

A MONTHLY MUSIC, ARTS, LITERATURE AND FOOD PUBLICATION OF THE CARRBORO CITIZEN VOL. 5 + NO. 6 + MARCH 2012



INSIDE: * BALTIMORE WALTZ * IRISH BEER * MINIATURE TIGERS * KIND AVOCADO



Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, trumpet

"Bach's Mass In B Minor –

A Cathedral In Sound"

-NPR



C!RCA – Circus that moves the heart, mind and soul



Snow White - Ballet Preljocaj

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MAR 13/14	Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra & Choir with Ton Koopman, conductor
MAR 15	Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis, trumpet
MAR 20/21	C!RCA – Circus that moves the heart, mind and soul
MAR 22	An Evening with Herbie Hancock and His Band
APR 4/5	Snow White – Ballet Preljocaj
APR 10	Joshua Redman & Brad Mehldau Duo
APR 13	European Union Youth Orchestra with Vladimir Ashkenazy, music director & conductor
APR 14	Cheikh Lô (Senegal)
APR 17	Göteborg Ballet (Sweden)
APR 24	Béla Fleck & the Original Flecktones

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OMMUNICATI

Part of the newspaper-editing job involves sorting through an increasingly clogged email inbox to separate the clutter from the stuff that we believe Citizen readers might be interested in. I'm guessing those interests don't include things like a \$200 project management webinar or a press conference in Pennsylvania on Canadian homebuilding technology, but feel free to correct me if I'm wrong.

Yes, my favorite public-relaters are now able to reach me and thousands of other members of the media with a single email, the rest of us are able to keep track of college buddies via social networking without ever having to exchange a single word, and the mean-

tweeters are boldly becoming more aggressive, thanks to the screen they're hiding behind. So this is a plea to come out from behind those computers. During the month of March, pick something awesome within these pages - be it tracking down a hawk, checking out Tennis' show at Local 506 or reveling in St. Paddy's Day celebrations - call that Facebook friend, and get out there and do it.

Take note, PR spammer from Michigan -Carrboro Citizen, The is not interested in your motorcycle show. But you know who might be? Your local newspaper. You should give them a call. - Susan Dickson

Cover illustration by Phil Blank



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oss's Almanac

I'm as restless as a willow in a windstorm

- I'm as jumpy as a puppet on a spring
- Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein II

Here in the Piedmont, we've spent a good part of this winter with the title to the song featuring the above lyrics in mind: It Might As Well Be Spring. We've seen a handful of "springs" this winter, but the season doesn't officially arrive until 1:14 a.m. on March 20.

A little winter weather may still be lurking in the weeks ahead, but it's been one of the mildest years since, well, two years ago. The lack of severe weather has led to some odd displays of longing from people who ordinarily would be the first to panic at the sight of a flake or two. The desire for a snow day has been so strong that the small blast of winter weather we had late last month was greeted with the same kind of wonder and awe usually found among Floridians. And the dusting we got - up to a full halfinch in places - yielded several variations, dutifully posted on Twitter and Facebook, of miniature snowpeople. Maybe in March we'll see enough of a winter surprise to allow for the construction of the full-sized variety, but don't bet the ranch on it.

March 1 - Sunrise: 6:45 a.m.; Sunset: 6:11 p.m. March 31 – Sunrise: 7:03 a.m.; Sunset: 7:37 p.m.

🕊 First Quarter – March 1 🌑 Full Moon – March 8 P Last Quarter – March 14 🌑 New Moon — March 22

The Full Moon in March is known as the Lenten Moon, Worm Moon, Death Moon, Sugar Moon, Crust Moon, Sap Moon and Chaste Moon.

Planets & Stars: Jupiter makes its descent from the evening sky this month while Mercury rises to join Saturn and Mars. Venus continues to rule the mornings.

March is Poetry Month, National Craft Month, Irish American Heritage Month, Women's History Month, Music in Schools Month and National Frozen Food Month.

Significant Dates

- March 1 is National Pig Day
- National Anthem Day and If Pets Had Thumbs Day is March 3
- March 6 is Dentists Day
- March 11 is Johnny Appleseed Day
- 3.14 is National Pi Day
- The Ides of March is March 15
- Freedom of Information Day is March 16
- St. Patrick's Day is March 17
- International Earth Day and the Vernal Equinox are on March 20
- National Goof Off Day is March 22

rossalmanac.com/journal

ART NOTES

In the galleries

FRANK will showcase the work of the gallery's 22 member artists with its 2nd

Annual Member Spotlight this month. The program offers each member artist additional exhibit space to present a more complete and representative body of work.

In Saxapahaw, Murry Handler's gestural abstract paintings and filmy figural works on paper are on display at Saxapahaw Art Gallery March 2-31.

Also this month, "Cellular Obscura - The Cellphone Photographs of Shawn Rocco" is on

display at the Ackland Museum Store through April 7. Rocco, an award-winning staff photojournalist, produced the work for the exhibit using a Motorola E815 cell phone camera.

At The ArtsCenter, "Gypsy Witch Up-Cycled Art and Craft" continues in the East End Gallery through March 31. The craft shop is a collaborative effort of several local artists working in a variety of media to reuse and re-purpose found materials in their work and imagery. "Dream Acts: The Abbey Court Community Project" is on display in the Center Gallery this month. The environmental assemblage of video, photograph and object seeks to share the creative energy of Abbey Court while exploring the boundaries that shape our perception of and interaction with environment and community. Receptions for both exhibits will be held during the 2ndFriday Artwalk on March 9 from 6 to 9 p.m.

Up in Hillsborough, "Totems and Talismans," a sculpture invitational exhibit,

is on display at Eno Gallery through April 22. Eleven artists will exhibit their conteminterpretaporary tions of totems and talismans as sculptures created with clay, wood, metal and symbols that in their relationship to each other evoke a spiritual meaning. The work of lo-

cal mystery artists, including Jane Moore and Nancy Tuttle May, will be



A painting by a local mystery artist to be sold at The Women's Center's annual art exhibition on March 2



Daniel Essig's "Amber," on display at Eno Gallery

Filer, Mary Rountree Duncan Hoge's "Cathedral," one of the pieces on display at the Fleet Feet corporate offices as part of a collection of photographs from national parks across the country

featured at Top of the Hill's Great Room on March 2 from 7 to 10 p.m. for The Women's Center's annual art exhibition and sale, "Through Women's Eyes, By Women's Hands." Women artists from across North Carolina were given canvasses on which to create their unique contributions, and artists' names will be revealed after each piece is purchased.

