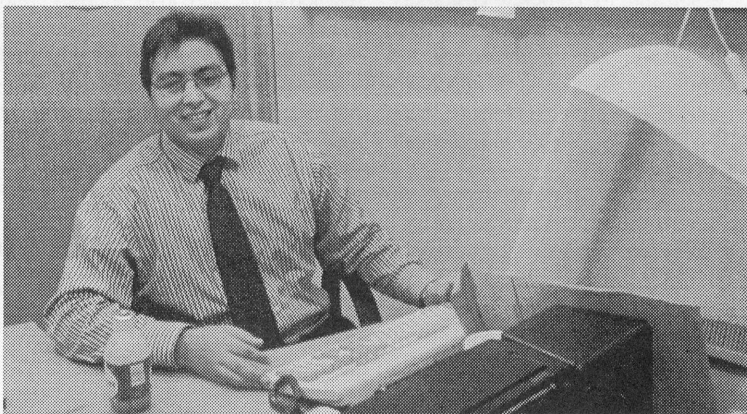


Photo: Andy

Wade stands alone as Exec members fall

a series of other exceptional payments and purchases which have seen the ICSMSU reserves dwindle from in excess of £55000 to practically nothing.

Secondly, he expresses a clear lack of confidence in the Medical School Pres-

ident, who "manages to avoid the flak by covering himself and passing the buck". Former ICU President Andy Heeps, who himself resigned as Med School Secretary last month, confirmed this point of view; "There is a very unhappy atmosphere

amongst School of Medicine students at the moment because there is no clear leadership...I am not surprised that there are more resignations coming through."

Although Mr Gayed refused to comment directly on Mr Warren's resignation, beyond remarking that it was "very unfortunate", he accepted that "we're constantly discovering problems...they can't all be sorted out this year - we're like a crash team, sent in to locate all the problems and meet them head on". However, he did add that "things are getting better".

Several sources have suggested that a senior member of staff advised Mr Warren to resign his position. Further investigation, however, suggests that staff have had a strong role to play in the other resignations, and indeed the entire running of ICSMSU. One senior source put this very bluntly; "Gayed is being

Continued on page 2

Designer Drugs A Menace

By Andrew Brown

The streets, pubs and clubs of Britain have been hit with new, lethal, designer drugs. Already responsible for three deaths in the UK, as well as two in Holland, not all of these drugs are classified as illegal. Thousands are being sold as ecstasy, the users unaware that the new drugs can be up to 33 times stronger.

4-MTA (4-methylthioamphetamine), more commonly known as 'Flatliners' due to the 'out of body' experience that they allegedly cause, has been named as being responsible for at least two deaths. Private Stephen Evans of the Devonshire and Dorset Regiment died after taking a cocktail of drugs during a night out in Torquay. He returned to his girlfriend's flat in Plymouth where he turned purple and lapsed into a coma - the paramedics arrived too late. The coroner found opiates, cocaine, methadone, cannabis, two types of ecstasy and 4-MTA (Flatliners) in Private Evans' body. He recorded a verdict of death by non-dependant abusive drugs and remarked "Anyone who takes drugs like this is playing Russian Roulette with their lives." Flatliners were also responsible for the death of a 22-year-old

psychology student in Shepton Mallet, Somerset, in July. She had not taken any other drugs.



Photo: Joel The pills appear innocent

4-MTA was developed at Purdue University, Indiana by Professor David Nicholls as a replacement for the anti-depressant Prozac or as an appetite suppressant. It was never tested on humans, but underground chemists found references to it in scientific papers and reproduced it. However, Professor Nicholls commented that it was only intended to

be prescribed in 2-3mg doses, not the doses in excess of 100mg the cream-coloured tablets contain.

Possession of flatliners is not illegal as they are only covered by the Medicines Act, which is rarely enforced. The Home Office is considering classifying these and 35 other ecstasy derivatives as class A drugs under the Misuse of Drugs legislation with penalties of 7 years and an unlimited fine for possession, 14 years plus a fine for unlawful production and life imprisonment for supplying.

The other drug, 4-bromo-2,5 dimethoxyamphetamine (DOB), sold as Golden Eagle, has its roots in the sixties and has sometimes been sold as LSD. There have been ten seizures by British police recently. DOB can cause feelings of anxiety, paranoid fantasies, flushing, palpitations, vomiting, psychiatric problems, panic, violent behaviour and death.

Astonishingly, recipes for the fatal concoction are readily available on the Internet. Caution is advised: if you insist on taking these sorts of drugs, make sure that you at least know what you are taking.

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Merger Miffs Microsoft

By Joel Lewis

America Online, the worlds biggest internet service provider, has announced a take-over of Netscape. The deal had been delayed by questions over Sun's participation in the venture.

AOL stands to gain proven technology and the ownership of one of the Internet's most accessed sites: Netcenter (the default webpage opened by the Netscape browser when loaded for the first time). "When you add it all up, there's incredible power in what we're announcing today," said Steve Case, AOL's chairman and CEO "With Netscape, we will broaden our global audience at home and at work and add world-class technology to support an expanded range of products and services."

In a separate announcement, America Online also stated that it had entered

into a strategic alliance with Sun Microsystems to "enhance its delivery of e-commerce solutions". The companies will develop complete solutions for e-commerce based on the best available technologies and expand their sales channels to include each other's products and services.

The three-year America Online-Sun agreement also will increase distribution and development of Netscape's enterprise software for corporate customers. The companies will use Sun's Java technology to offer AOL services on selected Internet devices, consistent with AOL's new "AOL Anywhere" strategy to make AOL compatible with any Java compatible machine.

In the deal with Sun, AOL agreed to purchase systems and services worth \$500 million from Sun throughout 2002. Sun, meanwhile, will pay AOL \$350 million in licensing, marketing, and advertising fees during the period. "When you put those pieces all together, I think it's a pretty compelling opportunity for companies to get the infrastructure and the traffic all together in one place and get to market online big-time," said Sun CEO Scott McNealy.

Generally, there has been a positive reaction to the plans in the industry - with many seeing the new AOL as a possible challenger to Microsoft's continued advances into e-commerce and the Internet as a whole. Insiders also say that at most there will be minor anti-trust problems with the partnership.



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30 November 1998

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V&A Revamp

By Brett Donovan

Due to open in 2004, the proposed Spiral extension should bring the V&A museum into the 21st century. Designed by the architect Daniel Libeskind, the new addition is to house contemporary works of art, craft and fashion, in particular featuring the work of young designers.

plan personalised tours around the galleries.

As yet, the museum has not secured the necessary financial resources and consequently senior management are actively seeking funding for the estimated £75 million required. The V&A hopes to obtain funding from the Lottery

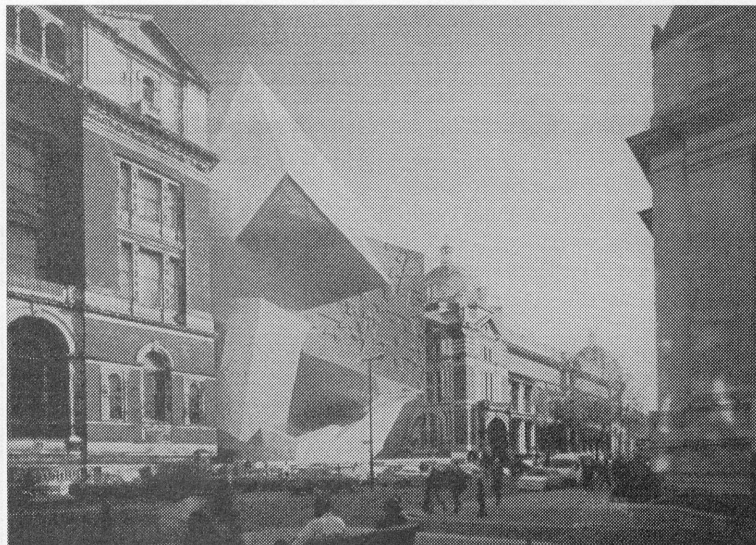


Photo: Courtesy of the V&A

Artist's Impression of the Spiral Extension

The proposed gallery is certainly a modern design and although not in keeping with existing styles, has been greeted with enthusiasm from the art world. The Spiral is a functional gallery with an auditorium and studio based learning lab; apparently interactive orientation guides will enable visitors to

and a whole host of charitable organisations, however with current controversy over Lottery arts funding, the future of the extension is insecure. Planning permission has been granted and despite widespread criticism and opposition from residents work is planned to begin in mid-1999.

Replacement Vice President and Secretary Elected

Continued from page 1

used as a lap-dog by the Vice-Principal (Undergraduate Medicine). It is clear that the ICSMSU now exists purely to further the political interests of members of ICSM staff, and not to benefit our students". This is backed up by Mr Warren's view of Mr Ahmad's resignation, "certain members of the union executive...took it upon themselves to force Seif from his position, by continually undermining his position, sometimes to people as high up as Professor Whitehouse [the Vice-Principal]".

It is known that complaints had been made to Sarah Burnett [the ICSM Admissions Tutor] over the ICSMSU President's failure to appear at the ULU Med Group visit to Cambridge to meet prospective clinical students, and consequently, according to Felix's source "it's not surprising that the School's Senior Admissions Tutor told the Education Rep to jump before other sections of the School Administration started to push". This view has been confirmed by several other senior sources, who corroborate the Admissions Tutor's advice to "jump before the ship sinks".

Meanwhile, elections to replace Mr Ahmad and Mr Heeps took place on 19 and 20 November. Since the elections, serious allegations of electoral malpractice have emerged, with ballot boxes failing to materialise at the Charing Cross and St Mary's campuses. Furthermore, according to the few medical students prepared to talk to Felix, the only ballot

box was in fact situated under Mr Gayed's desk in the BMS Building, and produced only on request. Indeed, it would appear that hardly any medical students at any of the campuses - or indeed either of ICU's sabbatical officers - were aware that the election was taking place. Mr Gayed refused to be drawn on the precise number of votes cast, only stating that "a fair number" exercised their democratic right, electing Lizzie Robinson as Secretary and Nick Newton as Vice President (Internal).

So what does the future hold for ICSMSU? Mr Warren feels that it is vital that Medical students begin to examine the problems that face their Union: "I ask you why things have been allowed to get this bad". Yet according to another senior union figure, "it is too late for ICSMSU...it is clear that as ICSM voted against the current ICU President that he has no desire to intervene and clean things up; it must be obvious to him that there are problems of both a representative and financial nature". However, responding to this charge the ICU President, David Hellard, stated that "I find myself in a position where whatever I do someone will see it as being anti-medic...We're monitoring the situation, and are in close contact with all the people involved, both inside and outside their Exec". Mr Warren too noted a clear belief that there is a light at the end of the tunnel; "the Union is not as strong as the executive who run it, but the other way around; the executive is as strong as the student body it represents and serves".



In brief...

Liverpool to leave NUS?

Liverpool's Hope University College has become the latest institution to contemplate leaving the NUS. After a debate last Monday, where speakers from UMIST, who have recently disaffiliated, and the NUS put forward their cases, their Union held a meeting to discuss the matter. The outcome was unknown as *Felix* went to press.

was with him on the day of his death left the country before the body was found. The coroner's report will hopefully end the matter, showing the incident to be a tragic accident.

Two Stand in Union Elections

Two candidates have stood for the position of Deputy President (Clubs & Societies). Marie Nicholou and Tim Traylor were the two fully seconded nominees when *Felix* went to press. Hustings will take place next Monday (in dB's), Tuesday (at Charing Cross) and Wednesday (at St Mary's). Voting will take place in all departments the following Monday and Tuesday, with the results announced on Tuesday evening.

BioChem Blaze: Fire Crew's Six Hour Labour

There was panic in the BioChemistry building on the afternoon of Friday 20 when it caught fire. As part of a pilot plant demolition builders were re-tarring an area of roofing. It is alleged that this set some fibre-board in an adjoining wall cavity smouldering. Unfortunately, this happened to connect to a cold room, used for genetic tests on plants, which was insulated with asbestos-cement walls.

At 4.45pm the fire alarm was set off and the building evacuated. The BioChem authorities, still unclear as to the exact cause of the smoke, called the fire brigade. Fearing the worst, they sent seven fire engines and a special chemical spillage crew. The area was immediately sealed off and work was started to put the fire out and make safe the asbestos. This took them until 11.00pm that night. Despite all this upheaval, BioChemistry were very keen to make it clear that at no point was anyone in any serious danger.

Charges Dropped

Charges against one of the students involved in damaging the Southside barrier (*Felix* 1126) have been dropped. Another student involved in the incident could still face charges and is currently part of a police investigation. Ken Weir, Chief Security Officer, was unable to comment further until the police investigation is completed.

Open Verdict on Student Death

The coroner investigating the death of a student in Fisher Hall before the start of term has recorded an open verdict. The student was found in his room by a sub-warden some time after he had died. There had been some speculation that the death may be suspicious, fuelled by rumours that the student's friend who

Rag Week

By Sarah Coburn

Things have been moving along since you last read about Rag and what we do. I'm pleased to say that we now have six members of the committee, which means that things can begin to get moving. This is good as it isn't very long until Rag week itself! Events in the pipeline for Rag week include a hypnotist, a monopoly pub crawl, and hopefully the Royal College of Science Union Beer Festival. The problems that have arisen with the beer festival are due to College saying no to the use of the JCR. At the moment alternative venues are being looked at so fingers crossed.

This term we are going to start running a cloakroom in the Union on Friday nights from 9pm until closing. It will be 50p an item and all money taken goes straight to Rag. So even if you don't do anything else to help us this year let us look after your coat for you!

On 2 December the RCSU will be

having a circle line pub crawl, everyone is welcome - lookout for the posters for details. They will be collecting in the pubs on the way and once again all money collected goes to Rag. It'll be a good laugh and makes a change from the normal Wednesday afternoon activities!

The week after on 7 December, we are carol singing at Charing Cross BR Station, in aid of 'Alone in London', a charity which helps homeless young people in London. It should be a good fundraiser but we are looking for volunteers to join our singers. It doesn't matter how good or bad you are! Anyone interested should contact me via email at sarah.coburn@ic.ac.uk.

We are still looking for people to help out, so if you are interested or want to find out more feel free to email me or leave a message on the office answer machine, ext 58099.

Lost Property

On 15 October a coat was taken from Footlights in High Street Kensington. The coat is believed to have been handed to a group of IC students by mistake when they were given their own jackets by the restaurant staff. The navy coat is made by Tommy Hilfiger and is blue, and had an Eriksson mobile phone in one of the pockets. The owner of the coat and phone has reported the incident to the police. If any student has the coat, or has any more information, they should contact security on 58900.

Forged Notes

In the last few weeks there have been a couple of incidences of forged bank notes being used in transactions at Imperial College Union trading outlets. Students are asked to remember that these notes are worthless, and will not be accepted as currency. Attempting to use a note that you know or suspect to be forged is an offence, so it is worth being aware of the distinguishing features between forged and true notes.

The detail on forged notes is often blurred or missing, and the colours are usually slightly different from true notes. The silver thread in true notes is visible when held up to the light - this line is often painted on forged notes. A watermark (of the Queen's head) should be clearly visible when held up to the light and not blurred. Lastly, the printing on true notes is slightly raised, and the feel of the paper is very different from most normal paper used by printers and photocopiers.

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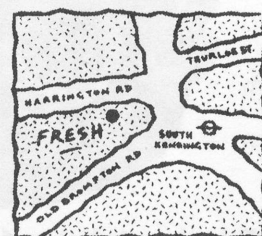
15a Harrington Road

South Kensington

London SW7 3ES

(1 Minute walk from

South Kensington Tube)



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RCSU Torn by Poor Turnout

By Gareth Morgan

After two months of uncertainty, the Royall College of Science Union has belatedly elected Simon Torn as their President. The result was announced last Tuesday night in the Union Bar, after an election which, despite the efforts of the Union, remained stubbornly low-profile.

Mr Torn, a second year Physicist, who was defeated in last year's election for RCSU VP and ICU Council Chair, was the only candidate, and stood against the ever-present New Election. The Hustings, held on Friday 20 November in the JCR, were attended by only two students other than those directly involved in the election: a Departmental Rep and a *Felix* reporter, both members of the RCSU's General Committee. This was in spite of an excess of one hundred posters put up around the College in the week leading up to the Hustings.

In the two days of voting, only 100 votes were cast - about 4% of the electorate. Mr Torn received seventy votes

and was duly elected. The RCSU Vice President (Finance) Will Bently pointed out, however, that this was a better percentage than the estimated turnout for the aborted IC Union Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) election, where approximately 100-500 votes were cast from an electorate of over nine thousand.

The Union celebrated in the traditional manner, giving away free beer to the few who turned up to hear the results. For a College which supposedly has the highest alcohol consumption per capita of any students union in the country, Imperial's societies find it surprisingly hard to give away free beer. The promise of a drink for anyone who voted did not appear to have greatly affected the overall turnout.

Mr Torn was pleased with his victory, saying that he was "delighted to be given this opportunity" and pledging to "ensure that the Union does something for its students."

Light runs out of Steam

By Andrew Ofori

The speed of light is slowing down, according to a new theory to be published soon. If space observations prove it to be correct, much of this century's work in theoretical physics, including many of Einstein's famous theories, will need to be adjusted.

The textbook-rewriting theory, proposed by Joao Magneijo (Royal research fellow at Imperial College) and Andreas Albrecht (formerly of IC but now of the University of California at Davis), says that the speed of light immediately after the big bang was much faster than today's accepted value, and has been slowing down ever since.

By daring to challenge one of the most basic assumptions of theoretical physics the theory is bound to come under close scrutiny from scientists across the globe, focusing the spotlight on Imperial once again. Dr Magneijo commented "If it's true, it would be a very big leap forward that will affect our perception of the universe and much of theoretical physics."

Assuming the big bang model to be true, moments after the big bang, light could only cross from one side of the universe to the other if it moved much quicker than the previously assumed constant velocity. This new hypothesis suggests that this could be as much as the current value (3×10^8 m/s) multiplied by a 70 figure number!

The theory offers elegant proofs for many phenomena which previous theories have failed to satisfactorily rationalise. It supplies the best explanation yet for the speed at which the universe is expanding, which is thought to be fast enough to prevent collapse, resulting in a 'big crunch'. In this case, the ultimate fate of the universe would be a slow, drawn-out death as all the stars burn out and every particle of matter within the universe separates.

