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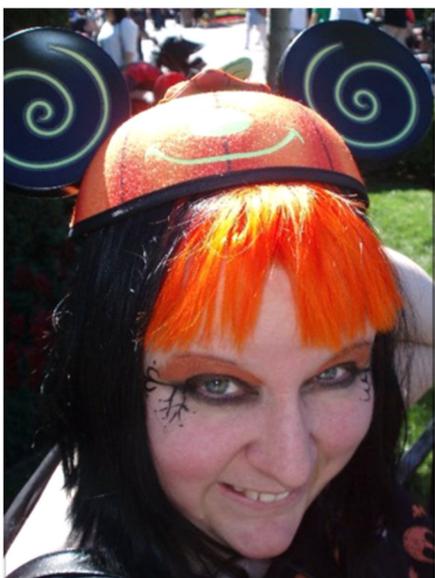
FROM THE EDITOR

For our ancestors, fall meant harvest and long days spent in the fields to stock up for the winter. Now, we still use the icons of harvest such as pumpkins, corn husks, and acorns to decorate, but they are more of a tradition than a necessity. *Unless of course you're talking about grandma's pumpkin pie!*

Pumpkins conjure memories of Trick or Treating, Thanksgiving dinner, and Jack-o-Lanterns on a cold, dark night. Maybe your family baked pumpkins seeds or bobbed for apples. Whatever the memories are, all we have to see is that bright orange squash and we are transported into the past.

My favorite fall memories are of taking my son to the pumpkin patch when he was little. Pumpkin patch trips bring something fun and magical to the season. I relive this joy each autumn by picking up a few dozen mini pumpkins and decorating them with a Sharpie for friends and family. I like to individualize each one to honor their personalities. I'll draw vampire smilies for the Halloween lovers, beauty queens for the fashionistas, and scattered musical notes for the music lovers. I always save a few for my husband and son to decorate so we can keep some around the house. It's a fun activity that can be enjoyed by the whole family, and it honors those you gift by showing them you pay attention to their passions.

This fall, whether you're sewing that last minute Halloween costume, honoring your ancestors for *Dia de los Muertos*, or waiting patiently by the oven for grandma's pumpkin pie, share your traditions with others and create new traditions to keep the magic of fall alive!



Emerian Rich
Editorial Director



We here at SEARCH would love to hear about your traditions. Take a picture and send your tradition to:
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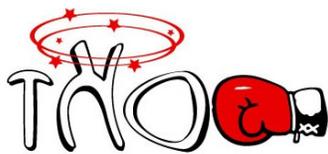
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MARTINEZ



BY EMERIAN RICH

"Respecting the past with an eye to the future."

MARTINEZ was established in 1876 and is the County seat of Contra Costa County. It started as the area's significant trading post location and shipping port, but these days most of us living in the area just think of it as the place we go to serve jury duty.

Although you might have visited Martinez on official business, this little city has much more to offer than waiting around the court house.

If you find yourself there with a few hours to kill, there are many antique shops and cafés lining Main Street. Luigi's Deli is renowned for a quick, fresh sandwich to eat there or to take with you on a walk.



Martinez Museum 1005 Escobar Street

Also downtown is the home of the Martinez Historical Society, the Martinez Museum. The two-story Victorian home holds many artifacts special to the Martinez area which are fun to see,

and you can pick up a walking tour brochure. The tour consists of twenty plus historical sites including Old City Hall, the Southern Pacific Depot, and the Alhambra Cemetery.

Your tour of Martinez shouldn't end downtown. One of the most interesting locales is the home of adventurer John Muir. This 1882 home is where he and his wife raised their daughters, and he wrote



John Muir House 4202 Alhambra Ave.

many of the words that gave rise to our National Park System.

Martinez is not only a town that believes in preserving its history, but also keeping an eye to the future. In this tradition, they have many fall activities to enjoy.

Downtown Zombie Pub Crawl

Saturday, Oct 17th

Halloween Trunk or Treat Spooktacular

Sunday, Oct 25th

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Saturday, Oct 31st

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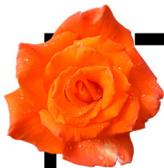
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CELEBRATING SINATRA'S CENTENARY



BY ELLIOT THORPE

“May you live to be 100, and may the last voice you hear be mine.” With this statement intended to be tongue in cheek, there was something prophetic in its delivery. Perhaps the man who said it, one Francis Albert Sinatra, couldn’t even imagine it would ever be possible.

Incredibly, 2015 sees Sinatra’s centenary, his 100th birthday.

He was a man of many parts and one steeped in rumours from his political interactions, his Mafia connections, his family, and his alleged promiscuity. It was once said of him that he was who every man wanted to be and who every woman wanted to be with. Yet who was Frank Sinatra really? Some may attest to knowing, but the one we see is the one up there on stage, singing, dropping a few one liners and generally being the straight man to the Rat Pack.

Arguably, all those facets make up the man and really is all that should matter.

Born on December 12, 1915, his mother Nata-

lina started him on the road by persuading him to join a local singing group in 1935. His successful integration meant ‘The Hoboken Four’ toured for six months, appearing on stage and radio. Frank, however, soon returned to Hoboken where he took up residency in a New Jersey bar as a singing waiter and MC.

It wasn’t long before renowned bandleader Tommy Dorsey took Sinatra under his wing, and together they recorded over 50 songs before Frank went his own way once more.

An Academy award win for Best Supporting Actor for *From Here to Eternity* in 1953 cemented his success after a few lean years as a solo artist, certainly something his old high school teachers likely didn’t foresee. Frank had been expelled after only a couple of months’ attendance due to rowdy behaviour.

The 50s saw Frank beginning to move in circles that would become synonymous with his lifestyle and career. He starred in the NBC radio series *Rocky Fortune*, signed with Capitol Records and starred in *Young At Heart* with Doris Day in 1954. The albums “Songs for Swinging Lovers” and “Come Fly with Me” confirmed his style as a swinging, upbeat but retrospective singer. As the decade came to a close, Frank headlined *Some Came Running* with Dean Martin and Shirley MacLaine, two artists who would, of course, feature predominantly in his life. Edgy films such as *The Man with the Golden Arm* (1955) and *The Manchurian Candidate* (1962) sit alongside more light-hearted affairs like 1965’s *Marriage on the Rocks* and *Dirty Dingus Magee* (1970). Hit songs, “My Way”, “New York, New York”, “I’ve Got You Under My Skin”, “Luck Be a Lady” to name but a few, sit comfortably within his discography.

“May you live to be
100, and may the
last voice you
hear be mine.”

“Frank would record take after take of some of his songs to hit the nuances he was looking for and to inject the emotional power he expected.”

His reputation as a demanding performer is not without reason. Frank would record take after take of some of his songs to hit the nuances he was looking for and to inject the emotional power he expected.

Frank once said that he was having a marvelous time in his career and was grateful that his audiences were sharing with him. It was important to him. This came through in his work and can still be heard and experienced today. Sure, he had an attitude and a swagger, but it's the essence of Frank Sinatra that makes him who he is, even now long after his death in 1998.

His legacy, his music, has stood the test of time, has outlived everyone who first heard him sing back in 1940, and will outlive anyone who hears him today. He remains an international phenomenon, and there is nothing, then, to refute his statement. ■



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INTERVIEW WITH AUTHOR EMERIAN RICH

BY HEATHER ROULO

Seven years ago, I met Emerian Rich through an online writer's community. She'd already published the first book of her *Night's Knight Vampire Series* and had stories coming out in several anthologies. At a time when social media was still considered suspect, she eagerly took on Twitter, podcasting, eBooks, and indie publishing. Since then, her publishing successes continue to mount. She organizes an annual writing contest and is nurturing a small publishing house. She is tireless, but took time out to sit down with me and discuss the appeal of horror, creativity, and her career as a writer.