At the Fleet Feet corporate offices, "American Landscapes," an exhibit of photos by Citizen art director Duncan Hoge, is on display this month, with a reception during the 2ndFriday Artwalk on March 9 from 6 to 9 p.m. The photos, taken during a cross-country road trip, are meant to inspire a sense of adventure and an appreciation of America's diverse landscapes.

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BY MARY PARKER SONIS



Red-shouldered hawks often feast on frogs, lizards and snakes.

PHOTO BY MARY PARKER SONIS

THE DAY SHIFT

the barred owl. By 4:30 p.m., the barred owl has awakened from its afternoon rest and is generally perched low over the creek, actively hunting for crayfish and amphibians.

When the sun comes up, it is time for the day shift to take over, and the calls of the red-shouldered hawk can be heard echoing over the trails.

Bolin Creek is home to many redshouldered hawks. It is an ideal habitat for this predator. We have all probably heard the very vocal kee-aw kee-aw call as we wandered the trails of Bolin Creek.

Last year, I spent a good amount of time monitoring three different nests along the edges of the creek. Red-shouldered hawks tend to use the same location year after year, and they are easy to locate because they are so very vocal.

In February the courting begins. This hawk is a medium-sized buteo that can be identified from above by its deep rustcolored shoulder patch. In flight, you will notice its orange and white chest markings along with a black tail striped with their siblings as far as size and access to

Evening time at the creek belongs to narrow white bands. They are easy to observe because unlike the red-tailed hawk, which tends to remain high in the canopy, the red-shouldered hawk often perches on a low branch near the creek. From this low roost, it is ready to pounce on small rodents like voles or shrews, or, as I have observed countless times, the numerous snakes that live both in the creek and in the leaf litter along the banks of the creek. The hawks also frequently take frogs and lizards. Like the barred owl, a red-shouldered hawk will often linger on the ground and dig through the leaf litter hoping to stir up a small snake or salamander.

By April, the eggs of the red-shouldered hawk will have hatched. Clutch size is generally between three and five nestlings, and you might notice that there are often different-sized young in the nest. Some species of birds will not begin incubation until all the eggs have been laid; the red-shouldered hawk incubates immediately, as each egg is laid, which means that some of the young will hatch before others, giving them some advantage over

food is concerned.

My favorite observation spot last year was at Wilson Park, where a pair of redshouldered hawks nested near the picnic shelter. This very public location had its advantages and its drawbacks for the hawk pair. The shelter in spring is a very busy place, with endless picnics and birthday parties at all hours of the day. You could hear the tension level escalate for the hawks when a party gathered. Toddlers were wheeling clattery toys beneath the nest, and barbecue smoke was billowing into the air. The hawks were on edge. They flew over the shelter and called out to each other repeatedly. Sometimes the tension simply became too much, and a hawk would dive down and swoop some unsuspecting soul at the edge of the crowd. You may wonder what could possibly be the advantage for the hawks to build a nest in such a busy location.

The answer, of course, was right at the shelter. Barbecuing for a large number of guests makes for a crowded cook space, and occasionally a burger or chicken wing would drop off the grill, with the hawk in

the air before the food hit the dirt. Wildlife will take advantage of whatever can be found, and the case of the hawks at the picnic shelter was not so different from the sightings of bears at trash dumpsters.

Locals were also used to discarding uneaten grill items onto the grass just to watch the hawks make their spectacular drops to the ground. It is often confusing to know when it is appropriate to feed wildlife. We are encouraged to put out birdfeeders for our songbirds but discouraged from feeding deer and bears, as it can endanger both the humans and the wildlife. In the case of the hawks, it is hard to determine whether our habits are interfering with the natural order of the forest or merely allowing a predator to do some ordinary scavenging to supplement its diet.

In the scenario of the hawks and the picnickers, the hawks made peace with the multiple intrusions into their nest territory and gained some advantage during nesting time, when food demands are very high. At more peaceful non-party hours, the hawks managed to bring in a regular supply of reptiles and amphibians to their young. It was interesting to me that snakes were by far the most predominant item on the menu.

Wildlife often makes strange alliances when there is a proven need. The case of the crow and the red-shouldered hawk is a prime example of this uncharacteristic cooperation. Most birds hate crows, which are egg stealers. They are also intelligent guardians of their territory. When I want to locate a great horned owl, I listen for the sound of the mobbing crows. As the most dangerous aerial predator of the forest, a great horned owl will bring complete cooperation from all other birds.

In the midst of a crow mobbing, I have seen red-shouldered hawks calling out the kee-aw endlessly. I had thought that the crows were mobbing the hawk until I investigated further and found a wellcamouflaged great horned owl at the center of all the excitement. The calling of the red-shouldered hawk was not distress over being mobbed; rather, he was simply joining the crows in driving away the owl. It is surely an uneasy alliance, as crows steal eggs, and hawks predate nesting crows. Stated in political terms, "the enemy of my enemy is my friend."

In the case of the hawks at the picnic shelter, perhaps we are seeing another strange alliance. All the dropped food left behind by the human occupiers of the park is an attractant to rodents as well as hawks. The hawks occasionally swoop the guests and steal a bit of chicken, but they also keep the outdoor food area free of mice and rats. Sounds like a pretty fair deal to me.

Special thanks this month to Tom Giduz, a local birder and friend, who was the first person to locate the Wilson Park nest last spring.

