

Let the Benson Center be your art guide

By Jane Bianchi
Old Gold and Black Reviewer

If the orange Easy Mac stain hardened on your microwave is the only thing you consider contemporary art, have no fear.

Student Union is sponsoring an audio tour that guides listeners through 23 pieces of art hanging on the walls of the Benson University Center. This program, installed last January, aims to educate students about the paintings, lithographs, crayon drawings and oil washes hanging right under their noses.

Curator and assistant gallery director Kathryn McHenry first proposed the idea during the University's 60th anniversary art exhibition last fall. "I found that people stayed in the gallery longer during the audio tours and that viewers found them less distracting than textual information," she said.

McHenry gathered information about the artwork from books and university files; art professor Margaret Supplee Smith wrote the narrative for the tour. As McHenry stated, "The information is directed toward people with an average knowledge of art, not art history experts."

The tour is narrated by Senior Vice President Edwin

Wilson.

Every four years since 1963, a group of art students travel during spring break on a university-funded excursion to galleries and studios in New York City to buy new pieces for the Student Union Collection of Contemporary Art. With a generous budget from the school, the 2001 group was able to purchase eight new works.

Most pieces in the collection are not included on the audio tour. Striving to help viewers make the best possible use of their time, McHenry decided to include the finest of the selections featured in last year's anniversary exhibition.

The tour is free, but students leave their ID cards at the third-floor information desk in exchange for an electronic wand and map.

The tour is self-directed; viewers can choose which pieces interest them and skip others by punching in the number of each particular piece on the wand. Only the numbered selections are part of the audio tour and are located mainly on the third and fourth floors.

The audio guide gives background on each artist and points out symbolism and details in the artwork.

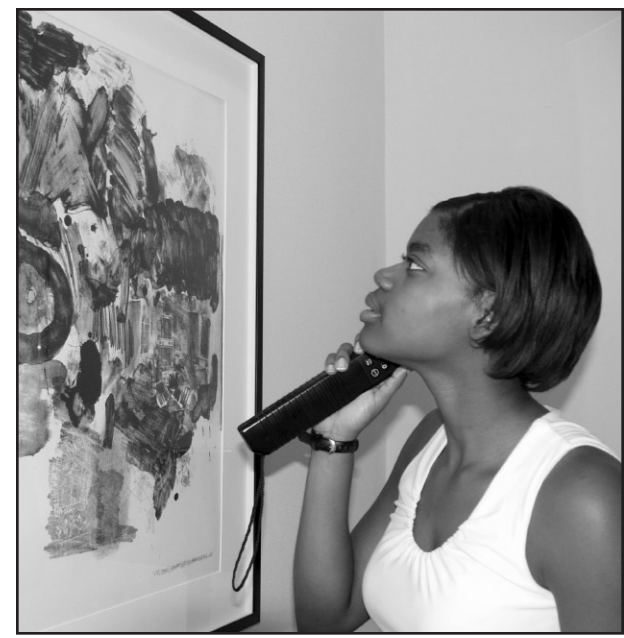
Senior Millie Kerr, president of Student Union, hopes to publicize the guides school-wide. "Because the tours are a reasonably young program, we are hoping to increase awareness about this opportunity on campus," she said.

The tour includes work by artists such as Louise Nevelson, Robert Rauschenburg and a provocative acrylic on canvas by eminent African-American artist Robert Colescott, entitled "Famous Last Words: Death of A Poet."

As the audio tour explains, the piece depicts an older, African-American poet on his deathbed, surrounded by images from his past. Some of these memories include illustrations of gambling and interracial sex. After it had been on display in the Benson Center for three years, an unknown vandal covered the white lover in his painting with black permanent marker. With the artist's help, the painting was quickly restored and still hangs today.

According to McHenry, "When you are dealing with pieces that arouse passion, there is always a concern for its safety."

To prevent future incidents, she is hoping to find secure museum space for the more valuable pieces in the collection.



Sarah Leer/Old Gold and Black

Junior Keisha Haynes listens to a free art audio guide in the Benson University Center.

The goal of this project, McHenry said, "is to make more people aware of the museum-quality art that is right here at our fingertips."

NY rockers Interpol debut 'Bright Lights'



Courtesy of Michael Edwards/matadorrecords.com

New York-based rock quartet Interpol vows with their debut LP, *Turn Up the Bright Lights*.

