

WORD

WINTER 2015

ISLA VISTA ARTS & CULTURE MAGAZINE



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free

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WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome home from winter break, Gauchos!

I hope your hearts and stomachs are full from the holiday season. A new year is beginning, and what better place for a fresh start than Isla Vista? Our square mile beach bubble is the perfect place to find your purpose, your friends, or just your place of residence for the upcoming school year. College is all about creating your own identity, separate from that of your family, friends, and even your own expectations.

This issue of WORD focuses on helping you find your perfect place in Isla Vista, whether it's through exploring film, the major of your dreams, (Life on the Screen: The Inner Workings of UCSB's Film Department), creating your own family through housing (Finding Family Through Cooperative Living), or pseudo-adopting a furry friend into your heart (The Albino Raccoon). And for those of you who are lucky enough to have a special someone to build your life alongside (significant others, bros, and gal friends included) we've got plenty of cheesy and playful Valentine's Day ideas, ranging in romance from stargazing to SUPing at the beach. With so many subcultures of IV and UCSB to explore this quarter, not to mention three-day weekends, you'll be too busy and wonder-struck to even notice the drop in temperature this winter. So grab a blanket and cozy up with coffee and Winter 2015's issue of WORD magazine.

Until next time, WORD up!

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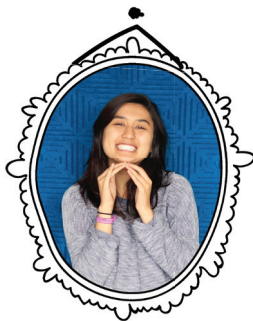
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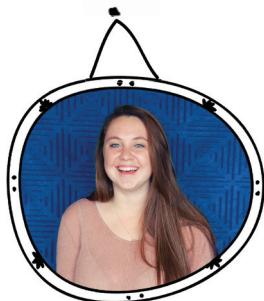
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SEEN BUT NOT HEARD

The Struggles of Young Children and Their Families in Isla Vista

words // Devin Reed
photography // Shaina Goel
design // Jacqueline Puga

Annie Aziz is walking back from campus with a group of Isla Vista Elementary students who had just watched an Improvability show at UCSB, as she does every Friday night for a program she runs with the IV Parks and Recreation District. A young man from across the street, upon seeing the woman with the kids she was taking care of, calls out, "Look at all those nasty little kids! What are they doing here?" Aziz is appalled, but not surprised; this sort of thing happens regularly to her and her little band of kids. Many college students feel that children are out of place in IV, but those kids have been here longer than most students ever will be. Why are so many students unaware of and even agitated by the fact that there are families with young children living in Isla Vista? And what is life like for these families here?

Isla Vista is inarguably a college town; four out of five households in IV are occupied by students sharing apartments, spending their weeks biking back and forth from campus and their weekends throwing parties and hitting the beach. But what about the other 20 percent?

You might not guess it, but there are families living in our beach town that have been here for generations. Among the frat houses and apartments occupied by UCSB and SBCC students, Isla Vista is home to about 680 children—yet the average Gaucho is still surprised when they see a kid below college age walking the streets of IV. That, in part, is because parents know to keep their kids out of the student-run areas of the town.

Consuelo Huerta, a longtime IV mom who takes care of four children, explains that she and

"ISLA VISTA IS HOME TO ABOUT 680 CHILDREN"

her kids feel unwelcome in much of their own town.

"We don't go to Del Playa at all, except when we are going to the beach. In fact, Huerta says that after eight P.M. she and

her children stay out of the student areas of Isla Vista completely. Huerta, like most Isla Vista parents, doesn't approve of many students' late-night activities, and she doesn't want her kids exposed to the drunkenness and profanity that pervades the Friday night air in their community.

But Huerta knows that Isla Vista is a college town, and she loves it here regardless.

"When you get used to the noise, Isla Vista is a great place to live," she admits with a smile. "Everything is so close, the beach is right here, there are plenty of walking and hiking paths. There is a lot for the children to do, and the students have their place to get drunk or do whatever they want to do. They don't have to stop, because we don't go to the places where students do all that."

In an ideal world, we students could have our





fun and the children of Isla Vista wouldn't have to be exposed to it until they were old enough. But in the meantime, parents in Isla Vista often choose to use the students at the university as an example for the kids—a bad one.

Huerta recalls helping carry a drunk college student four blocks to her home, thinking to herself, "this could be my daughter one day." She later took her kids to Del Playa on a Saturday night, using the example as a warning that "if they act that way, they'll end up just like that."

Kids also get to interact with UCSB students in more positive ways. Student groups like La Escuelita and Hermanos Unidos provide free tutoring and fun events for kids, including field trips and art days in IV Children's Park. Many of Isla Vista's children come from low-income families with parents who both work to support

large, multigenerational households. These events, as well as others put on by IV Parks and Rec and the Teen Center, help out children with busy parents—and the kids love it. Huerta's nephew Victor was as enthusiastic about all the fun activities as his aunt.

Huerta believes that due to this wide variety of activities for Isla Vista's children, most of them have no desire to join in the chaotic partying IV is known for. It seems that growing up seeing the consequences of some students' debauchery while benefitting from others' efforts to help the community may lead kids to make responsible choices in their lives.

"My daughter won't even stand near smokers now, because she picks up cigarette butts twice a week at Adopt-A-Block," Huerta says, beaming with pride.




No one works harder to help the kids of our beach town than Annie Aziz of the IV Parks and Recreation District. Last year alone, she led kids on 453 field trips—beach cleanups, walks around the town, movies at Magic Lantern Theater (free for the kids!), and shows with IV Arts on campus. Her biggest concern for the children and parents of Isla Vista is not the influence of college student shenanigans, but the constant encroaching on their turf by new housing projects.

Aziz is close with some of the families of IV. She recalled a particular story about one: “[they are] being evicted from her home because somebody bought out their apartment complex and is converting it to student housing; all the families in the building have been asked to leave. The remodeling is all happening now, while the families are still living there. They are redoing the whole building and have even killed their potted plants.” The displaced family has a young girl who recently won an art competition put on by the Parks District. “Her parents are hardworking people, and they have cousins just across the street,” laments Aziz. “They want to stay in Isla

Vista—where else are they going to go?”

It’s an ongoing problem. Since 1995, the number of children Aziz has been working with has fallen from 500 to less than 250 kids.

“Even the UCSB housing authority came and built student housing across from Children’s Park, kicking out families that lived there. The families were promised they could come back, but none of them returned.” Parents and kids love it here as much as students do. Unfortunately, the money the students bring in is encouraging housing developers to push out established residents.

Only time will tell if IV transforms completely into a commercial beach town for twenty-somethings, or if the families and students here can learn to coexist symbiotically. As temporary residents here, we must respect the parents and children who live in our town too—and who will continue to live here long after we’re gone. By volunteering with kids and simply being friendly to moms and dads on the street, we can learn from the established residents of IV, and they can learn from us. 



WHO IN THE WORLD OWNS ISLA VISTA?

Exploring Who Owns Our Home and Why

When students returned to Isla Vista in September, they were faced with a full house. UCSB's Community Housing Office reported up to 300 students without accommodation. Some took up in nearby hotels while others slept in cars or crashed on a friend's flea-ridden couch. According to the Housing Office, 2014 was one of the toughest years yet for students to find housing in Isla Vista, due to a variety of factors. Today, over 20,000 people are crammed into this cliff side town, making it one of the most densely populated areas of California, and perhaps the entire West Coast. How did Isla Vista get to be the overcrowded, unincorporated, half-square mile community that it is?

Believe it or not, UCSB was originally envisioned as a small, liberal arts college— a "William's College of the West." The UC Regents originally planned for just 2, 500 students. However, the post World War II baby boom caused an influx of thousands of students into the UC system. Clark Kerr, UC President at the time, encouraged UCSB to expand to sizes of UCLA and UC Berkeley. UCSB's recent Long Range Development Plan was enacted to accommodate 25,000 students by 2025.

"It's the overcrowded conditions that cause most of I.V.'s problems." Carmen Lodise told me

in an interview. Lodise is a UCSB alum who has seen Isla Vista through its different eras. He was an extremely involved activist during the 1970s and is the author of "A Citizen's History of Isla Vista" which serves as the main, comprehensive overview of Isla Vista's history.

The first official owner of the Isla Vista mesa was Nicolas Den, an Irish immigrant who moved to Santa Barbara in 1836, and received the land as part of the Mexican Land Grant in 1842. In the 1920s, the land was passed on to local land speculators, haphazardly zoned with small roads, and divided into three subdivisions. One subdivision was called "Isla Vista" which stuck as the name for the area.

It was around this time that the UC Regents, under pressure from local officials, made the decision to leave Isla Vista to private development instead of buying it and using it to build university dorms and apartments. This increased Isla Vista's property value ten-fold. Many believe this was the crucial decision that resulted in overcrowded conditions today.

In 2007, the "IV Master Plan," was a documented strategy put together by the Isla Vista Redevelopment Agency to address IV's poorly designed and maintained housing, lack of infrastructure, and serious parking problem. The



IVRDA was shut down in February 2012, after California passed the "Dissolution Act" that cut funding to all redevelopment agencies. Today, these issues, among others, remain overlooked.

Two businessmen, whose names we see on campus every day, interestingly, played significant roles in UCSB's founding: Samuel Mosher and Thomas Storke. Mosher, a UC Berkeley graduate, was the president of Signal Oil Co., who purchased most of the Isla Vista mesa in 1928. He was elected to the board of regents in 1954.

Thomas Storke was appointed to the UC Regents in 1955. A Stanford graduate and award-winning journalist, Storke owned 89 acres of land adjacent to the UCSB campus, and ran the Santa Barbara News Press for many years.