Heather Roulo: Emerian, it's great to interview you. I know you well, so it'll be fun to let other people learn about you, too. I'll start with the basics. First of all, how did you get into horror?

Emerian Rich: It's funny because when I was a child, I was sheltered from horror things. Even *Sleeping Beauty* was considered off-limits because of Maleficent the witch, but that didn't stop me from being drawn to the macabre. My view of horror is the beautiful, classic, mysterious side. There is something exciting about abandoned churches and windy graveyards, places where humans have stamped their emotional imprints.

HR: Horror appealed that strongly to you?

ER: Horror really does speak to me. A moody, melancholy tale set in a graveyard tends to warm my soul. I escape through reading books. For me, I find more joy in the spooky haunted house than the white picket fence tract home.

HR: Was there anyone you could point to as your inspiration when you started?

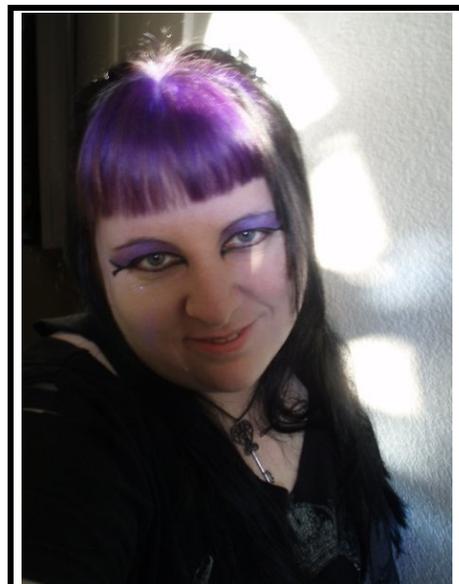
ER: As a child, I read every book I could get my hands on. I usually read horror-romances where the beauty was stranded on a rocky cliff, mourning the loss of her love or trapped in a house with ghosts. Some of my other favorites were by S.E. Hinton who wrote *The Outsiders*, *That Was Then This Is Now*, and *Rumblefish*. Her characters were people I knew, and the books

opened my imagination to the possibility of writing.

I began writing very young as a way to cope with an abusive childhood. I never knew I wanted to be a writer. I didn't discover horror as a genre until college, when I was introduced to Anne Rice through a book called *Feast of all Saints*. Her books took me one step closer to realizing I wanted to create stories for others to enjoy. Andrew Niederman has also helped me by questioning reality in books like *Pin* and *The Need*.

HR: You've released several novels, including your vampire novel, *Night's Knights* and *Artistic License*, which is a moody ghost-in-the-walls story. I read both of them and some of your short stories as well. I know you have several series in the works. What is it about your writing that brings people back?

ER: I use my writing as an escape from the real world, and I think my readers use it the same way. If readers connect with the stories and come back to read the next book, I'm proud that I was able to translate my escapism into something others can take joy in. I try to create characters they recognize, with real life issues and feelings. My vampires aren't ambiguous monsters with no emotional connection. They are former mortals with family issues, skeletons in the closet, and love affairs gone wrong. I hope by working through their issues, it helps the readers tackle their own monsters.



Emerian Rich is the author of the *Night's Knights Vampire Series*, the novel *Artistic License*, and numerous short stories. Follow her tweets @emzbox and find out more about Emerian at:

emzbox.com.

HR: By the way, I love that you call your fans "Biters".

ER: (laughs) I accidentally started calling them Biters in one of my audiobook chapters, and it stuck. They love it, so I've kept it up. I love bringing a sense of occasion and personal connection to my readers. They are my peers, really. Writing can be such a solitary lifestyle, it's fun to geek out on vampires with others who get it. Some have even written *Night's Knights* fanfic. I don't mind, it's the purest form of flattery.

My vampires aren't ambiguous monsters with no emotional connection. They are former mortals with family issues, skeletons in the closet, and love affairs gone wrong. I hope by working through their issues, it helps the readers tackle their own monsters.

HR: Your novel *Artistic License* is a departure from your vampire series. Can you tell us about it?



ER: *Artistic License* is about a woman who inherits a house where anything she paints on the walls comes alive. The idea came to me one night when I woke from a dream and thought for sure there were Edwardian servants running around inside my house. I also really loved the movie *The Hearse* where she inherits her aunt's house, reads her journals, and finds a horrible secret about a man she loves. *Artistic License* is a mix of my two favorite writing styles, horror and romance.

HR: What are some of your interests besides writing?

ER: Creating. I love producing things. Art, books, crafts, music. I'm naturally wound up a bit too tight, so I must have an outlet for my crea-

tivity. Right now it's in the form of button art.

HR: What are you working on now?

ER: While my next vampire novel, *Dusk's Warriors*, is waiting in the wings for publication, I've been working on my romance writing. I have a Regency novella coming out from Eternal Press under my romance nom de plume Emmy Z. Madrigal, called *Lord Harrington's Lost Doe*. The story is about a lost girl who is found on a storm-battered estate in Northern England. With no memory, it's up to the Lord of the manor and his staff to find where she belongs. I am also working on a modern rewrite of Jane Austen's classic *Northanger Abbey*, which is about a horror enthusiast who likes to live her life in books.

HR: I look forward to reading your work, particularly *Dusk's Warriors*. You've recently stepped into the role of Editorial Director for *SEARCH Magazine*. What made you want to take on a new challenge, and how is it going?



ER: Oh, you know me. Always up for a challenge! (laughs) I'm always trying to expand my knowledge base, and after being the editor of the goth zine *Dark Lives*, and at the helm of *HorrorAddicts.net*, it seemed the next logical step. I'm enjoying the adventure and meeting lots of new people in the area. *SEARCH* is a great publication to work for, and I'm happy I'm able to help them grow.

HR: Thank you for your time.

ER: Thank you for your interest. I hope your readers find something spooky to read this season. ■

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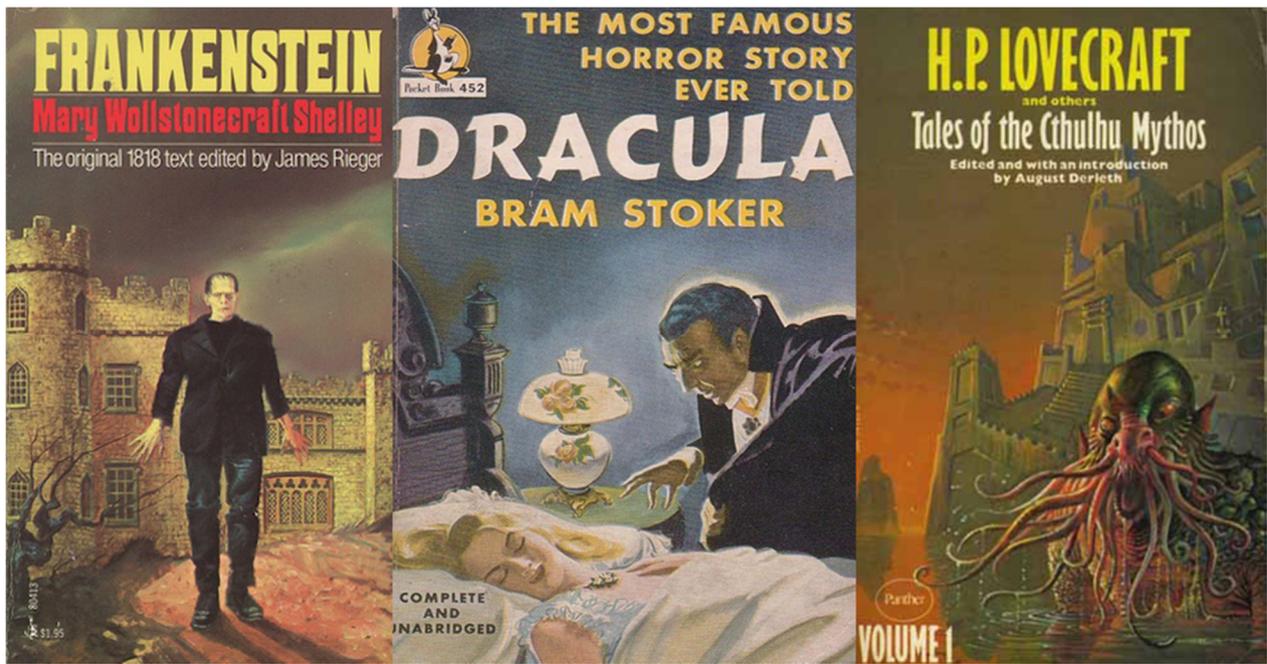
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CLASSICS TO TRICK OR TREAT BY: *DRACULA*, *FRANKENSTEIN*, AND THE *CTHULHU MYTHOS*