The new theory rivals the currently accepted model of inflation to describe what happened immediately after the big bang. It will be published in full in the scientific journal *Physical Review D*.

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303



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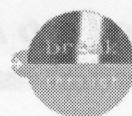
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Resignation Explanation

Many medical students over the last few days, especially those I saw at the wonderful Winter Ball, asked me my reasons for resigning my post on ICMSU last week. The decision was not one taken lightly but after several agonising days of contemplation.

I was upset by the way Seif Ahmed (ex-VPI CX) was treated by certain members of the union executive, who continually undermined his position, sometimes to people as high up as Professor Whitehouse, and threatening such nonsenses as votes of no confidence. This in someone the electorate convincingly voted in less than five months earlier. Seif should have been urged to stay, and I believe would have done had he felt support coming from the President.

Andy Heeps was potentially the most useful person on the union, knowing the IC red tape system better than anyone else, and being well respected by many at IC. His decision to leave was probably more due to personal differences with some members of the SU than anything to do with leaving a failing union as was quoted in last weeks Felix.

However, I didn't resign just to follow suit. I was extremely angered by the loss of £3000 from the medical school reserve funds, due to a botched attempt at a Graduation Ball. Members of the SU from Mary's were not even aware this was going to occur until less than a week before Graduation Day. That money was so precious in a year when there is talk of charging clubs more money for minibuses, and although ICU authorised the deposit being put down, it is not I.C students who have lost the money but medical clubs and societies.

Working on the executive this year was many more times harder than last year, due a lot to poor communication. I missed important meetings on more than one occasion when I was given less than two hours notice that I should attend. As a non-sabbatical doing the new clinical course, which is heavily timetabled, I needed a lot of notification for meetings. This left me looking incompetent, especially when our sabbatical President made the same meetings.

I have been criticised by various members of the union since my resignation, saying I have 'given in'. Maybe this is the case, but the atmosphere surrounding the SU was one which left no way to discuss problems with those who matter. I know that the departure of the other two and myself has also angered some students and I hope you ask why things have been allowed to get this bad. It has certainly upset me, but there comes a time when I can no longer carry out the job that you expect of me due to the circumstances I find myself working in. I will continue to support the SU, especially the VPI at St. Mary's, who is doing an extremely good job.

Finally, it may be reported that we have a failing union, that in some way the medics are weakened, certain columnists in this newspaper may claim we are in disarray. Don't believe a word of it - the union is not as strong as the executive who run it, but the other way around, the executive is as strong as the student body it represents and serves. None of my actions or this letter will in any way weaken our medical school. In the four months of it's existence it has already shown itself to be far stronger than any individual, and I continue to be proud to be a member of it,

Yours sincerely,
Oliver Warren.

Correction

Dear Felix,

I'd like to make a correction to the article "Marching for More Money" (Felix 1127). The very first sentence labels the national demonstration for grants not loans last Wednesday as "A Socialist Worker demonstration". Though the SWP, as is their right, did take a leading role in advertising the demo, the demonstration was called by "Unite for Free Education", an umbrella group encompassing the Campaign for Free Education, the Stop the Fees Campaign, and Save Free Education. It also had the support of Student Unions Against the Act and 40 individual student unions around the country.

Perhaps this is all lost on some people, but the number of people I've heard who stated that they weren't going / didn't go because "it's a Socialist Worker demonstration" I think justifies this response. Still I'd like to congratulate this years Felix team, especially Ed Sexton, in taking an interest in the student movement. There is a world outside Imperial!

George Constantinides

Unix one, Microsoft nil

Dear Felix,

Recently Bill Gates received his second cream pie in the face from the ever insurgent Biotic Baking Brigade. But it seems though that we're not united in our disgust of Microsoft's practices and products. This year the Physics department 'upgraded' by getting rid of its Unix run terminals in the undergraduate computer room and replacing them with windows NT. At the same time they actually expect students to meet deadlines, even though they may have all their work erased in the meantime, have to wait up to five minutes to open an application and sit on the edge of their chairs hoping that it won't crash. Furthermore, Microsoft's assets are more than four times the amount of

money needed to pay off the entire 3rd world debt owed to the United States, which currently ensures that the markets of these countries are about as 'free' as Alcatraz and controlled entirely by the Microsoft oriented IMF, WTO and World Bank. Do us all a favour Physics and give us our COMPUTERS back.

Yours etc
Thomas N. D. Tibbits

Summer Ball Update

Dear Felix,

The Imperial College Summer Ball currently being planned for next summer is going to be a huge and spectacular event. However every contribution can help to make it even better than planned. If you have any input and ideas for the event then let us know. We want to hear from EVERYONE including those of you who went last year, or from anyone who has been to similar totally wicked events elsewhere.

Please note that the e-mail address published in the last edition of Felix is WRONG. Please send all ideas to the Committee at summer.ball@ic.ac.uk

See you all in June,
The Summer Ball Committee

East Meets West?

Dear Felix

It seems as though Karan Kapoor, Social Chair of Charing Cross, has again put his foot in it! East meets West is a cultural show that has been run jointly by the Indian Society and Charing Cross for a number of years. This year, the show was organised by Mr Kapoor and the Indian Society President, Roopa Arora. Advertisement for the show had long been organised and distributed throughout the University of London. However, earlier this (i.e. last - Ed) week, alternative flyers were found in the BMS building stating the show was "run by medics".

With reference to KK's letter in issue 1126, the notion that all students are equal seems to be false. Given that KK co-organised the show, the appearance of these flyers in the BMS (and not elsewhere) seems to suggest that his commitment to integration is non-existent. As an apparently "respected" member of the CX medical school, KK should realise that telling these lies generates integration problems that the college as a whole is trying to eradicate.

Taking credit for weeks of hard work done by non-medical members of the Indian Society is not clever. On a personal note, I feel that not distributing these flyers across the University is a little spineless. Perhaps others should pon-

der the notion that the animosity between CX medics and IC is something that is actively being generated from the upper reaches of the CX student committee.

Taj,
VP Indian Society

Desperation for RCSU

Dear Sir,

It would appear that the plight of the RCSU has been ignored by the majority of its members. How many of the 2500 or so students actually know that on Monday and Tuesday last week, the RCSU Presidency elections were held? Not many, if you judge from the results. Firstly, there was only one candidate, Simon Torn. Has anyone ever met him? For myself, I can say that the only publicity I ever saw was a "vote for Tim" poster in the Sheffield Building. Does anyone ever believe that a president that has a half-committed attitude to publicity for the election, is ever going to be committed his job? Secondly, the voting, which took place last week, was attended by approximately 4% of the electorate. Can I suggest that the RCSU needs to get its act together?

The RCSU is getting desperate. They need help fast, and I might suggest that if it doesn't get it, it might as well just give up, because it probably won't make much difference for those it is supposed to be working for. But, it has to ask. I am sure that if it asked now and tried advertising the benefits of working for the RCSU, then it would get it, but, of course, it takes publicity.

I hope that the RCSU gets help soon, because there is so much that can be done, but they just don't have the resources, so if anyone has ever felt that they would like to help, the they will welcome you in with open arms, and you might even get a biscuit.

What's the Fuss About?

Dear Felix,

It appears that Mr Osa Emohare has caused quite a stir amongst Felix readers. I find it rather surprising that his famous letter had any responses, considering its length! However, the subsequent 'points of view' that have followed, have made for some very interesting reading.

As a non-medical, I believe that integration with the medics should be encouraged. After all, they are part of Imperial College now and should be treated as such. Ask yourself, medical or non-medical, does it really matter?

Melvin Lewis
Physics II

The Devil is Back Again

Last week I suggested that many of the world's problems were caused by the concept of currency, and specifically the notion that material wealth is an aim in itself. College's handling of space allocation in Beit Quad [*Felix* 1127] is, to my mind, a prime example of this philosophy in action. Pound signs have won over promises, financial gain over Union facilities. We are left with "accommodation favourable for conference/holiday letting purposes" which translates as "rooms more expensive than most, built with the sole aim of increasing the coins in College's pocket, with little or no regard for the actual requirements of students".

I, of course, have my own reasons for being annoyed at the situation. Come next July Felix will, once again, have to move, to a site yet to be decided upon. It's better than having to move in mid-November 1998, a proposal seriously suggested shortly before the start of term, but it's hardly ideal. Still, Felix and other Pub Board clubs can look forward to the new media centre as a more permanent home (unless, of course, College takes that back as well). Many other clubs may not be so lucky when space becomes limited. If you can't find a room for meetings next year, may I suggest using the corridors of Level 5 Sheffield.

Who Needs a CCU?

The problems faced by ICSMSU are fairly desperate, but they are not the only CCU to find itself in trouble in recent times. RCSU has been struggling due to apparent indifference on the part of its members, while C&GU faced several crises last year, and are not exactly out of the woods yet. I know it's been said before, but can we really expect organisations based on historical factors that no longer exist to provide social and welfare support for students?

New News

You have probably noticed the lack of IC news in this week's issue. This could be due to two main reasons. Either events are happening and no one in *Felix* hears about them, or else that three-weeks-left-of-term quietness has descended over the campus. Most likely both are correct. So please, if you hear of anything interesting happening, let us know. Someone emailed us last week to say some building inspectors were walking round the BMS commenting on the poor quality of the work. Unfortunately we couldn't find them when we went over there, but thanks to our anonymous tipster anyway.

Oh, and if any academic staff are reading this; if you know of an office where Felix could go for a year starting in July, I would like to hear from you...

Ed

Exam Stress Workshops
Wednesday 9 December and
Wednesday 16 December
3pm to 4.30pm at the Health Centre
Free!
For bookings please ring Liliane Carter
on (0171 59) 49381

**Deadline for letters is
12noon Wednesday.**
Letters may be edited
for length, but will not
be altered in any other
way. Letters need not
be signed, but a swipe
card must be shown
when submitting
anonymous letters.



The Week Ahead

Monday	
Games Meeting	12.30pm
Film Meeting	1.30pm
Tuesday	
News Meeting	1pm
Wednesday	
Clubscene Meeting	3pm
Thursday	
Books Meeting	1pm
Friday	
Arts Meeting	12pm
News Meeting	1.10pm
Photographic Meeting	1.20pm
Music Meeting	1.30pm

Single Room to Let
£75pw. Fulham, SW6.
Near jn of Noth End Rd and Lillie Rd.
10 mins by bike from IC, 30 mins by
foot. 74 bus stops goes to South Ken
5 min walk to Earls Court (zone 1) or
West Brompton (zone 2)
Shared kitchen, 2 showers and 2 loos.
Washing facilities, phone, indoor bike
storage, private entrance to flat.
Shared with seven 2nd years, mostly
physics (3 female, 4 male).
Quiet as it faces onto a courtyard.
Comes with bed, desk, chair, desk
light and large built in wardrobe
Contact Edmund on
0181 788 4465 (evening)
jvdb97@ic.ac.uk

The Whitehall Orchestra
(The Orchestra of the Civil Service)
Thursday 3 December
7.30pm
at Holy Trinity Church, Prince Consort Rd
**Vaughan Williams/
Rossini/Grieg concert**
£7
(£4 concessions)
**For further details
please contact**
Bruce Paterson 0181 788 7156

**2nd Year Students who will be taking Medical Microbiology or
Applied Genetics**
Medical Microbiology, 2nd Edition 1994, Murray et al
Cost new £25 - Selling for **£15**
Microbiology 4th Edition 1992 (Hardback) Tortora et al
Cost new £27 - Selling for **£10**
Genetics 3rd Edition Strickberger
Selling for **£10**
Contact M McMullen (m.mcmullen@ic.ac.uk)



303 SODS
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FILTHY ACID TECHNO
DJ Blue
Gus
No Name
Leon & Jon (SOD)
Blockbuster
Mr. Smith
DJ X
THURSDAY, 10TH DECEMBER
10pm-6am
CLUB 414
414 COLDHARBOUR LANE, BRIXTON
CONTACT: MUSTEK@HOTMAIL.COM



Beit Under-development

You think you've seen it all, and then they pull another one out of the hat. The Beit Quad redevelopment is rapidly turning from an innocuous farce into a disgrace. For those new to this parish, the College has been working out what to do with the space vacated by Biology and the accommodation part for ages. There have been so many business plans produced that, if you had a pound for every one written, you would just about cover the hundreds of thousands wasted on consultants. Just when everything was looking fine and dandy, our Sheffield brethren have decided that the Union can't have the space promised that allowed them to go ahead with the DBs expansion. There will be many casualties of this volte face, not least *Felix*, and that, dear reader, means me. So why all the problems? Surely it's just a case of tarring the place up a bit and converting Biology, you say. Ah, the innocence of youth. This is Imperial. We have bigger ideas. We don't have halls of residence, we have 'a mix of accommodation favourable for conference/holiday letting purposes.' Naturally, this costs a lot more than student dwellings - the latest plan suggests about £54 per night for a single room. The costs of the project mean that we cannot afford to have half the place empty during the summer - the latest plan suggests 85% occupancy, which, according to the hotel industry, equates to being fully booked. Starting to look a bit tight, so maybe we need a few more rooms. I know, we'll screw the Union! Those daft sods still think we give a damn what they think. Perfect!

Why, you may ask, are College hell-bent on achieving this at seemingly any cost? Do they really care so passionately that our boys and girls should be housed in the lap of luxury. Of course not. It is no secret that the Rector has a dream of creating his very own Cambridge-style quad here in SW7. Give it time and we'll have Eric Liddell running around the place to the accompaniment of Vangelis. Not only that, but the Beit Quad project needs to be completed in time for the British Association conference at Imperial in summer 2000. With that degree of political will, why sully one's

hands with such sordid issues as financial viability? But it gets worse. The Conference Office is, as a result, moving mountains to force through this project. Their success is obviously dependent on expanding their empire, so they are also more keen on the approval of the project, rather than the long term financial position. How in God's name could anyone think that you can fill that many rooms for that much day in, day out. Such occupancy levels are rarely achieved in Prince's Gardens over the summer, and if you strip out discounted rooms to language schools, the proposition looks ridiculous.

But, say the Conference Office, this accommodation is better quality. I don't doubt it, but in spending so much on the refurbishment (£11 million), you have eroded the price advantage that we had. Would you really spend nearly £60 per night to sleep in a student hall of residence, when a half-decent hotel could be found at roughly the same amount?

Now as you know, I bow to no one in my admiration of the Conference Office, led by the incomparable Annette De Lima, a highly professional individual; I know the great store in which she holds professionalism because she told *Felix* so last year at the time of her attempts to sue us for defamation. However, I fear that over-exuberance has clouded their judgement. This has all the hallmarks of a disaster waiting to happen. I understand and applaud College's attempt to improve its housing stock and commercial activities, but projects driven by hopes and dreams of turning Imperial into something it is not, or shouldn't be, are not the way. If the Rector really wants to take the bull by the horns, he should

move Sheffield into the Royal School of Mines after its redevelopment, stick the Union in Sheffield and fund the thing by selling or leasing out Beit Quad. It is not part of the main campus block and is worth a fortune. I accept that Salman Rushdie has voiced less heretical views than that, but it's worth considering, solving a host of problems in one foul sweep.

Third World First?

Last Thursday, while taking lunch at the Savoy Grill, the subject of Third World poverty came up, which reminded me of Jacob Stringer's promotional piece for Third World First. He quotes a variety of statistics, suggesting that debt repayment is crippling the healthcare and education systems of many African nations. Many of his figures are compelling but inaccurate: According to the World Bank, Ethiopia

spends ten times more on education that

he suggests, and actually has a better pupil/teacher ratio for primary school-children than South Africa, a country whose economy is 2200% larger. Not a perfect situation, but better than he suggests. Tanzania does not spend six times more on debt repayment than healthcare, the true figure being about 1.5. Third World debt is not measured in trillions. The total for low income nations was \$318.3 billion in 1996, not pin money, I agree, but slightly more manageable than Jacob's figure. Of more concern were the numbers he did not include. For instance, Sudan spends more than twice as much on defence as it does on healthcare. Mozambique also

spends more on defence than health. Enough of the stats. The problem of wholesale, unconditional debt cancellation is twofold. Firstly, it fails to address the underlying causes of economic difficulty. Why should a government get its house in order, so that it may pay its debt, rebuild its infrastructure and improve the lot of its people when those nice men from the IMF will come along, wave a magic wand and make it disappear? This is to treat the symptoms rather than the cause. Secondly, it penalises those countries which have made the effort to sort out their debt situation by taking sensible steps to restore their economic infrastructure rather than relied purely on international charity. Jacob is also deluding himself that money saved on debt servicing and repayment would automatically be switched to health and education. Debt relief and other forms of aid, such as in Honduras during the 1980s, have so often ended increasing the defence budget, further exacerbating the plight of those countries' citizens. Economic restructuring does not mean starving the women and children. It means dealing with governmental corruption, establishing proper financial controls and prioritising money more sensibly. If such a course of action is taken, the IMF should obviously look at debt rescheduling or cancellation. The suggestion that this should all be unconditional is the sort of crypto-socialist, anti-Western capitalism statement that an organisation like Third World First would do well to avoid making.

Sporting Profile

Regular readers will know my admiration for Imperial's sports teams. Every week, I diligently follow their progress on the pages of *Felix*. All our boys and girls seem to be performing very well at the moment, and it was good to see Spag Bol, Pink Gash and Spunk skinning the competition alive-o. However, the news was not so good with regard to Cross-Country. Whither Swiss Cottage? What's going on? And while we're on the subject, Indian Carpet Catalogue seems to be keeping a very low profile this season. The public should be told.

Simon Baker



Voice of Reason

Sweet Dreams

It was a long way up to the top. The ladder seemed to stretch to infinity and beyond. I tried hard to resist the annoying urges to look down. I failed. I lost my grip, I was falling. Falling, fast into a gaping chasm. Falling... falling.

Woaoohhh... I wake up in a pool of sweat. I glance round my room. My illustrated book of Psychiatry cast aside on my bed. I reach for the cold mug of Nescafé (my fifth dose of essential caf-

feine therapy today) to dispel the dry, arid feeling in my throat. With my biro, I frantically (before the thoughts escape my overloaded memory) make another entry into my dream diary, which is my 'thing' of the moment; some-

Dimple Devadas

THE FINE LINE



thing to do during the mundane revision week, another soon-to-pass fad.