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LITERARY

Carrboro Branch Library

Ongoing Events — Storytime, March 3, 10, 17 10:30am, Ages 1–5

Art Show — "In the Spirit: Photographic Images of Poignant Moments in the Life Of Our Community," continues through March 27

Chapel Hill Public Library

Ongoing Events – Story Time, Time for Toddlers, Family Story Time, Computer Classes, Baby Time, Knitting for Charity 968-2780 **Friends Booksale** – Members only March 2;

Open to public March 3, 9am-5pm and March 4, 1-5pm

Books Sandwich In – To discuss *Brooklyn*, by Colm Boibin. 11:30pm Free

Meet the Author Tea – Jane Tesh to discuss Stolen Hearts. March 12, 3:30pm Free

Monday Night Book Club — To discuss *Conversations With Myself*, by Nelson Mandela. March 19. 7pm Free

The Waterlilies – Rock musical performance for families. March 25, 3pm Free

Pajama Story Time – March 28, 7pm Free

Chatham County Community Library

Ongoing Events – Storytime, Aspiring Authors' Workshop, Crafting Group, Coupon Exchange, Computer Classes 545-8086

Book Club — For ages 7-10, to discuss *Love*, *Ruby Lavender* by Deborah Wiles. March 1, 4pm Free

Read Across America – A celebration of Dr. Seuss' birthday by reading *The Lorax* and making Trufula trees. March 2, 4pm Free

Adult Book Club — To discuss *The Hare* With Amber Eyes, by Edmund de Waal. March 6, 6:45pm Free

Book Sale - March 29-31, 9am-7pm

McIntyre's

Matthew Pearl – To read from *The Technolo*gists. March 3, 11am

Dr. Nortin Hadler — To read from *Rethinking Aging: Growing Old and Living Well in an Overtreated Society.* **March 4, 2pm**

Ron Tanner – To read from *From Animal House* to Our House. March 10, 11am

Tom Spector — To read from *Two Gardens: How* to Cultivate Healing. March 18, 2pm

Noises Off – A discussion with members of the cast and artistic team of the PlayMakers

production. March 19, 6pm **Poetry Series** – Featuring M. Scott Douglass, Valerie Nieman and Jodi Barnes. March 25, 2pm

Flyleaf

Katherine Charron – To discuss her book Freedon's Teacher: The Life of Septima Clark. March 1, 10:30am

Philip Meyer – To read from his memoir Paper Route: Finding My Way to Precision Journalism. March 2, 7pm

R.K. Hardy – To read from his book *The Cheetah Diaries.* March 3, 2pm

Margaret Maron — To talk about her mystery books, characers and writing process. March 4, 2pm

Mark Hyman – To discuss his book *The Blood* Sugar Solution. March 6, 1pm

Alexandra Styron — To read from her biography of her father, William Styron, *Reading My Father*. March 6, 7pm

Margot Livese – To read from *The Flight of*

Gemma Hardy. March 8, 7pm

Deep Dish Discussion — To discuss Jennifer Egan's A Visit from the Goon Squad, in conjunction with the theater's production of The Baltimore Waltz. March 12, 7pm Barbara Wright — To read from Crow, for ages 9-12. March 16, 7pm

Photographs Not Taken – A discussion of essays by prominent photographers of images they couldn't take or were unable to capture. March 19, 7pm

UNC Humanities — Robert Jenkins presents A Look at Postwar Developments in the Former Yugoslavia. March 20, 3:30pm \$18/20 UNC Humanities in Action — Steven May to discuss Ethics and Corporate Social Responsibility: Virtue or Vice? March 21, 3:30pm \$18/20 J&P Voelkel — Present *The Jaguar Stones*. Ages 10-13. March 22, 7pm

Poetry Reading — With Maureen Sherbondy, Jessie Carty and Anne Barnhill. March 25, 2pm **UNC Humanties** — Annegret Fauser presents Sounds of War and Revolution: A Musical Perspective on the 20th Century. March 27, 3:30pm \$18/20

UNC Humanities — Andrew Reynolds presents The Arab Spring: Uprisings, Revolutions, and War. March 28, 5:30pm. \$18/20

THEATER

Ackland Art Museum

Activated Art – Four 10-minute plays, each inspired by a different piece of art in the Ackland's permanent collection, written by Dana Coen, Clyde Edgerton, Marianne Gingher and Daniel Wallace. March 2-4 8pm ackland.org The ArtsCenter

Acts of Witness — Features two theatrical events about living under social injustice, performed by Scrificial Poets. Athol Fugard's *Blood Knot* is the story of two South African brothers whose lives are twisted by the madness of apartheid. *Poetic Portraits of a Revolution* is a muti-media documentary performace about the events of the Arab Spring. March 2–20, various times artscenterlive.org

David Gonzalez – Presents *Cuentos: Tales from the Latino World*, with stories of people and cultures of the Spanish-speaing world. March 8, 10am for K-3; 11:30am for elementary school **Transactors Improv** – Spring Fling. March 23, 8pm

Ánimalia — Hobey Ford's foam puppets explore the world of animals. Grades PreK-3, March 30-31 artscenterlive.org

Playmakers

The Making of A King – *Henry IV* and *Henry V*. Paul Green Theatre, Through March 4 playmakers.org

Deep Dish Theatre

The Baltimore Waltz – Follows a brother and sister who flee a frightening medical diagnosis by embarking on a fantastical trip across Europe. Through March 17 deepdishtheatre.org

DSI Comedy

Carolina's Funniest Comic — Thirty-six of the funniest comedians from around the state compete for \$1,500 in cash and prizes. Thursdays and Fridays, 9pm \$12 **Mister Diplomat** — Fridays,10:30pm Free

Harold Night – March 3 9pm \$12

CageMatch — March 10, 17, 24, 31 9pm \$12 Improv Slam — Fridays, 7:30pm \$12 Back Bar Comedy — Top of The Hill, Tuesdays, 9pm Free

DANCE

Carrboro DanceJam – Freestyle dance. Balanced Movement Studio, first Fridays 8pm 968–8776

Contra Dance – Sponsored by FootLoose/Contrazz. Carrboro Century Center. March 3, lesson 7:30pm/dance 8pm \$9

Contra Dance – With music by Shamrockers. Carrboro Century Center, March 9 7:30pm \$9 tcdancers.org

Contra Dance — Third Friday dance sponsored by Carolina Song and Dance Association. Carrboro Century Center, March 16 csda-dance. org \$8

Swing Dance — Carrboro Century Center, second Saturdays, lesson 7:30pm/dance 8pm triangleswingdance.org

Square Dance – Caller Nancy Mamlin, music by The Hushpuppies. Carrboro Century Center, March 2 lesson 7:30pm/dance 8pm Free ncsquares.com

Community Dance – And potluck, presented by Triangle Country Dancers. Binkley Baptist Church, March 31 5:30pm \$5/person, \$12/ family