BY CARRIE SESSAREGO

The weather is cooling, the leaves are turning, and it's time to read some spooky stories. Some of the most enduring are *Dracula*, by Bram Stoker, *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley, and the Cthulhu stories by H.P. Lovecraft (known collectively as the *Cthulhu Mythos*). These stories have been around for a long time - 1897, 1818, and 1928 respectively, but why do these stories continue to frighten and fascinate?

1. They shaped the way we think about monsters.

In the novel *Dracula*, Dracula is not a good-looking guy, but he uses his mental powers to lure women to their doom. While some previous vampire stories used the "vampire as seducer" trope, it's *Dracula* that popularized the idea of the monster as seductive. Meanwhile, *Frankenstein* popularized the idea of a monster that is sympathetic and tragic, while the *Cthulhu Mythos* popularized the idea of the monster as something beyond human understanding and something a human could never defeat. While the Mythos is not as much a household name as *Dracula* or *Frankenstein*, its influence on the tone and shape of modern horror has been huge.

2. They've been kept fresh in our minds through theater and film.

Frankenstein became a hit play and was made into a (short) movie in 1910. This launched dozens of horror movies and spoofs, and the story continues to be popular in Hollywood today, with a new movie scheduled for release in November 2015. The first movie that specifically used

"Dracula" in the title was the 1931 movie starring Bela Lugosi, and the most recent film to date is *Dracula Untold*, which was released in 2014. In between there have been dozens if not hundreds of versions of the Dracula story, sequels, prequel, tributes, and parodies. There have also been dozens of movies based on or directly inspired by *The Cthulhu Mythos*, and fans have been hoping for years that hit filmmaker Guillermo Del Toro (*Pacific Rim*, *Pan's Labyrinth*) will be able to produce and direct a version of *At the Mountains of Madness*, one of the most famous stories from the *Cthulhu Mythos*. All these rumors keep the Mythos fresh in the public's mind.

3. They play on fears as relevant now as they were one hundred years ago.

Dracula plays with Victorian anxieties regarding race, sex, gender roles, racism, immigration, science and religion, and drug use. *Frankenstein* addresses social injustice and prejudice as well as fear that science, might overstep its bounds. *The Cthulhu Mythos* also deals with science going too far, presenting readers with the idea that exploration will inevitably show us truths that we as a species will be unable to cope with.

4. They are still scary.

Read that bit in *Dracula* where Jonathon Harker sees Dracula climbing down the castle wall like a spider, face first, and tell me that doesn't freak you out. The monster from *Frankenstein* is still terrible in his vengeance, and the inexorable sense of doom and dread that pervades the *Cthulhu Mythos* still horrifies the reader. These stories weren't just well written or intellectually interesting—they were SCARY. While many things have changed since these stories were written, one thing stays the same—we still love a good scare. ■

FAR AWAY HOME: NEW ZEALANDERS SHARE IN TORONTO'S RICH DIVERSITY

BY MICHELE ROGER



Honor. Remembrance. One hundred years ago, troops from Australia and New Zealand joined in the fight to take Gallipoli, Turkey in World War I. The Australian-New Zealand Army Corp or ANZACs are remembered for their service and ultimate sacrifice each year on Anzac Day in their own countries. For several New Zealanders living on the other side of the world in Toronto, the remembrance is even more bitter sweet. I had the honor of attending the Anzac Day ceremonies and dinner to mark the one hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Gallipoli hosted by none other than the Canadian Forces College in Toronto.

My day begins at 4:30am. It's still dark, and I'm dressed in boots and a goose down jacket that covers my knees. A friend has also loaned me a scarf, which I thought was unnecessary but am thankful for once I arrive at the military college. Several representatives give speeches about

the death toll on both Turkish and Anzac sides. The ceremony quickly becomes less about statistics and more about the way any war touches families as the grandchildren and great grandchildren of soldiers lost in battle bring flowers to rest at the memorial. Some people in the crowd of three hundred attendees wipe tears, others listen to the personal stories shared by the master of ceremonies, Major Noel Young from the Australian Army. When the Consul-General from Turkey speaks, he offers a moving notion of peace; a promise to mothers and families of fallen Anzac soldiers lost or buried on the beaches of Gallipoli, "Your sons are now our sons, and we will care for them and protect their final resting place."

There isn't a dry eye in the crowd, mine included. I'm patted gruffly on the shoulder and told the cure for a heavy heart, according to an Australian officer standing near me, is a good shot of Bundaberg Rum. I join the crowd where a Gunfire Breakfast, complete with a double shot of rum is poured into strong, black coffee. The rum-spiked coffee was a traditional drink given to soldiers heading into battle. The conflicting effect isn't lost on me. I'm awake and simultaneously slightly tipsy. In the mess hall, the coffee swirls into the veins and demeanor of the crowd. The Bundaberg works its magic as the mood lightens, laughter and joking fill the room.

After a quick nap, it's time to dress up and head out to Hemmingway's, a long standing watering hole and all around exceptional meeting place for Kiwis, Auzzies, and Toronto natives. Three levels, each embracing a different aspect of the quintessential night on the town make it easy to have a great time. A step off of Cumberland Street brings you to the small bar and fine dining section. Lamb shank, fish and chips, and vegetable curry are recommended sure bets, while live music plays several nights a week. If you're lucky, you might catch the owner, Martin, and his better half, LizAnn sharing a meal, talking to guests and sharing a joke. My favorite part of Hemmingway's is the upper deck, open in the summer and heated in winter, the top floor hosts Kiwi Corner and tin sign decor boasting all things Australian and New Zealand. I am here to



partake in the pastime of pre-dinner cocktails. For my companions, it's a Keith's Pale Ale and for me, an Oyster Bay Pinot Noir.

Moving on to dinner, I arrive at the Canadian Armed Forces College and check in. In the lobby, the poppy themed art work of Turkish painter, Hikmet Cetinkaya, is on display. His exhibit is called "Remembering the Fallen Soldiers in Gallipoli with Poppies: From Hostility to Friendship 1915-2015." The exhibit and introduction of this new painter to the Canadian art scene is doing a small tour around Toronto.

Appetizers are piled high on trays and offered to guests, cheese and grape platters are a visually stunning antipasto platter. The crowd at the bar swells. We follow the music to find "Brendan and Shane" in a small room crowded with people. Shane is from New Zealand and sings as well as plays a great acoustic guitar. Brendan is originally from Victoria, Australia and has been playing the local Toronto scene for twenty years. This is their chance to sing songs from home, and they get the crowd to join them in 'Ten Guitars', 'A Pub With No Beer' and 'Waltzing Mathilda.'