So, who owns Isla Vista today? 97% of Isla Vista's property owners are non-residents. An estimated 30% live in nearby Goleta, while around 12% live in Santa Barbara. Even living in nearby Goleta, you can remain totally uninvolved and unaffected by Isla Vista life and culture. One of the largest property owners in Isla Vista is Edward St. George of St. George + Associates. The 30-year-old company owns an estimated 25 properties and has a reputation for keeping a significant amount of their security deposit. James Gelb of DP Rentals owns all of his numerous properties as well, in addition to managing them.

However, there are a number of smaller owners in addition to these larger companies. Judy Roberson is an Isla Vista property owner and UCSB alum who may be an exception to the pattern of wealthy, non-resident property owners profiting from the extremely lucrative, overcrowded, and unstructured area. As opposed to absentee owners, Roberson maintains personal relationships with her tenants, she said.

In 1954, Roberson's parents purchased three lots on Trigo Road. Roberson attended UCSB

from 1961 – 1965, back when there was only one road leading to Isla Vista and no public transportation in the area. Her tuition was \$425 per semester (out of state!). At this time, liquor stores were outlawed within a mile of a university, and practically no one drove a car.

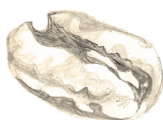
"If you wanted booze, you went to Goleta," she remembered.

The social atmosphere was vastly different from today. Girls and boys stayed in separate dorms. As UCSB was never meant to be the large university it is today, perhaps it simply didn't make sense to invest in a community where boys and girls lived communally.

"Owning property in Isla Vista is not necessarily an evil of capitalism," Roberson told me, meaning that not all landowners in Isla Vista are monopolizing, faceless millionaires. She pointed out that if Isla Vista was entirely University owned, there would probably be better, clearer leadership, ownership for what goes on here (i.e. crime, violence, riots, unrest), and infrastructure to support its students and businesses. On the other hand, seeing how much it costs to live in university housing today (single room with two occupants on campus + meal plan = \$10,813/year. Triple room off campus + no meal plan = \$544/quarter), it might be a lot more expensive for students, on the whole.

Lodise explained to me that the overcrowding "makes it noisy, tough to find parking so people are irritable, and with the demographics (something like 75% between 18-24), a bit rowdy and irresponsible and difficult to police by outsiders who act like an occupying force."

In the end, no matter who owns the buildings in Isla Vista, it's up to us, the citizens, to take accountability over our home. Lodise summarizes that, "The University and the County have demonstrated for 50 years that they are incapable overseers...That's why more self-government is the solution to many of the problems — make residents responsible and they will behave a lot more reasonably." **W**



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PRE-FESSORS

UCSB Faculty Recall Their College Glory Days

words // Lara Vaughan

design // illustration + photography // Jacqueline Puga

Midterm week rolls around and you've got two exams and a paper due tomorrow, not to mention work tonight from 5 o'clock to close. You start venting to your roommate, "Does my professor not know I have three other classes and a life outside of this class?!" Let me answer that for you: they know. Before your professors were dropping knowledge on you from the podium, they were the ones occupying the desks. Below, three UCSB professors give a glimpse into what their lives were like when they were in college. The change in decades presented different struggles, perks, and experiences. The times have changed since they were undergrads, but in the end, we all share the common thread of our time at college.

Our undergraduate years are a time when we learn to balance responsibilities and freedoms. This has remained relatively static throughout the years.

Salim Yaqub, a professor who specializes in history of U.S. Foreign Relations, was the student who was in school primarily to flourish in academics. Yaqub graduated in 1986 from the Academy of Art in San Francisco with a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Illustration.

"I wasn't all that fun," he laughs. "I worked really hard. I was determined to succeed." Yaqub reminisces about spending what little free time he had playing guitar with friends, going on weekend camping trips to the Sierras, and attending concerts.

"I had a friend who was a Dead Head, and whenever we would do stuff together, it always had to be a Grateful Dead concert," Yaqub jokes. At the time, the professor believed that the purpose of school was solely to master his trade in illustrating, and that anything else that came along was just a perk.

Geography professor Dan Montello was not quite as studious, and he now admits to wishing that he had attended more of his classes while still in school. As an undergrad at Johns Hopkins University, Montello lived the college experience that is mostly seen on the screen, from playing lacrosse and Frisbee to drinking beer and smoking weed. Montello thought he had found the perfect balance between work and play, but in hindsight, he realized that he was not doing himself any favors.

"I kind of had an attitude that if I could get by without going to class that was a good idea.

on friday afternoon

WE GOT PAID

*SO WE RAN AROUND THE CORNER, CASHED OUR
CHECKS, AND BOUGHT A BOTTLE OF WHISKEY.*

I BASICALLY *partied*

WITH THESE DUDES

on the

SCAFFOLDING

CREW

in their

neighborhoods

in

EASTERN

BALTIMORE





But that was a bad idea," he confesses. Coming from a teacher, Montello's message might sound like a PSA, but the sincerity in his voice quickly refutes any such accusation. "Academic life is an absolute treasure," he continues. "You don't want to throw it away."

Like Montello, Gary Charness did not make attending his classes a top priority. Charness, now a professor of economics, played harder than he worked when he was an undergrad at Michigan State (1967-1971), although this did not prevent him from succeeding in school.

"I didn't need to go to class. I was very intelligent...I skipped a grade when I was younger. I would have skipped more if it wasn't for my mother—she wouldn't let me!" Because of this, missing classes did not take too much of a blow to his GPA, and he maintained a B average.

"All I had was free time. I only went to about 25 percent of my classes!" he laughs. "It was a lot of sitting around, playing cards, and

smoking dope." And no, Charness is not talking about King's Cup when he says playing cards. Charness supplemented his income by playing poker in the dorms. With the poker skills that he claims could still make him a living today, he would outsmart his fellow classmates and fill his pockets with cash.

Unfortunately for most of us, betting is not a plausible source of income. Being a full-time student with a part-time job is a more reasonable reality for many students—and Professor Montello was no exception. He worked on a scaffold building crew half the time while he was in school. One of the fondest memories of his undergrad years was made with his coworkers.

"On Friday afternoon we got paid," Montello recalls. "So we ran around the corner, cashed our checks, and bought a bottle of whiskey. I basically partied with these dudes on the scaffolding crew in their neighborhoods in Eastern Baltimore. We played craps in the alley

and danced to rhythm and blues."

Although he worked part-time like many of us do, the professor notes that nowadays, there is more of an emphasis on students to be making money on their own because of the hike in tuition prices over the years.

"The tuition at UCSB is pretty much out of reach for a middle class family, and that is a really, really terrible thing that has happened in this country," he says. "Sometimes people really crash and burn over the stress of using too much money. It's really dangerous for their mental health."

Our professors may not have had to deal with the burden of an unaffordable education, but that does not mean their generation did not grapple with its own struggles. Gary Charness recalls watching the first draft for the Vietnam War on television at the end of 1969. He sat on the couch anxiously awaiting his faith to be determined. Luckily for Charness, his number was not pulled, and he did not have to head overseas. That did not, however, exclude him from the feeling the effects of the war.

"There was more of a sense that the world was screwed up; it felt like the world was under a cloud. It was a heavier time," Charness explains. In addition to his school years overlapping the Vietnam War, the Kent State massacre also took place while Charness was a student. "Kent State was what really shook people. This was different; [the military was] actually killing students."

Protests were not unusual on college campuses in the late 60s. Salim Yaqub, a self-proclaimed news junkie, remembers hearing about them on talk radio while working on his illustration assignments in art school.

"In a way, that's mostly where I got my real education. Most of what I know about how the world works and general history comes just from listening to public interest radio programs," he confesses. After three years of scraping by as a freelance illustrator, the financial insecurity became too worrisome and the isolation too lonely to continue on. His interest in world news sparked his decision to go to Yale and obtain a PhD in history, and later, to teach.

Like Yaqub, many of us fear how we will fare financially after we graduate. With the United

States economy taking a blow over the last decade, we often find ourselves asking, "will there be a job for me?" But the real question is of how hard are you willing to work for it.


Charness advises that persistence is the key to success. "If you really want something in this world, ask for it and be persistent; that is a lot of how I got to where I am now." After graduating, Charness moved to San Francisco in 1972, where his tenacity allowed him to work for himself and live an adventurous lifestyle.

"I was basically a wild hippie for a long time," Charness confesses. "I was single in my 20s and 30s, so it was a time filled with drugs, sex, and rock and roll."

It was not until 1990 that Charness began looking for something different. That year he applied to UC Berkeley, where he later obtained a

"WE PLAYED CRAPS IN THE ALLEY AND DANCED TO RHYTHM AND BLUES"

PhD in economics. Although he has a steady job as a professor now, he still maintains his young spirit, explaining, "I'm the same as you guys, just 40 years older!"

Although right now it might feel like we are all in our own Isla Vista bubble, what is going on in the world has more of an effect on us than we may think. When we look back, we will remember not only the parties we went to and the friends we made, but also the political and social events that shaped our college lives, the way Charness and Yaqub were shaped by theirs. Though our world might seem like it's ending because of all these big picture catastrophes, these professors remind us that in spite of our difficulties, our world will keep spinning. In the words of a true Dead Head, the best we can do is to "just keep truckin'." 

LIFE ON THE SCREEN

THE INNER WORKINGS OF UCSB's FILM DEPARTMENT

words // Matt Mersel design // Reese Raffo illustration // Deanna Kim

It's 3 a.m. on a Friday night in Santa Barbara. Aside from the last of the barflies just returning from downtown, the Gauchos have gone to bed. However, while IV sleeps soundly, there is a race of nocturnal creatures still busy at work in a dark corner of campus. You can find them hunched over brightly lit screens and drawing desks, fraternizing with the night cleaning crews, and toiling away on their projects in a race against the sunrise. You may not see them, but rest assured they are there, all year long. These are the UC Santa Barbara film majors, and while movie magic isn't always glamorous, this dedicated, passionate group is hard at work day in and day out, trying to turn a long night in the Social Sciences & Media Studies building into a dream career.