Dreams are just awesome, in fact there's just no better alternative form of pure escapism. This is especially true during exam times. When

most things including otherwise repetitious, redundant and boring American chat shows featuring the same people with the same problems seem interesting.

My fascination with dreams began a few years ago, ever since I realised that I had the power to control them. This kind of dreaming is called 'lucid dream-

continued on page 9



Medicine Matters

Politics is a strange concept and one which I am not sure that I can adequately define. It does not make money (not legally anyway), it rarely relieves human suffering and indeed is very often a major contributing factor. You cannot eat politics, drink politics or breathe politics and yet people do and thrive. Politics seems to make the world go around by some strange application of forces that even the brightest theoretical mathematician at IC would be hard pressed to explain.

Everybody decries politicians; they are a hated, despised group. People with political ambition are considered untrustworthy, somehow unfit for a real job and rank with footballers and models as being top of the fair game list for tabloid papers. This being the case it seems strange that there are so many politi-

cians around with their numbers, it seems, growing daily.

Nowhere can this phenomenon be seen more clearly than in the student activities of Imperial College. Apathy rules supreme, we are told, with one sabbatical position left unfilled, yet the other extreme can be seen in the vehemence with which people debate the presence of medics at IC in Felix. Anyone judging the level of political awareness by reading the letters page recently would be forgiven for awaiting the news of recent assassinations, as tempers seem to be running so high. How is such fervour and passion possible with such apathy?

This politics is not limited to an inter-departmental level. Within the medical school itself politics is rife. Not even I am insensitive enough to risk quoting exam-

Nick Newton

ples of back-stabbing within the school because finally things are starting to settle down, but I think that it is a shame that people are put off attempting to do jobs which they are eminently suitable for because of the politics of the club or society.

So, if clubs and societies are not forums for politics why do they have elections, what are the officers for and why do we have an elected union? Everybody who is at medical school is a member of the student union unless you specifically choose not to be and the elected officers are there to serve you the members of that union, not themselves. The captains of the sports' clubs run the clubs supported by anyone else the clubs care to elect. Similarly presidents of societies run these societies aided by other

people. So Wade runs the student union for the good of the students and is assisted in this by the other elected officers. It is not a secretive boys club for elected members only, it is set up to help do things for the students be it organise bops, represent them when they are in trouble or anything else that students want.

Whenever a student, be they at South Kensington, St. Mary's, Charing Cross, Hammersmith, Silwood Park or any other site of Imperial College says that they do know what the SU do or why they exist it is a personal indictment of every elected member of the union for either not doing your job or not telling people what you can do for them. The student unions should be about service, not self-service.

continued from page 8

ing', and not everybody can do it. In these kind of dreams the world is yours for the taking. You can do absolutely anything you like, once you realise you're actually dreaming. I used to visualise a door before me, and then when I opened it, anything I wanted, person, place or thing, would be on the other side. There are endless possibilities, limited only by your imagination. The only downside is that this period of lucid dreaming only usually lasts for a short while. So you could wake up at a crucial moment, feeling really frustrated! Most people will have at least one lucid dream experience during their lifetime but about 20% of the population are regular lucid-dreamers having them at least once a month.

The importance of dreams was recognised centuries ago. In ancient Egypt around 2000 BC, dream temples were built especially for priests to interpret the dreams of others. It was Sigmund Freud however who began the work of understanding dreams in the modern era. Freud believed that dreams were manifestations of our deepest, often sexual desires, kept hidden from our waking minds. Carl Jung, another famous psychologist disagreed with Freud by arguing that dreams were vital messages designed to be listened to - not hidden away. He was convinced that dreams help to reveal to our waking minds many of our deepest wishes, and by doing so, help us to fulfil our ambitions. Many dream consultants believe that our dreams provide important avenues through which our psyche or subconscious can speak to us. They say that dreams are another dimension of ourselves, available only to the dreamer. Here are a few examples of dream interpretations:

- Climbing dreams (such as mine) symbolise ambition.

- Dreams that involve the shedding of blood are actually positive, symbolising the completion of an ordeal or sacrifice and the beginning of the healing process.

- Dreams of being naked have nothing to do with sex. They suggest vulnerability or emotional exposure.

- Falling off a cliff or from a height points to a feeling of powerlessness.

- Erotic dreams involving celebrities and film stars are harmless and simply indicate a need for excitement, so relax, make the most of them and enjoy!

Many great scientific and technological inventions throughout history came as a result of dreams, pointing to their 'problem-solving' nature. Kekule, the famous chemist, whilst trying to figure out the structure of benzene, fell asleep. He had a dream about snakes, suddenly one of the snakes curled around and seized its tail. He awoke and realised that the carbon atoms in benzene formed a ring structure.

The best ways to remember and understand your dreams is to keep a dream diary. As soon as you wake up, write down everything you remember including your feelings, however jumbled up it may seem at the time. It's also a good idea to note down the previous day's events. In the words of Freud, dreams are the 'royal roads to the mind'. In taking time out to discover what your dreams represent, you may understand more about yourself.

So relax and enjoy the fascinating adventures created by your inner conscience!

Presidential Talk-Back

The bulk of my time this week has

David Hellard, ICU President

been spent in a conference called STADIA (student training and development in action). What is blatantly obvious from the conference is that every institute in the University of London is failing massively. Your counterparts throughout the country have access to training in what employees view as the 'key skills'

that students require above a degree to be successful in their job; we currently do nothing. Ideally by the end of my term I would like to have set up an equivalent, allowing students to train in a variety of subjects from presentation skills to IT.

During my time there I also learned a lot about how to set up a 'jobshop' and the different permutations that one might have. The idea of this is to provide our students with a safe place to find any part-time work that they desire and possibly holiday work with major companies who they might want to work for in the future. If by the end of this year I haven't set a budget and received at least half of the sponsorship money to set it up for next summer, give me a kicking.

The Jobshop will be in the west wing basement of Beit Quad and is just one of the many projects that we are planning, but as with many decisions we make, we work on the assumption that we know what students want. Are we right though? If



you feel that the Union is not offering a service that

it should tell us what you want. We are currently planning for next year and we need to know (president@ic.ac.uk).

I know that the issue of the Medical Union will inevitably come up in this issue. The school of medicine Union has far more clubs than any other Constituent College Union and the scuffles in the

Medical executive may be having an adverse effect on these clubs, but this can be avoided. For years the clubs have relied on their exec for help and advice and have proven to be very successful, but their insistence on only using the medics for these purposes have put them at a disadvantage. In the Union we have permanent staff who can help everyone with their sports fixtures, the running of events and everything you need to know about financial difficulties that you might face. The sabbaticals are also here to work for you, being the most able to advise you on the Union policy and regulations that you will have to follow. If you need help or are unsure please come and see us, we are more than willing to help, after all we work for you.

There have been some replies about the opening times of the Health Centre, not enough though. If you do want it to be open at lunchtimes, please email me.

East Meets West Fest

A dazzling variety performance, 'Incarnations of Light' was billed as an infusion of cultures. Andrew Ofori and Helena Cochemé indulge in the cosmopolitan experience of this year's annual charity event (Photos by Alik)

'East meets West' was truly an understatement, as Eastern mystique collided head on with Western youth culture resulting in a cataclysmic feast of music, fashion and inspired drama. Despite an hour long delay in starting, the awesome explosions that heralded the opening act set in motion a wave of irrepressible excitement that swept over all occupants of the Great Hall throughout last Monday evening. As the event was coordinated by the Indian Society, the emphasis was understandably placed on Oriental themes. However this biased tone left the non-Asian minority slightly bewildered by subtle references and jokes.

With all proceeds going to charity (the money raised is being shared between the British Heart Foundation and the Pulse Appeal), the organisers set out to create a 'successful and entertaining show ... serving only to highlight the positive in both cultures and ideologies'. From the outset, the acts attempted to portray a vibrant contemporary image. Throughout the evening, they illustrated the persona of

ion, but utilised numerous innovative vehicles to present a spectrum of style which ranged from traditional Asian dress to the urban street styles paraded by the feisty models. The audience was treated to a show of pouts, sultry stares and exhibitionist poses, as they strutted their stuff on the podium. The presentation of a wide array of colourful garments was one of the major themes of the show with numerous catwalk sessions punctuating the evening. The clothes, provided by Ciro Citterio, were often complemented by the wearer's demeanor, the sultry iridescence of the 'Salmaan's suit' as he rolled out the slick vocals of 'One for the Money' being a case in point. Altogether, the confident and vibrant routines sparkled with a professional finish.

The careful choreography of many of the dances was certainly evident from the intense concentration on the faces of many routines' exponents. This helped the audience appreciate the effort that had gone into preparation. As the evening proceeded the individual flair of many cast members shone through. Most performances were extremely energetic, some even including elements of breakdown acrobatics

tomime 'Surinderalla' for instance was a soundly written showpiece, which poked fun at the various controversies within and surrounding the Asian college community. The writers made use of sexual innuendo with reckless abandon, not only to guarantee laughs, but also to highlight the pros and cons of issues such as arranged marriages and early

taken to indulging his exuberant charisma, which soon led to verbal battles between himself and the crowd. This banter added a unique, sometimes uncomfortable, but often dynamic aspect to the night. As the atmosphere intensified, a showdown occurred with a puerile spectator brandishing a laser pointer on the sly.



The organisers receive their hard earned praise

curfews. Bordering on the safe side of offence, the sketches often made use of racial stereotypes, and on numerous occasions even weighed in on the current non-medic/medic debate. In fact, this was a clever use of parody, as it was clear for all to see the event itself could only have been the result of total co-operation, with all prejudices set aside.

The 'East meets West' show took crowd participation to an epic new high. Spirits were especially buoyed following the consumption of the inevitable pint during the interval. As the event reached one of its highlights, the 'Traditional Bhangra by the Sikh Society' complete with thundering drums, an impromptu dance floor was created in front of the catwalk with audience members rushing in from all areas of the Great Hall. Animated by the almost carnival like atmosphere, several spontaneous dancers even became major players in the stage spectacle. Logistical pauses in the show were filled by two compères who aided in linking the acts. One of the pair was

The incessant howling and shrieking of the audience for the duration of the evening was a clear statement of their determination to have a good time. The show duly delivered and as its conclusion was reached, the audience's lust for pleasure had been satisfied. In fact, it seemed in some cases, their threshold had been exceeded, as the pathetic rantings of one feeble-minded onlooker had to be quieted by those on stage when the producers were receiving their well-earned commendation.

In defiance of exasperating technical hitches such as a temperamental lighting rig, sound feedback and microphones on the blink, the cast rallied valiantly for an effervescent finale. The appreciative standing ovation was a credit to the cast's unwavering effort and determination.



The models capture the clothes' seductive style.

what was perceived to be the new British-Asian generation as being proud of their tradition, with the insight and personality to comfortably find a place in a constantly changing society.

The event was heavily based on fash-

and gymnastics (thumbs up to the girl who managed a cartwheel in a sari!).

For the most part, the comedy sketches heightened the show's appeal, although some pieces lacked essential pace and direction. The pseudo-pan-

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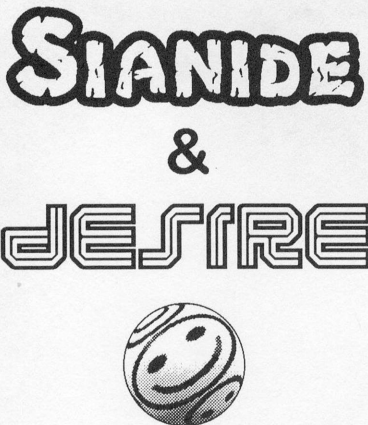
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ic radio



The tape box and mixlist for Sianide & Desire's show on Thursday 26 November, 10-11pm is printed below. Record Jon C's lunchtime show this Tuesday from 12 - 2 for next week's feature.

IC RADIO	SIANIDE & DESIRE	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>SIANIDE & DESIRE</p> <p>LIVE ON IC RADIO 999 AM</p> </div>	<p>DJ SIANIDE'S MIXLIST</p> <p>Binary Finary - '1998' [Positiva]</p> <p>Amen - 'Passion' (Baby Doc Remix) [Feverpitch]</p> <p>BBE - 'Deeper Love (Symphonic Paradise)' (Transa Mix) [Positiva]</p> <p>Digital Masters - 'Fifth Element' [Shock Records]</p> <p>Tony de Vit - 'The Dawn' [Trade ep]</p> <p>Techno Kings - 'LSD' [Shock Records]</p> <p>DJ DESIRE'S MIXLIST</p> <p>Jon Doe & Lisa A - 'Timebomb'</p> <p>Vibes & Wishdoka - 'Gonna be alright' (DJ Ham Remix) [Happy Trax]</p> <p>Breeze - 'Let's fly' [Infinity]</p> <p>Breeze & DNA - 'Drivin' me crazy' (Remix) [Infinity]</p> <p>DJ Storm - 'Kickin' Hard' [Blatant Beats]</p> <p>Force & Styles - 'Cutting Deep' [UK Dance]</p> <p>Visa - 'All I need' [Media Records]</p>	<p>ICR Chart</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) PJ Harvey- Perfect Day Elise 2) Ultrasound- I'll Show You Mine 3) Levellers- Hope Street 4) Purescence- Sharpening 5) Moa- Joy and Pain 6) Air- All I need 7) Ash- Jesus Says 8) Snow Patrol- Little Hide 9) Jurassic 5- Concrete Schoolyard 10) Beautiful South- Perfect 10 <p>Hardcore Chart</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Jon Doe & Lisa A - 'Timebomb' 2) Breeze & DNA - 'Drivin' me crazy' 3) Triple J - 'Follow the sun' (Rmx) 4) Force & Styles - 'Cutting Deep' 5) Silk Cuts 9 6) Sy & Demo - 'Tears run cold' 7) Breeze - 'Let's fly' 8) Stompy & Storm - 'Hold your hands' 9) Fabulous Faber - 'Better Day' (Rmx) 10) Sy Project - 'Rockin' it'
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You've heard their show - now find out what Sandide & Desire are all about

What do you do at IC Radio?

S: As well as our weekly hard house/hardcore show, we both DJ at 'The Backroom' Friday nights. We also both do external events through the radio.

What's your favourite track of the year so far?

S: 'The Dawn' by Tony de Vit. This tune summarised Tony's career as a DJ and a producer in an exceptional manner, and he'll always be remembered by this song.

D: 'Timebomb' by Jon Doe and Lisa A is an excellent tune.

Which way is music going?

S & D: Harder, faster and more intense.

Which is your favourite record shop?

S: In London, I think that Ambient Soho has some excellent material.

D: It's got to be Elite Records in Victoria.

How much would it cost to hire you out?

S: For what?!

D: It depends upon the venue I'm playing at really.

Do you have a favourite DJ?

S: Carl Cox. He's talented and he has managed to stand the test of time.

D: I've got a lot of respect for a large number of DJ's, who include Seduction, Sy, Hixxy and Force & Styles.

How long have you been djing?

S & D: About four years, and just over a year on IC Radio.

Have you any favourite shows on IC Radio?

S: I love 'Knickers & Pants', it's quality. Check it out.

D: Last year I thought Jon & Ali's show, 'Vinyl Frontier' was wicked.

How do you think the Back Room is this year?

S: It's going from strength to strength. We have excellent quality resident DJ's on Thursdays playing some quality cuts and the guest DJ's on Fridays are doing a marvellous job of things.

D: It's far more professional now, and much better organised.

Have you ever had a bad experience djing?

D: One night in dB's a UV light exploded and showered the stage with glass. It was lucky no-one was on the stage at the time.

And the funny times?

S: Again, I was once playing in dB's on a Hedonizm night playing quite a fast set when, to my amazement, the

warden of my halls of residence was giving it all he had on the dancefloor.

D: We once played a night in a hall bar, we played to a packed house until we were thrown out at around 12am because neighbours were complaining. They wouldn't have been if they'd have been there, though!

What frustrates you the most?

S: That no-one knows where 'The Backroom' is! It's not hard to find - at the far end of Southside Bar by the toilets.

Who is there to look out for on the scene?

S: Check out Alick from the Electric Café, another Backroom resident. Also watch out for the men like DJ Desire, you know what I'm saying.

D: DJ Storm on the hardcore scene is doing very well at the moment.

Finally, what are your plans for the future?

S: I want to push the BackRoom further, make it recognised as the number one place to chill out.

D: We'll be definitely be playing out more across London and trying our hand at production with our new label which is coming out sometime in early 1999.

Mon: Standing Room only

Live premiership footie. DaVinci's. From 5pm.

Tues: Time Out Student Quiz Night

Prizes courtesy of Time Out & Playstation. DaVinci's 8pm

Weds: clubXS

Big banging party tunes plus eclectic chillout room.

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Thurs: DaVinci's Cocktail Night

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Fri: POP TARTS

Chart hits, past, present & future with chill out room
& cocktail bar, 9-2. £1/free with entscard

Sat: the electric café

Eclectic electronica dBs 8-12. FREE

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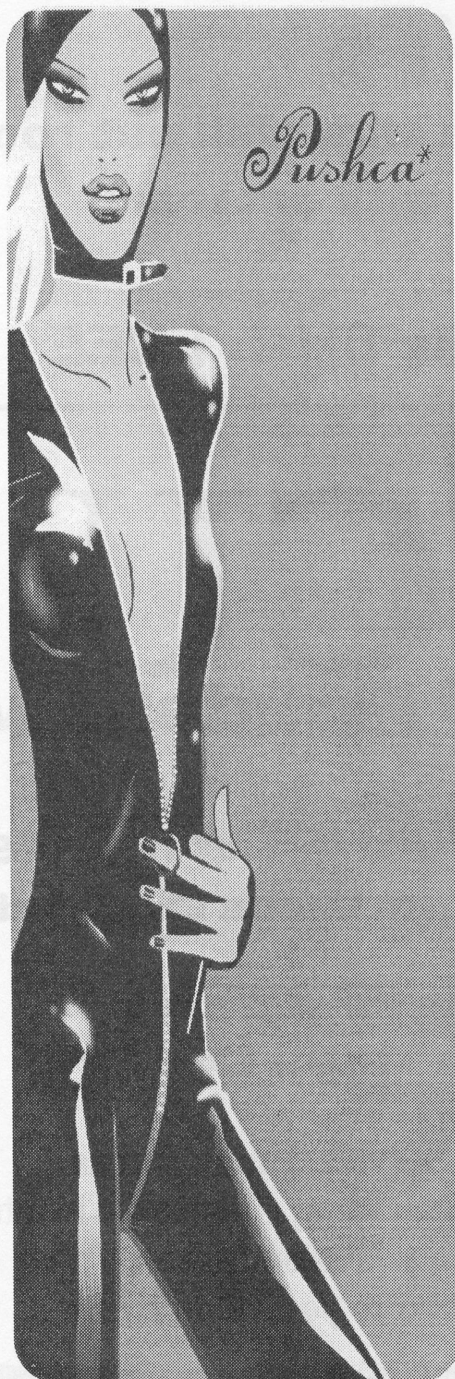
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5-7pm Thurs Dec 3rd

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Pushca @ Hanover Grand



Hanover Street, Mayfair, W1, Saturdays, £15, 11pm - 6am. Capacity=800. Dress Code = very smart. Nearest Tube = Oxford Circus.