Triangle StarDusters Ballroom – Couples and singles are welcome. Fred Astaire Dance Studio, second Saturdays 8-11pm \$7/StarDusters members and students, \$12/others 942-7232



The ArtsCenter For more information or to order tickets call 929-2787 x201 or go to artscenterlive.org

MARCH/APRIL 2012 AT THE ARTSCENTER

CONCERTS

AMERICAN ROOTS SERIES THE BOXCARS

Friday, March 16 8:00 pm \$17/\$19, members \$15 MOUNTAIN HEART Saturday, March 17 8:00 pm \$23/\$25, members \$21 LEO KOTTKE Tuesday, March 27 8:00 pm \$30/\$32, members \$28 DARRELL SCOTT Saturday, March 31 8:00 pm \$19/\$21, members \$17

CELTIC CONCERT SERIES

SCYTHIAN Thursday, March 15 8:30 pm \$25/\$27, members \$23 LUNASA with LEYLA McCALLA Friday, March 23 8:00 pm \$24/\$26, members \$22 TANNAHILL WEAVERS (This show is at CASBAH, 1007 West Main Street, Durham) Friday, April 27 8:00 pm \$19/\$21, members \$17

CAT'S CRADLE PRESENTS KIMYA DAWSON with PALEFACE and

YOUR HEART BREAKS Tuesday, April 3 8:30 pm \$12/\$14

STAGE

TRANSACTORS IMPROV: SPRING FLING! Friday, March 23 8:00 pm \$14/\$16, members \$12, students/ seniors \$7/\$9 ACTS OF WITNESS: Blood Knots by Athol Fugard and Poetic Portraits of a Revolution presented by Sacrificial Poets Staged in rotation March 2-11 and 19-20 \$15/\$18, members \$13, students/ seniors \$10 CARRBORO MODERN DANCE COMPANY: FORWARD FORWARD Friday, April 6 8:00 pm \$12/\$14, members \$10, students \$8/\$10, seniors \$10/\$12 GREASE presented by Pauper Players April 13-17, 8:00 nightly/Sunday matinee 2:30 \$10/\$12, members \$8, students/ seniors/UNC faculty & staff \$5/\$7

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From left, authors Robert Goolrick, Marisa de los Santos, Kevin Wilson, Daniel Wallace, Lee Smith and Natasha Thetheway at the recent Orange County Literacy Council Writers for Readers luncheon PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

Casio Noell (left) chuckles as volunteer lan Morse relates some of the adventures the pair has had while working together through the Orange County Literacy Council. **PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER**

READING ALWAYS HEI PS

've often thought that the ability to read is one of the things I'd most hate to lose. If my memory started to fail, and, like my father, I became unable to follow the storyline of a novel or understand a magazine article, what would I do all day? How on earth would I occupy my time?

So the statistics cited by Robert Goolrick at the Orange County Literacy Council's fifth annual Writers for Readers luncheon are dismaying, to say the least. After describing the "flush of shame" he felt at being unable to read a Greek newspaper during a sojourn in that country, the author of *A Reliable Wife* noted that 15 percent of adults in this country are functionally illiterate. They are people who experience the shame of being unable to read, and the crippling effects of that inability, on a daily basis. Goolrick asked why the richest country on earth ranks 40th among nations in its literacy rate.

Good question. But it is heartening that organizations like the Orange County Literacy Council are working hard to remedy illiteracy, and that they're spreading the word through events like their recent book and author luncheon.

Along with Goolrick, this year's luncheon featured Pulitzer Prize-winning poet and author Natasha Trethewey (*Domestic Work, Native Guard*) and bestselling authors Kevin Wilson (*The Family Fang*) and Marisa de los Santos (*Love Walked In, Belong to Me*). Honorary chair was Lee Smith, author (most recently) of *Mrs. Darcy and the Blue-Eyed Stranger*, and the highly entertaining emcee was Daniel Wallace (*Big Fish*).

Volunteer tutor Ian Morse and his student Casio Noell started things off by talking about their relationship and its benefits. "This program, it changed a life like mine," Noell stated, noting that he'd gone from being a high school dropout who got involved in gang violence to being on the verge of obtaining his GED.

Trethewey then spoke of how the power of words first grabbed her through a story about a St. Bernard with a cask of brandy that saved a man trapped in the snow. Being only in the third grade, she'd never had brandy – but the words made her feel as though she could taste it then and there. That's when she knew she wanted to be a writer.

De los Santos told of how her 12-yearold son developed a crush on Anne Frank, a girl whose diary made her probably more real to him than many others in his life.

"The best books," she said, "give us the ability to emerge from them ... with more empathy for those around us."

That point was echoed by Kevin Wilson when he described how reading to his 4-year-old son enabled the boy to realize that "people aren't simply bad or good, but in between." Growing up, the author had found it terrifying to be in a room full of people, so the books he read even while brushing his teeth became, in some ways, guides to how to live.

"Books offered a safe place for me to interact with others outside myself," he said.

Wilson brought the lunch crowd to its feet when, speaking of struggles with anxiety and Tourette syndrome that sometimes led him to be hospitalized, he told us that, "One of the things that always helps is reading."

We shouldn't forget that. Reading always helps – so we need to do whatever we can to help people learn to read.

Another opportunity to support the valuable work of the Literacy Council comes to the Friday Center on March 24 at 8 p.m., when literacy students will share their personal stories and Wallace's short film *Two-Legged Rat Bastards* will have its world premiere. Tickets are \$50 and include beer and wine as well as dessert. Check it out at themonti. org



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Sun 3/4 2pm A conversation with mystery writer MARGARET MARON

Thu 3/8 7pm MARGOT LIVESEY discusses her novel The Flight of Gemma Hardy







HOP LINE

BY ANDY DODSON

BEWARE THE IDES OF MARCH

(unless they come bearing beer)

efore the modern advent of Spring Break, the 31 days of March contained only one holiday centered on excess: the 17th. St. Patrick's Day has been observed since at least the seventh century, not long after the patron saint of Ireland's death in 461 CE. I am quite certain the emphasis on wearing green came much later; however, the propensity to binge on food and drink may have always been a part of the festivities.