After living out my college career under the tutelage of the film department, I was struck by how few Gauchos are aware of just how much comes out of this school. Anyone with an interest in film can list off the nation's most well-renowned film schools—UCLA, NYU, and Chapman come to mind. And while our school doesn't always make that list, the quality work that students here have created inspired me to take a closer look.

In the words of the Film & Media Studies Head of Production Dana Driskell, the UCSB film department is somewhat of a "nicely-kept secret."

"When I started teaching here 30 years ago... we had one little 'make a movie' class with Super 8 cameras, and I immediately tried to make more of it," said Driskell.

He has done the job—the film department now features several varieties of production courses in addition to its wide breadth of theory and history classes. "The department is not

a 'film production' department, but it doesn't mean that we don't make films here," Driskell noted. "You can make films at UCSB at an earlier time than you can make them [at schools] where you're restricted from making films until your junior year."

But while it is indeed possible to make a film as early as your first year at UCSB, it isn't always easy. Getting selected for the department's premier production class, Film & Media Studies 106, is quite competitive, as it involves prospective students pitching their film ideas to a board of judges in order to gain admission to the class.

Film major Ben Steele has survived the vetting process, and he will be serving as a producer this coming school year. His project, one of the four films selected for production, is an animated short.

"For a long time I wanted to be an artist for animated films or video games or something like that," Steele said. "I love the amount of invention that's involved; everything has to be created, nothing is given to you. It's so flexible in the way that you can deal with style, and coming from an art background, it's just really fun to see drawings come to life."

The idea for the film is simple: it's an animated short in which two children who are neighbors devise a pulley system to exchange toys between their bedrooms, becoming friends in the process. It differs greatly from the other films, which include a musical, a tale about drug addiction, and a good old-fashioned IV horror story.

To Steele, this variety is one of 106's—and the department's—greatest strengths.

"The students in the department here have so much passion because they're able to apply



the things they've learned to a project they really care about," he said. "Film students here have the ability to actually go out and create something for themselves."

Another student who has taken full advantage of the film department's opportunities is fourth-year film major Marissa Perez. Perez has a good deal of experience under her belt, having gone through many of the department's production courses, including 106. Like Steele, she has found that this level of commitment to the craft can be quite demanding.

"Production involves a lot scheduling your life around it. Fourteen-hour shooting days aren't really uncommon on longer projects, and I think everyone who works in production has spent the night in the editing room at some point," said Perez. "You definitely end up rounding up

friends, neighbors, and strangers for help pretty often. I've been out on DP bribing people passing by with beer to stand in our shot."

This year, Perez will be exploring film 105, Historical Production, which offers the experience of making silent films on non-digital, film stock cameras, thus keeping the spirit of the early days of film production alive.

For Perez, this opportunity is particularly special. "I used to take still photos on 35mm film, so it was interesting to me to see that somewhere on UCSB's campus, we're still actually using film stock," she said. "When I was out in the field for my first 105 project we had a hand-cranked camera, and people would stop to just look at it, touch it, and explore this weird relic of the past. It was really fascinating to them. There's something romantic about an old film camera."

By participating in a wide variety of productions, Perez has been able to dedicate a lot of her time to studying and refining her filmmaking abilities. However, she notes that this level of study can make film majors less-than-ideal moviegoing partners.

"We're the worst to watch movies with, and that's just the truth," Perez admits, laughing. "There's a constant need to point out everything wrong with a film—bad editing, lighting, sound, you name it. And there's no going back anymore. It's too late, we can see the matrix now."

The film school is continually reaching out to students outside of the department with programs like Green Screen, a documentary filmmaking course offered each spring quarter. Alex Grant, an environmental science major who stumbled upon Green Screen, recently experienced UCSB's film department through the class.

"I had gone to the premiere of the previous year [of Green Screen] and saw some films that people had done," Grant recalled. "I spoke to one of the girls and she said it was one of the most awesome things she had done, but I didn't have any idea it even existed until she told me to come to her premiere."

After taking the leap and joining the class, Grant crewed up and created her first documentary.



"It was not what I expected in a lot of ways. I didn't realize how many people are needed to make a film, even one that's just 12 minutes," said Grant. "The experience that stuck out to me the most was the trip to Monterey. We ended up going for an entire weekend, and we all stayed in a hotel together and had all of our film equipment with us. We kind of turned this little hotel room into our own editing loft. We'd go out and get these interviews during the day and then go back to the hotel room at night so we could watch everything and transcribe all of the interviews."

Grant believes that the experience hasn't just made her a better filmmaker; it's given her a way to apply the knowledge she has accrued throughout her time at UCSB. "After taking this class, I was almost convinced that I wanted to pursue a career in documentary filmmaking, and it's still something that I want to do," said Grant. "It's a really unique and inspiring way to use what I learned in environmental science, and I didn't even know it was an option for me. I feel like that would be a dream job."

As the department continues to churn out new films and filmmakers, it's worth taking a moment to look back and appreciate some of the notable success stories that have originated at UCSB. Worthy of mention is Don Hertzfeldt, an animator who cut his teeth working with Dana Driskell during his time as a Gaucho and has since produced the Academy-Award nominated short film *Rejected*, collaborated with the likes of

Mike Judge (*Office Space*, *Beavis and Butthead*), and created one of the famed couch gags for the premiere of the most recent season of *The Simpsons*.

"Don Hertzfeldt is an iconic, interesting person. He's one of the few people I know that would purely qualify as a genius," Driskell said. "I live in an academic community, and I run into geniuses occasionally, so I know what they are. He's a genius."

In addition to Hertzfeldt, there's one more famous film student from our fair town that people like to mention every so often, usually in the same sentence as a certain banana-flavored breakfast food.

"And of course, there are skateboards-turned-surfers-turned-rock stars, but Jack [Johnson] was very interested in learning cinematography when we worked together," Driskell remembers.

While you may only briefly encounter the work of the film majors here at UCSB (unless you find yourself drifting around campus in the wee hours of the morning) rest assured that our film department never rests, and neither does the creativity or passion of its students. Look for the 106 projects at the end of winter quarter, keep an eye out for Green Screen in the spring, and check out Grant's film, which is currently available online through the Film & Media Studies Vimeo page. You may find yourself amazed by what your fellow Gauchos can do, and you just might see some of those names up in lights someday. **W**



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Open to all students, this fair will bring local area non-profit and government agencies who are recruiting for volunteer, intern, and career opportunities. This event is being co-sponsored by A.S. Community Affairs Board and Career Services to increase visibility of the wide range of career options within the public sector by connecting students to important community needs while promoting the ethics and rewards of public service.

Questions?

Visit the website <http://career.ucsb.edu/care/> or contact:
A.S. Community Outreach Coordinator
Colleen Lim contact at cabcommunityoutreach@gmail.com



HOME IS WHERE THE CO-OP IS

Finding Family Through Cooperative Living

words // Devon McNaughton

photos // Trevor Mauk, design // Julia Marsh

Hidden among Isla Vista's many apartments are six houses that do student living a little differently. Residents come home to around 20 housemates, rather than IV's average of four, and share a house that they, rather than a distant landlord, own and control. Food and chores are shared communally, and decisions about the house are made democratically. These are the co-ops (and one "faux-op"), organizations committed to offering low-cost housing that operates on the principle of cooperation.

The Santa Barbara Student Housing Co-Op (SBSHC) owns five houses scattered throughout IV. Newman, the oldest one, is apartment-style: one large building houses several individual apartments with their own bedrooms, kitchens, and bathrooms. The other houses contain a common space and kitchen shared by everyone, in addition to individual bedrooms. The faux-op shares a similar structure. Unable to get into the co-ops due to space limitations, a group of students who wanted a cooperative living situation began the faux-op three years ago. Because the faux-op is owned by a landlord rather than its residents, it is not technically a co-op (hence its affectionate nickname).

Regardless, the cooperative houses and the faux-op each maintain an entirely unique culture. In part, this is a result of external influences; Dashain was designated as a vegetarian house at its inception, so vegans and vegetarians gravitate there. Biko's garage serves as a venue for DIY music performances, so musicians are drawn to that house. But it is primarily the personalities and backgrounds of each group of residents that combine to form a unique house culture each year. This year Manley house has several residents who are environmental activists and work for organizations like the Environmental

Affairs Board and the "Yes On P" campaign. As a result, the whole house is now heavily informed on environmental politics, and they work to be as environmentally ethical as possible. This involves buying food from local sources, being careful with water usage, and educating others on environmental issues, among other efforts.

Cultural identities aside, one draw of living in the co-ops over a typical house or apartment is the sense of community many here gain with their housemates. Living in a co-op means that someone will always be around when you get home, often willing to listen to the tribulations or successes you had that day. Most days of the week, two housemates cook dinner for everyone and the entire house eats together like a big family. People crack jokes and ask each other how their days went. There is an undeniable atmosphere to this communal living, and people genuinely care for each other.

Two major elements of this sense of community are the democratic way cooperatives are run and the type of people they tend to attract. SBSHC houses are managed entirely by residents. There are several "officer" positions that involve responsibility over a particular area of house management. The president, for example, organizes and facilitates house meetings. Kitchen managers buy food for the house. The chore manager creates and enforces an organized system for completing weekly chores. Rather than having absolute power over their respective areas, officers do their best to respond to the needs of fellow residents. Good kitchen managers, for example, ask what kinds of food the house wants most, how important it is to the housemates to buy organic, and other food-centric community questions. Meetings help keep the house running efficiently by providing



The cooperative houses and the faux-op each maintain an entirely unique culture.





a space to discuss any issues or requests. If someone wants to have a party at the house, they would have to bring it up at a meeting. Then other housemates can then voice their opinions on the topic and have a discussion on how to implement the party to everyone's satisfaction. For example, if one resident had to get up early the next day, the house might agree to turn the music off by midnight. Some might find this process an inconvenient restriction, but it goes a long way toward creating a comfortable living space for everyone. It also encourages respectful discussion of conflicts and open communication, rather than leaving conflicts unspoken and eventually breeding resentment.