We reluctantly pull ourselves away from the choir of voices as dinner is served. The menu has been a labor of love to bring equal representation of three nations as well as the offering of the host nation's culture and what they bring to the table. We start with a salad of micro greens in a cucumber ring with balsamic. Next, guests can choose

from New Zealand rack of lamb, chicken with pesto, fillet of New Zealand King Salmon, or vegetarian stuffed eggplant with feta. Australian white wine and Turkish red wine are served to accompany the main dishes. Since I am not a fan of white wine (unless it's sparkling, of course), I am excited to try the Turkish red, a first sampling ever for me. It's heavy and dry but still goes well with the salmon. My companions rave about the lamb, served medium rare with a reduction sauce. Dessert is baklava and ice cream.

A drawing wraps up the night and while there are several prizes, the one inspiring everyone to clutch their ticket and close their eyes is the free trip to Turkey, sponsored by Turkish Airlines. The significance of this make me stop and look at everyone in the room. There are no enemies here. The desire to go and experience a country that only a generation ago was considered hostile is the true measure of how far the three countries have come. Thanks to the Canadian Military College, further peace keeping bonds have been formed and strengthened. I recall the early morning speech given by the Turkish Consul-General, Mr. Ali Riza Guney, and feel in my heart that those who gave their lives on the beaches of Gallipoli so long ago will truly be looked after and honored as if they were native sons of Turkey. In an age where peace is so rare and conflict so quick to spread, I consider the night spent in Toronto; sharing in the intoxication of multiculturalism and all the good it has to offer, a blessing. ■





I always loved sculpting, but when I moved from the East Coast to San Francisco and lived in a teeny tiny studio, space mattered. Switching my love of sculpting from clay onto cake was a wonderful discovery. Not only does it save space, but it turns out people are *way* more excited to get a sculpted cake as a gift than a clay sculpture. Plus, cake is by far the more delicious medium. The nice thing about cake decorating is that it looks much harder than it actually is. Anyone can do it!

SUPPLIES:

- 1 tube of marzipan
- Red and yellow food coloring
- Rubber gloves
- Powdered sugar
- Rolling pin
- Knife
- Aluminum foil
- Optional:* sculpting tools

Decorating cakes for fall is easier than you might think! Here's how to make realistic, edible fall leaves.

1. Knead color into marzipan: While wearing rubber gloves (food coloring will stain your skin) knead a few drops of red and a few drops of yellow food coloring into your marzipan. Keep adding until you get the autumn leaf color you want. If it gets too sticky, add some powdered sugar.

Once the color is fully integrated into the marzipan, it won't be able to stain your hands anymore.

2. Roll out the marzipan: Dust a thin layer of powdered sugar onto your work surface, then roll out a thin sheet of marzipan. The powdered sugar is so it won't stick.

3. Cut out leaf shapes: Using a knife, cut out leaf shapes and then lightly press in the veins of the leaf freehand. Make sure that the leaf has a crease down the middle. Don't worry if these are imperfect or asymmetrical – that's how they are in nature!

4. Adding texture: Roughly crinkle and ball up some aluminum foil, then lay your leaves on it. This will help them dry and harden into more organic shapes. Leaves are more interesting when they don't lay flat. Leave your leaves out to dry and harden for at least two days.



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WHY IT'S STILL GREAT TO BE AN ARTIST IN THE BAY AREA

BY RICK KITAGAWA

The Bay Area is a beautiful place to live. We have awesome weather, great beaches, scenic hikes, and amazing architecture. As an artist, how can you not be inspired by what's around us? However, with all the media attention on the rising cost of living here, it can seem like there are fewer and fewer reasons for artists to hang around.

On top of the soaring prices of real estate, rent, and the overall cost of living in the Bay, we also live in a society that doesn't always value art and creatives. As one of the few industries that has design contests (don't you wish you could get care from three different hospitals and then decide who should get paid?), design tests (I guess resumes and portfolios aren't good enough), and constant requests for free work (although "it'll be great promotion"), artists and creatives especially get squeezed in times of tight wallets. Throw in decreased budgets for art non-profits, mix in some galleries and art spaces muscled out due to rent raises and you have a recipe for more and more artists moving away.

So what is left for us artists, writers, poets, storytellers, and folk who make creative stuff for a living? With more studios shuttering and moving to other states and countries (Hi Canada! Heyo China!), what's left for us here?

Call me optimistic or psychotic (or both), but I think the single best thing we have going for us (besides the amazing food) is what's driving us away: the challenge to survive. I know, (believe me, I know,) it's super difficult to make it in the Bay as an artist, but

that is the single biggest reason why I want to stay. The Bay Area is a crucible that builds resilience through trial by fire.

All the obstacles that try to keep us down should be seen as challenges to be overcome—the obstacle is also the path to success. If you survey professional artists, what sets them apart isn't necessarily talent, or people skills, or connections. It's the resilience to rejection. There are Pixar artists who got rejected 12 times before getting a job there. I know fine artists who have been working for years to only finally get a commercially successful solo show. One needs a great work ethic, but more specifically to be successful you need a great work ethic in spite of being rejected.

This mindset is what's needed to keep going. We have to embrace failure and see it as an opportunity to learn. Sure, we don't have to rejoice about every unanswered email to a gallery or a job rejection, but if we let ourselves get caught up in the emotional side of it without looking for the opportunities in the failure, we'll never have the grit needed to push through to that eventual success. Failure is a necessary part of growing, and we can use these opportunities to hone in on what's working and what's not.

On the first day of class, I ask all my students the same

question: If I could guarantee that you would fail commercially as an artist for the first ten years, would you still continue on with your art making?

If the answer is no, I recommend they start looking into the field of engineering. While I don't think that people will constantly fail for ten years, the point is that you need to be psychologically and emotionally ready for an extended period of mainly rejections with some small successes. Every happy, successful artist I've met have all had their share of early rejection, but kept honing their craft and put in the mileage to make themselves better. Why should you or I be any different?

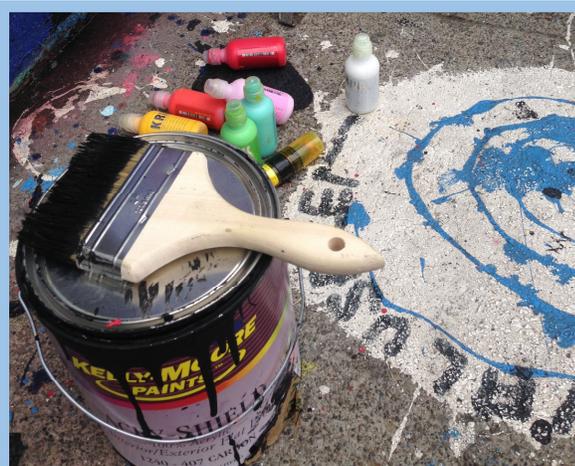
Especially living in the Bay, at the heart of the world's tech industry, it's easy to hear about overnight tech success stories and complain about the time it takes for an artist. But even those tech giants, who we rail against for pushing out the artists, were once single-person companies in basements or garages. They all started somewhere and built themselves up.

Instead of focusing on the damage tech might have done to the art community, I like to focus on all the opportunities we have to learn, and grow, and thrive because of the tech industry. These challenges force us to adapt, to stay nimble, to think, to build. If we're going to be forced to be entrepreneurial and hustle, if we're going to be forced to bootstrap, and crowdfund, and pound the pavement to survive, where better to do that than Silicon Valley—the birthplace of innovation.