"Lipgloss, Heels & Glamour" - one of the many phrases being projected on the walls on Saturday night at the Hanover Grand, and one which probably best describes Pushca. This is the weekly Saturday night event at the Hanover Grand club, and is one of London's glamour events. For those of you who went to Ibiza this year, you'll know what I mean, since Pushca transfers to the Balearic island over the summer, only returning home for the winter (!)

What's it about? Well, Pushca was an idea that came about seven years ago and was err... named after a cat! It's an event for people who want to go to a club, listen to great DJs and have fun. And this is where Pushca really come into it. They have dancers dressed up in all manner of outfits. Both men and women on the stages dressed up in either fabulous costumes or not very much. There is wonderful decor, drapes, huge cut-outs of dancers, weird and wonderful images being projected around the club, and people at the door who greet you in eye-catching outfits. They really make the effort, and so it's not surprising that they ask you to do the same when you come. You don't need to buy a costume or go to any great an expense, but come dressed to show that you're out to have fun. Make the effort to dress up - no jeans or trainers (unless the trainers go with whatever you're wearing). So when I went last Saturday, I made the effort and err... dyed my hair blue!

The DJs that stood out the most were K-Klass....great tunes, great mixing - simple. But Pushca isn't just about the DJs - they were good but they weren't the be all and end all of the night. You also have to appreciate the dancers and the decor (and here I must include a special mention to Alexi, who was in charge of the dancefloor). The crowd was great - a combination of straight, transvestite, and gay, making it a very mixed crowd. The atmosphere was good and although there were enough people to fill the club, it wasn't impossible to move.

There are two rooms at the Hanover Grand. K-Klass were upstairs playing the latest floor-fillers and some Ibiza '98 anthems, whilst downstairs in the VIP room, the DJ was playing a mix of old and new tunes - not just house, but a bit of pop too. There's enough to keep everyone going until the wee small hours. The only down side of Pushca from a student point of view is the cost. At £15 it's expensive and you're not going to get in dressed in your everyday student togs. But Pushca is still definitely worth checking out. And as I mentioned before, if you went to Ibiza then you'll know what a great party Pushca hold!!



Gurm

Streetwise - The Album / Various

The stars of the dance music world come out in force to help contribute to this charity album. It makes a refreshing change from Band Aid and the shitty music that has been associated with charity projects in the past. Fatboy Slim, Boy George, Moby, BT, Sasha, Howie B, Coldcut, CJ Bolland, Golden Girls, Keoki, Asian Dub Foundation - they're all here, and deliver some outstanding tracks (some of them exclusive to this album). Check out the remix of Golden Girls' classic "Kinetic," as well as the "Big Beat Soufflé" from the ever reliable Norman Cook (aka Fatboy Slim, for those of you that have been somewhere else for a very long time).

What you get on this album is three CDs full of the latest dance music sounds, cutting across the full spectrum of club culture and its offshoots, and all they have to offer. You'll find reggae, ragga, techno, tech-house, nu-energy, big beat, jazzy D&B, hip-hop, jump-up D&B, house, ambient, electro, etc, etc, rubbing shoulders and a lot more besides on this compilation. And you even get the odd slice of more chart-orientated music thrown in for the hell of it courtesy of St. Etienne and The Fun Lovin' Criminals - bless their little cotton socks.

The campaign being supported here is House Our Youth 2000 set up by NCH Action For Children, which deals with the very real problem of youth homelessness throughout Britain, and especially in London. A minimum of £4.50 from the sale of each CD will go to NCH Action For Children. This amount is more than double the average donation made on similar charity albums.

Just for the reasons above I would recommend that you consider buying this album. But even if it wasn't linked to this charity I would recommend that you get hold of this one on the basis of the music that it contains. It gives you a real feel for what is out there in clubland at the moment. And it is a triple CD, so you can't question the value. Try it, you might like it.



Roobarb



Quality(!) Student Nights, A Chance for DJ Fame and Brad Pitt.

Where? At The Hanover Grand! This is a review of the Hanover Grand's new season of theme nights, and yes, you have the chance to warm up for some of the biggest DJ names around, at the Hanover Grand's new student night which will feature all the big name DJs, but with an entry price of only £3!! As of January 19th, 1999 the Hanover Grand will host a student night every Tuesday called **Intensive Care**. It will feature acts such as Fatboy Slim, Jon Marsh, John Digweed, Alistair Whitehead (I'm sure you catch my drift) in the upper room, whilst downstairs the DJs will include Jon Carter, Kahuna, Scratch Perverts - the list is endless. You'll notice that these are the biggest acts around. And all this for three quid. What's the catch?? There isn't one. This is a night aimed for students to go out, get pissed, have a great time, listen to the best DJs in the business, without having to take another loan out (alcohol prices will also be aimed at students. So, where is the Hanover Grand? It is unsurprisingly, on Hanover Street, about 5 minutes walk from Oxford Circus tube.

The musical variety will be huge, as you will have noticed from some of the DJs mentioned above. There won't be a dress code as such - since the club appreciates how we love to look scruffy.

There will also be the chance for budding Oakenfold's to show their talent on the wheels of steel by playing guest spots, and if you turn out to be as good as Oakenfold then you'll be invited to warm up for the bigger jocks. This is your chance to make a name for yourself!!! In order to DJ at the Hanover Grand, you have to be at college (unsurprisingly), and be a good DJ. There will be competitions coming soon to choose jocks and students from the London colleges will be pitted against each other. If you're good enough who knows how far you can go!! This is open to male and female DJs and if you're interested, give me an email on:

g.marwaha@ic.ac.uk

The competitions won't be for a while 'cos we have to organise them first, but this will give me an idea of numbers.

The Hanover Grand will also be running a couple of special nights. Firstly there's the Winter Wonder Grand Special featuring, amongst others, Jon Pleased Wimmin and Craig Jensen on Dec 21st, with tickets at £10 (£8 conc.). This is a Xmas special with a theme to match. The venue will be dressed as a chilling silver and blue cavern with ice maidens skating about giving presents to everyone! There will also be a New Year's Eve special featuring Craig Jensen, Lawrence Nelson, and Luke Neville. The party starts at 9pm and lasts until 6am the next morning. If you fancy going, give the Hanover Grand a ring on their credit card line, 0171 6477560. And finally, starting 27th Nov, will be a new monthly slot on the last Friday of each month. **Forbidden Pleasure** features the usual host of big name DJs, with the theme set around the seven deadly sins (as in the film Seven). The Hanover Grand have strategically (and I quote) "designed the decor so that there as many dark corners for you to carry out your sins." It's a non-exclusive door policy but they encourage you to stray from the norm (??).



Gurm

Jo Public / Drum n' Bass Vol. 1 & Underground Garage Vol. 1

For those of you who weren't around last year, Jo Public is our very own ex-Clubscene writer, who since his modest days here at Felix has moved on to greener pastures, writing for some independent music papers in London (Mixmag is rumoured to be chasing him up!), and presenting his own show on Upfront FM (99.3FM). This is one of London's premier pirate radio stations, and catch Jo every Friday and Saturday night from 2am onwards. You see he isn't just good with his pen - the boy is multi-talented, and on these two mixed tapes he shows us his large talent (oo-er!) for playing around on those Technics.

First up is his Underground Garage mix, which I've got to say (and not just 'cos I got a freebie) is one of the finest sets that I have heard in this genre for a long time. The mixing is seamless and Mr. Public drops in many fine garage and low-beat house tunes. This is extremely chilled music. Stunning to listen to on Sundays, when you really don't want to hear the hard shite that you thought was wonderful the night before. But, at the same time, this is definitely not ambient. There is much grooving that can and should be done to these tracks. And this is not music for any of you miserable bastards out there, 'cos it should be listened to with a big cheesy grin on your face. I like to think that is how Jo intended it to be.

Then comes the Drum n' Bass mix. Jo likes to play it hard and jump-up, but still keeps it funky. It never gets too dark. This is D&B that'll have you tapping your feet when you listen to it in your Walkman. Once again the mixing is second to none, as is the selection of tracks. Nothing ever jars - no harsh sounds here. Quality all the way through. And this shows Jo Public as a top class DJ, 'cos he is able to mix expertly in two very different styles of dance music. This is not something that some of the big jocks can do - I've heard some real problems when DJs switch from playing their usual style of music at the tempo they play.

Now I'll have to shatter Jo's carefully constructed image by telling you how to get in contact with him, and his real name. Oh no! To get copies of these tapes write to Trevor Morgan at t.j.morgan@ic.ac.uk. Worth getting hold of these tapes if you can. If you want quality underground music that you can't find in the usual mixes in the shops then drop our old friend a line and see if he can set you up with something.



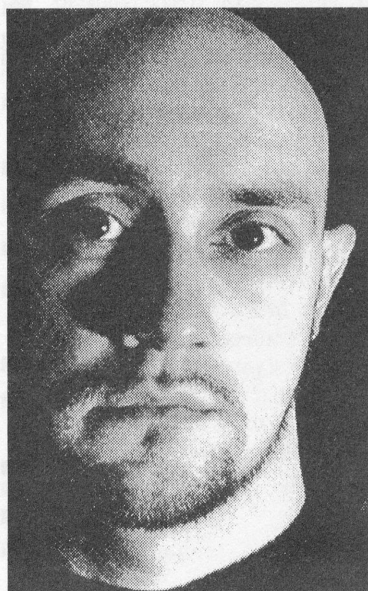
Roobarb



Dance

*the electric café***Artist Profile - Hardfloor**

Hardfloor have made a name for themselves as one of the outfits that took acid music and really evolved and experimented with it. As their music became more famous and filled up dancefloors the world over, so too did the demands for the remixing skills. They have even moved into the field of remixing big names such as Depeche Mode, New Order and Mori Kante. Hardfloor are Oliver Bondzio and Ramon Zenker from Dusseldorf in Germany. In a recent interview, Richie Haetlin credited them with being instrumental in taking acid techno and being on the forefront of its development.



To be quite honest, I was nervous about this interview beforehand. Hardfloor have achieved so much commercial success that I wasn't sure what I would encounter. Most of my guests have come from and stayed in the underground. I met Oliver, and was instantly reassured. None of the attitude, just a really down-to-earth and friendly guy with a big sense of humour to boot! Here's the interview...

Explain Hardfloor.

We started the Hardfloor back in 1991. We have had four albums so far, and in between the albums something like twelve singles. We also did a lot of remixes for well-known people like Depeche Mode, Mike Oldfield, The Shamen, etc.

When you DJ, what is your style?

I started up (the mix for the radio show) with strange stuff like Cristian Vogel, Neil Landstrumm and some tracks off my own new label, Serial Killers Haircut. After that I played some acid tracks from our new album, then some straight techno tracks. I'm also into house music. I can play instrumental, deep, jazzy stuff.

I have a new house label called Gentleman's Haircut!

How did you come to discover electronic music?

I was interested in groups like Kraftwerk back in the 1970's, but I never thought of producing stuff because it was too complex for me. They had big studios and expensive synthesizers. The first samplers were so expensive!

I started DJing with hip-hop back in 1983. I was on the breakdance scene with scratching and all that. In 1986/7 I heard my first acid house records. That made me think of producing my own records because it sounded so cheap, yet powerful. I only needed a drum machine and a 303, which I could afford. Then I could make a track!

Did you make music before Hardfloor?

No. Hardfloor was my first production project. My partner Ramon did some stuff before, so when I met him, I knew he had a studio. I asked him if we could do some tracks together. He was into it, so I played some old school acid tracks to him and that was the beginning.

Working as a group, does he still have all the technical input?

No. Now we have three big studios. One is in my apartment where I can make tracks on my own. But we also have a studio for Hardfloor where we can produce tracks together.

We have a really good flow together. Most of the time I tell Ramon what I want and then he does it for me. We still work in the same way because he's the best on the computer.

This is your fourth album (All Targets Down). Most electronic artists don't choose to express themselves on a full-length format. Why do you do this?

When we started I was totally into the underground scene. I never thought about doing a whole album. I just wanted to do some tracks. We then hooked up with Sven Vath for Harthouse and then Eye Q. They told us that they wanted to work with artists for a longer time. They saw some potential in our work, so instead of just doing one or two eps they asked us to do an album.

We don't build albums around a concept. We put eight tracks together and call it an album. Ramon and I both have lots of other projects on the side so we made Hardfloor into a 303 band.

I've noticed that some Hardfloor tracks are more downbeat and slower in style. Does this come from your hip-hop roots?

Yes definitely. I'm really into hip-hop; originally I was a b-boy! I still love hip-hop and I'm thinking of doing an album with

some east coast rappers. I want to do the beats. We have lots of talented scratch DJs in Dusseldorf.

Hardfloor was influenced by many different styles of music, but we always try to add the Hardfloor style at the end of a track.

Do you still DJ the hip-hop stuff?

No. You be honest I don't like the scene. Hip-hop clubs aren't really about partying, but just being cool. There's too much crime in the German hip-hop clubs. I prefer the peaceful, friendly feeling at those parties and techno raves. For me hip-hop is the sound that I listen to.

Hardfloor have remixed some big name bands. Did you find that when the band had a big company behind them, there was more pressure on you to produce the goods?

We started remixing underground artists. Then some major companies called us and asked us if we wanted to remix their artists with the typical Hardfloor big buildup style, but still incorporating poppy vocals. It was quite a new experience for us so we tried and it did well.

We didn't really feel pressure. The first remixes we did were from our minds and free ideas. The next mixes the companies asked for had to be the same style. They wanted everything done in the same way so we copied ourselves and we tried to put our new and best ideas into our own productions and not the remix work. Every Hardfloor remix sounds the same but a lot of people liked them so I think it's still OK.

You said you wanted to do live sets as Hardfloor. This is something that still hasn't been fully accepted into techno music. How do you approach the live**concept?**

It's just two of us playing. There is no interesting show or anything! It's 100% live so we don't use DAT or anything. We have a mixing desk, effects, drum machines, midi file player - we just play the music!

Most people criticise live electronic music, but we've played around the world and we're really happy with the reaction from the people. We didn't form Hardfloor to tour worldwide, but people ask us to play live. After the show they really appreciate what we did.

We sometimes think it must be really boring but some of the people will watch how we use the equipment, and the others are just dancing. They don't care if a DJ is playing or if the music is coming from a live act.

Do you play new songs or improvise when you do a live set?

We don't freestyle on stage. We have a strict setup. We play tracks from all four albums; slow and fast tracks. Nobody is bored. That's the main thing. Never change a winning team!

What's your advice to people who want to make music their life?

Never start with the opinion, "I want to make commercial music, and I want to make lots of money." That's not true to the game.

You can get the new Hardfloor album, All Targets Down. It's out now on Harthouse Records. We're giving away copies on the next page.

If you're a DJ check out those two new record labels, Serial Killers Haircut (twisted techno) and Gentleman's Haircut (jazzy house).

alick

News

For anyone into underground electronic music at Imperial College, we have some more free events coming your way!

Thursday 3rd December (7-11pm) will see us descend on the backroom at Southside for another chillout night. Held in rotation with the excellent Rhythm Kitchen, the Electric Cafe will be proudly showing off two excellent guest DJs. Alex Carefull, a medic who has built up a great collection of dub techno, will be playing. So too will Daniel Waller. His style is funky, easy-listening French house with occasional glimpses at the old school of house and techno!

Two excellent DJs; a treat of great music at Southside this Thursday.

Many thanks to Mark Horne for play-

ing a superb set two weeks ago at the chillout. He gets a lot of stick for being too commercial or stuck in a rut. Well it's a shame that more of his critics weren't at the night we put on. He played an absolute blinder of a set of rare and underground electronica. Not only that, but unlike many dance DJs, he didn't stay in one style all night, but kept it fresh and interesting.

The Electric Cafe will be back at the Union this Saturday (5/12/98) for another night. It runs from 8pm-midnight and is absolutely free!

We'll be playing everything on a funkier dancier tip for those of you who are up for a boogie. As it's so early it would be a good place to begin your evening. A pre-club boogie perhaps!

Dance

*the electric café***Label Profile - East Side Jamz Records**

A prominent name in the drum'n'bass arena nowadays is the label Eastside Jamz. Founded by DJ and producer A-Sides, Eastside has quickly built up a very talented roster of young and established artists. Now the new album, celebrating the "best" of the label, is out and is an awesome demonstration of what these guys are capable of! All the tracks on this album are new and exclusive, so it is more than just a recycled compilation of old tracks. A-Sides recently came in to record a mix and interview for the Electric Café.

What do you in terms of music?

I've been producing drum'n'bass for nearly ten years now. I run two record

made happy hardcore, techno stuff. I'd like to spend some time trying other types of music, but I just don't have the time. But now I am diversifying. I do the Cyclone projects which are still drum'n'bass but more on the jazz side. I'm also getting into working with live musicians.

Of all the different types of electronic music, what is it about drum'n'bass that particularly grabs you?

I'm into my basslines, I like the technicality of it, and also what you can do with the sounds these days. That's more of a technology thing but I am a technology freak. I like my buttons and samplers. I like to push the machines as far

ferent styles. I don't care what the style is as long as the beat is good!