Of course, the type of people who choose to live in a co-op also helps create this atmosphere. Those interested in the co-ops usually desire a living environment where people work together for each other's benefit, so they tend to be respectful, communicative, and kind. Co-ops are also often environmentally conscious and free-thinking. If these beliefs are important to you as well, it's great to be surrounded by others who think the way you do. In addition, the co-ops are staunchly opposed to prejudice and discrimination within the community. Because of this, they tend to be a hospitable living situation for marginalized groups, and many of the co-ops have a strong queer presence. The general atmosphere is one of acceptance, where people are free to be themselves and escape the judgment they might face elsewhere in IV. This diversity provides the opportunity to expand your understanding of the world and consider perspectives you may not have encountered before. On the other hand, if you are uncomfortable

with the idea of living with LGBTQ people, feminists, social justice warriors, environmentalists, or political activists, you are probably going to be uncomfortable living in any of the co-ops.

As with any living situation, there are a few downsides. In contrast to the great diversity of backgrounds, there is little diversity of political opinions. Though open discussion is encouraged, those with strong right-leaning views will find few assenters. The vibrant social life afforded by living with a large group can also sometimes become a challenge. Though you're rarely bored, it can be difficult to focus on homework when there's so many opportunities to do other things. Decision-making also tends to take longer; if you want to do something that will affect the whole house, such as bringing in a pet, you have to ask all your housemates at a meeting and engage in discussion to make sure everyone is comfortable with the final decision.

Though it's not for everyone, living in a co-op can provide the respectful, accepting community that many Isla Vista residents feel they are missing. Living in an apartment where you see the same three people every day can be somewhat isolating, even if your housemates are your good friends. Co-op living forces you to make friends with a variety of people who are often respectful, open-minded, and eager to share their interests with you. It also gives you the agency of having a true say in the conditions of your living environment. But possibly the best thing about the co-ops is the family they create, and the comfort of knowing that someone will always be there to support you in difficult times and celebrate with you in good ones. **W**



I'LL TAKE THAT ON THE ROCKS

The Evolution of the Modern Cocktail at The Bourbon Room

words // Apoorva Chiplunkar

design // Frankie Thorpe

photography // Julia Marsh

A voluptuous bourbon-infused cherry sits pretty on a highball glass at one of Goleta's chicest digs. The Bourbon Room, located by Creekside Inn on Hollister Avenue, boasts a cozy atmosphere, delicious food, and, of course, the rich augmentation of the modern cocktail.

Started by Anna Louise Sacks and Al Rojas, The Bourbon Room provides a much needed reprieve from the mundanities of Isla Vista's food and bars. With palatable eats like bacon wrapped dates, roasted brussel sprouts, and boro pork sliders, their bar bite menu fares well, but is a tier below their cocktails, which are equal parts ingenious and daring in ingredients and flavor combinations. In a town like Isla Vista where alcohol is treated solely as something to get you in another state of mind, The Bourbon Room takes booze to the next level—even turning a simple classic like the Whiskey Sour into an art form.

There is an air of nostalgia as you sit at one of their antique style wooden tables under a string of frosted white lights. Dimly lit rooms and a vintage, saloon-inspired feel create a homey ambiance that is both stylish and kitschy. The waitresses don pin-striped attire that feels like an obvious choice that matches the rest of this creative haunt.

"We wanted to create something that was compatible to Creek Side," says Sacks as she

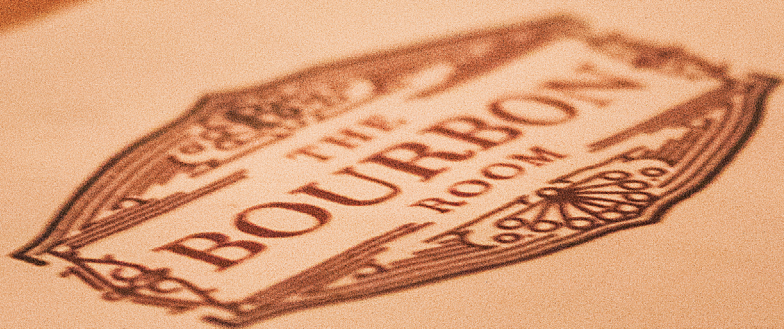
gazes fondly at the Americana style bar that is stocked to the brim.

Unlike the upscale vibe of Milk and Honey and Alcazar, Sacks wanted The Bourbon Room to be about comfort—somewhere you could grab a drink in your jeans and hang out with friends. "I wanted people to feel more like they're in their living rooms," says Sacks, smiling as she turns her eyes to the homey accents of the restaurant.

When a hotel management job quickly turned into a dead end, entrepreneur Anna Sacks paired up with Al Rojas, owner of Milk and Honey and Alcazar, to convert the restaurant formerly known as "Meat and Potatoes" into what is now The Bourbon Room. In the midst of sleepy Old Town Goleta, the restaurant presents tapas-sized plates and injects a dose of youth and culture into what has become a watering hole for students and Goleta natives.

"I love our location and I love our clients. It's mostly neighbors. I like being a neighborhood hangout," mentions Sacks. She goes on to explain how The Bourbon Room serves as a community meeting place; a gathering point that sits somewhere between comfy and sophisticated.

The emergence of the innovative cocktail has become what craft beer was a couple years ago. Gone are the days when a mojito was simply some mint, rum, simple syrup, and ice. The





Bourbon Room offers staple classics like the "Kitty Coupe DeVille," which contains a dreamy mixture of a house cherry syrup, cane juice, and bourbon.

"The Kitty Coupe DeVille was named after my friend Ruby during a debaucherous summer together," mentions Sacks, whose wry smile indicates that there's more to this story.

The originality of The Bourbon Room shines through their "Cocktail du jour," as these drinks are thought up and created by the bartender that very day.

"The challenge is to keep evolving and not to repeat the cocktails" says Sacks, who emphasizes that creativity is the backbone of The Bourbon Room. In an age that is seeing the advent of terms like "mixologist," The Bourbon Room foregoes ostentatious terminology and allows the drinks to speak for themselves. Recently featured beverages included the "Ginger and Spice" with decadent fall flavors like cinnamon, brown sugar, and ginger beer, and brazen concoctions like "The Black Dahlia," which contains ingredients like spicy jalapenos and gin.

The cocktail is no longer solely designated for the girl that's "not into beer"; it has transcended its stereotype and found its niche in a new realm of culinary exploration. Its rise in popularity lies in the nature of its versatility, as it is rare that both the sweet and savory can come together in harmony. The artisanal cocktail turns unrelated, exotic mixtures into complex delicacies that are seduced by one another, only to find themselves married by the spirit that carries—but is not coated by—their tastes.


Though there will always be some pleasure associated with a traditional cocktail, the artisanal cocktail is pushing the boundaries of what you can and can't do with a drink, and is representative of a diverse generation that is re-creating classic standards in novel ways. With the advent of unusual simple syrups and

addition of unconventional components, the new-age cocktail is a rebellious beverage that is thought-provoking and in many ways reflective of an urgent desire to move forward.

Sandwiched on the footsteps of the older and ritzier Hope Ranch yet in close vicinity to UCSB, The Bourbon Room symbolizes a rare middle ground where both the wealthy and the frugal can partake in the dinner and a cocktail ritual without feeling underdressed or out of place. The Bourbon Room is more an experience than some kind of status symbol. There is a down to earth, customer-centric vibe that is the fruition of owners who are faithful to the ground-up, local business mentality that old town Goleta still holds.

"We did everything ourselves," explains Sacks as she points to different parts of the restaurant. "The booths were here but everything else was a project," she mentions as she talks about finding the decor and accents as well as painting the ceiling and making changes to many parts of the initial framework. Truly a family affair, the business is run with help from Sacks's siblings.

"My sister Erika bakes the desserts, Laura works on Fridays and Saturdays, and my brother helps with dishes," Sacks says.

As conglomerates have slowly infiltrated what used to be a "locals only" Isla Vista, The Bourbon Room serves as a reminder that ingenuity is still thriving on the periphery, regardless of the changes that are happening in our half a square mile. Seeking a hip hangout shouldn't always mean a trek downtown; the Bourbon Room is short car or bike ride away and provides an escape from the stresses of student life. It's far enough from Isla Vista that you can get away for a couple hours and come back feeling rejuvenated. With no sign at the door, there's a feeling of familiarity even if it's your first visit—and that comfort is what will keep you coming back. 

The Bourbon Room is located at 4444 Hollister Ave, Goleta, CA 93110
They are open Tuesday-Saturday; Happy Hour is 5-7 PM and all day Wednesday
Hours: 5-10 PM (Tuesday-Thursday)
5-11 PM (Friday-Saturday)

ISLA VISTA THROUGH THE AGES:

COLLABORATIVE PLAYLIST • • • • •

Are you a flower child? Does your uniform consist of ripped jeans and worn-out flannel shirts? Do you ever feel like you were born in the wrong time? Below are some playlists that take you back a few decades to the Isla Vista you really belong in.

words // Cassandra Miasnikov design // Frankie Thorpe

SIXTIES

// Apoorva Chiplunkar

• • • • •

Foxy Lady - Jimi Hendrix
You Really Got Me - The Kinks
Riders on the Storm - The Doors
Femme Fatale - The Velvet Underground
Time of the Season - The Zombies
She Comes in Colors - Love
White Room - Cream
Summer Wine - Nancy Sinatra
A Whiter Shade of Pale - Procol Harum
Sinister Purpose - Creedence Clearwater Revival

SEVENTIES

// Devon McNaughton

• • • • •

Dreams - Fleetwood Mac
Friend of the Devil - Grateful Dead
Superstition - Stevie Wonder
Hotel California - The Eagles
Do You Feel Like We Do - Peter Frampton
Life on Mars - David Bowie
Bohemian Rhapsody - Queen
Tiny Dancer - Elton John
Beast of Burden - The Rolling Stones
Another Brick in the Wall Part 2 - Pink Floyd

EIGHTIES

// Matt Mersel

.....