Here's one for the bar stools: St. Patrick was not, in fact, Irish. He was born in England and taken to Ireland as a slave. He lived there for about 10 years, escaped and went back to England. St. Patrick then became a priest, returned to the land of his bondage and began proselytizing to the Celtic pagans. In hindsight, this may have been a brilliant plan for revenge that just took centuries to actualize, but that's just my theory.

Let's fast-forward a few centuries to the Irish Potato Famine of the 1840s and the mass migration of the Irish to America and a few other parts of the world. Historically, Irish Catholics have used St. Patrick's Day as a oneday reprieve from Lent - the season before Easter during which the faithful abstain from less virtuous behaviors thus the heavy consumption. Between the drinking and the parades, it was only a matter of time before this holiday caught on with the rest of the U.S. Now we dye our rivers and beer green and trot out any number of Irish cultural stereotypes in celebration. For the record, no breweries, at least those of beer available in North Carolina, actually make green beer; rather, usually the bartender will just use green food coloring on some sort of light American-style lager. I only mention this because, surprisingly, this is a frequent question in the beer community leading up to St. Paddy's Day.

Without question the signature Irish beer, at least in the mind of Americans, is Guinness, the iconic Irish-style stout that comes in the 16-ounce can with the cool ball inside. However, in Ireland today, lager sales account for more than half of the total beer sold. With that in mind, let's look at a fantastic lager made by Rogue, the now legendary craft brewers from Oregon. Every spring they brew up Kells Irish-style lager. Originally named after a city in Northern Ireland, I believe now the beer is simply labeled as Rogue Irish Style Lager. Straw-colored and bright, this lager resembles a European-style pilsner, and drinks just as crisp and clean with a hint of apples on the finish. It's available only in bombers and pairs perfectly with a hamburger fresh off the grill, some friends and a sunny afternoon.

It would be blasphemy for me to write about the patron saint of the Emerald Isle and not mention one true Irish stout. Maybe it's my tendency to buck the mainstream, but my preference is Murphy's. It costs less than both Guinness and O'Hara's, and it doesn't short you on the flavor. Murphy's pours dark brown with a smooth creamy head, like the foam on café mocha. It's chocolaty, a scoach bitter and surprisingly silky. In four-packs of cans, Murphy's tends to be just as available as its counterparts, but it's a shame that most of the local tap handles are dominated by Guinness.

The final beer to round out our St. Paddy's Day session is an American riff on a ubiquitous style sometimes called an Irish red or just simply a red. This particular offering comes from our good friends at Lagunitas in California. This year, Lagunitas bottled its Imperial Red Ale in six-packs as opposed to bombers, which means that we get more deliciousness for just a slightly larger investment. This ale sports a gorgeous copper color, signature Lagunitas hop aroma and a fluffy cream-colored head. It has a round malt body with a stiff hop backbone that goes down alarmingly smooth considering its 7.8 percent ABV. Treat this red devil with care and be sure to pair with a big meal – perhaps a nice pork roast with carrots and potatoes or even just spicy chicken wings and garlic fries.

However you choose to observe this ancient Irish holiday, please do so in moderation; failing that, call a cab, keep your pants on and maybe try one of these great beers.



PHOTO COURTESY OF XPRESTONX@FLICKR.COM



PHOTO COURTESY OF KELLBAILEY@FLICKR.COM







Chyenna Jessee, owner of Jessee's Coffee & Bar

hen Chyenna Jessee moved here five years ago, her longtime love of coffee led her to open a coffee shop despite stiff competition in the area. Focusing on fresh-roasted coffee and "simple, good food," Jessee's Coffee & Bar has certainly offered something more than just coffee since opening its doors in 2009, with a variety of popular breakfast, lunch and brunch options, as well as live music performances on its patio in warmer months.

"The Kind Avocado Sandwich is one of the most popular options for lunch at Jessee's," with a "combination of smooth avocado and tangy homemade dressing" that "make it a Jessee's favorite." –*Chyenna Jessee*

KIND AVOCADO SANDWICH

FETA VINAIGRETTE DRESSING

INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/2 cups champagne vinegar
- 2 tablespoons dried basil
- 1 tablespoon marjoram
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 1/2 cups extra virgin olive oil 2 cups feta

METHOD

Whisk together vinegar, basil, marjoram, sugar and salt. Slowly drizzle in olive oil, stirring constantly. Crumble in feta and mix well.

BASIL AIOLI

INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound fresh basil
- 3 cups olive oil
- 1 gallon mayonnaise
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice

METHOD

In a large pan, heat oil on low. Pick the leaves off the stems of fresh basil, lightly bruising to release flavor. Add basil to oil and let simmer for 30 minutes. Remove from heat, let cool and strain. Combine the basil oil with mayonnaise, garlic and lemon juice. Whisk to mix.

SANDWICH

INGREDIENTS

- 2 slices of multi-grain bread 2 slices of ripe tomato
- 3/4 of a ripe avocado, sliced
- 1 cup mixed greens
- 1 tablespoon feta vinaigrette
- 1 tablespoon basil aioli

METHOD

Toss a handful of mixed greens in a bowl with the feta vinaigrette dressing until lightly coated. Lightly toast bread, spread basil aioli on one slice and top with sliced tomato. Load up the other side with fresh avocado and the mixed greens. Place together, and cut in half.

PHOTO BY ALICIA STEMPER

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BY KIRK ROSS

A FEW ITEMS ABOUT SEAFOOD AND BARBECUE

SEAFOOD

Last week, North Carolina Sea Grant and Saltwater Connections put together a Local Catch Summit to help the state's nascent local catch networks learn better ways to get their message out. Set up to support local fishing families and preserve fishing traditions on our coast, the catch groups function much like agricultural co-ops. The focus has been on trying to get consumers to be more aware of the quality and variety of local seafood. They've also worked to encourage restaurants, especially those along the coast, to feature the local catch. In the Triangle and beyond, the groups have tried to improve distribution with the creation of more community-supported fisheries like Walking Fish and Core Sound Seafood.

North Carolina's local catch movement began in Carteret County in 2005 and has since spread to most of the coast. Since then, Carteret Catch has been joined by Brunswick Catch, Outer Banks Catch and The Ocracoke Working Watermen's Association. An umbrella group, North Carolina Catch, was recently formed to try to find ways to combine some of the local groups' efforts, particularly getting the products out to the rest of the state and beyond its borders.