Do you play regularly?

Yes! I've done a lot of work overseas. I've played three times in New Zealand. I toured the States this year, from Boston to Nashville - the home of country and western! I'm taking a break for a while, but I'll be picking up the DJing again soon.

What is the difference between your two labels, Eastside and Fuse?

Fuse is more hard and experimental; it's more dark and deep. Eastside is more rolling and good time music.

Eastside is two years old. Was the album put together to celebrate the label's birthday?

No. It is like a stepping-stone for us; a progression. You can only put out so many twelve inches in a year. It's also so that people start to take us a bit more seriously, so it's good for our profile. It gets our music to new audiences that we couldn't normally reach. Because of the CD, we'll inevitably hit another market.

Everything on the album is new and exclusive. It will not be coming out in any other form. We're also expecting to do a similar album for Fuse Recordings.

Have the artists grown with the label?

Certain ones have. I'm all about pushing them anyway. Some only have a basic studio setup, so I say, "Look. Come to my place." So I sit with them and work together with them. I'm always pushing them. I'm bringing them new technology so they can make their music better. My studio is a base and is open to all my artists. That in itself should push them further, because they will be able to get a better sound.

Is there a certain sound or vibe associated with the label?

Yes. I think the artists know what I like. I do have the final say about what goes where. I won't write the tracks for them, but I can help them fine-tune a track in my studio.

What advice do you have for people wanting to get into music?

Go out and buy your own studio! No seriously, do it all off your own back if you can. It depends on how much money you've got, but technology comes cheap if you look carefully. I would say get a little setup at home so you can do your own thing and work on your own sound. Just send out demos to people!

Many thanks to A-Sides and everyone at Eastside Jamz and Main Source. Look out for the new album, Eastside Jamz Volume 1, out now! *alick*



labels, one of them's called Eastside Records, the other one is called Fuse. They've been up and running for about two years. We've done twenty two releases on Eastside and we're upto our fifteenth release on Fuse.

How did you get into music?

I used to play the drums at school. I would put music through my headphones and then bang away! It all really evolved from there.

I was just sodding around in studios. I actually got a job on the YTS working with my uncle who is actually a reggae artist on Zion Train. He taught me the ropes and got me introduced to the equipment.

My recording techniques evolved from those of early hip-hop music. You would make records using a set of decks and looping the beats backwards and forwards and then just layering bits and peices over the top. From there I got into drum programming, started sampling and then moved on to a computer.

Did you always make drum'n'bass?

In terms of how the music has evolved, yes! Because drum'n'bass wasn't always drum'n'bass. In the early days it was hardcore. Drum'n'bass now is a progression of the music that was. I've

as I can. Drum'n'bass is demanding. It demands a lot out of the equipment you've got. It is a music that is forever changing and pushing forward. It has never been stuck in a rut.

Drum'n'bass has really made it into the spotlight recently. Many journalists seem to be poised and waiting for it to burn itself out. What do you attribute to its continued success?

People like Roni Size give a good image. I've got a lot of respect for them because they've done it the right way. They're still there, doing their own thing. Their music was good to start off with, but they've been really well packaged. They've got all the right people behind them. Certain people have gone through but then you don't hear anything from them again. Alex Reece! What's happened to him? After a few top 40 hits he's disappeared. DJ Crystal is another prime example. He was really good in his day, got tied up to a major label and nothing!

How do you DJ?

I like to play right the way across the board. I'm playing quite hard these days because it's difficult to find some good jump up stuff that I like! I switch from one genre to another and you'll hear all dif-

Competitions

Loads of great giveaways this week!

Hardfloor's new album, All Targets Down is a great reminder of old school acid with a contemporary twist. Strictly banging, good time party music!

If you would like a CD copy of the album, answer this simple question...

Name one group from the following that Hardfloor have remixed.

- A. Simply Red
- B. New Order
- C. Spice Girls

The second competition is for the latest Larry Heard album, Ice Castles. Not to be confused with Fat Larry White from Mark and Lard fame, Larry Heard has produced some of the most consistent and beautiful house music, and is described as a pioneer of the US scene.

After widespread and shocking rumours that he was retiring from music, Larry is back with a stunning album that carries on his rich emotional style.

Just answer this question for your chance to win a CD copy of the new album...

Which of the following is a pseudonym for Larry Heard and his music?

- A. Mr Fingers
- B. Housemaster Baldwin
- C. Aqua

Finally, we have copies of a great mix CD from DJ Terry Francis to give away! The mix (on Pagan records) is called Architecture Vol 2, and is an amazing journey into tech-house. That is straight beats with lots of funk!

This album is expected to do very well because of the quality and experience of the DJ at its helm, and the excellence of the tracks he has used.

For a free copy of the album, just tell us which club in central London is associated with Mr C of the Shamen.

- A. The End
- B. The Bend
- C. The Ministry of Sound

Answers by email to a.sethi@ic.ac.uk

GOOD LUCK!



Albums

VARIOUS ARTISTS

54 - Original Soundtrack ★★

Older readers may remember a late 70's New York disco called Studio 54, or maybe not. Anyway, 54 is a film based on the true life events of the club's founder Steve Rubell, played by Wayne's World star Mike Myers. If you're wanting to see the film then don't expect to do it on the big screen, as it had its release way back in August (don't ask me why the soundtrack won't be released until well into January next year!). The film also stars Neve Campbell (Scream) and some guy called Ryan Phillippe; a young, sexy, nothing-but-bow-tie-wearing hunk who will apparently be getting Leonardo DiCaprio status very soon (yeh yeh!).

Before this turns into a film review I should probably talk about the music. This soundtrack is, surprisingly, a double CD compilation of, unsurprisingly, some late 70's classics. I'm interested to know how they managed to play all 32 of these tracks during the film. CD1 opens with *If You Could Read My Mind* - a lovely, mellow track featuring the beautiful vocals of Ultra Naté. The rest of CD1 isn't any better than this, just cheesy 70's crap. Having said that, there are some nice moments due to the S.O.S Band doing the funky *Take Your Time (Do It Right)* and the uplifting guitar intro followed by charming vocals and a

decent track taking the name of *Please Don't Let Me Be Understood* by Santa Esmeralda (already in the Christmas spirit I guess!). You just can't help bopping your head to the classic *Spank* from Jimmy 'Bo' Horne and Blondie's *Heart Of Glass*. Before you take CD1 out be sure to play the first track again, it'll remind you how the rest of the tracks fail miserably in comparison.

Maybe it's because I don't really get off on 70's music, but there's nothing in this album that turns me on! The only good tracks are the ones people know due to them being redone in 90's style. I talk about tracks like Diana Ross (*The Boss*) covered by The Braxtons, Dan Hartman (*Relight My Fire*) redone by Take That and Sylvester's *You Make Me Feel* was updated into a brilliant 90's version by Byron Stingily.

In conclusion, the soundtrack is not much better than the film (going by its reviews), but if you just want some of these 70's tracks on CD then you may consider buying this, otherwise just go to the movies three times with the cash you save. **M**

Asad

GRAND MAL

Maledictions ★★

From outside it looked like a demo tape (even though it wasn't) but comparing the contents to a demo tape would be an insult to all budding musicians. Demo tapes have blood, sweat and tears stamped all over them. It's probably the culmination of years of practice and slogging through the same songs again and again. The demo may well be shite but at least you can taste the effort. Grand Mal come across as being overly influenced by too many people, resulting in an album which is patchy and lightweight.

The first song, *Superstars* is obvious fodder for the Best Rock Album Filler in the World. If they were aiming to tap into the retro-rock style then unfortunately the retro (occasionally) glam/punk rock style that they have produced is unfashionably wide of the mark. *Whole Lotta Nothing* has semi-anthem potential but lacks the balls to make it into anything more heavyweight. *Out on a Bail* is a retrospective disaster - Status Quo chords and honky-tonk piano which are easily twenty years out of date.

You Gotta Be Kidding has vocals remarkably similar to that of White Town, while *Suckers Bet* sounds horribly country and western and plods along like a lame horse. The singer obviously had a bad cold at the time but didn't help himself by sticking his head in a bucket

while he sang it.

The only glimmer of hope within the whole thing was *Picture You (As Always Falling)* which is a semi-slushy/indie ballad and sounds surprisingly good compared to the dross that surrounds it. However, it may well be a false gem, as it's hard to judge quality status when it's surrounded by drivel.

None of the material here is capable of making a dent in the singles chart - not even the novelty of a 'one-hit wonder' is on the cards. In short, Grand Mal are most certainly not grand. **M**

Katherine

Singles

King - *Come As You Are*

This is bad - an Elvis impersonator with a deep voice covering Nirvana. Simply put, this song really should not be sung this deep - it ruins it. Also, it would have been nice if the 'King' had actually got the right lyrics. Unsurprisingly *New York New York* fares much better. The cover of The Sweet's *Blockbuster* is the best thing here, especially when the band decide to go rock n' roll. Without the Nirvana cover, this may have been worth it.

One Lady Owner - *Wheelkings 1973*

The title track is a piece of brooding electro-rock - there's an underlying hint of malice with vocals low in the mix and with a bit of a Sisters Of Mercy feel. The band appear to have a serious car fixation: the songs, their titles and the band name. It's good to see an effort at continuity from someone. The best bit about this is the bass which underpins things very well indeed.

Catchers - *Come Around*

Competently done folky-rock, which is soothing and mellow for most of the time. The band also cope well with pace changes. It still sounds like the same song, not like they have decided to play something else for a while instead. It's all very nice, but therein lies the problem - there's nothing else to it. It doesn't elicit much of a response. **M**

Jamie

THE ESSENTIAL CHOON

Radiator - *Generator*.

Ooh, it rhymes. Is that good or bad? In this case what's good is that these guys have reworked the Britrock style with some jungle type beats and astoundingly they've pulled it off. Radiator lean towards the heavy rock sound but with some mightily frantic drums too. There's no information on the sleeve so, if this is their debut single, it's impressive. Spankingly different. **M**

Christine

Lyden David Hall - *Sexy Cinderella*

The high vocals that dominate this song really suck, which means that the song does too. The second track is a remix that gets rid of most of the vocals and replaces them with raps instead. Better, but still not that

good. The last track is an acoustic version of *Medicine 4 My Pain*. It's actually not that bad. I'm sure lots of people will love this - it's just that I'm not one of them.

Baaba Maal - *Souka Nayo (I will follow you)*

This is stirring and uplifting. Mainly this is a vocal track, with some nice beats and what may be a guitar. There's also some nice breaks where brass and wind instruments come out and play. The other tracks are remixes, which leads to the question of who decided that it would be a good idea? The nature of this is such that the remixes don't work, which isn't that surprising really. **M**

Jamie

Robbie Williams - *No Regrets*

Ah, darling Robbie, you've come so far. A pleasant tune and no mistake. Not much to say about it really; take one ex-Take That member, add a touch of shuffley beats, lovey lyrics and throw in some radio-friendliness for good measure. Guaranteed not to offend.

Malluka - *Dancing In A Minefield EP*

Somehow, I don't think we'll be seeing this in the top 10. It's yer generic pop-rock done to the same old threadbare formula. There are four tracks and none stands out as a single but there is some nifty drumming on *Blue Light*. It's all pretty dull really, except it has got the word gimp on the sleeve. **M**

Christine

THE LONDON FILM FESTIVAL '98

Escape from Hollywood blockbusters and embrace the world of alternative cinema. Dynamic duo Ben & Dave present a brief cross-section of this year's contributions.



Imagine fifteen days of diverse, international cinema, assorted from the works of some of the most exciting, innovative directors and filmmakers around. A selection including blockbusters shown before their nationwide release, as well as films lower in profile, but very often higher in quality. A chance to rub shoulders and pick the brains of famous directors, producers or actors and to really absorb the culture of filmmaking. This is the London Film Festival. Sound good? Well, the bad news is that you've just missed it!

Corps Plongés

This was the second feature by the apparently acclaimed director Raoul Peck, but almost from the start it was a disappointment. The story centered around a female pathologist's involvement with two men and her struggle against a suspiciously Gallic New York City. The film lacked any of the style one has come to expect of French cinema and had clumsy direction and melodramatic acting. It's a surprise that *Corps Plongés* made it to the London Film Festival and shows that not every film they screen is first rate. Dir: Raoul Peck / Haiti-French 1997

The Interview (pictured left)

This thoroughly professional debut feature by Australian writer/director Craig Monahan was totally funded by Australian television. The storyline, both purposeful and unpredictable, was developed by Monahan over a seven-year period. It's set in a police interview room and revolves around the guilt of the main character, played by excitable Hugo Weaving.

The strong plot was further boosted by the use of high-contrast lighting techniques, some excellent cinematography (orchestrated by the obviously talented Simon Duggan) and sound production which added depth and realism. These factors combined to give the film intensity, at the same time echoing the feelings of desperation, fear and hate.

However, the characters were (perhaps intentionally) rather two-dimensional. The plot is also somewhat

contrived and ambiguous. In retrospect, this film borrows much from Brian Singer's superior *Usual Suspects* but is sufficiently different to make it worthwhile viewing for the discerning cinema goer.

Dir: Craig Monahan / Australia 1998

Brown's Requiem

This film follows closely on the footsteps of *LA Confidential*, as the second film in so many years to be adapted from a James Ellroy novel. However any comparisons between these films is unfair, as *Brown's Requiem* is a low budget movie - a debut feature from the young US writer/director Jason Freeland, and is 'indie' in the truest sense.

This film was wholly financed through private funds with no affiliation to any studio. These budget restrictions meant the story had to be doctored somewhat. The picture was set 17 years later than the novel and a rare period of rainy weather in LA (due to El Niño) had to be written into the script. Otherwise, the storyline attempted to remain as faithful as possible to the original book, and revolved around the investigations of Fritz Brown, a PI played by Michael Rooker. His unconvincing performance did nothing to aid his remarkable resemblance to Joe Cocker in letting the audience take him seriously.

The film is well shot, intelligently directed, and benefited from a strong supporting cast. However the plodding, cliché-ridden storyline had little tension or surprise in it. The next death or discovery is all too easy to predict, especially if you are well versed in this genre.

Dir: Jason Freeland / USA 1998

British Programme Shorts

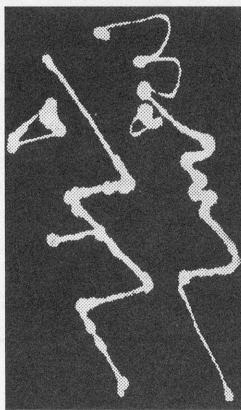
This was an eclectic and on the whole entertaining slice of contemporary British cinema. Possibly the standout short was *The Anniversary*, which was a moving and sensitive portrayal of grief and old age. It was written by and starred the veteran British actor Jim Broadbent, who played an emotionally repressed, middle-aged businessman struggling to come to terms with the loss of his wife and mother in a car accident, and his father to the deterioration of old age.

Dir: various

The Buttoners (Koflikáyi) (pictured right)

This was the British debut of Petr Zelenka's Czech film and part of the LFF's 'Experimenta' section. The funding

for the film was provided by Czech TV to its credit, demonstrating that the Czech Republic is willing to leave mainstream cinema and test the murky waters of experimental film (although it failed to venture far into the deep blue). The film is broken up into a series of separate, seemingly distinct stories, in random order and then in true Tarantino-esque style the progression of the film allows the links between sub-plots to be revealed. The tone of the film is light-hearted throughout with sharp dialogue, bizarre situations and ways of life - the strangest undoubtedly belonging to the eponymous Buttoners, or in Czech, the Koflikáyi. In spite of the acting quality and plot originality, the film overstayed



its welcome. This observation contrasts with perhaps the greatest flaw of the film - the seemingly hurried ending, which grated painfully with the rest of the storylines, being unrealistic and devoid of creativity. That aside though, this was not a bad film. If you are inclined to see it, it is touring London for the next month and a half and will also be represented during the Czech Season at

Riverside.

Dir: Petr Zelenka / Czech Republic 1997

Ashes from Paradise (Cenizas del Paraiso)

A powerful tale of corruption and murder from Argentinean cinema, *Ashes from Paradise* is an absorbing film. Strong, well-developed characters and good acting maintain your interest during the two hours. The director also provides the audience with some stunningly emotive scenes and compelling use of light, as well as high quality cinematography. The plot centres around the murder of a girl - whose corpse is shown in gruesome and graphic detail at the beginning of the film - and a judge's search for her killer. Three brothers all confess to the murder, all apparently without motives and it's from this entangled beginning that the plot slowly begins to unwind in extended flashbacks.

Additionally, the big players subplot of corrupt judges and businessmen hampering the investigation further adds to the confusion. In fact, such is the complexity and speed of the storyline that at first it's difficult to keep track of the action, but perseverance certainly pays off. The dénouement was slightly disappointing for those expecting great revelations after such an excellent

and painstaking build-up, but to some tastes no doubt satisfying, and by no means poor.

Dir: Marcelo Piñeyro / Argentina 1997

Two Girls and a Guy

One of the weaker contributions, this film lacked convincing acting with wooden deliveries and unrealistic reactions. There is the occasional moment of comedy provided by Blake (Robert Downey Jr), the 'guy' in the title, and his aimless ramblings, but the overriding response is simply a cringing embarrassment.

Dir: James Toback / USA 1997

Your Friends and Neighbours

The second coming of US indie director Neil Labute of *In the Company of Men* fame. If you missed his excellent debut, and most did, then you may be slightly shocked by this picture. But in the light of *In the Company of Men*, controversial it is not, so the hardcore fans may be disappointed. There are still relationships without the glamour, male bigots and backstabbing, but Labute's formula has been diluted. In this film, the director focuses in on sexual relationships and highlights the massive differences between the genders when it comes to sexual mores. However, it lacks the tight, well-rounded and ultimately shocking plot of his debut. There are some classic scenes nonetheless with genuine humour. Since *In the Company of Men* had its most successful running in the world in London, it is fairly likely that *Your Friends and Neighbours* will be well represented in the capital's cinemas.