Centerfold - J. Geils Band
Everybody Have Fun Tonight - Wang Chung
Like a Prayer - Madonna
Higher Ground - Red Hot Chili Peppers
Blue Monday - New Order
New Jack Swing - Wrecksx-n-Effect
Don't You Want Me - The Human League
Push It - Salt-N-Pepa
Kiss - Prince
Tainted Love - Soft Cell

NINETIES

// Cassandra Miasnikov

.....

Steal My Sunshine - LEN
Semi-Charmed Life - Third Eye Blind
Walkin' On The Sun - Smashmouth
Livin' La Vida Loca - Ricky Martin
All The Small Things - Blink-182
I'm Gonna Be (500 Miles) - The Proclaimers
California Love - 2Pac
Under The Bridge - Red Hot Chili Peppers
What I Got - Sublime

NOUGHTIES

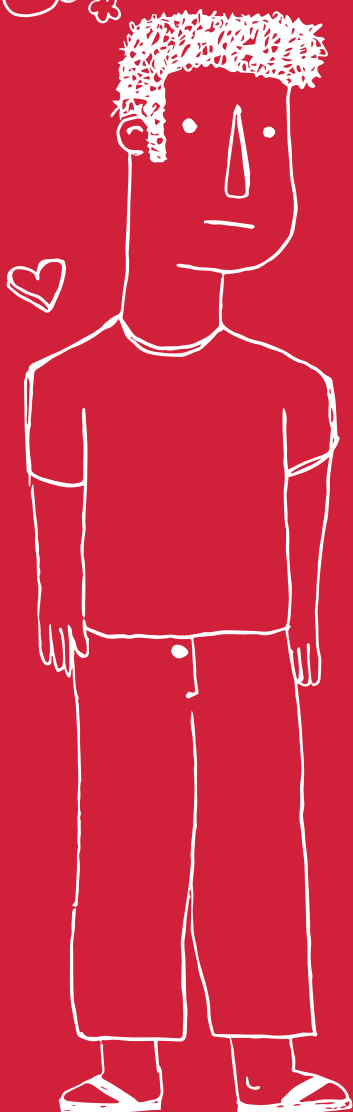
// Spencer Baker

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D.A.N.C.E - Justice
Work It Out - Jurassic 5 & Dave Matthews Band
Sunshine - Atmosphere
Closer to the Sun - Slightly Stoopid
Feel Good Inc. - Gorillaz
Digital Love - Daft Punk
Holiday - Green Day
Short Skirt / Long Jacket - Cake
The Seed (2.0) - The Roots
Roses - Outkast

WE FOUND LOVE IN A HOPELESS PLACE.

I LIKE
YOU.



I LIKE
COFFEE



CELEBRATING VALENTINE'S DAY IN ISLA VISTA

words // Cassandra Miasnikov illustration + design // Brittany Ragan

Regardless of your relationship status or lack thereof, there's just no avoiding this holiday and all the sappiness attached—unless you're a dream-killing shut-in—but don't worry, there's an event in here for you too. Couples will be holding hands, people will be kissing, and lots of bold decisions will be made. This is New Year's for the romantics and the bleeding hearts, guys. You've got only got one shot a year to make it memorable. Make this count!

Whether you're spending Valentine's Day with a first date, hookup, longtime significant other, or your best friends, the possibilities are endless in sunny Santa Barbara.

Here's a list of the top things to do in Isla Vista to celebrate with the people you care about on February 14th:



THE FIRST DATE: OPEN MIC NIGHT AT COFFEE COLLABORATIVE

Coffee is cheap. Music is free. This event has both. The constant rotation of performers will allow you to talk to one another as little or as much as you want to. Plus, your date will think you're all cool and cultured and stuff. This event also gives you the perfect chance to critique your date's music taste before you're in too deep and help you determine early on whether or not you can date a Bruno Mars fan. Bonus points if you embarrass and flatter your date with a serenade.



THE HOOKUP: BREAKFAST AT SILVERGREENS

So you fell asleep in a bed that's not your own after a pretty crazy evening and accidentally spent the night. Awkward? Not if you buy your hookup breakfast! Everybody loves free food! This holiday is celebrated with a feast in many sects of Christianity, you know. Breakfast is the perfect low-key way to thank your hookup for a steamy night. It also gives you the perfect opportunity to ditch out and head home without a half-hearted "k bye"—after you pay your check, of course. Regardless of whether or not you choose to hit up this particular Valentine again, you'll always hold a special place in one another's hearts—or at least your stomachs.



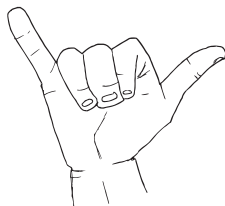
ANTI-VALENTINE'S DAY: THROW A HOUSE PARTY

Yeah, yeah, love is for schmucks. Maybe you just went through a bad breakup or think the idea of Valentine's Day is just too commercial. Either way, that's no excuse to treat it like any other day of the year. Don't ignore the holiday completely—throw an anti-Valentine's Day party in its stead! Be sure to tell your guests this is a no dates allowed event. Get a local IV band to play something preferably heart-wrenching and punk rock, wear all black, and dance your loneliness away, you little rebel you.



THE LONGTIME SIGNIFICANT OTHER: STARGAZING AT THE BEACH

Who doesn't love long, romantic walks on the beach? People who don't want to freeze their perfect buns off in February. But for a longtime lover, this may be the perfect Valentine's Day date. You're past spending excessive amounts of money and time planning dates, because you don't need to impress each other anymore. Rekindle your flame with a night of watching meteor showers and staying up late talking. You're never going to fully know your S.O., and it's always exciting to learn even more. All you'll need for this date is a big sweater to smother your love with and a blanket big enough for two.



THE WOLFPACK: SUP-ING WITH THE BROS

Sure, the water's going to be freezing, but you have a wetsuit for that. And even better, you have a group of dudes that will laugh at you and probably push you off of the paddleboard and into the freezing water, because that's what friends do when they love you. The Wolfpack. You know who you are. To be honest, you're all too busy with school, extracurriculars, and friends to keep a girl around all the time. You probably forgot it was Valentine's Day until you saw all the couples chilling at the beach. No worries, they probably won't be out SUPing, you manly frosty polar bear beasts.



GALENTINE'S DAY: CRUSHCAKES WITH YOUR GIRLS

What better day than Valentine's to celebrate your loved ones? You know, the girls in your life that have been with you through hellish midterms, tear-jerking breakups, and that time you had too much to drink at ATO and had to be carried home. Stop by PaperSource in downtown Santa Barbara (or even the UCen) and pick up some cards. Write each of your girls handwritten notes inside telling them how much they mean to you. Promise to blow everything else off for a day and bond together over cupcakes, coffee, and girl talk. **W**

Do you know how
we keep warm in
Russia?



I Love You
but I hate your cat



umm
no thanks

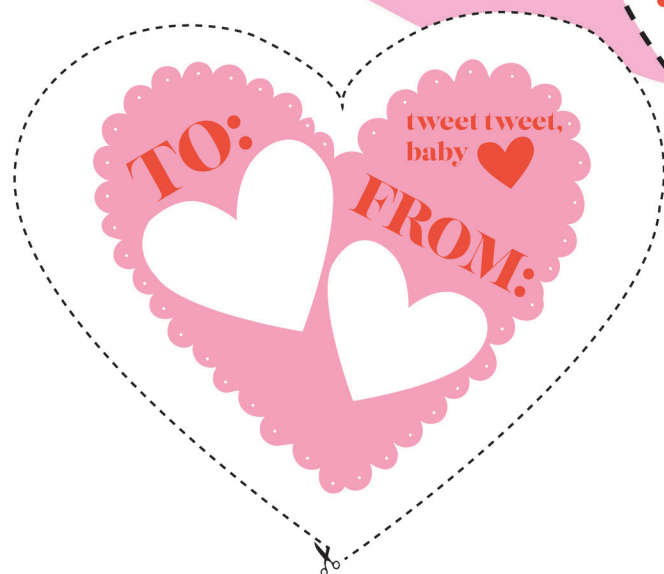
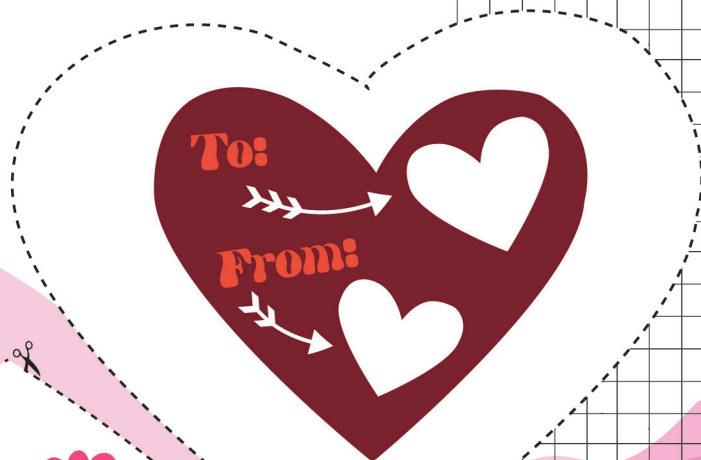


