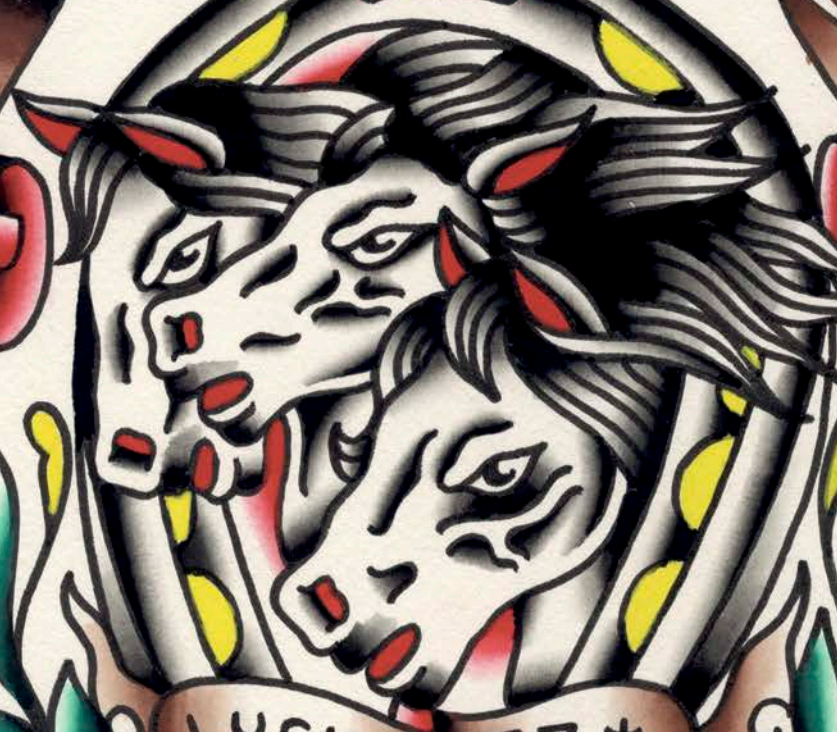


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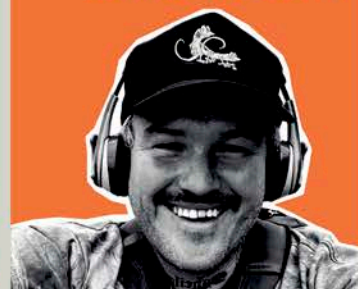
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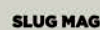
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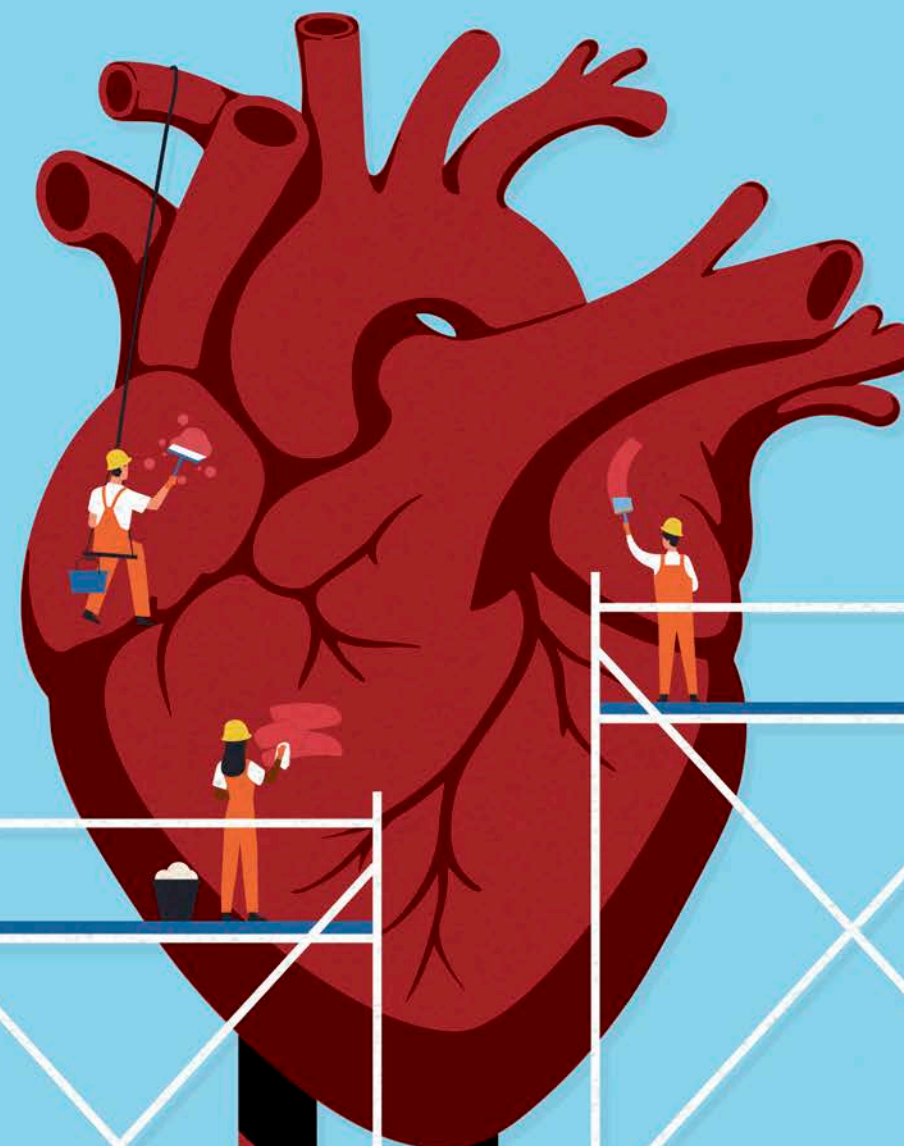
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As a jack of all trades, Hans Magleby has done it all. Setting a high bar as a lead Brand Ambassador while keeping his ear the music scene, Magleby has become a valueable asset to our team. Keep on rocking, Hans! Check out his review of a Thunderfist track for this month’s LMSR on *SLUGMag.com*.