Dir: Neil Labute / USA 1998

The 42nd LFF ran between 5-19th November with literally hundreds of films being shown at five main venues - primarily at Odeon West End (Leicester Square) and at the National Film Theatre (South Bank Centre), which also screens classic and art-house cinema throughout the year. Further information, including details of the next LFF in November 1999 should be available from the official website: www.filmunlimited.co.uk. Apparently, this site "is the indispensable guide





PAINTINGS BY ARMANDO GARCIA SEIJO

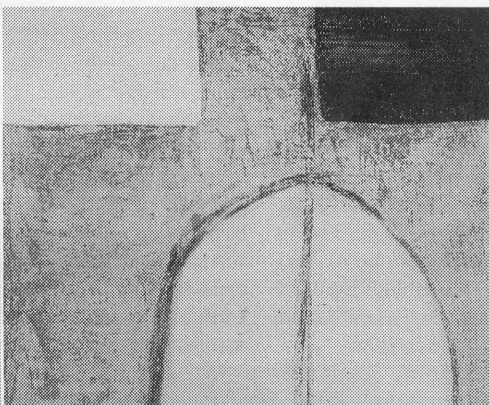
Cable Street Gallery

This selection of fourteen portraits represents two years of Armando Garcia Seijo's life prompted by his arrival in London from Seville. Each piece is very personal; observations of friends that he has made in England and the family that he left behind in Spain. He has tried to express his knowledge of the subject's personality through facial expressions and body language, and has succeeded in giving each piece a palpable personality. Simple backgrounds encourage the viewer to focus on the figures and, where more than one person appears in the painting, Seijo likes the observer to create their own narrative describing the significance of that moment.

All the exhibits are up for sale and it seemed strange to me that Seijo could part with these memories of people who are obviously so dear to him. However, as he pointed out to me, he is only selling the pictures and not the relationships he has with these individuals. I suppose he can always buy a photo album.



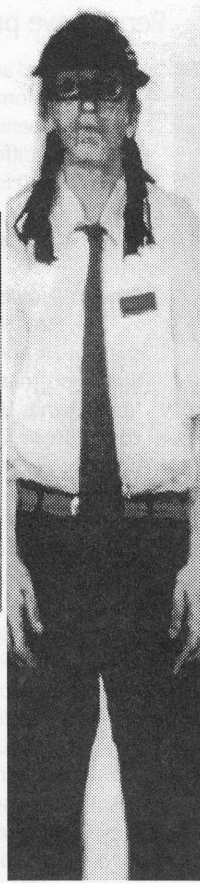
The exhibition features a variety of distinctive people ranging from a Burger King worker (pictured right) to identical brothers. In the faces of *The Twins*, Seijo has



reproduced an exact likeness but in everything else these men appear different, and you cannot help but presume this to be an implication of their characters.

In this exhibition, Seijo proves that he has

the ability to articulate temperament with his painting. *The Family* was painted at a time when he was missing his relations in Seville. The imposing woman with a solemn



shows the care and attention that Armando Seijo places in his work, although you are left wondering about the motives for such a topic.

This exhibition occupies one of two rooms in the Cable Street Gallery and provides a stark contrast to the abstract work of Duncan Pickstock next door. Pickstock's work (pictured centre) makes for a very stylish exhibition although on its own it would lack the interest generated by the disparity between the two collections.

The studio complex is run for art promotion and not for profit and as a consequence it's free. So, if you happen to be on that side of town, I recommend you drop in for a look around. En definitiva, merece la pena.

Demelza

Until 6th December

Opening hours: Thursday - Sunday, 12 - 5pm

Admission: FREE

Nearest tube: Limehouse

YESTERDAY ONCE MORE

Man in the Moon Theatre



When you think of the Carpenters, what comes to mind? 'Calling Occupants of Interplanetary Craft'? 'Close to You'? Their legacy of light squeaky clean music brings back images of mid-seventies pop. They were the classic 'Bland Band', representing middle American wholesomeness and family values - a brother and sister combo churning out adult nursery rhymes for the generation that taste forgot. *Yesterday Once More* draws back the curtain to reveal their other side - the power struggles, drug addiction and despair behind the pure white smiles.

Karen Carpenter died fifteen years ago of anorexia. She weighed only seventy-eight pounds. The play is her story - the story of how her perfectionist brother, domineering mother and her own self-hate led to her illness and death.

Laurence Bouvard plays a strong, outwardly happy Karen wracked by self-doubt and insecurity. She is ably supported by a cast who are convincingly American (except when they're not supposed to be) and convincingly seventies.

Stage docu-dramas often drop in too many facts at the expense of performance and natural dialogue. Not the case here; the action is related in flashback during one of Karen's psychiatric consultations. Despite jumping between the present (1982) and various points in the past, the narrative line is never lost. The billing is for a 'play with music'; this is provided by two slinky black-clad divas with a backing of electric piano. They fill gaps between scenes harmoniously with medleys of Carpenters' hits, which fit the mood of the play perfectly at that point.

It's a serious play about a tragic death yet there is still room for some humour to lighten the tone. One of Richard Carpenter's girlfriends has the implausible name 'Randy Bash'. Claudia Garison, as the austere mother Agnes Carpenter, plays the morally upright indignant puritan to a 'T'. The serious parts are a sensitive study of the pressures of a career in the music business when mixed

with those of a stifling family devoid of compassion. One theory as to the cause of Karen's anorexia was that she felt that all she could control was her weight - her brother wrote the songs, her mother did the books, all she did was sing. She became addicted to laxatives and obsessed with her weight. She slipped inexorably down the slope to ruin because her family could not face up to her problem. It's tear-jerking stuff. The production made me feel like reading up more about the Carpenters as well as reminding me of their happy but haunting melodies.

This was my first visit to the Man in the Moon as a theatregoer. In all my previous visits to this Chelsea watering hole I had never suspected it concealed a hotbed of thespian activity, and how pleased I was to discover that it did. Just beside the gents, a door leads to some stairs which led to an auditorium which some would describe as cramped but which I thought was intimate. One is almost on top of the actors, which can only make the performance more powerful. Besides, where else but in a theatre behind a pub is one positively encouraged to take drinks into the auditorium?

Iain

Until 19th December

Nearest tube: Sloane Square

Performance times: 7.30pm, daily except Mondays

Tickets: £8, concessions £6 (*Pay what you can night* on Sunday)





LOUISE BOURGEOIS: RECENT WORK

Serpentine Gallery, Hyde Park

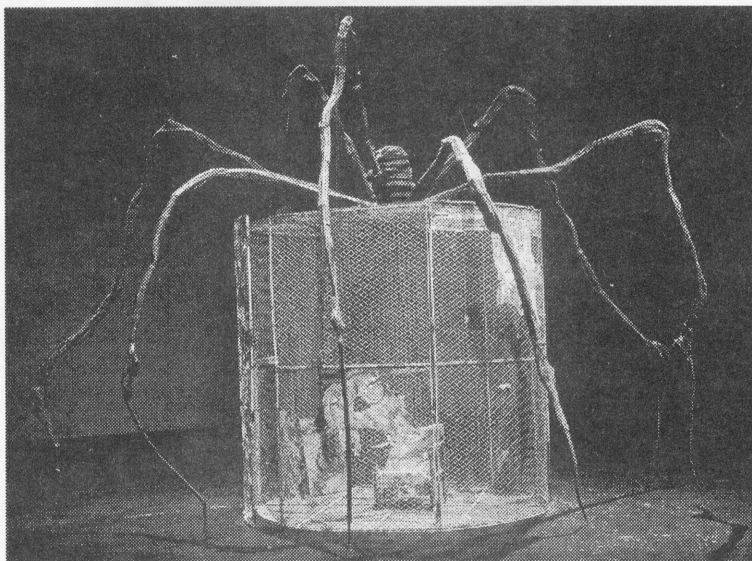


Surgeon General's warning: if you suffer from arachnophobia, consult your physician before going to this exhibition. Then ignore their advice and go anyway because the experience is worth any number of panic attacks. There are, in fact, only two spider sculptures, but they are sufficiently compelling to frighten even the cynics. At first you see a giant spider towering over a massive cage. Looking closer, the cage door is slightly ajar, inviting the unwary viewer to sit on a worn but comfortable chair... Will the spider gobble them up? The artist, Louise Bourgeois considers the spider to be a mother-figure; to me, the whole installation just seemed sinister. But Bourgeois loves people to interpret her art in their own way, after all "the meaning is not a mystery; the mystery resides in what you do with it."

The idea of spider as mother is just one of the many bizarre yet original

thoughts of Louise Bourgeois. Who could argue with her assertion that "pain is the ransom of formalism"? Bourgeois is undeniably one of the giants of 20th Century art. Indeed, if experience matters, Bourgeois certainly has it in bucketfuls, because at age 87 she has lived through most of the major art movements of the century. Bourgeois began

personal demons clearly informs her work. Her art has always tackled feminism and the taboos of sex and death, but more so now than ever. Recent work is highly cathartic: this is almost a last testament as she incorporates much of her emotional and physical (old clothes, knick-knacks) baggage into the sculptures.



as a Maths student at the Sorbonne, but by 1935 she had committed herself to a career in art. Three years later she emigrated to New York City and started sculpting.

Little Louise, her feminist mother, the abusive husband and his ever-present mistress. Bourgeois is still haunted by this terrifying and confused childhood and the act of coming to terms with her

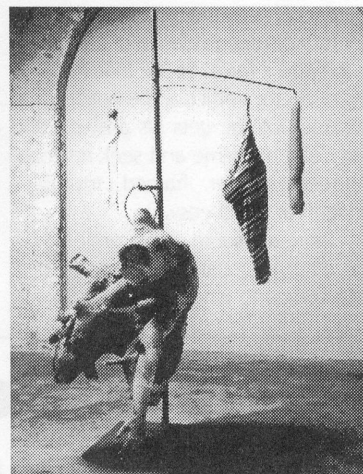
Most striking are the decapitated torsos suspended from gibbets. Some appear as ghosts and others almost as hanged men. They all have an undeniable eroticism (Bourgeois is known for this) but they also have an eerie quality: maybe they will come alive and grab you without warning. It's all very spooky, so make sure you leave before it gets dark.

This one really sticks in my mind: a room, loosely enclosed by fragile walls and inside, a torso slumped on a chair. To survey the scene you must peek through cracks in the walls; you can never gain a complete view. I felt as if I had stumbled upon a massacre. Imagine finding a deserted cottage and catching glimpses of a corpse through the open window; silence but for the buzzing of flies and the flapping of sheets on a washing line. Is this Bosnia or Kosovo on the Nine O'clock News? No: this emotional war zone is only 10 minutes walk from College.

William Burns

Until 10th January

Nearest tube: South Kensington
Opening hours: daily 10am - 6pm
Admission: FREE



INTO THE WOODS

Donmar Warehouse

Once upon a time... This is one of Stephen Sondheim's most popular and critically acclaimed musicals. It was written and staged for the first time in 1987. Over the past twenty-five years, Sondheim has created some of the most inventive and appreciated musical theatre: highlights of his career include *A Little Night Music*, *Company* and *Passion*, all recently staged in London with phenomenal success.

Into the Woods is a brilliant recreation of children's fairytales. It combines Cinderella, Jack and his beanstalk, Little Red Riding Hood, the Baker and his Wife with of course a very nasty witch. All the characters play a particular role in the plot, but in this particular musical, their lives are linked by the woods. Sondheim lets his story unfold, as if the show was aimed at a very young audience, so at the end of the first part there seems to be no more to say. However, this is

where Sondheim's art comes into its own. In the second half, things start getting a little cruel; all the characters search for a way to kill the giant's wife who has been destroying their houses. Eventually all ends just about well; the giant dies but so does most of the little crowd.

As always, Sondheim displays a magical touch with the music and lyrics, at the same time keeping a very rough edge, often reflecting upon human behaviour and relationships.



Despite appearances, this show is definitely not for children because of its content. The music is lovely, the lyrics are very funny and well written, typical strengths in Sondheim's theatre.

The singing is adequate, certainly not brilliant, but then this is not a musical in the strictest sense - the composer isn't writing for singers that can act but instead for actors who can just about sing. Although the quality of the singing is lost, we get some amazing perfor-

mances in return especially from Sophie Thompson as the Baker's wife. Sheridan Smith makes a very cheeky and cute Little Red Riding Hood and Clare Burt is the sexiest witch this side of fairytale land.

This show is pure bliss, much better than all the West End musicals put together. You will laugh endlessly and if you go there with a child's eyes, you will be charmed by the incredible magic on stage. This is theatre that everyone can enjoy and I can only encourage you warmly to find out for yourselves.

D.

Until 13th February

Nearest tube: Covent Garden
Performance times: 7.30pm Monday - Saturday
Tickets: £12 standby places available for concessions



Reviews

The Negotiator ★★★

Starring : Kevin Spacey, Samuel L Jackson

Director : F Gary Grey

I've seen my fair share of hostage negotiation films - *Die Hard* has to be one of my favourite films of all time. However, I like it for the clever bits in the plot and the action. It's just a bit of fun: it never feels, well... real.

That's where *The Negotiator* comes in. It tries its hardest to stick to the rules. No psychotic off duty cops taking on an army of bad guys single handedly. At worst, it's one man trying to talk down the villain before everything breaks down and the hard boys are sent in. The bad guy doesn't stand a chance.

Danny (Samuel L Jackson) stands a better chance than most. He's a negotiator himself, so he knows all the rules of engagement. He was framed for the murder of his partner soon after his partner found some evidence of corruption in the police force. So, he marched into the inspector's office and is holding him hostage until he gets his answers and can clean his name and seek revenge. (Murdered partner... framed... revenge... nnngh! Far too cheesy...)

There are some great comic bits as the other negotiators struggle to deal with someone who's an expert in this



"Sabian. Get me Sabian". Now that's what I call script.

kind of situation. Sabian's (Kevin Spacey) first scene is quite funny too, as he tries to talk his wife out of the bathroom and his daughter off the phone. Kevin Spacey

is quite good throughout. He always looks scarily efficient, which is just what the character should be.

Characterisation is what the film's

about after all. It compares Jackson's "Do something and change the situation" approach to Spacey's "Let's sweat it out for a while". And then again with Commander Beck (David 'Bad guy in *Twelve Monkeys*' Morse), who just sends in the troops at the first hint of trouble. The problem is, the characterisation never goes much deeper than this. As a result, you never really care what happens to the main players. You should probably feel for Jackson, since you know he's done nothing wrong yet is still being treated as a villain - but you never really do. At some points I wished they'd just shoot him and get it over with.

The main problem with *The Negotiator*, though, is that it doesn't really excel at anything. You never really feel shocked or in suspense. The action bits are quick and brief, which is probably realistic, but not much fun. The plot doesn't have any huge twists in it: a few clever jinks and sidesteps to throw you off the scent maybe, but nothing drastic. It's a film which will maintain your interest for the duration, but don't expect to be astounded by it. **F**

Andy

The Slums of Beverly Hills ★★

Starring : Natasha Lyonne, Marisa Tomei, Kevin Corrigan, Alan Arkin

Director : Tamara Jenkins

Why does every film with a budget under twenty million bucks feel obliged to be so self-consciously 'arty'? It seems that every low budget US film has to force itself into a set of fixed rules for so called 'independent' movies. Forget the fact that *Slums of Beverly Hills* was in fact bankrolled by Fox (one of the biggest media groups in the world), and cue up bizarre music, a nonsensical plot, a seventies setting and lots of conversations about breasts.

Ah yes, breasts. The driving narrative force behind *Slums* is Natasha Lyonne's doubts over said part of her anatomy and the problems they cause. She asks all and sundry their opinion, and seems to spend all her time trying to hide them, have them surgically reduced or pretend they don't exist. And, of course, along the way she manages to lose her virginity, gain an insight into those around her and grow to love her family. How very American.

Meanwhile, her father (Arkin) has his own set of financially orientated prob-



Shiny happy people holding hands?

lems, forcing the family to move from shoddy apartment to shoddy apartment every time he can't afford the rent. Eventually he stoops to taking in his drug addled niece in return for monthly cheques from his brother. Although this

allows them to move into a much nicer flat, it throws up a new set of (entirely predictable) problems.

In principle, this probably isn't a bad movie, providing a nice example of the lengths people will go to to protect their

children (Arkin insists on living in Beverly Hills to ensure his kids get to go to a good school), plus some nice comic touches. However, the clear insistence on producing something that can be labelled as 'indie film-making' swamps the dramatic thrust in meaningless, pointless gibberish: the staccato Mexican-influenced incidental music rapidly begins to grate; the performances are driven needlessly over the top; and the film eventually eschews unbelievable to drown instead in a sea of schmaltz. Oh, and why is it set in the seventies?

In essence, this is pretty standard coming-of-age-drama fare which, in the hands of the right production company (Film Four or the BBC for example) could have been a good and successful movie. Sadly, however, the world doesn't work that way, and US producers quite happily throw money at anything they consider 'indie' just to clear their conscience. Oh well, yet another thing to blame on Rupert Murdoch. **F**

Dave



Reviews & Competitions

Out of Sight ★★★★★

Starring : George Clooney, Jennifer Lopez, Ving Rhames
Director : Steven Soderbergh

This film contains what has to be the best death scene I have ever witnessed. It's based on the book by Elmore Leonard - the same guy that wrote *Jackie Brown* - with a script from Scott Frank, who also adapted Leonard's novel *Get Shorty* into the film of the same name. This is quite similar to *Jackie Brown* but much better. Tarantino now has competition.

George Clooney is Jack Foley, a career struck bank robber who has had three previous convictions. Karen Sisco (Jennifer Lopez) almost foiled his jail-break by being at the wrong place at the wrong time wearing the wrong clothes. Although Sisco is a Federal Marshall, she can't resist Foley's charms. It could be a match made in heaven if it was under different circumstances; but it's not.

This film is movie entertainment at its best as it contains all the elements necessary to make it a success. The only thing against this flick is that at times the jumps from past to present aren't always that clear. The jokes flow in abundance and are always well timed. Admittedly there is some violence, but most of it is timed to be funny. Most importantly,

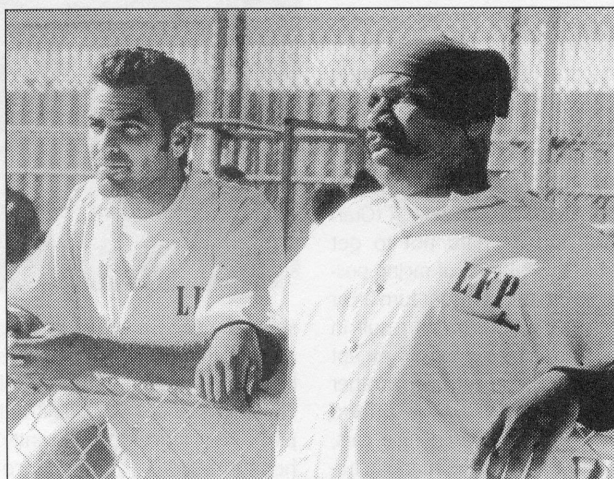
every actor delivers a vivid performances.