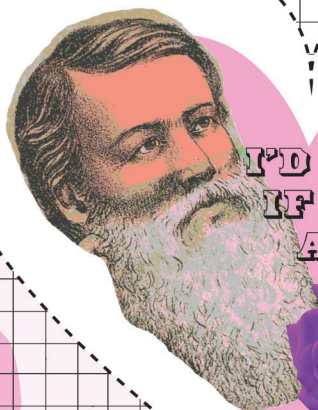
If you're a
bird, I'm
a bird



HAPPY
VALENTINE'S DAY

Illustration & Design
// Haley Paul



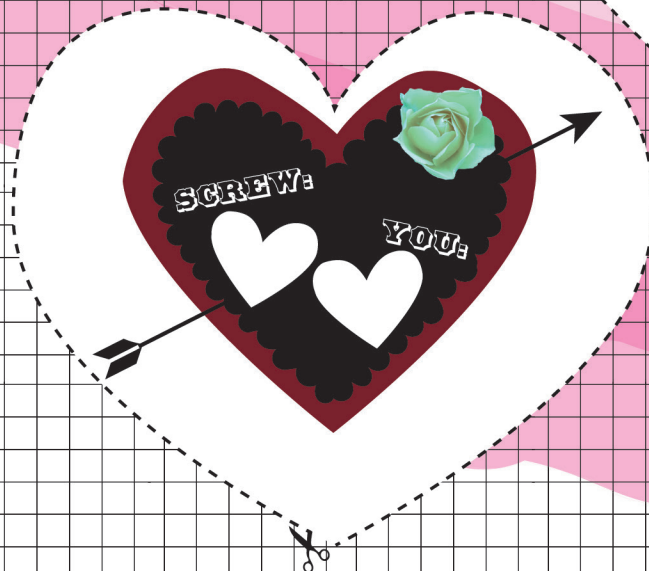
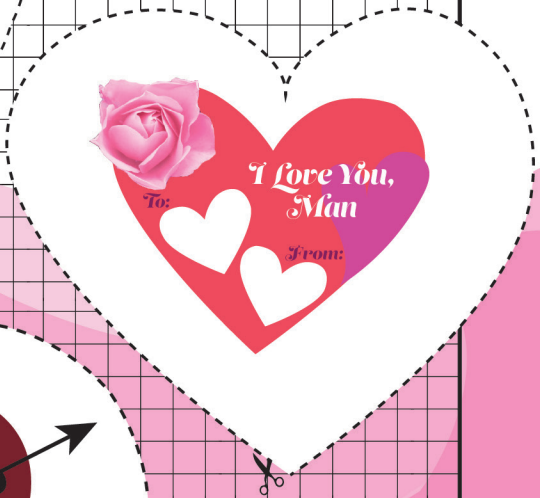
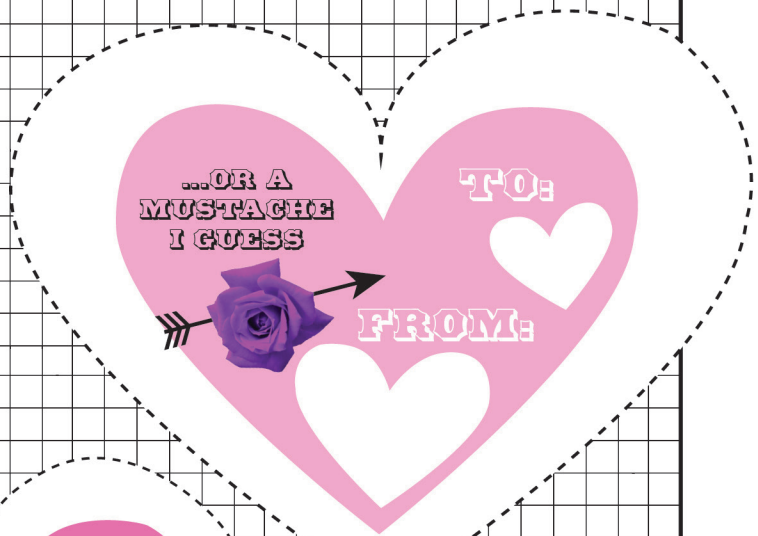


I'D LOVE YOU
IF YOU HAD
A BEARD



You
smell





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CLEAN CUT

photography + design // Trevor Mauk



Cody Ricks doesn't need a barber shop to give a hair cut. Ricks' started cutting hair in his friends' Isla Vista houses and apartments when he first moved from Australia to the US.

With his mobile barber business serving start-up employees in Santa Barbara, you'll be lucky if your address makes its way into Ricks' books. If it does, just push your bikes and boxes out of the way and he'll give you a top notch cut right in your garage.



Ricks' mother taught him how to cut hair during his time growing up in Australia. From there, he obtained his licences to work in salons and as a barber.



Ricks prefers working as a barber rather than as a salon hair stylist. He appreciates the attention to detail that goes into a men's barber haircut. You can see more of Rick's work on his Instagram: [@c.r.cuts](#).





WINTER 2014

ISLA VISTA ARTS

Visit our up-to-the-minute calendar for an enticing variety of films, theater, visual arts, and pop-up events! www.ihc.ucsb.edu/ivarts

MULTI-CULTURAL CENTER

Don't graduate without making friends at the MCC. They host an astonishing variety of culturally enriching and educational events on campus, in Isla Vista, and in the Santa Barbara area. www.mcc.sa.ucsb.edu www.ihc.ucsb.edu/ivarts

IMPROVABILITY

Start your weekend with a laugh. Join the audience of UCSB's premier improvisational comedy team and be a part of their fast-paced show. Voted "Best Late Night Entertainment" at UCSB! Fridays at 8pm and 10pm for only \$3 at Embarcadero Hall. Find them on Facebook and Instagram @improvability.

UCSB ART OPENINGS

The Art Department's weekly art openings and shows are perfect for undergrad and graduate students on campus. www.artsite.arts.ucsb.edu/event

UCSB THEATER & DANCE

Just 30 seconds from Isla Vista! Walk through the Pardall Tunnel and your world opens up to cutting-edge theater and dance performances. Check out their exciting season and low-cost tickets. www.theaterdance.ucsb.edu

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

These performances bring classical drama and wild Commedia d'ell Arte performances to the heart of IV. Shakespeare in the Park provides free, family-friendly productions. facebook.com/IVShakespeareinthepark

IV FRIDAY NIGHTS

Once a month the underworld meets the elite on the loop for late-night live music, food, and dancing. Don't fail to be seen at Isla Vista's newest scene! Check the IV Arts online calendar for dates or contact Viviana Marsano, viviana.marsano@sa.ucsb.edu.

THE BOX AT IV THEATER

Are you interested in designing an exhibition seen by thousands of people every day? The BOX is a student-curated gallery located in the lobby of IV Theater. The BOX promotes the visual arts within the community of IV. Contact Mary McGuire, mmcguire@umail.ucsb.edu

BIKO INFOSHOP

Embracing a wide variety of styles, this group presents regular concerts in a garage on Sueno Rd. in Isla Vista. The Biko Garage is an open, respectfully run, and cooperatively managed community space inspired by Stephen Biko, an intellectual anti-apartheid leader who shared a vision of a world where people of all races, genders, and backgrounds could learn from and support one another across boundaries. The Biko Garage furthers that vision by providing a community space. www.sbdy.org

A CAPPELLA

UCSB a cappella groups perform year round at various special events, throw concerts each quarter, deliver singing Valentine's Day grams, and even do flash mobs from time to time! Naked Voices (co-ed), Brothas From Otha Mothas (all-male), VocalMotion (all-female), and InterVals (co-ed) can all be found on Facebook for contact information and news about upcoming events!

BE THE PRODUCER

Need advice on producing your own exciting show or performance in the wilds of Isla Vista? Isla Vista Arts can help. Contact Ellen Anderson, eanderson@ihc.ucsb.edu

UCSB HEALTH & WELLNESS

In addition to providing resources and support, Health and Wellness hosts field trips and Dog Therapy days. www.wellness.sa.ucsb.edu

AS PROGRAM BOARD

AS Program Board is a student-operated non-profit organization funded by lock-in fees that aims to coordinate fun and educational events for the UC Santa Barbara community. Appointed student board members gain hands-on experience in planning, booking, advertising, and running various events ranging from intimate open mics to 10,000 capacity festivals. You can depend on them for a great movie every Tuesday night in IV Theater.

CANDLELIT YOGA

St. Michael's Church has always been a welcoming gathering place for the IV community. Check their online calendar for yoga classes and AA meetings. www.saintmikesucsb.org

GAUCHO CERTIFIED FARMER'S MARKET

Eat fresh. Buy loco! An avenue for staff, students, faculty, and the local community to access fresh, locally grown produce and artisan goods. Wednesdays from 11-3 PM, located between North Hall and Campbell Hall. www.facebook.com/gauchocertifiedfarmersmarket

MAGIC LANTERN FILMS

Showing films such as Interstellar, Hunger Games, and more every Friday and Monday. All events, just \$4! www.facebook.com/MagicLanternFilmsIV

LAUGHOLOGY

Live stand up comedy show every Saturday at 8PM in Embaracadero Hall. Past comics include Adam Devine, Chris D'elia, and Tig Notaro. Always free so be there early for a seat!



SMOKIN' AT SUNRISE

A series of images taken from a trip to the colorful clouds of Santa Barbara



photos // Trevor Mauk + Julia Marsh
models // Andrea Vallone + Guilherme Almeida
words + design // Julia Marsh



OUR HEADS ARE IN THE CLOUDS

We've all experienced the overwhelming beauty of sunrises and sunsets in Santa Barbara — intense hues of pink, purple, orange, and red fill the blue sky, clouds sweep the heavens in all different shapes. It seems as though some great artist used every bit of their imagination to create a landscape of color for us to enjoy.

We decided to explore the clouds ourselves, climbing up to the peaks of the Santa Ynez mountain range to dive into the color and capture it as clearly as we could. At sunrise, we found bright shades of purple, pink, blue, and orange coloring the clouds and skies.

What you're about to see is just a sample of what's up there. We invite you to explore for yourselves — take a sunrise stroll up to Lizard's Mouth or Inspiration Point, or make a sunset hike to Knapp's Castle or Big Caliente Hot Springs. Trust us: you won't want to miss seeing these brilliant colors for yourself!