There are interesting parallels between the sustainable-agriculture movement and what's happening now in commercial fishing. The challenge for both small farms and small fishing operations is the same – connect with consumers willing to pay a premium for something that is healthier, is better for the environment and strengthens traditional foodways.

BARBECUE

It was one of those mild winter days, this one a little damper and warmer than most due to an early-morning shower. Traffic was light on U.S. 70 and I was making good time on my way to the seafood summit in Morehead City. By 8 a.m. skies were clearing and the patches of fog burning off. When I pulled into Wilber's parking



An open fire of hickory logs creates hickory coals used to cook whole hogs at Wilber's Barbecue in Goldsboro.

PHOTO BY KIRK ROSS

lot, the hickory smoke mixed with damp air was overpowering. But at Goldsboro's famed barbecue joint, there was no wrangling anything other than a biscuit, which turned out to be pretty darn good. They don't start serving barbecue until 10 a.m., and when they do, they serve a lot of it.

Wilber's is one of a dwindling number of places that still cooks whole hogs over hickory coals. Their 'cue has a lot more variety, crispy bits and smoke flavor.

If you look around back you can usually see a set of old coals smoldering in the ash pile and an open fire of hickory logs ready to be tapped for fresh coals. They still had a pretty good fire going when I stopped again that night on the way back home.

STATE SCORES BIG IN FOOD GRANTS

Chapel Hill Creamery was one of 10 agriculture operations that scored big in the recent round of valueadded product grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The farm, just west of Carrboro, received \$180,000. Owners Portia McKnight and Flo Hawley plan to use the funds on improvements and equipment to expand their growing line of cheeses.

In all, North Carolina farms received more than \$1.3 million to produce and market value-added products from strawberries, honey, wine, native plants and trout.



BY MARGOT C. LESTER ON FILM



Joe Schenkenberg's Wiggle Room, a stop-motion animated short, was a hit at last November's Carrboro Film Festival. PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE SCHENKENBERG

WRITER/DIRECTOR PROFILE: JOE SCHENKENBERG

One of the most popular films at last November's Carrboro Film Festival was *Wiggle Room*, a stop-motion animated short that won best animation, best character and an audience award.

The film is the brainchild of local writer/ director Joe Schenkenberg.

"One night my girlfriend and I were thinking about making a film and messing around with stop motion," he recalls. "Somehow, I started talking about how I used to get creeped out by slugs on the steps of my house. My parents poured salt on them and that freaked me out. I felt bad for them. Suddenly, we had a sympathetic character that was a slug."

Sympathetic? OK. Simple? No.

PRODUCTION VALUES

"I thought it would be a simple blob of slime moving around and that we'd have it done in around a week," he laughs. Nine months later, the film was finished. Though incredibly time consuming – frames roll, then stop, elements adjusted, frames roll again, repeat – the painstaking attention to detail and the (*ahem*) sluggish pace felt familiar.

"I was already spending hours to get one shot right on the other stuff I was shooting, so this made sense to me."

The hardest part, by far, was creating the adorable little leading man. There are a couple-dozen shots on Schenkenberg's website, moviemagicnow.com, that chronicle Little Slugworth's evolution into the cute-if-not-cuddly character (click on the Photos tab).

"It took a month and a half just to get the slug right," he explains. "And after one second of animation, it would be deformed and I'd have to redo it. Just the eyes could take 30 minutes to do."

Compared to that, making a saltshaker appear evil was a cinch, even for a firsttime stop-motion filmmaker.

A self-described perfectionist, Schenkenberg wanted to shoot the film in an actual environment, not a diorama, which is the industry standard for this genre. (*Santa Claus is Coming to Town* and your other Rankin-Bass stop-motion classics were shot on mini-sets.) He painted his kitchen, procured some fun utensils and *objets* and started shooting. Kendall Music, the aforementioned girlfriend, cowrote the story, helped with the lighting and donated some of her artwork for the kitchen walls. Graham Jones provided the score.

The result is a beautifully shot film in wide-angle and full of saturated colors. It's a vibrant world of opportunity and danger for the little slug who has a fun romp around the kitchen before meeting his demise.

BACKSTORY

Schenkenberg got into movies at age 10, when he started buying movie scores and soundtracks.

"I didn't grow up watching much stop-

motion," Schenkenberg says. He found inspiration for *Wiggle Room* in modern stop-motion masters like Henry Selick (*Coraline, James and the Giant Peach*), who uses beautiful animation to tell compelling stories.

"There's something about stop-motion animation that you can't mimic with CGI [computer-generated imagery] – that jitteriness, the imperfection. It feels real. It's enduring."

At Appalachian State University, he took a few Adobe Photoshop classes, got a little video camera and shot some footage with his buddies. That turned into an Internet business selling stock video footage online. His penchant for finding great items at local thrift shops and reselling them on eBay not only supplements his income but also makes production design for his films a lot easier. Schenkenberg also tends bar from time to time.

"I'm a fan of great storytelling – *The NeverEnding Story, Pee-wee's Big Adventure* – and escapist films, like those Pixar shorts," he explains. "They pull you from happy to sad through the film and then back to fun for the credits. *Wiggle Room*'s like that. It makes you feel like a kid again."

FESTIVAL CIRCUIT

Since its premiere at the Carrboro Film Festival, *Wiggle Room* has been accepted to other events, including the Indie Grits Festival (Columbia, S.C.), the D.C. Independent Film Festival and the Savannah International Animation Festival. Schenkenberg is most excited about the film's recent selection to the Atlanta Film Festival, which is an Oscar qualifier. Winners of the "Best Live Action Narrative Short" and "Best Animated Short" categories are eligible for Academy Award consideration.

Despite the acclaim, Schenkenberg's content to keep plying his trade in the Southern Part of Heaven, where he's lived since third grade.

"Carrboro is a great community for film work," he says. "People are always working on something creative." And that suits him. "My goal is to keep making films and keep improving."