Let's use the technology to empower ourselves. Let's sell our art on online platforms, and crowdfund our comic books, and use the internet to create collaborations across time zones. Sure, the illustration industry might be based in New York, and film/animation might be based in LA, but technology is increasingly allowing us to work off site—digital workflows are being developed to project manage films from around the world. I recently worked on project with artists globally, and I know a San Francisco-based concept artist who telecommuted to work on a film in Japan.

Let's build community and carve out spaces for us to live and create together. From meet-ups to forums to blogs, we are now able to interact and find our tribes. Whether it's globally or locally, online or in-person, let's use our diverse backgrounds and international communities to inspire us and to learn from each other. Where better to find diverse communities than the Bay?

While living here might be trying times as an artist, and as much as we might complain on Facebook about tech and how it's completely unaffordable, just remember that if you can make it here, you can make it anywhere. Now, let's go make some art and change the world. ■



CREATIVE HAUNTER DARYN COLEMAN



BY EMERIAN RICH

PUTTING THE GHOST IN GOLF

GHOST GOLF PUTS THE FUN IN HORROR OLD-SCHOOL STYLE WITH CORNY JOKES, FUN MEMORABLE CHARACTERS, AND CLASSIC SCARES.

The creative genius behind Ghost Golf, Daryn Coleman, has been building spooky décor for years, but about a year ago, he finally realized his dream of owning a larger location.

You may remember the old location in Downtown Concord, which kept him limited in what

he could do. They only had nine holes there, and when they had a party, they had to close the whole place down because of lack of space.

In the new location on Clayton Road, they have a full 18-hole course, a new Mummy Shooting Gallery, a new party room that can hold 2-3 events at a time, and an arcade fitted with spooky video games such as *Tales from the Crypt*, *Carnevil*, and even a car racing game through a haunted amusement park.

But this isn't your average mini-golf course, and when you step foot into the space, you immediately feel and see the difference. Ambient music creeps through the place while motion is seen throughout from the spectacular animatronics. The décor ranges from fun spookiness for kids to scarier accoutrements like skull chandeliers bringing to mind the Sedlec Ossuary in Romania.

When I was lucky enough to tour the set with the creator himself, Daryn explained his vision. "I didn't want to have a miniature golf course that had tombstones as obstacles. I wanted it to be like a real graveyard that you just happened to play miniature golf through."



Unlike a lot of entertainment centers, this one has a whole story behind it. "We used to have a caretaker here named Jasper," Daryn says. "He was a big golf nut and so in his down time, he set up a putting course through the graves."

"I wanted it to be like a real graveyard that you just happened to play miniature golf through."

Each display is meticulously thought out, and he has names for his ghoulish friends. When passing a jiggling door, Daryn says, "Oh that's just Elmer. We never let him in. If you ever met him, you'd know why." A voodoo doll will tell you a tale when you visit it's hole, and there is a goth band in the rafters called Lenore and the Bone Daddy's with a phantom-like character named Sebastian on keyboards. Their song is from one of Daryn's favorite video games, *7th Guest*.

With *Tales from the Crypt*-like jokes coming from the animatronics like, "What are you doing playing golf in a graveyard? Can't you see we're trying to rest in peace?" to a truly terrifying set of Anubis figures stationed on either side of the Mummy Shooting Range, this place is a wonder for the senses. The holes build in spook factor culminating at the last hole,

featuring a handmade carriage hearse with a skeleton driver.

“That’s Jasper,” Daryn says, smiling up at his singing coachman.

Daryn was an inspired haunter from childhood. “We started in the backyard and eventually put in a big haunted house at a local mall.”

He’s been a haunter ever since, doing home haunts, working for Disneyland, and installing exhibits for trade shows. He also helped the Moss Beach Distillery—South of Pacifica—become spookier. The Distillery has been around since turn of the century, was a speakeasy, and is reportedly haunted.

“The owner wanted the ghosts to be more active, so I went in and put in a bunch of effects based on real hauntings they had reported.”

“I started thinking, what can I do with this stuff where I could keep it up all year round?”

But the problem with doing Halloween attractions and the odd scary display is the payoff isn’t a daily reward. Scaring trick-or-treaters every year for a few hours is great, but not sustaining. Daryn says, “I started thinking, what can I do with this stuff where I could keep it up all year round?”

His idea grew when he visited Neptune’s Palace in Santa Cruz, which is a miniature golf



course in pirate theme. “I absolutely loved the idea that you were being led through a themed environment with pirates walking around talking to you.”

You can tell this is a real labor of love and a work of art in its own right. It’s also a work in progress. Although fabulous now, Daryn is always upgrading and changing the décor and animatronics to make it even better. He’s built every piece in the environment by hand, most containing animatronics with sensors to go off when the golfers least expect it. All the stone walls were hand carved and mortared by Daryn and his wife.

“I sunk everything I had into this place.” And with the help of his wife and daughters, Daryn has finally created the business of his dreams. ■



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4 APPS THAT CHANGED OUR VIRTUAL LIVES

BY DIANNA KERSEY

Our family motto is: Have Internet, Will Live! As a remote, virtual telecommuter for over ten years, I've grown accustomed to an unconventional working lifestyle. Our family balances cyber technology with the real world, and over time, we've become a virtual-online family, interacting within a global village. Both my husband and I make our living telecommuting, and our daughter attends a fully accredited online virtual academy. With satellite Internet, virtual employment, and online school, our location is an unlimited option. Whether we're nestled in the middle of the mountains, on a train, on our boat, or traveling, if we can access the Internet, we're at work and school.

In a recent article, *Forbes Magazine* cited a 26% increase in the number of virtual jobs in 2014. Every year, more companies are seeing the potential for retaining their top associates by providing the benefits and flexibility of telecommuting. Amazon, Kaplan, First Data, CIGNA,

Nationwide Insurance, and Convergys are some of the largest companies who actively hire qualified telecommuters.

Dan Golden, president of Be Found Online Digital Marketing states, "The flexibility of letting our employees move where life takes them has been a savior for retaining our best associates. In today's world, hiring and retaining top talent is more important than hiring only local in our office."

Working at home is no longer the scam of stuffing envelopes. It's real work, from real companies, offering real paychecks for productive employees. To me, it's the best employee benefit offered. No longer am I plagued by two or more hours of grueling, daily commutes. I gain back that otherwise wasted time in productivity and time with my family.

Originally designed for training future Olympians and traveling military families, virtual schools have become a fantastic alternative to traditional public schools. *The Journal*—an online resource for transforming education through technology—cites how virtual classrooms have doubled in enrollment over the past few years.

Our family wouldn't be able to travel as we do if we were tied down for ten months out of the year. We can schedule vacations in the off-seasons at quite a considerable discount. This is a substantial plus to our lives.

As an online-family, we've built a list of the top five apps that have increased our mobility, productivity, communication, and ease of life.

1. Google Maps Hands down, Google Maps is



our number one choice. Free to go anywhere without the worry or fear of wasted time or getting lost have been replaced with "let's go!" fun. We've utilized the app on our Samsung Note phones to coordinate cross-country

mapped trips and never once doubted where we were going. Gone are the days of asking for directions!

2. Uber Yes, Please! Request, ride, and pay your



U B E R

cab fare via your mobile phone. We love this app when we're in Chicago. The best feature is the fare estimator. It determines an approximate cost of the cab ride based on route and current traffic conditions. We also like

the split fare feature. When we're in town for face time with the boss, we can split the cab fare directly through the app and not worry about who-owes-who or messing with cash.

3. Cozi What busy family wouldn't need this



app? Keep track of everyone's schedules, activities and appointments. I love this app because it keeps me from having to remember the details in my head. There's too much going on up there. I can rely on this

app to remind me of the who, what, when, and where for each family member. The feature I love the most about it is the real-time shopping lists and to-dos, I can share.