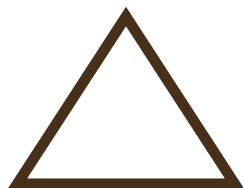




HOLY SMOKES!

10 bucks says this isn't your average sunrise

Alright, we admit that these are not real clouds — they're colored smoke bombs. But you should still go out to the Santa Barbara hiking trails during sunrise and sunset, which are beautiful with or without sexy naked people and colored smoke explosions.

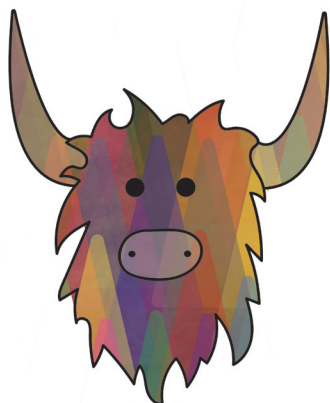


THE MAN, THE LEGEND,
THE ALBINO RACCOON

words + photography + design // Brittany Ragan
model // Dana Johnson

You hear a rustle in the night. You ignore it. Foolishly. Yet there it is again. That unexplained scratch on your roof. You have had enough. You investigate. Step by step you climb to the top. You see the night sky. It is beautiful and brings you peace. But you have a mission. Do not get distracted. You scan the horizon yet you see nothing. Feeling a sense of defeat, you retreat back into your abode.... when at last, you see him. The Albino Raccoon. He matches your every move. Every step, every blink, every twitch. And that's when you realize: It's you. It has always been you. You have always been the Albino Raccoon. You will never stop being the restless, hungry, adventure-seeking creature that you are.





FAVORITE YIK YAKS

Yik-Yak *n.* a live feed app college students use to anonymously rant/rave/ruminate about their questionable lives.

“ Called a girl NaOH today cause she was being salty and basic.”

“Portola chicken dryer than my bank account”

“Sexy lady looking for #telescope. 100% serious. Just have a telescope please. There is a planet in the sky and my house wants to see it. Drunk but not joking.”

“I wonder what life would be like if we did our readings.”

“

I'll handle pull from plastic bottles everyone and their frat mothers drank out of but, but I absolutely refuse to drink unfiltered water.”

“ The Arbor is like having to talk to telemarketers in person.”

“Making cookies for the boyfriend :) Jk, I have no boyfriend. They're all for me.”

“When my leg hair touches his leg hair in class. We're pretty much engaged.”

“The worst part about being a virgin is that you could be sacrificed at any moment.”

“ I be like 4.0 or die and UCSB be like OK die.”

“I don't know any of the sorority names. Oh you're Sigma Nu Cappa Cappuccino? Tight.”

“Anyone want to help me start Roman life on campus? It'll be just like Greek life but we'll conquer them and take all their shit.”

illustration // Brittany Ragan
design // Ateken Abia

IF OUR produce WANTED
TO go to college IT WOULD
GET in-state tuition

Local food is better food. When you shop local,
you're nourishing everyone from farmers to
people who own businesses in your community.

When you shop local,
you help us grow community!



isla vista
FOOD CO OP
the heartbeat
of our community!



ISLA VISTA GIVES YOU CREDIT

Interdisciplinary Humanities Center courses offered Winter 2014

MAGIC LANTERN FILMS

FILM/MEDIA 119ML

Magic Lantern Films teaches the ins and outs of film programming using IV Theater as a lab. Students gain experience in brainstorming, fundraising, budgeting, publicizing, researching, theater management, series-pitching, and curating, culminating in the execution of screenings that come out of students' own pitches.

Contact DJ Palladino at djpalladino@ihc.ucsb.edu.

IV LIVE!

THEATER 42/142

Experience promoting and producing weekly Improvability comedy shows along with additional live performances in Isla Vista. Learn backstage and front-of-the house skills. Explore public relations, talent relations, advertising, and production management in this real-world setting. Open to upper and lower division students. All majors welcome.

Contact Rena Heinrich at: rheinrich@umail.ucsb.edu

WORD MAGAZINE

INT 185ST

This issue of WORD: Isla Vista Arts & Culture Magazine is brought to you by the student artists and writers in INT 185ST and its partner OSL campus organization. We meet Fridays from 3-5pm. All majors welcome.

Contact Ellen Anderson at: eanderson@ihc.ucsb.edu.

SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK

THEATER 194A, GROUP STUDIES IN ACTING & DIRECTING

Study Shakespeare while producing a theatrical performance for the Anisq'Oyo' Park amphitheater. Students play assigned roles, execute specific production duties, attend rehearsals, and finally perform their work during the final weekend of classes. All majors welcome.

Contact Ellen Anderson at: eanderson@ihc.ucsb.edu.

SIERRA HOTEL

words //Erin Anding

Erin Anding was born while her father was going through flight school to become a Naval pilot.

LINCOLN NAVIGATOR

I slowly open my eyes and I know Nick is still there sitting next to me; he has nowhere to go. I look across the consul and see that familiar view: his head lying against the pillow that is propped up on the window, his mouth wide open. It still doesn't look very comfortable. I look in front of me, and there are Mom and Dad, she with her nose in a book and her feet propped up on the dashboard, and he just watching the road fold out in front of us. Today our dark green Lincoln Navigator is home. We are on some road heading to Pensacola, and this is the first time I have been home in months. All I feel is calm and relaxed, something I haven't felt since I got the phone call about what brought me here in the first place. Right now, there is nothing we can do but be together; that is part of the beauty of a road trip. Everything around me is familiar. I am not in a new place, I am not in a new room that has to be unpacked, I am not flying to a house I've never lived in. I am in the car I learned to drive in, the car I drove my senior year while Dad got dropped off at work by Mom, the car I got into an accident with...twice. I am in the car we drove across the country with our boat attached to the back. I am with my family. The only thing missing is our dogs, but I know all too well that they are not very much fun to travel with in this car. All of these thoughts run through my mind as I sit in my seat and wake up from my nap.

The only reason I woke up is because of something else all too familiar: Mom nudging my feet off the consul with her elbow. This battle will continue the whole trip; it never ends. As soon as my feet could reach the front consul, the battle began. I used to look at it as a game. Mom did not really see it that way. In this car we have traditions, even if it is just this ongoing battle between my feet and my mom's elbow. We each have our own spot, and sitting in someone else's would honestly feel weird. The comfort of our spots and the normalcy of the long trip ahead of us take away the uneasy feeling that I have had in my stomach for the past month about what is to come. We can just focus on the week ahead and the family time we will have. We are essentially going back to our roots. We are going to Pensacola, Florida, where every Naval aviator goes through training, where it all started for us. The car ride back will not feel the same, because we are heading back to "goodbyes" and "I'll miss yous." The car ride will be last time I am home for a long, long time. As soon as our green Lincoln Navigator pulls into our driveway, I have to start the process of saying goodbye to my dad. But right now, I am waking up from a nap on our way to Pensacola.

I can put off that goodbye as long as this car keeps driving.

PORCHES

Four elementary schools, two middle schools and three high schools – those are the numbers that usually shock people, but what about numbers like ten front porches or eight bedrooms? My bedrooms all run together in my memory because I had the same furniture in each and always decorated them in the same way. But the front porches are a little different. Each one has specific stories that come alive when the memories resurface. The earliest memory I have is of me sitting in a red Fisher Price porch swing shaped as an airplane. This porch is kept alive because of a picture in my parents' room. My parents tell me this house was in Kingsville, Texas.


The next porch I can think of is the one in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This is where my actual memories begin. We lived in a white house with a blue door, an overhang and a little white fence surrounding the porch. We welcomed Dad home on that porch with a banner. Mom watched me from that porch while I played in the street with the other neighborhood kids. Nick was brought home for the first time through that porch.

Fast forward to Fallon, Nevada, where my three year old brother walked out the door, stood on the porch, told our dad that he in fact was not his dad, because his dad flew F-14s, not F-5s, and then proceeded to walk down the street to go back to Virginia where his "real" house was. About a year later, a cardboard box was set on our front porch right around the time of mine and Nick's birthdays. The box started barking, which was how we got to meet Madison. This is the same porch where the neighborhood parents stood and watched while their children hunted for Easter eggs. Dad hid a special egg for me, the only green one. He said I would be the only one who would like it. He was right; it had vegetables in it.

Our grandparents lived in the middle of the woods in Flagstaff, Arizona, and we were living

there too until Dad could move down with us. I'll never forget the time Mom and Grandma forgot about Nick and me. Since they lived in the middle of the woods, our bus stop was a little ways away. Usually someone would meet us to walk back with us to the house through the woods. On one Wednesday, no one was there, so we walked home ourselves. No one was in driveway waiting for us either; the door was locked too, so we waited on the front porch in the swing. Nick was in the first grade and I was in fourth. We waited out there for what seemed like hours, but it was probably only an hour, if that. I remember giving Nick what I had saved from my lunch and being really scared of a bee that would not leave us alone. In Mom's defense, Wednesdays were half days at our new school and she wasn't used to that yet.

The porch in Power Springs, Georgia is where we met Miss Molly for the first time, our second furry companion. Jamestown, Rhode Island's porch can boast that the one legitimate snowball fight our family has ever had started there. It was also where my tenth grade boyfriend took his shoes off and told my confused face that this is what guests are supposed to do in Hawaii. There is one memory on our porch in Hawaii that my grandpa will never forget, which he retells me every time he sees me. He says he will never forget looking out our front door on the morning of my dad's change of command and watching me climb our plumeria tree in my dress. The flower matched perfectly with my outfit; I just didn't have time to change and grab it before the ceremony.

My current front porch looks out on a huge banyan tree with the Arizona Memorial off to the left and the USS Missouri down the road. All of my porches represent the mish mash of places I have lived. They also represent all of the experiences I have enjoyed as a Navy brat. 