Photos available for download here: ttms.box.com/s/l9i4153zk73pcbxsfux1

All images courtesy Joe Schenkenberg



The slug Joe Schenkenberg created for *Wiggle Room*, his stop-motion animated short film PHOTO COURTESY OF JOE SCHENKENBERG

SPOTLIGHT



Mary Forester, Kit FitzSimons and Jesse R. Gephart perform *The Baltimore Waltz* at Deep Dish Theater through March 17. PHOTO BY JONATHAN YOUNG

The Baltimore Waltz

For only being comprised of three actors, Deep Dish Theater's production of *The Baltimore Waltz* is a surprising whirlwind of a play, filled with an assortment of quirky characters.

The two main characters, siblings Anna and Carl, travel across Europe on what they believe is their last hoorah together, as Anna has contracted AIDS, or as it is referred to in the play, "Acquired Toilets Disease." In their travels, the two continuously encounter a mysterious third man, who shows up in different roles to accommodate whatever the siblings might need at the moment.

While the play initially may simply seem like a comedic journey, an awareness of the circumstances that influenced its creation enlightens viewers to the tragedy laced throughout the scenes. Written by Paula Vogel and first produced in 1992, Vogel penned the play after her brother died from complications due to AIDS.

Deep Dish Theater Company, located in University Mall, will perform *The Baltimore Waltz* to celebrate the play's 20th anniversary. The show, directed by Chip Rodgers, runs through March 17. Tickets are \$21 for adults and \$19 for seniors, with a \$2 discount for shows on Wednesday and Thursday.

For more information visit deepdishtheater.org, or call 968-1515 for reservations.



SPOTLIGHT

Tennis

If you shed a few tears when Tennis cancelled its spring show last year, get ready for the best news you've heard all week – seriously. The bopping minimalist indie band will be at Local 506 on Friday, March 9.

Tennis' first studio album, *Cape Dory*, released last year, is love at first listen. Track one will immediately take you aboard a smooth-sailing boat, with the band's soft yet rhythmic bass line, while Alaina Moore's vocals roll out between waves. Before you know it, you'll have listened to the whole album – twice.

Mesmerizing and soulful, but light on the heart, it's no surprise that Tennis was founded by a love duo, vocalist Moore and husband Patrick Riley. Their surf-pop sound makes every day filled with sunlight, especially the rainy ones.

But wait, it gets better – Tennis' second album, released in January, was produced by and features The Black Keys' drummer Patrick Carney. A new side of Tennis is introduced on *Young & Old;* Carney adds his upbeat and intimate style to shape a beautiful undercurrent to the album.

Tickets are \$9 in advance and \$11 at the door. Be there to greet this dreamy band from Denver. If you're not convinced yet, take a sneak peak: fatpossum.com/ artists/tennis



SPOTLIGHT



Miniature Tigers

Easygoing indie band Miniature Tigers will bring its pop sounds to the Nightlight on Wednesday, March 21.

Growing out of Brooklyn, N.Y., Miniature Tigers have orchestrated a style that glides between indie-pop and dance rock, receiving national attention for its contagious sound. The band's upbeat rhythm and playful lyrics will make this a performance you don't want to miss.

Even more exciting is that Miniature Tigers will be joined by Geographer, The Chain Gang of 1974 and Pretty & Nice. These artists will add an electronic spin to the evening, making it an inevitable dance-fest.

The Nightlight's intimate atmosphere and enigmatic vibes create the perfect stage for an audience to feel the life of Miniature Tigers and the opening talent. Come be a part of this performance, and add a spark to your week on this Wednesday-evening show.



MUSIC CALENDAR MARCH $\bullet \bullet \bullet$

THE HEARTLESS BASTARDS CAT'S CRADLE: MARCH 1



ACKLAND ART MUSEUM Fracking Music! Part 2 (3/18)

THE ARTSCENTER

Triangle Jazz Orchestra (3/7) Scythian (3/15) The Boxcar, The Hellbenders (3/16) Mountain Heart (3/17) Lunasa, Leyla McCalla (3/23) Leo Kottke (3/27) Darrell Scott (3/31)

CAT'S CRADLE

Heartless Bastards, The Fling, Flesh Wounds (3/1) Wild Kingdom Rave (3/2) Fun, Sleeper Agent (3/3) Cults, Mrs. Magician (3/4) Boyce Avenue, Secondhand Serenade, After Party (3/6) Fanfarlo, Young Man (3/9) Good Old War, Belle Brigade, Family of the Year, Willy Mason (3/10) Yellow Dubmarine (3/14) Gomez, Hey Rosetta (3/15) The Devil Makes Three, Phillip Roebuck (3/16) Bowerbirds, Mandolin Orange (3/17) The Infamous Stringdusters, Levi Lowrey (3/20) Neon Indian, Purity Ring (3/21) Youth Lagoon, Dana Buoy (3/23) Caltrop, Pipe, Black Skies, Dave Heumann (3/24) John Mark McMillan, Songs of Water, Jude Moses (3/25) Dom Kennedy (3/27) Toubab Krewe, Marco Benevento (3/30) Orquesta GarDel (3/31)

THE CAVE

Drunken Prayer, Turchi (3/1) Turntable Graveyard, Twilighter, New Town Drunks (3/2) Old Lady Bowers (3/4) Gangstagrass, Brnt Jordon (3/7) Timulus Package, Steph and The Boyfriends (3/9) Pagan Hellcats, Minor Stars, The Wicked Tomorrow, Courtesy Tier, The Private Pageant (3/10) Continental (3/11) Don and Brian, Blackwood and Wormy's Open jam for the Peeps (3/14) The Usuals (3/15) Mary Johnson Rockers and The Spark, R. Mutt, Epiphsis Foundation,

Vikingmoses (3/17) Old Lady Bowers (3/18) Paint Fumes, Royal Baths (3/21) Aquariums, Lance Whalen (3/22) Joe Taylor, Mikingmihrab (3/23) Triple Fret (3/24) Tin Pan (3/27) Don and Brian (3/28) Phil Venable, B-Side Project, The Bastages (3/29) Hearts of Knotty Pine, Grant Heart (3/30) Strange Little Folk, Some Army (3/31)

THE DEPOT

Dawn Michelle Williams (3/1) Blue52 (3/2) Country Bob and the Ruckus (3/3) Lise Uyanik (3/8) Ironing Board Sam (3/9) Aviva Enoch, North Columbia (3/10) Ellerbe Creek Band (3/15) Saludos Compay (3/17) Jonny Lipford (3/22) See No Weevil (3/23) Justin johnson (3/24) Rock Bottom (3/29) Mudbones (3/30) The Musicians (3/31)