By Andrew Bryant
Old Gold and Black Reviewer

The pain was nearly equal to the humiliation. In a fit of solitary rocking-out I had attempted the impossible, a jump of Iggy Pop-proportions from my living room couch to the adjacent stairwell, a gymnastic feat I soon found out was well beyond my ability.

The initial leap was perfect, and as I flew up onto the arm of the loveseat I knew my legion of imaginary fans were more than impressed, though they were doomed to be let down as the couch slid from beneath my feet forcing me to fall onto the thinly carpeted dormitory floor.

Luckily, my wrist broke my fall, and as I clutched my aching hand to my backside, the only thought going through my head was, "I have to finish the guitar solo."

Granted, I don't normally get so excited about my music as to have complete disregard for physical well-being, but this was no ordinary album I was listening to. This was Interpol's *Turn On the Bright Lights*.

After I made it to my feet, I was more than happy to finish the final minute of "PDA" (one of the best songs on the album) in classic rock star fashion. Fortunately, one of my roommates had walked into the room to witness my death and rebirth at the hands of rock, and as I finished my set I heard faint applause.

Normal people would feel embarrassed at having been seen in such a vulnerable position, but I just felt pity that he lacked the knowledge that *Turn On the Bright Lights* is worth any mortification.

The album begins subtly, barely

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above a whisper, with only the repeating phrase "I will surprise you sometimes/I'll come around" sung over a hypnotic guitar line. The group then launches into the first true song of the album, "Obstacle 1." The song sets the mood for the entire album, with introspective and often cryptic lyrics regarding a lost love and missed opportunities coupled with catchy and often dark music.

The quiet jewel of the album comes in the form of the song "NYC." I rarely pay any attention to lyrics the first time I listen to an album, but this was the song that begged an exception. "I had seven faces/ thought I knew which one to wear/ but I'm sick of spending these lonely nights/ training myself not to care," was my mantra this summer as I sat through day after day of pointless activity, doing what I knew I did not want to do.

Often I would plead, in unison with the lead singer Paul Banks, for someone (anyone) to "wake up to me now/ turn on the bright lights," a statement so simple, yet so sincere in its delivery, that it cannot help but be effective.

Other songs, such as the imaginatively titled "Obstacle 2," "Stella Was A Diver And She Was Always Down" and the tongue-in-cheek "Leif Erikson" flesh out the album nicely, creating a solid piece of pure pop bliss.

Who needs real life? Date virtually!

Matchmaker, matchmaker, make me a DeaconMatch: online dating and you

One morning while eating breakfast at 11 a.m. sitting around in my pajamas and recovering from a nasty hangover, I flipped the TV stations to *The View*. Among the many segments the show featured that day was a piece called "Audrey's Internet Dating Adventure." These women videotaped their producer as she went on blind dates with men she had "met" on Match.com, the popular Internet dating website. "Leave your dating worries behind as you enter the Web's largest community of discriminating eligible singles" the site boasts.

Wouldn't it be nice if we had our own Wake Forest Match.com? Internet matchmaking service that paired university men and women together. Imagine: when you initially applied, you'd send in a picture for the look book, a picture for WIN, a picture for your ID card and a picture for your DeaconMatch.com profile! You would fill out your profile during ThinkPad orientation with the assistance of one of our lovely RTA's. Just think of it! The service could be accessible through WIN. It would be just like the nationwide Match.com, yet custom-made to fit our campus.

Of course, while filling out your profile, you would encounter the usual questions

about your appearance: hair color, eye color, body type, height, ethnicity, religion, etc. Also included are the smoking behavior (Don't smoke, Camels or Marlboros) and drinking behavior columns (Don't drink, beer pong or flip cup).

In addition to these standard questions, DeaconMatch.com would also inquire about your current living situation. Do you live on the Quad? South Campus? Johnson? Palmer/Piccolo? Off-campus?

sex and the campus by brandy jones

Polo? Why, you may ask, does where you live on campus make any difference to your potential match? Perhaps you're an upperclassman male looking for fresh meat. Maybe you're a junior female who wouldn't be caught dead dating someone who parks in the Off-Campus satellite lot and has to walk home to Palmer every day. Petty? Yes. Important? Quite possibly.

When searching for your potential mate, you'll be asked if you prefer Greeks or independents; northern or southern; SUV or BMW; business or pre-med; marriage or sex with no strings. All are very pertinent in the search for your perfect

campus soul mate.

If you're looking for personality rather than status, choose the "personality search" option.