THE ALBINO RACCOON

A RANT BY YOUR NOT-SO-FRIENDLY NEIGHBOR

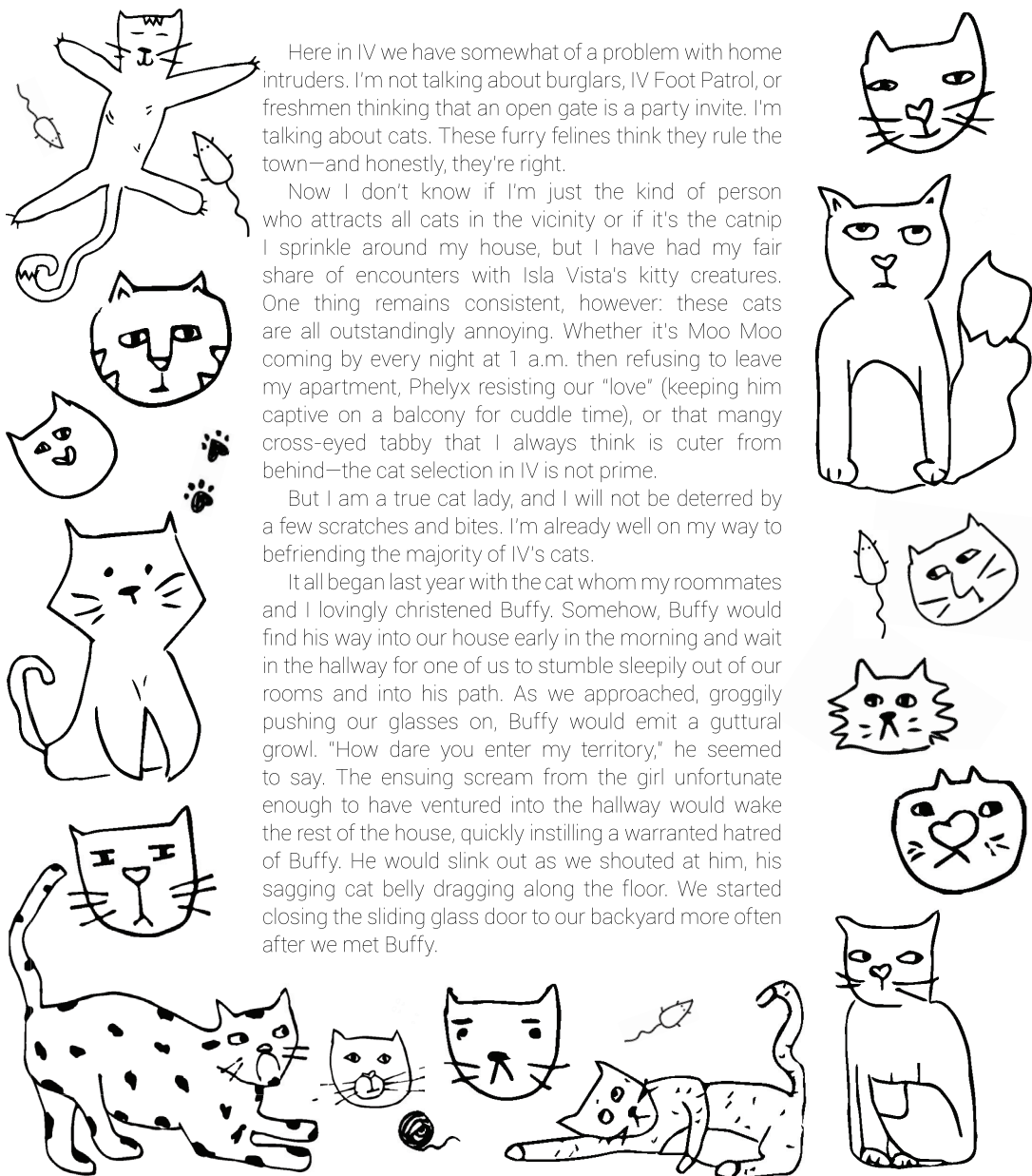
words // Parisa Mirzadegan design + illustration // Brittany Ragan

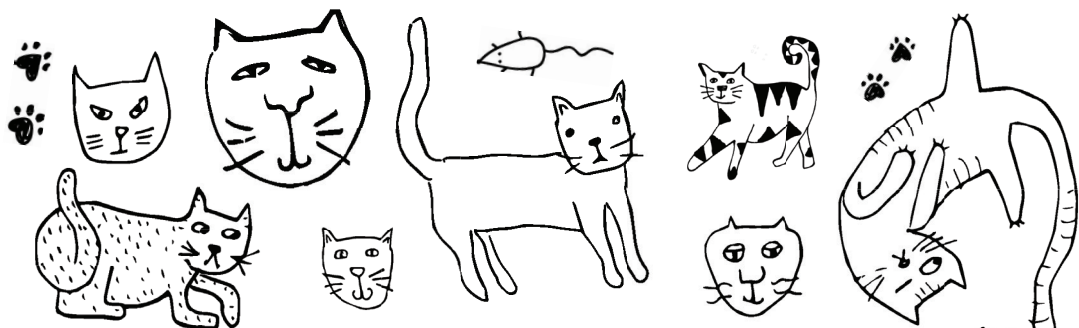
Here in IV we have somewhat of a problem with home intruders. I'm not talking about burglars, IV Foot Patrol, or freshmen thinking that an open gate is a party invite. I'm talking about cats. These furry felines think they rule the town—and honestly, they're right.

Now I don't know if I'm just the kind of person who attracts all cats in the vicinity or if it's the catnip I sprinkle around my house, but I have had my fair share of encounters with Isla Vista's Kitty creatures. One thing remains consistent, however: these cats are all outstandingly annoying. Whether it's Moo Moo coming by every night at 1 a.m. then refusing to leave my apartment, Phelyx resisting our "love" (keeping him captive on a balcony for cuddle time), or that mangy cross-eyed tabby that I always think is cuter from behind—the cat selection in IV is not prime.

But I am a true cat lady, and I will not be deterred by a few scratches and bites. I'm already well on my way to befriending the majority of IV's cats.

It all began last year with the cat whom my roommates and I lovingly christened Buffy. Somehow, Buffy would find his way into our house early in the morning and wait in the hallway for one of us to stumble sleepily out of our rooms and into his path. As we approached, groggily pushing our glasses on, Buffy would emit a guttural growl. "How dare you enter my territory," he seemed to say. The ensuing scream from the girl unfortunate enough to have ventured into the hallway would wake the rest of the house, quickly instilling a warranted hatred of Buffy. He would slink out as we shouted at him, his sagging cat belly dragging along the floor. We started closing the sliding glass door to our backyard more often after we met Buffy.





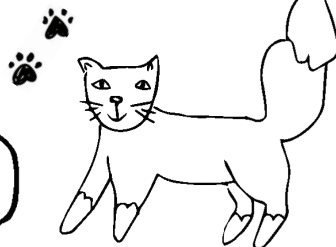
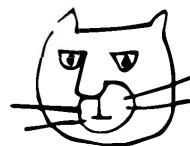
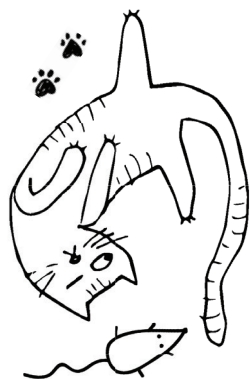
Next came Cappie, probably the most sociable of our furry friends. He walked in one day and demanded food (okay—I lied about us having started to close our doors), acquiescing to being held and snuggled. In our desperation for animal companionship, three of my roommates and I went into IV Market and bought out their cat food selection. Once Cappie realized that we had an unending supply of kibble, he warmed up to us very quickly. If he wasn't rolling around on the living room floor batting around the head of a bird he lovingly caught for us, he was standing at his food bowl, aggressively meowing in hopes that one of us would be annoyed into serving him his twelfth meal of the day. Soon Cappie started bringing friends over, which is when the real fun began.

Never before had I realized how much drama exists in the life of a cat. Cappie seemed to have a harem of kitty girl- and boyfriends, and he would bring them over one by one for some fine dining in our home. He wasn't the nicest of partners, however, and would quickly become angry if his date ate more than he did or attracted more attention from the

waitstaff (me and my housemates, of course). We sadly watched Cappie hop from partner to partner, wondering if he would ever change his ways and find true love. Romance, however, does not seem to be in the cards for this cat. He currently spends his days lounging in his blue argyle sweater, hoarding his food to pack on weight for these harsh Santa Barbara winters.

Now I know I've made the feline-friendly life sound pretty rough. The food costs, constant servitude, and the general annoyance that comes with being around cats does not make for an ideal friendship. But look at it this way: cat food is cheaper than alcohol, you never have to worry about texting a cat back on time (mostly because of the whole opposable thumbs issue), and humans can be pretty annoying too, if we're being honest. So if you're missing your own fluffball at home and want some animal companionship in IV, take a page out of my book and learn to be popular with all the neighborhood cats. You'll probably regret it, but hey—don't say I didn't warn you.

**THESE FURRY FELINES
THINK THEY RULE
THE TOWN AND
HONESTLY, THEY'RE RIGHT.**



IMPROVABILITY



IMPROVISED COMEDY EVERY FRIDAY
8PM AND 10PM - EMBARCADERO HALL - \$3

01.09.15 - DISNEY SHOW

01.16.15 - IMPROVISED CINEMA

01.23.15 - MUSICAL SHOW

01.30.15 - MURDER MYSTERY

02.06.15 - NOSTALGIA SHOW

02.13.15 - ANTI-VDAY

02.20.15 - HOUSE OF CARDS

02.27.15 - FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

03.06.15 - UCSB VS. BU

03.13.15 - NAUGHTY/NICE



UCSB