4. Amazon Echo Echo is the coolest voice-



operated app device we've encountered. Recently the Amazon Echo integrated with IFTTT (if this, then that) recipes technology that automates online activities like a personal secretary for the web. Echo has changed the

way we access information. For example: Before I had to load separate weather or traffic apps to tell me what I needed. Now the Echo "tells me" whenever it's going to rain, what the UV index is, and whether or not I need to modify my route due to a traffic jam. All is accessed by my voice prompt instead of picking up a device, loading separate apps, and taking up unneeded space on my devices. Plus, it reads my audible audio books to me, and that's a serious advantage! My favorite feature of Alexa (The Echo) is her ability to tell me great jokes! Here's what she said today, "What kind of cheese is best served at a castle?" Answer: Moatzerella! ■

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RUNNING THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE

BY RON VITALE

Ever thought about running across the Golden Gate Bridge? I never thought I would have the opportunity, but I had several hours open during a business trip and took advantage. I was training for a marathon and needed to squeeze in a 13 mile training run anyway. A simple Google search helped plan a route.

On the day I ran, the sun was hot, and it was a clear day, no fog, and I could see for miles. I run with a Garmin watch to track my miles. I'll admit I was scared. I had never run the course before and wasn't familiar with the terrain, but I felt the sun on my face, took a deep breath, and headed off.

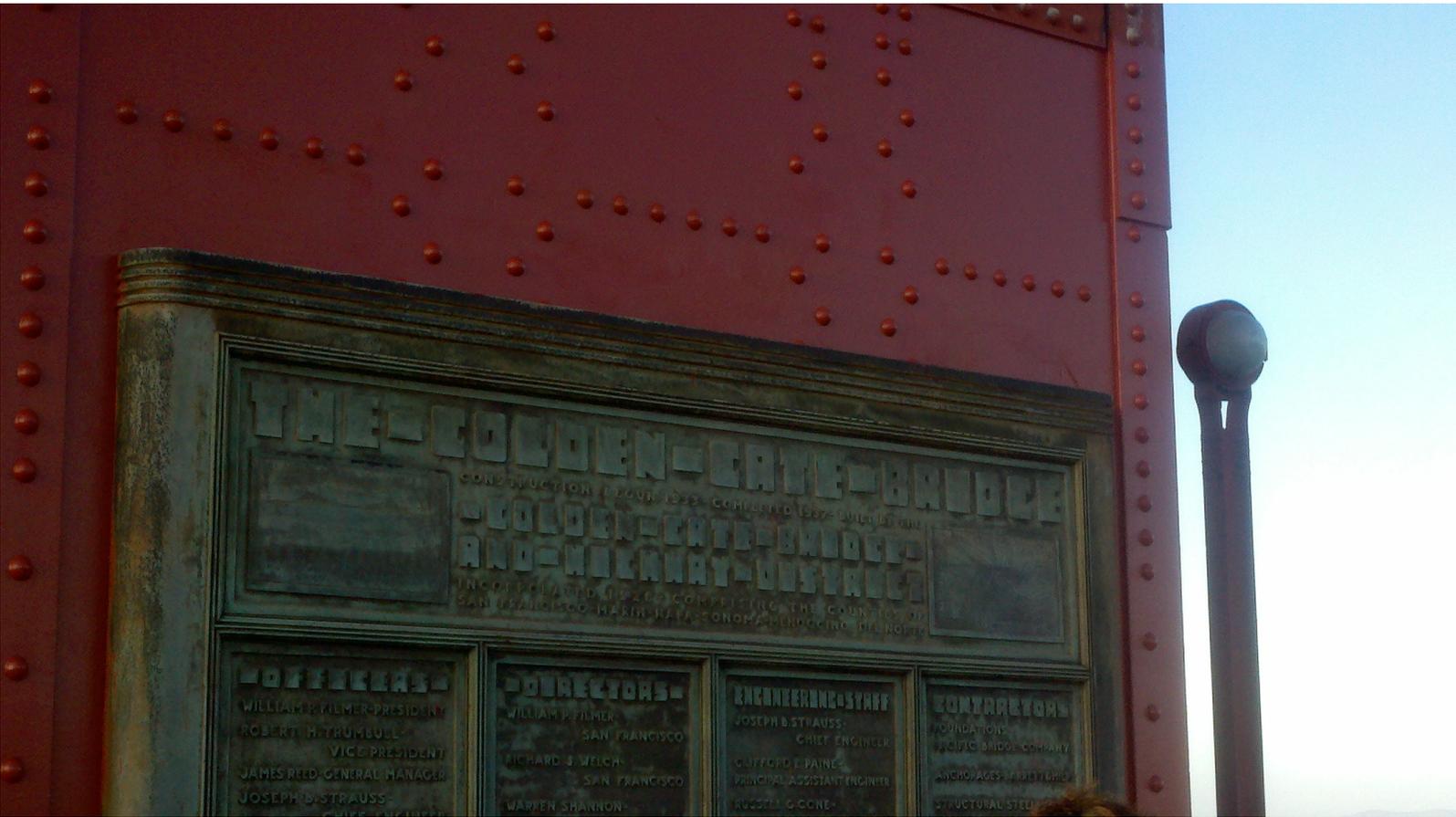
I looked out at the bay and couldn't see the Golden Gate Bridge. That's how far away it was. The first part of the course was the most challenging. I needed to weave in and out of groups of people on the crowded Embarcadero where tents were set up for a craft show. Through Fisherman's Wharf, I had to run in the street, zoom around buses and throngs of people. Once I cleared that area, I ran past the aquarium, could see Alcatraz, and far, far off in the distance my goal. Like a toy on a train set, the

Golden Gate Bridge stretched across the horizon. I kept my pace steady, and when I entered Golden Gate Park, I fought against the steep hills. To give myself a break, I stopped for a bit, took some pictures of Alcatraz and watched the sailboats on the bay.

A bit farther on I could see the highway that led to the bridge, but the walkway was closed. I kept running, looking for a dirt trail, hoping I could find an alternative path to get to the bridge. At a fork in the road, car traffic headed to the left, and two guys with a dog walked down a very thin dirt path. I ran up to them and asked if the path led up to the bridge. They told me I was headed in the right direction.

Running up the steep hills, I reached the top where trees blocked the skyline, and the dirt path changed to a paved bike trail. I ran onward. The road shifted to the left, and there in front of me loomed the main post of the Golden Gate Bridge, its rust-colored beams filling my field of view.

According to my watch, I had run more than 6.5 miles.



The visitor's center and the entrance to the sidewalk to walk over the bridge were at the top of the bike trail. I started over the bridge, not expecting the wind to buffet me toward the railing. I also did not expect for the bridge to be up so high. Looking over the side was a bit scary. By this time, I was tired and a bit dizzy, the result of pushing myself hard to reach my goal. Even still, I stopped a few times to take some amazing pictures and reached out to touch a large suspension cable. With each car that went by me, I could feel the vibration in the cable. I hadn't expected that, but I could feel the movement and the boats below resembled tiny toys.

I resumed my run to discover the sidewalk ahead was closed for construction, forcing me to turn back. I took a moment to look at the beautiful city of San Francisco, before I retraced my journey back to my hotel. I had a long way to go. Once through the park I made it up the large hill, looked back, and saw the sun setting to the left of the Golden Gate Bridge. I couldn't have timed it any better. I snapped some pics and finished my run. It was fully dark when I arrived back at Market Street after a total run of 13.1 miles.