Does your ideal match keep his dorm room clean or throw beer cans into the corner hoping his mom will come along to clean up after him? Does your match enjoy spending free time in the Miller Center or the Benson Center? Is he frat-tastic or Armani? Does she carry a Vera Bradley or a Kate Spade? Or perhaps both? The list could go on and on.

Match.com has "matched over 1000 marriages and countless meaningful relationships." Perhaps DeaconMatch.com is just what we need to rejuvenate dating on campus. Maybe this new innovation will actually draw students to our campus. Maybe this will boost our ratings in *Yahoo! Internet Life* magazine's annual "50 Most Wired Universities" ranking. What other school do you know of that includes free matchmaking with a top-notch college education? Well, knowing this school, they'd probably raise tuition and claim the service was free. Yet, as long as WAKE TV is getting into the matchmaking game (have you heard about DEACmissed? Oh yeah.), why not Information Systems?

"*Sex and the Campus*" is a regular column exploring the social and sexual climate at the university. The column is written by a senior under a pseudonym in order to maintain her sexual anonymity.

Galleries: Monthly hops draw crowds

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sculptures, photography, textiles and graphic art will be on display.

"We're not like the mall," said Dee Conner, a partner in Fiber Company, a weaving co-operative. "Everything in our shop is handmade; a lot of the things are one of a kind," she said. "You're not going to be walking down the street seeing somebody else carrying the same thing."

Visitors can nibble on finger foods and sip on punch while perusing the artwork. One may also find a mellow jazz trio playing on a corner or a lone saxophonist within a gallery, just another one of the unique flavors this event has to offer.

A great feature of the event, said DADA vice president Millicent Greason, is the varied crowds it draws.

"You interact with a lot of people that you might not necessarily see," said Greason, who owns Urban Artware. "It's a very eclectic mixture of people that show up. You've got grandmas and grandpas, families with kids, punk kids with crazy hair; that's what makes it fun. You're like, 'Yeah, there are people living in Winston-Salem.'"

Greason has scheduled a techno DJ for Sept. 6th's entertainment, to perform in the SEED gallery courtyard.

There have been gallery hops for over 10 years, but DADA recently made them monthly, rather bimonthly.

For students ready to bemoan the boredom of life in the twin city, Greason has her own opinion.

"It doesn't matter where you live; if you're a boring person you're going to be boring," she said.

The alternative, she suggests, is to head downtown Sept. 6 and open your eyes and your mind.



Sarah Leer/Old Gold and Black

One voice

Geraldine Hughes rehearses her one-woman show, *Belfast Blues*, chronicling her upbringing in Northern Ireland. *Belfast Blues* will be at the Ring Theatre tonight and Sept. 6 and 7 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10; \$5 for students. Call Ext. 5295 for information.

'Idol': Would-be stars vie for their 15 minutes on FOX

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body. In recent days the call-in voting system has been deluged with "fake" votes being placed by computer systems.

Regardless of these potential problems (which the production company swears have been compensated for in the final results), the three judges - Paula Abdul, Randy Jackson and the annoying, British snoot Simon Cowell - provide the contestants with advice. The program ended its first run this week (strangely, a summer run, which seems to be becoming a popular trend), selecting 20-year-old Texan Kelly Clarkson as the lucky winner.

The appeal of *American Idol* doesn't stop at just selecting one particular winner; sources at FOX have been saying for

some time that a significant number of the contestants will be approached with record deals, regardless of whether or not they actually won the contest.

So new diehard fans of some of the excommunicated contestants may not have to fret long before records - or, at the very least, singles - by the runners-up are released.

The idea of audience participation is a fairly recent one, and promises to crop up again. Perhaps we need a new term for this sort of television - interactive reality television? *American Idol* 2, doubtless already in the works, will certainly allow viewers to participate; other shows are sure to follow its lead.

In the meantime, keep your eyes on the tube and the phone next to your ear.

North Point: Art film fans must find flicks elsewhere

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October 20. *Happy Times* (China, 2002) is scheduled for November 17, and on December 15 *Warm Water Under a Bridge* (Japan, 2001) will be presented.

All films begin at 3 p.m. and are \$5 for student non-members.

Mark Burger, a movie critic for the *Winston-Salem Journal* hopes the void left by North Point's Closing will be

"I'm sure sooner or later, someone will wise up and build a theater here in town."

Mark Burger

Winston-Salem Journal Movie Critic

filled.

"I'm sure sooner or later, someone will wise up and build a theater here in town," he said.