Clooney and Lopez interact well as a good acting partnership should, but more importantly, they conjure up that all too rare commodity - sexual chemistry, which is portrayed fantastically, with real passion etched into the screen every time Lopez and Clooney appear. As well as perfect leading characters there is also a colourful supporting cast. More-

over, what Tarantino-esque film would be complete without an appearance from Samuel L Jackson?

When Clooney first appears you think it's that guy off TV, but he fits his character so well you soon forget. He has finally left the small screen and this is a good film with which to make the break. There is life after ER. **F**

Helen



Just your average pair of management consultants.

Win tickets courtesy of the

ODEON

KENSINGTON

With *Out of Sight*, George Clooney finally seems to have hit the big time, after the relative flops that were *Batman & Robin* and *The Peacemaker*. And as the review above shows, this is not only a top performance from Clooney, it's a damn fine movie all round.

Thanks to the Odeon Kensington, we have five pairs of tickets to give away. To be in with a chance of winning, just answer the following question:

What film links Jennifer Lopez with Claire Danes and Billy Bob Thornton.

Email your answer to film.felix@ic.ac.uk before 6pm on Tuesday to be in with a chance. Winners will be drawn at random from the virtual hat.



The winners of last week's *Slums of Beverly Hills* competition were:

Jenny Kay
 P J Lim
 Jackie Ah-Wong
 Yin Loong Chao
 Nazlina Othman
 Ay Lin Kho
 David McShane
 Sandor de Jasay
 Victoria Garcia Sakai
 Leong Wen Jun

They all demonstrated a worrying knowledge of bad American TV, by correctly identifying the various stars who, in their own special ways, made *Beverly Hills 90210* so memorable. In return, they take home a pair of tickets. Please drop into the *Felix* office to pick up your prize.

VIDEO NEW UPDATE

Starship Troopers

To say that this film received a mixed reception would be a massive understatement. Never before has a movie started so many pub arguments.

Troopers is probably supposed to have some deep meaning, but as far as I'm concerned it's a movie about a bunch of kids splatting interstellar bugs. Which would be OK if it wasn't smeared over with a bizarre message about fascism. Call me stupid, but don't the Nazi tactics win at the end? Hello, have I missed something?

However you look at it, it's hardly *Citizen Kane*, and although some of the effects are impressive, the acting, plot and direction sink into the depths of hell. So bad it's good? No, far worse.

The Man in the Iron Mask

Ah, Leonardo DiCaprio. The most successful twenty-four year old in the world. The idol of a million adolescent dreams. And a big fan of shagging models and getting pissed with his mates to boot. Top bloke all round, really.

Anyway, back to the film. A top ensemble cast (Jeremy Irons, Gabriel Byrne, Gerard Depardieu, John Malkovich) are gathered together to recreate Dumas' classic novel - and are utterly wasted in a hideously over-the-top production. It's impossible to tell whether you're really supposed to take any of this seriously, with comedy slow-motion, a horrid mix of dodgy accents and a plot that you can see coming from a million miles away.

Mrs Brown

This week's quality offering is (surprise, surprise) bankrolled by British TV - although for a change the BBC, not Film Four, take the credit. Having bagged an Oscar nomination for Judi Dench and a sackful of other awards, this proves once again that the one thing Britain leads the world in is costume drama.

Dench plays Queen Victoria, and as the film begins she is still in mourning for her late husband. Into her misery comes the only person prepared to take her on - one of her servants, played quite brilliantly by Billy Connolly. A definite must see. **F**

Dave

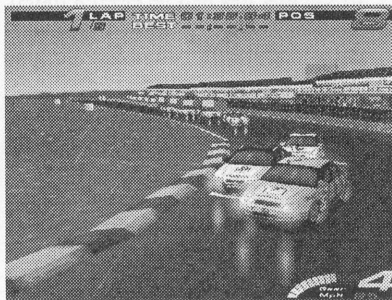


TOCA 2 (PSX)

Codemasters

★★★★

Formula 1 has its F1 '98, so Touring Cars has its TOCA range. Codemasters, pleased as punch at having smashed all the opposition in the rally car racing game with Colin McRae Rally, has decided to dig in and produce a better Touring Car racing game.

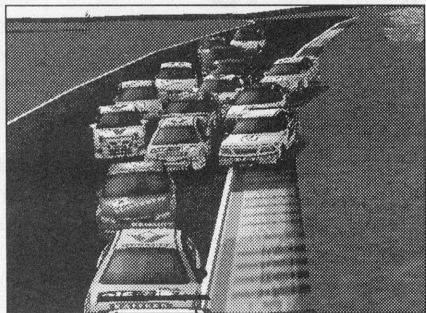


If you did want an excellent British Touring Car game then go and buy it now. But if it is such an excellent game then you might well wonder "Why only 4 stars?". OK so the game is good, damn good with excellent high-resolution graphics - you can now see into other cars should you wish to take your eyes off the road. The action is fluid and the now expected pop up handled well. Cars can be driven positively if a little bit too sensitively from the dual shock compatible control method - the first ten or so laps will be spent attempting to follow the racing line rather than fish tail down the long fast corners. There is even realistic collision damage when the car takes the tight right hand bend too fast, ending up against the fence without a front bumper. Even more scary is when some adrenaline fuelled boy racer shunts and destroys half of the rear of your car just because you

decided to brake for the same tight right corner on the next lap. If your car comes in less damaged than old Nige's Fords then consider it a good race. In fact if you love British Touring Car you might even love Top Gear's Tiff whining sarcastically. This game would have definitely got 5 stars if a game with a very small name did not already exist. Want to know which is still the best saloon car racing game? it's still GT.

If you have not got it by now you really should just go and buy GT (Gran Turismo) and try hard not to get addicted to the breadth of racing possibilities. So what if you can't turn a car over and 300 kph collisions result in nothing happening to the car - except perhaps making the car face another direction. You don't just have a fixed number of works prepared race cars, you have the whole of the manufacturers production range. TOCA does what it says, and does it very well. Unfortunately the saloon car racer has moved on. Now if only you could start by racing mini cars round Silverstone and then move up to the touring cars using the same graphics and game play as TOCA or better, well then you might just be onto a six out of five.

Gary S.



Apocalypse (PSX)

Activision

★★★★

Movie tie-ins, TV tie-ins, with Lego there is now even a toy brick tie in, but an actor tie-in - now that is an original concept. Activision realising that a third person



shooter needs a bit of an edge, has decided that by using Bruce Willis as the hero in this game they have the sharpest game in the box. The digitised Bruce plays Trey Kincaide, humanity's only hope in a world where science is outlawed and Imperial knocked down and turned into the Diana garden of Peace and Virtue. Kincaide's tutor has decided on one last experiment and has summoned the four Horsemen of the Apocalypse in an attempt to increase his next grant application. So Bruce, sorry Kincaide, has to hunt them down one by one, though starting from a prison cell is not the best way to go about it.

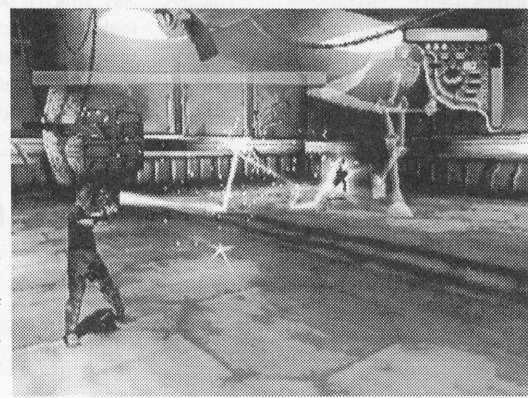
The Bruce influence runs deep, with big weapons, big linear levels and big Bruce voice overs when you waste a bad guy or stumble across another part of the story. The game does feel like a movie more

than a game, the main character seems to be able to survive almost anything and the first two end of level guardians can be despatched easily and quickly just by simple dodge left then right moves.

The game itself is good while never reaching excellent, the switching camera angles are both original, and unnecessarily annoying for the beginner. Its not all annoying touches, there are some blasts

from the past s, the character can fire in directions other than the one you are running in. The graphics are moody and offer up the occasional surprise, such as the background screens playing the video of one of the sound tracks as you fight your way round the city. The sounds are loud, and with Bruce quipping every other minute - very action movie. In fact project it onto a cinema screen and call it Die Hard 45 - die good but not dead good.

Gary S.



No One Can Stop Mr Domino (PSX)

JVC

★★

Every once in a while an odd and original game makes it to the levels of game nirvana. It immediately bonds with the game-players psyche and sits there looking very smugly down on all of the driving and combat clones. Worms and Lemmings are examples of this strange occurrence, Domino on the other hand is just too odd.

Combine the silly circuit elements of micromachines, remove any racing components and instead allow levels to be finished when Mr Domino completes all of the domino tricks on a level; mix in some very odd Japanese ideas and you have Mr Domino described totally. Or perhaps it is not all that simple.

The game ends when you lose all

your lives, which happens when you either run out of time, or the domino character has been smacked, bumped or fallen its way to an early return to the big domino box in the sky. The tricks are completed by laying dominos and then making them fall onto a trick tile on the floor, so to complete a level requires at least two circuits of some very odd tracks.

Putting aside the severe oddness of the game - only achievable under altered states of mind, the game is mildly amusing if difficult to complete. There is a certain addiction element as you attempt to see what the next trick will achieve. The first few are obvious - pool balls falling into pockets and ball bearings spiralling down tracks - but after a while the odd-

ness truly takes hold as cereal packets suddenly go all Munch and start to become animated "scream" images and rice starts popping from an overhead rice popper. Hmmm. There are also some nice odd touches such as when the domino character picks up a carrier bag and uses it as a parachute.

In summary, this is odd, very odd. Either it is being marketed for young kids, where watching large asexual, bright coloured, creatures with TV's where there internal organs should exist is considered normal. Or it's for the late night pub and club, chill out crowd. Its definitely not for adults in the cold light of day.

Gary S.

Full Time Results

Literally tens of feverish fans entered the Michael Owen's World League Soccer '99 competition for the Playstation. The answers to the questions were obviously.

1. Michael Owen's squad number in the Liverpool squad was 10.
2. Michael Owen scored a rather nice goal against Argentina in the World Cup last summer.
3. Liverpool had a tonne of whoop ass dumped on them by Coventry City (1-3).

And the lucky winner is :-

Peter Campbell : Biochem

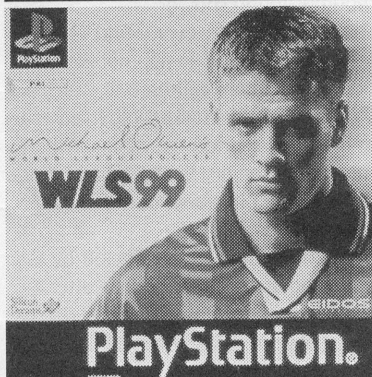
We will email him with more details.



Michael Owen's WLS '99 (PSX)

Eidos

★★★



For those with fish memory cells
here's what Michaels mug looks like

You've seen the taster, entered the competition and failed to win the free copy courtesy of Eidos International. You also want something to replace the copy of ISS pro or World League Soccer '98, or even one of the Electronic Arts' FIFA range that is gathering dust in the corner of the room. The question put forward is thus - is the Michael Owen product a wonderful team effort that will silence all opposition or a badly put together no hoper relegated to the footballing failure league.

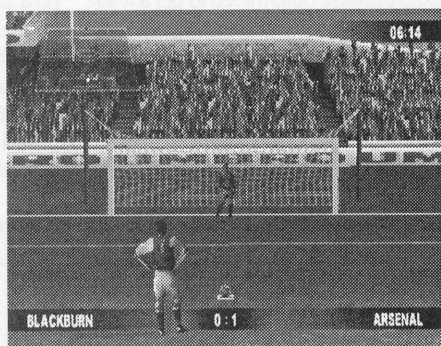
The short answer is unfortunately neither. If it had been the great leap forward that football gamers have been waiting for my review would have been short and sweet - Buy it one and all, for it bears the seal of approval. If it was the complete bobbins (rather like the 3 lions game) destined for the bargain bin in Electronic Boutiques all round the country I could have slagged it off all the way to its £19.95 price sticker. Unfortun-

nately World League soccer does exactly what it says on the case. It is a soccer game where you can play pretty much any team from around the world.

Graphically and game playing wise it is not much more advanced than previously released games. The players walk about the pitch smoothly, the goalkeepers look semi-intelligent, even the referee follows the flow of the game and shows more humanity than most Premiership referees ever will. But the crowds still look as if they have been involved in an industrial accident with a very heavy weight and players manage to miss passes and interceptions that even IC First team would be hard pressed to miss.

At least there is an analogue control option, a very useful addition for precisely guiding the players round the pitch but this alone appears to be the only obvious improvement. Nothing else stands out, and this is a large problem. At the final whistle it is just an average football game, the snow and the rain effects are nice but this game will not leave a lasting impression.

Gary S.



Nightmare -Dreamcast

While the hype clears and reality reaches the shops (well in Japan if not here), it appears that Sega are having problems with manufacturing the new unit. The problem is reported to be a serious one in initial production to an extent that certain sources were predicting up to a 80% shortfall in predicted numbers of units by the end of the year. Sega still intend to produce 500 000 machines before the end of the year, with an initial batch of 150 000 followed by a later batch of 300 000. Although not affecting the UK yet it could lead to knock on problems and further delays before legitimate machines make it into our rooms.

Going down to Rio

Once again we are going to have to wait while another nice bit of gadgetry gets released elsewhere - this time in America. Diamond Multimedia, fresh out of a court case with the Recording Industry Association of America, is just about to start selling the first commercial MP3 player. Forget music being stored on spinning silver disks we are talking about proper solid state playback. Just download your choices from the net and you can skip and jump about the room for hours without your music doing the same. Diamond are planning to launch the Rio in the UK next month possibly just after the Christmas holiday period. All you gadget fiends out there can start saving your Christmas present money.

NEWS



Wanted: Dead or alive
Last sighted in: Tokyo, Japan



Hoodoo Voodoo

3Dfx has gone mad with power and has now announced that there will be a new 2D/3D acceleration chip: the Voodoo3. Having ditched the pure 3D acceleration route it looks to dominate the full graphics card market. From the reported specifications it looks excellent. 3D performance is not compromised as it performs better than two linked Voodoo 2 boards - 7 million triangles per second. 2D wise it can deliver resolutions of 2048x1536 at 75Hz and has hardware for M-PEG2/DVD operations so you can watch those nice DVD films. Unfortunately you won't find it blocking your stocking as it's not due for release until next March-April.

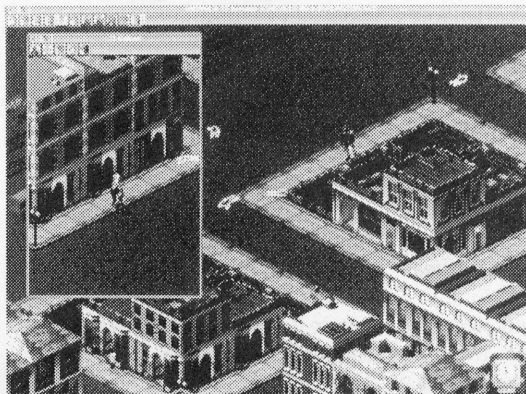
You looking at me

The game competition is back for a second week.

Win a copy of Gangsters courtesy of Eidos Interactive

So you think you can make it out there in the big bad world. Here is a chance to show that crime does pay as you start out as a minor hoodlum and attempt to climb the greasy ladder to crime king. Hire some good right hand men and you too could be going out with Barbara Windsor. Or you could just enter the competition and win a copy of Gangsters for the PC courtesy of Eidos Interactive. Send the correct answers to the following Gangster based questions into the office or to felix@ic.ac.uk, get picked by the hand of fair Helena and you could be appearing in print just like the lucky punter on the left.

1. Who were the directors of the rather excellent gangster movie *Millers Crossing*?
2. What movie features 3 bright coloured minis, the mafia, and a heist in Turin?
3. What was the nickname of Elliot Ness' good guys?



"So disproportionately rotund Tony came to me and made me an offer I couldn't refuse. So me and my partner decided to hide uptown next to a house of women of questionable virtue till the person of Italian parentage had calmed down" - Yep definitely PC Gangsters.



Rugby

SPONSORED BY *UniLever*

1st XV

IC 37 – 0 St George's

So...the moment we had all been waiting for. The league was within our grasp, with only the bottom team to beat. We wanted their girth and we were determined to get it.

Our kit was gleaming white and as soft as a baby's behind, having been washed with Persil and softened with Lenor.

Things got started badly with Bud-bud-buddha dropping the ball a lot. He finally redeemed himself by scoring 2 tries so scorching hot that we all needed lots of Walls Ice Cream to cool down afterwards.

Dave offered in some Poppadums at halftime, with our piping hot cups of PG tips. The second half allowed us to add 3 more tries to our total. The scores, Tref, Willis and the arc-angel Gabriel all celebrated with lashings of Coleman's mustard after the game. In all a good performance, although we will have to do a lot better in our promotion play-off match next week.

After the game we all put on our Lynx deoderant and CK aftershave, to cel-

ebate winning the game and the league. But Dan and Tref covered themselves with Flora and went for a kebab. IC played 6, won 6. Points difference: +259. [I may have to consider charging for advertising space if I get any more articles like this - Gus].

2nd XV

IC II 46 – 5 St George's

(Last week's score 75 – 7 V UCH)

We have travelled over mist covered mountains from our homeland IC. But our true home is Harlington and always will be. Someday we will return to Southside's loving arms and no longer burn to be brothers in arms.