Remember, you need not run 13 miles to get the full experience. You can trim your trip accordingly, but if you are into long distance running, I would recommend starting at the Embarcadero. Some words of caution though, fall weather in San Francisco can be extremely warm so be sure to carry water with you. A good rule of thumb is to carry a runner's pack around your waist with your ID, phone, some money, energy gel, and water. Don't forget to put on sunscreen. If you're running on a sunny day even in the fall, you'll want to protect your skin. You'll be glad you challenged yourself to the journey. It was an adventure of a lifetime. ■



HOW TO MAKE: A RUSTIC “FOUND” ELEMENTS DIFFUSER BOWL

BY SUZANNE MADRON



A diffuser bowl is a decorative bowl filled with natural elements which absorb and diffuse scented oils. Think you need to go to the store to get a scent diffuser? Think again! Generally when it comes to creating a diffuser bowl, you can use “found” elements from your environment. In this case we will be using pinecones and tree bark.

Rule of thumb: Keep it simple to get started and see how your scents play out, how long they last with each item, and how far the scent reaches into the room.

The best part of this project is you don't need to get fancy, and you get to use ‘found’ items, such as pinecones, tree bark, and even rocks, seashells, or beach glass. If you have kids, this is a great project to do with them. It doesn't require heating anything, and you can send them on a scavenger hunt for items.

1. Arrange your “found” elements in your bowl to get an idea where everything will go and how it will look.

2. Mix and match your oils until you have a scent you like, or you can use one scent per pinecone and let the smells blend in the air. You can use your favorite perfume oils in this project, too, and a little goes a long way!

3. Apply the scents. You can use an eyedropper to apply the oils, or you can put the perfume on your palms, rub them together, then hold the pinecones, coating them in oils. You can also pour directly from the bottles, but have some tissues ready to catch any spills. If you have a favorite spray perfume, you can spray it onto the pinecones, or if it's a scented oil, you can apply it directly as well.

SUPPLIES:

*A bowl that's large enough to hold roughly three large pinecones. The bowl should preferably be glazed as the oils will soak into it. In the photo, a carved stone bowl was used.

*A few pinecones. Make sure they're older and dried because they will have a more rustic look and soak up more scented oils, plus no sticky pine sap to worry about.

*Tree bark, the drier the better.

*Scented oils. These can be any scented oils ranging from your favorite perfume to essential oils.

*An eyedropper if you prefer not to use your hands to scent your items

OPTIONAL ITEMS:

*River stones

*Beach glass

*Sea shells

*Coral

*Rough and porous stones that are NOT polished

*Sawdust

*Old potpourri that has lost its scent

*Dried flowers.



You can use all one scent on all your elements, or you can put single scent notes on each pinecone, but choose carefully as not all scents go together. If in doubt, try your planned scents on some napkins, then waft them under your nose. Don't be afraid to experiment!

4. Sniff your scent combination to get an idea of how your diffuser bowl will smell when it's in the air. Add more oils until you have the scent strength and blend you desire. There is no exact science to this, so have fun with it and experiment.

5. Find a place to put your bowl and wow your guests with the subtle scents. You can even create scent 'scenes' with multiple diffuser bowls, where one scent will linger in one area while another scent can be used in another area in another bowl.

NOTE: The scent will fade over time. This is normal. You can use more oils to refresh the scent, or if you would like to change up the aroma you can wait until the scent is gone completely and recycle the pinecones by repeating the above steps. Just give the bowl a wash and dry to remove any leftover oil and dust that may have accumulated and recreate this project.

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THE GREAT BAD COSTUME



BY TIM REYNOLDS

I'm sure if we dig deep enough, we all have a best-or-worst costume story somewhere in our memory banks. I love costumes and have won prizes with mine, including a regional theatre award for design, so here is *my* 'worst-costume-best-memory' story.

I was a goofy college senior, and Jane was a beautiful, petite, quietly intelligent freshman. We met at a dance while I was wearing bright orange coveralls and a red felt top hat. That should have been a warning sign that I was a little unconventional, but I suppose Jane was wide-eyed attracted to the fact I had just been cast as a Shark in the college's fall production of *West Side Story*, the reason I was tearing up the dance floor in all my sartorial splendor.

That was late September. We only lived a block apart on the same part of campus so we got to see each other at the occasional meal in the Refectory and in the Great Hall common room when my rehearsals and lackadaisical studies didn't conflict with her intensely serious studies. It was a time of innocence for both of us, unlike 'kids these days'. What time we spent together was mostly hand-holding walks on campus and how-was-your-day chats. There was no Internet and no cellphones, no emails, and no texts. Neither of us even had a phone in our residence room, requiring a visit to the Proctor's Desk or a payphone to reach anyone not close enough to yell at down the hall.

Our time together was brief. Neither of us even had time to meet any of the other's friends—remember this innocuous fact. Now, jump ahead to the last week of October, when Jane's residence—Brough Manor/Henderson House—hosted our own First-South O'Neil Residence in an invitation-only Halloween party. These parties were civilized affairs, not something from *Animal House* or *Revenge of the Nerds*. Rules were strict, behavior was monitored, and excessive drinking was frowned upon. Our college was/is famous for wild parties, but our official Floor Parties weren't them.

Now, I've never been one to cop out and get lazy with a costume, but my partner-in-crime, Chris, and I took so long to decide what we were going to wear we ended up winging it. We finally decided we two cool seniors had to show the 'freshettes' of Brough-Henderson how the 'men' of O'Neil did Halloween.

I'll skip past the hour of tedious brainstorming we two

geniuses did and just say we decided to go as psychoslasher-killers, a la Michael Myers of "Halloween" and Jason Voorhees of "Friday the 13th". Translation: we wore coveralls (my familiar neon orange ones and a brown pair), black gloves, masks (one ski mask & aviator sunglasses, one black-painted Spider-Man mask), and carried plastic machetes.

Our wild and crazy idea was to arrive at the party, mingle, reveal quietly which of us was which, and then sneak outside and swap costumes. The only problem was that I'm 5'9", Chris is 5'11", and he's broader in the shoulders. Solution: I wore a down-filled vest to pad me up and lifts in my shoes to make me taller, while Chris slouched. As long as we didn't stand still beside each other in a bright room, the plan was almost—sort of—perfect.

We wandered down the road to the party, made our fashionably late entrance, then ate, drank, and danced, revealing to two or three people at a time which of us was which. Jane arrived not long after we did and, while we danced, she expressed her disappointment in the lack of imagination my costume demonstrated. I was in the same old coveralls, while she was attired in a stunning, hand-made-by-her-sister, black-and-white satin Harlequin costume with a simple over-the-eyes black mask. Even when seated quietly on the couch with her equally shy friends, she was the visual centre of the party. She was beautiful (and still is, according to her Facebook profile picture).

Chris appeared in the doorway and waved me over with his machete. *It was time*. I excused myself. Chris and I ducked outside and did the Great Costume Switcheroo. Back inside, to start the fun I suggested he ask Jane to dance, to see if she was fooled. Since Chris and Jane had never met, I told him where she was sitting, what she was wearing, and then I watched as he stepped up and held out his hand to invite her onto the dance floor. She took his hand, stood, whispered something to him, then led him out of the room...and right out of the building!

Five excruciatingly frustrating minutes later, Chris came strolling back in. "I've got good news and bad news, buddy. The good news is that she was fooled and thought I was you. The bad news is...you're now single. She just broke up with me." What?! "She's out in the hall, waiting for you on the steps. Go easy on her—she's really sweet."

Can you say 'backfire'?

I joined Jane, to get the bad news in person. She also gave me a blow-by-blow summary of what happened. Apparently, she started with "You're a really sweet guy, Tim, but I think we should just be—" That's when Chris-dressed-as-me held up a gloved hand to stop her in mid-sentence. She was surprised and confused, but not nearly so much as she was a moment later when Chris peeled off the mask and revealed the clean-shaven face of a tall red-head she had never met before. He simply said "Hi. I'm Chris. I'll go get Tim for you."