THE FRANK

Danielle Koppel (3/1)

HILL HALL

Richard Luby, Clara Yang (3/1) Darryl Taylor (3/25) UNC Chamber Singers, Carolina Choir (3/30)

LINDA'S BAR AND GRILL Robert Griffin (3/1, 3/8, 3/15, 3/22, 3/29)

LOCAL 506

Tripp, Virgins, Morning Brigade (3/1) Dexter Romwebbeer Duo, Orbo and The Longshots (3/2) Craig Finn, Marcellus Hall and The Hostages (3/3) Gemma Ray, Paper Cup Sounds, Charlotte Parrott (3/5) Caveman, Quilt (3/6) Julia Nunes, Al Riggs and The Inconveniences (3/7) Milagres, The Big Sleep (3/8) Tennis, Hospitality (3/9) Born Gold, Kuhrye-OO (3/10) Narrows, Al Pigs Must Die (3/12) Leslie and The Ly's, Pennyhawk,

Ramona and The Swimsuits (3/13) The Diry Guv'nahs, Crowfield (3/15) Kenny Roby, Gasoline Stove, Jule Brown (3/16) David Choi, Russell Howard (3/18) Housse De Racket (3/19) The Business, The Downtown Struts, Bad Idea (3/20) Polica (3/22) John Howie Jr and The Rosewood Bluff, The Bayonets, Sarah Shook and The Devil (3/24) Frontier Ruckus, Hoots and Hellmouth (3/25) Guitar Wolf, The Transistors (3/28) Reptar, Quiet Hooves (3/29) John Wesley Harding, Rick Moody, Joe Pernice (3/30) Wvie Hunter and The Cazadores, Onward Soldiers, The Tomahawks (3/31)

MEMORIAL HALL

Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra and Choir (3/13-14) Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis (3/15) Herbie Hancock and His Band (3/22) North Carolina Symphony: Carmen Fantasy (3/25)

NIGHTLIGHT

Allies Emerge, Black Ashleys (3/1) Butterflies, Vibrant Green, Phil Cook and His Feat (3/2) No Eyes, Unholy Tongues, Monosland (3/3) Dustin Wong, Dope Body (3/6) JPhono, Cousins, Christopher Paul Stelling (3/7) Monsonia, Me You Us Them (3/8) Fan-Tan, Dead Leaf Echo, White Cascade (3/9) Lonnie Walker, Daytona, Joe Norkus (3/10) Fooligans, Bamfs, Those Manic Seas (3/11) Corn and the Colonels, Lucky Strikes, Steve Kruger (3/16) Rosie

Thomas (3/17) Miniature Tigers, Geographer, The Chain Gang of 1974, Pretty and Nice (3/21) Bitter Resolve, Backwoods Payback, King Giant/Order of the Owl (3/23) Blind Boy Payton (3/26) Last Year's Men, ZOMES, Wesley Wolfe, Snake (3/30) Shirlette and the Dynamite Brothers, Shit Horse, Ed Schrader's Music Beat (3/31)

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OPEN EYE CAFE

Felicia Rose (3/10) Laura Thurston (3/17) Creganne (3/23) Be the Moon (3/24) Boys in the Well (3/30)

PERSON RECITAL HALL

Darryl Taylor (3/21) Yin Zheng, Bin Huang (3/30-31)

THE STATION AT **SOUTHERN RAIL**

Titanium Rex (3/1) Alex Bowers and Friends, Keaton Lange and the Quite Fantastics, Tommy Gunz (3/2) Windy City Slim and the Sunny Land Rhythm Kings (3/3) Brad Maiani Trio, Sinful Savage Tigers, Mark Holland (3/8) Alex Bowers and Friends (3/9) Michael Rand and STAG (3/10) Mahalo Jazz (3/11) Gmish Klezmer Band (3/14) Brad Maiani Trio (3/22) Alex Bowers and Friends (3/23) Mahalo Jazz (3/25) Gmish Klezmer Band (3/28) Killer Filler (3/29) Alex Bowers and Friends (3/30)









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Ashley Melzer writes the Gimme Five! column for The Carrboro Citizen's MILL blog (carrborocitizen.com/mill/tag/gimmefive), in which she asks local bands five probing questions. Below is a selection of favorites from the column to date.



WILL HACKNEY OF TREKKY RECORDS

The Citizen: If your label were a game show, which would it be, and why? Hackney: I'm going to say Legends of the Hidden Temple because we have lots of great "teams," and occasionally we get surprised by the scary tribal man waiting behind the corner who might take our life pendant away (metaphorically).



MONTGOMERY MORRIS OF FLESH WOUNDS

TC: Who/what are a few inspirations or influences that would really surprise people? Morris: I like a lot of the big names in free jazz, and some of the early "new music" guys like Ornette Coleman, Shepp, Cherry, etc. get me excited about playing rock 'n' roll. Same with the weirder moments from Sun Ra, Roland Kirk, Trane and contemporary guys like Darius Jones and David S. Ware. Every day we try to write a song better than the worst Dead Moon song and can't do it, so that's a band that should be inspiration to everyone.



ELLIOTT MILLS **OF MAGNOLIA** KLEZMER

TC: If your band were a book, what would it be? Mills: I'm tempted to say Freud's Psychopathology of Everyday Life, but I'll pick a discovery book, Darwin's Voyage of the Beagle. In 1831 they put out a crew-call for a voyage of biologi-

cal discovery; in 1994 we put out a musician-call for a voyage of discovery in klezmer. The Beagle's crew had a variety of skills and backgrounds applicable to the voyage. Our musicians too had a variety of backgrounds/skills, but not in Klezmer. Darwin discovered new species and variations; the Magnolias discovered new musical scales, modes and instrumental techniques.

T_{HE} SPECTA CULAR CLOSING SOON! ⁰F VERNA CULAR Lari Pittman, Untitled #30 (A Decorated Chronology of Insistence and Resignation) (detail), 1994; acrylic, enamel, and glitter on two wood panels. Courtesy Regen Projects, Los Angeles.

14 JANUARY-18 MARCH 2012

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