Fields of destruction and baptisms of fire, all witness their suffering as the points score soared higher, but we did not desert our brothers in arms. So many different teams and so many inefficient scores. Now we strive harder to conquer other shores. Now the sun gone to hell and the beer is flowing fine. Let me bid you farewell, every man has to die. Cry havoc and let slip the dogs of war!!

RSM Football

RSM I 0 – 1 LSE I

RSM 1st XI took a crucial step in the Premier league after what can only be described as a nightmare start to the season.

The chips were once again down as they entertained LSE firsts - who were the only team that had beaten last year's champions and last week's tormentors QMW. Any pre-match nerves were quashed, courtesy of Tara and her amazing bristol's, which put real purpose and hope into the heart's of a team with a mountain to climb, although no explanation was given as to why Skip Masefield threw up four times. With Jim York's late arrival after helping out his mum (such a nice lad), the RSM massive was primed and ready.

With a strong wind behind them, LSE turned on the pressure early in the match, with a string of corners, which were virtually impossible to keeper Mark Dwyer to deal with. Yet time after time, the ball was bundled away and increasingly RSM started to play.

After about half an hour, RSM had what proved to be their two best chances of the match. The first was a

free kick on the edge of the box which Welsh wizard John Williams skillfully bent around the wall only for it to be palmed around by a flying LSE keeper. A few minutes later and a flowing move that linked all areas of the offense together, like a string of shiny pearls, culminating in debutante Doug Spikes firing a shot past the upright, a chance which RSM could ill afford to miss.

Sure enough they were made to pay as an onslaught from LSE early in the second half proved too much to handle and eventually the RSM resistance was broken. A shot from outside the area, which keeper Dwyer got his hand to, crept into the goal.

The rest of the match was played out in a low key manner, although RSM did threaten towards the end, but the accountants had their pencil's sharpened and as usual weren't giving anything away.

So two games, two defeats. A far from perfect start, but with next week's cup match, the confidence should be raised. A far more professional performance from the team, although the day surely belonged to Tara.

Tiddlywinks

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Andy Purvis (IC) 31 - Larry Kahn (USA) 19

Imperial College's most successful but least known 'sport' was taking place last Thursday at the out of town Silwood Park campus. Previous victories over Oxford University have established IC as the country's second tiddlywinking Institution coincidentally with its rise to that position in the national University league tables.

The tiddlywinks club, which meets every Monday, also boasts that rare commodity among IC societies - the World Champion. Dr. Andy Purvis, of the Department of Biology, has recently struck a rich vein of tiddlywink form, winning the world championship earlier this year and subsequently achieving something of a grand slam of the national doubles and singles tournaments. Larry Kahn, however, had won this most coveted winks

trophy no less than 18 times over the years, so when the American laid down his challenge the stage was set for a mouthwatering showdown.

This was the 49th ever world championship match, and an appropriate number of spectators gathered to watch as the two gladiators stalked into the arena: as is well established, the winner in these meetings is the first to 24.5 points, effectively making it a best out of 7 games competition.

Both contenders were affected by the big-game atmosphere at first - after the first four games which featured one or two shaky errors, as well as a clear-up of rare quality from the local boy, the score was level at 14 all. At this crucial psychological moment, Purvis played his home advantage card and suggested a dinner-break in the pub. A risky strategy, but one which paid off - after dropping a point in the first game back, the English champion then potted aggressively in the last two games to romp gleefully home with a clear margin of 12 points.

Football

IC V 3 – 1 S.O.P

After a string of disappointing results the fifths were determined to get a result out of this game. We played poorly but they were worse than us and after a constant barrage on their goal the breakthrough came when Will "still pissed from last night" Doubar danced through the penalty area and was hacked to the floor by one of their donkeys. Team captain Andy Chlua calmly walked up and

shot a crap penalty to the right of the keeper and in off the post. They defended on the half way line and after having twenty-odd offside decision given against us (thanks Warren), the pressure paid off after some nice movement in midfield produced a pass to Adi who blasted it into the top right hand corner. They scored a crap equaliser ('nuff said) and then on the break Tom Walker produced a peach of a cross to Andy who slotted it first time into the corner. It didn't feel like a win, but forget about the performance - we need the points!

IC Virgins

IC 10 – 0 Royal Holloway

On a cold grey day in November, the virgins notched up another fantastic victory. Tries were scored by Betsy and little Clare, with conversions only narrowly missed by Ronny, despite being right on the touch line. We were a player short yet again, despite "recruiting" Sabine, Cari-ann, Leanne and Betsy.

The forwards dominated play, with Michelle, Lisa and Kiersten surviving in the front row despite the collapsing scrums (due to the inability of their no. 8 to walk backwards). The tackling was immense with Clare dumping their wing every time and Kiersten making them squeal. We pushed them back in the scrum every time, usually gaining at least 20m. We've discovered Big Clare's left hook, Summa's novel tackling and Chris and Chrissy's power in the scrum. We spent most of the time camped in their half and on the very few occasions they squeezed into ours, Romy's kicking sent them scurrying back to their try line.

Archery

L'Muppet makes her mark.

Sunday the 22nd saw the spanking new team from ICRPC, the archery team, enter the BUSA Southern Area Championships held at Brunel University. The Archery Captain, Leo 'The Muppet' Lang got the day off to a good start by getting the team lost. Fortunately wiser minds (Phil Golds the RPC captain) were at hand and steered the team in the right direction. We arrived fashionably late and were fortunate to get into the next session. The team kicked off well, slapping their arrows into the gold time after time. The other competitors could only stand and admire the evident skill of our toxophilists. At the end of a great performance our archers had all gained respectable positions on the scoreboard, with Leo coming third (it'll be first next time) in the Ladies competition and Seb Tsakok achieving a personal best. We left in jubilant mood and went to celebrate with a scorching curry and painted Uxbridge a nice shade of yellow with carrot bits.

Fortress Teddington Remains Intact

ICSM 41 - 10 CHICHESTER

First (medics) played third in the BUSA premiership last Wednesday to see who would finish top out of IMRFC and Brunel. Brunel had to have beaten Bristol by more than 35 points to finish above IMRFC.

An exciting match saw 15 early minutes of stalemate with James Platt's run to the corner in the 8th minute being the closest the medics came to an initial try. However, from that run a platform of pressure was built up, resulting in Chichester conceding a penalty only 15 yards from their line. A quick tap by Mike Jackson, scrum-half, put Simon Neequaye, the number 8, over for a try under the posts. This was converted by Oliver Kayes.

Three minutes later and the medics went further ahead through a try by James Platt in the corner which wasn't converted. This period of points scoring

culminated in a psychologically damaging push over try for the medics, again scored by Simon Neequaye. Another conversion meant that with still ten minutes to go to half time the medics had built up a 19 point cushion.

Sadly, a lapse in concentration resulted in a penalty being awarded to Chichester right in front of IMRFC's posts, which was duly converted.

The best play of the first half however was reserved for the last movement. Quick ball spun wide, from a Chichester mistake, resulted in an exciting break from the half way line by Iain Mcleod, who held his pass until just the right moment to scissor with the left wing James Platt resulting in another try beneath the posts. This interplay between these two players highlighted an understanding built upon match after match of playing together, and was evident all day.

After half time, where Chichester made four changes, the teams initially appeared more even and a converted try by the away side led to moments of worry amongst the many supporters present. However, with twelve minutes left Platt rounded off his hat trick, again after

a well timed pass by Mcleod. This was unconverted, but mindful of the issue of points difference necessary to remain ahead of Brunel, the medics pack appeared stronger and fitter than the opposition in the last ten minutes. Bullocking runs, especially by the captain, Ben Carpenter, and two younger players, Ben Spiegleberg and Greg Thomas, gave Simon Rogers, the medics fly half, the platform he had been looking for all day, and his scything run resulted in a subsequent maul on the opposition 22, from which he ran through to score an unconverted try.

The final play of the match, a quick throw in, was taken with contemptuous arrogance by Mcleod, within yards of two or three Chichester players allowed James Platt through to score his fourth and the medics seventh try of the day.

All being well this pushes the medics into European student competition next year and in more recent times towards a relatively simple draw in the last sixteen of BUSA. No team in the country though will want to visit the new 'Theatre of Dreams' down at Fortress Teddington.

Hockey

IC 12 - 1 King's

With the league already won and the promise of pub golf after the game, all of our team showed the pace and agility of a large fridge. After going one down, we were kick started into playing just the same (if not worse).

Half time came as a relief and the second half started with the introduction of last year's captain Chicken Bol. With a scintillating run down the right he off loaded to Kamikazi, who moved the ball around four players and placed it in the back of the net. Noddy had a solid match at the back, keeping the Kings forwards in check and with the help of the defence, set up the basis for the next goal. This time Chicken Bol broke through the defence, only to be denied by the keeper. However, Blue Underpants was on hand to finish. This left the Legends with a 100% record, primed and ready for the BUSA knockout stages.

Ultimate Frisbee

Imperial qualifies for National Student Indoor Finals!

The Southeast Student Indoor Qualifiers were held in Brighton during the weekend of the 21st. This was the first ever competition that the Imperial Ultimate team has entered since it started at the beginning of the year.

Indoor Ultimate is played in a similar way to the outdoor version, with a few changes. The basic rules of no running with the disc, and scoring in end zones are the same, but the indoor pitch is smaller, and you play with fewer players (5 a side, instead of 7). But apart from that it is (almost) the same.

Our first game was at 10:30 on Saturday morning, so we had time for a bit

of spectating. Watching the first teams play, we realised that perhaps at least ONE indoor practice would have been wise. It looked like a different game to the outdoor one we were used to. We were not too optimistic. But hey, it was our first competition, so we just wanted to have a laugh. And besides, one good thing had come out the weekend already, we had a team name!

Having won two of our first three games we were through to the next round. Wow! No time for celebrating, just time to check to see who we were playing. Hmmm. Because we had come second in our pool (with the Skunks first), we had been drawn against the Sussex Uni. Mohawks. This was the team who had won the indoor finals (not just the qualifiers) the two previous years. This was the team who were seeded first, and were looking like they

were gonna win. We had watched them, and seen the mighty power of Locks! (and also the nice looking girl, who was excellent!)

But somehow we won! This meant we had got through to the final four (with a possibility of winning (yeah right!)), but more importantly it means that we are through to the Student Indoor Ultimate Finals, where we will play against the best student teams in the country!!

Back again on Sunday, to take on Cambridge. We scored first, but then things went down hill, eventually losing 3 - 9. They were through to the final, and we had one more game, the third place play off against Cranfield. We were tiring, and they made an excellent come back to just beat us 5 - 4.

For information about Ultimate, the wickedest sport alive, email: ultimate@ic.ac.uk

Volleyball

After three successive wins and one walker, ICU Men's team secured their place in the final knockout stages of the BUSA championships. Meanwhile in the ULU 1st division, IC continued to play well, giving us a realistic chance of finishing within the top three. "The Contortionist" had some excellent sets from impossible angles, allowing "No. 2" to spike through four. In middle, the "Incomprehensible German" blocked well and solid defensive play from the Greeks has seen us winning nearly all our matches. Barring any major blunders, ICU Men's could well end the season in a very strong position.

Diversions

Around IC						
Mon 30	Tues 1	Wed 2	Thurs 3	Fri 4	Sat 5	Sun 6
CAG Tools for Self Reliance - Basement of Beit Quad 6pm	Quiz Night - DaVinci's Bar 8pm	Club XS - ICU 9pm-1am	Cocktail Night - DaVinci's Bar 5-11pm	Pop Tarts - ICU 9pm-2am	Electric Cafe - dBS 8pm-12am	Standing Room Only - DaVinci's Bar 4pm
Standing Room Only - DaVinci's Bar 7pm	CAG Soup Run 8pm Basement, Weeks Hall		CAG Soup Run 8pm Basement, Weeks Hall			
	Caving Club Meeting - Southside Lounge 9pm					



SCOREBOARD

VOLLEYBALL

BUSA

IC 3 - 0 UCL
IC 3 - 1 LSE
IC 3 - 0 King's
IC vs Royal Holloway

ULU

IC 1 - 3 Anatolia
IC 3 - 0 Willesden
IC 3 - 0 K.S.Osemka
IC 3 - 1 White Eagles
IC 1 - 3 Crofton

MEN'S FOOTBALL

IC V 3 - 1 SOP
RSM 10 - 1 LSE I
ICSM 4 - 2 ICLMS
ICSM 2 - 1 UCL II

WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

11 Nov: ICUWAF 1 - 0 LSE (BUSA)
18 Nov: ICUWAF 8 - 0 Wye (League)

MEN'S RUGBY

1st XV 37 - 0 St George's
2nd XV 46 - 5 St George's
ICSM 41 - 10 Chichester

WOMEN'S RUGBY

IC 10 - 0 Royal Holloway

ICSM Football

ICSM 4 - 2 ICLMS

Imperial Medics beat UCLMS to go top of their BUSA Merit League and remain the only unbeaten team. ICSM got off to a brilliant start when some clever interplay between the midfield and attack put Ned Carabine in behind the UCLMS defence. He coolly finished to put ICSM 1-0 up after only a few minutes when the goalkeeper was pressurised into dropping the ball which fell at the feet of captain Johnathan Kennedy who was left the simple task of tapping home. UCLMS responded by upping their game and got one back when a clumsy tackle by an ICSM defender resulted in a penalty. They then equalised just before half time to make the score 2-2.

ICSM were put under pressure in the second half and it took some brilliant saves from goalie "Lucky" Pierre Nasr to keep the scores level. Increased possession resulted in a third goal for ICSM as a loose ball in the box was scrambled home. The game was over when centre back James Noblet turned on a sixpence from a corner and slotted home from close range to wrap it up. The final score of 4-2 was well deserved by ICSM

ICSM 2 - 1 UCL II

ICSM kept the same team that beat UCLMS and went on to beat UCL IIs. ICSM took the initiative and had a lot of early pressure. A well flighted corner from Ned Carabine was headed in by the impressive Chris Hood to put the medics 1-0 up. Hood then "scored" the goal of

the season as a ball from Kennedy was laid off perfectly by one of the front men. The ball struck the crossbar and appeared to bounce behind the goal line before bouncing out. In the absence of a Russian linesman, the goal was disallowed.

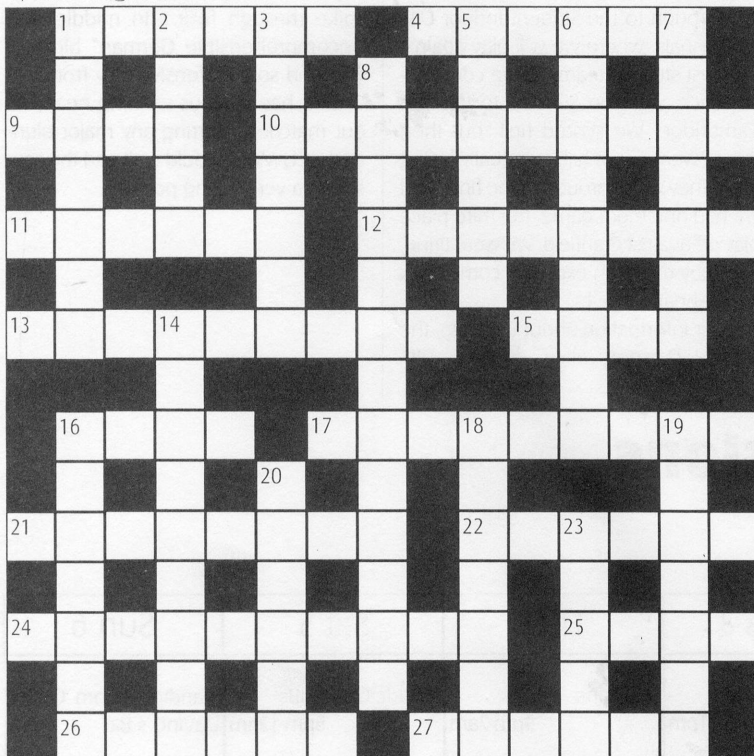
The ICSM midfield battled well and the defence was sturdy. It was breached only once, during the second half, when UCL scored 10 minutes from the end to bring the scores level.

Things then got worse for ICSM as they lost an injured player and went down to ten men. Despite this, they showed tremendous character and scored a well-deserved winner two minutes from the end as Eammon Rabie slid in as a whipped in cross caused confusion in the UCL defence.



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

by Hunt Magician



Answers to 1127

Across: 1. Above mentioned 8. Vice squad 10. Youth 11. Naans 12. Terrorism 13. Audition 15. Foggia 17. Exempt 19. Seesawed 22. Urination 23. Alike 24. Lyric 25. Gardenias 26. Macroevolution

Down: 1. Advantageously 2. Orchard 3. Equation 4. Tudors 5. Oxymorons 6. Exuding 7. Rhyme and Reason 9. SOS 14. Tap-dancer 16. Leonardo 18. Eritrea 20. Waikiki 21. Jingle 23. Ace

Across

- 1 Flat land up in Alps.(6)
- 4 Fish under Great North Road becoming ill.(6)
- 9 Bans pubs.(4)
- 10,22 Jog the fathead to deny when it gets dark.(2,3,3,2,3,3)
- 11 Caught dangle eating first coins.(6)
- 12 I need cog to turn for mass murder.(8)
- 13 Chewing macerates afternoon meals.(5,4)
- 15 Nothing for fifty in US city is just.(4)
- 16 See 5.
- 17 Shyly list items fashionably.(9)
- 21 My pal Moh spreads cancer.(8)
- 22 See 16.
- 24 Metal batsmen in first?(3-7)
- 25 Larva is food.(4)
- 26 Got X, hurry!(6)
- 27 Small islands used one second rentals.(6)

Down

- 1 French deer after confused old person steals rabbits.(7)
- 2 Vandalous damage using sonar.(5)
- 3 Closest close is French.(7)
- 5,16 Across Nods a wince about cold weather conditions.(3,3,4)
- 6 No! Nine cots contain these babes massacred by Herod.(9)
- 7 Hello? Not a bad twenty-four hours.(4,3)
- 8 Male deer? No. Worker gets liquid found in swamp.(8,5)
- 14 Shapeless rabble has our mop.(9)
- 16 Unending 17.(7)
- 18 Musicians sit up in undirected lust.(7)
- 19 Sporting organisations are a measure of depth.(7)
- 20 He eats spinach, I hear, after music.(6)
- 23 Bird ferments beer for example?(5)

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