She stopped him and asked if she could finish what she started to say because she was nervous and needed the practice. He said "Sure", and poor Jane finished breaking up with him. Five minutes later she broke up with me—again. ■

Search Magazine Coloring Contest



Please send in coloring entries to *SEARCH Magazine*, P.O. Box 227 , Vallejo, CA 94591. The winner will receive a \$25 gift certificate to Toys R' Us. The winner will also get his/her coloring page displayed on the *SEARCH Magazine* website. The winner will be announced on Oct 25, 2015 at Searchmagazine.net. Deadline for entries is Oct 15, 2015.

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BAY AREA ATTRACTIONS: WHAT TO DO

THE WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE & ALCATRAZ AT NIGHT

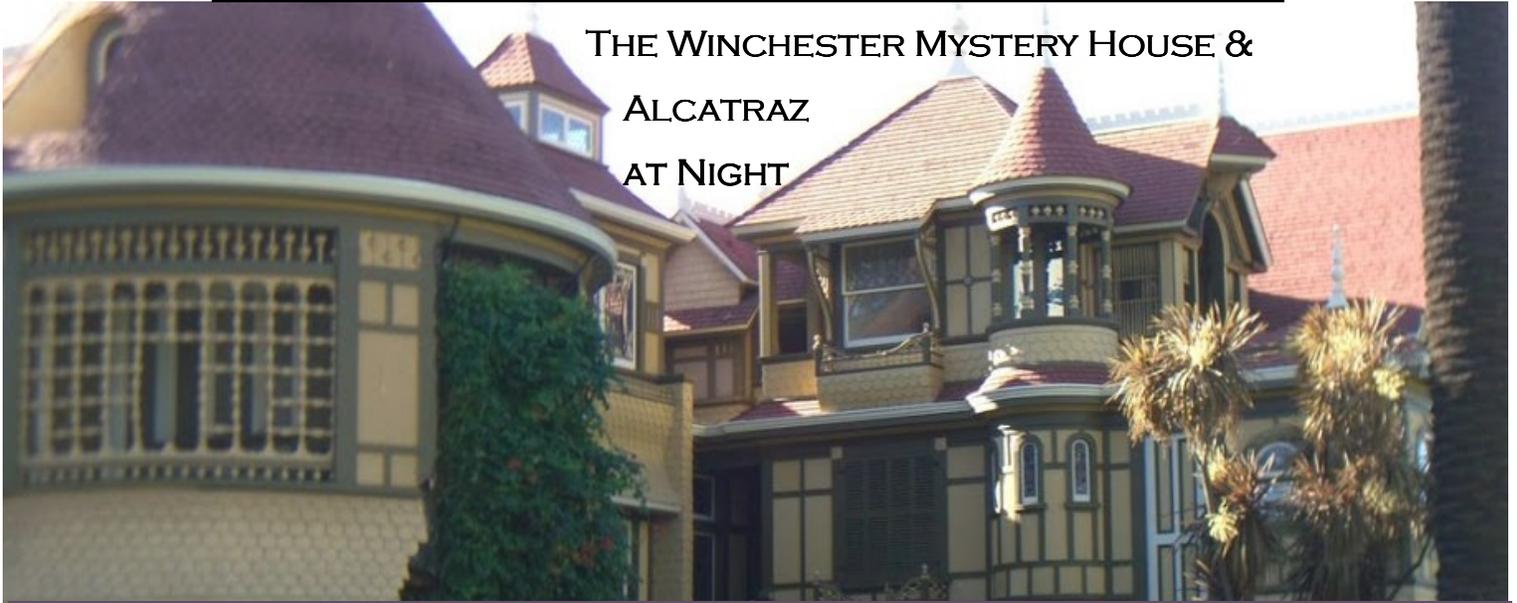


PHOTO BY RHAWNIE PINO

BY EMERIAN RICH

Fall is an excellent time to pull out all the stops and visit some of those places around the Bay that you've been scared to try before. These two locations are legends in their own right, so well known they almost have their own personalities.

WINCHESTER MYSTERY HOUSE

The Winchester Mystery House is a fun attraction any time of year, but if you can catch one of their flashlight tours, it adds even more spookiness to the trip. Held every Friday the 13th and select evenings in October, this special event will have you questioning your sanity. After visiting the mansion at night, you will gain insight into why Mrs. Winchester thought her home was haunted. Maneuvering through the maze of halls, stairways, and odd-shaped rooms is hard enough in the daylight, but at night, with just a single flashlight beam to light your way, it becomes almost impossible. Yes, there is a tour guide, but you've not experienced terror until you linger too long in a room and find yourself with the daunting reality of not knowing which way your tour went. 2015's last Friday the 13th event is November 13th. Tickets for these nights go fast, so schedule early.

I'd suggest going earlier in the day and catching the mansion tour before the sun goes down first. Another fun tour is the Behind the Scenes tour which boasts a trip to the basement where ghosts have been spotted. I've been on all three of these tours, and they never get old. While the day tour is interesting because you get to see the furnishings and living quarters of the eccentric Winchester heiress, the flashlight tour makes you wonder what it might have been like when she woke in the middle of the night to sounds she thought were ghosts telling her to keep building—or else. For tour information go to:

winchestermysteryhouse.com

ALCATRAZ AT NIGHT

Another fun place to visit in the Bay is Alcatraz, although this tour might be a little too spooky for some. Alcatraz offers select night tours which must be booked months in advance. As if seeing the living quarters of notable criminals like Scarface and Birdman isn't scary enough for you during the day, this attraction takes on a whole new level of creep when the lights go out. The night tour also opens up other parts of the prison which you don't get to see during the day such as the prison hospital. You also get to ride back to the city when it's dark, and the city lights are at their finest. To find out more, go to: alcatrazcruises.com ■

FAVORITES

BY EMERIAN RICH

BOOK



Horror Addicts Guide to Life edited by David Watson is the only horror guide you will ever need. I

might be a little bias because this book features some of my work, but really it is the most definitive work outlining how to be a horror addict 365 days of the year. With articles on horror professionals to tips on writing, film, haunting, fashion, art, and music, this book offers you insights on how to live a horror lifestyle all year round. Finished off with a load of pumpkin recipes and a 12 month almanac this book is sure to please. ■

SITE

Changing CD's has become a thing of the past with our access to music online and through various cloud and music players, but come Halloween time, it's often hard to find the right music when you want it. You could create a playlist and download all your spooky favs, but why go to the trouble when you can tune in to Halloweenradio.net? This site can be accessed through your computer or you can download the app for your other electronic devices. They have several channels to listen to such as oldies, kids, movies, and atmosphere so you can have the proper tunes playing whether throwing a kiddie carnival or a spook-filled adult party. ■



APP With Thanksgiving approaching, you might be cooking and focused on downloading kitchen timers and list makers to assist you. For the rest of us, who will be waiting for the yums, we need something to occupy us. Why not try the free Thanksgiving Mahjong by 24/7 Games LLC? It has three tile setups, no ads, and even a pause button, just in case the cook needs your help. I've been playing this for the last few weeks and have found no glitches and very little power drag. 24/7 Games LLC has these sort of games for every holiday imaginable. Why play the same old game when your can play one holiday themed? ■

EAT

I happen to be one of those poor souls who can't eat sugar, so while everyone else is tossing back fun-size Milky Ways and Tootsie Rolls, I'm stuck salivating in the corner. But nowadays, there are tons of sugar free or no sugar added alternatives. My favorite brand is Russell Stover's because they taste the most like my favorite "real" candies and with their truffle line, you can celebrate all year long with chocolate, red velvet, and birthday cake flavors. ■



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