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Photographer Kevin TK Frantz is one radical son-of-a-gun! His keen eye for the perfect shot has landed him in the pages of *Thrasher*, with each photograph worth a thousand words — all summed up to be “fucking awesome!” See Frantz shred into action with his skate photo features on *SLUGMag.com*.



37th Anniversary Issue — Best of the 2000s: *SLUG* celebrates 37 years as an independent, alternative magazine with a retrospective of the music, culture and communities that defined the early 2000s in Utah. On this month’s cover, tattoo artist **Chuck Spade** (@chuckxspade) rings in 2026 as the year of the horse with an Americation traditional illustration. For good fortune, see what we pulled from the archives on pages 10-18.

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Burt's Tiki Lounge:

Where Salt Lake City Got Loud, Weird and Off the Wall

By Jeremy Cardenas • jeremycardenas@netscape.net
Photo courtesy: Jeremy Cardenas

There are bars you remember because they were beautiful and bars you remember because they changed the trajectory of your life. For me, *Burt's Tiki Lounge* fell squarely into the latter category. From the late 1990s through the mid-2000s, the brick façade and dimly-lit marquee at 726 South State Street were iconic. The joint was quietly one of the most important cultural rooms in town. It wasn't glamorous or polished, but for a generation of locals, it was home.

Despite the name, *Burt's* wasn't really a tiki bar. The "tiki" aspect felt ironic at best. Aside from palm fronds hung from the ceiling, there was little connection to a tropical fantasy. Inside, the mood was pure dive: low lighting, sticky floors and walls layered with flyers and photographs. One image loomed large: "Burt" himself, nude on a beach with a beer resting on his endowment, wearing a smug grin that told you this was a place to let it all hang out. (There was no real Burt.) The décor told stories not of paradise, but of last night's show and last year's scene. *Burt's* didn't pretend to be anything it wasn't, and that was the point.

At a time when Salt Lake City nightlife could feel restrained or predictable, *Burt's* offered an alternative. It was loud, messy and unfiltered. As you walked through the door, you were greeted by **Netty Slaughter** (rest in peace), her gruff voice reminding you to pay the cover and leave the bullshit outside. She was wary, hilarious and uncompromising — an exact reflection of the bar itself.

Live music was the lifeblood of the lounge. *Burt's* stage hosted an endless rotation of local and touring acts. Punk, metal, garage rock, rockabilly, ska — if it

was loud and raw, it passed through *Burt's*. Touring bands often didn't know what they'd booked until they arrived, but once they hit their first note, they knew it was the real deal. Acts like **Deadbolt**, **Jucifer** and **Captured by Robots** delivered shows that felt intimate, chaotic and electric — where the line between performer and audience dissolved by the second song.

What made *Burt's* special, though, was the people. The bartenders and staff were the center of the universe. They kept the bar alive, sometimes using their own money to do so. **Scotty Kerbein**, **Shannon Barnson** (rest in peace) and **Jeremy Sundea** (rest in peace) did everything they could to keep the freight train on the rails. Their masterful mixology brought forth the "Cerebral Assassin" cocktail that fueled countless blackout nights. Regulars became fixtures, as much a part of the décor as the faded photographs. Conversations, fist fights and even

fire-breathing spilled into the street, driven by cheap beer and shared exuberance. *Burt's* could be intimidating at first, but once you were in, you were in.

There was magic in how unpolished it all felt. *Burt's* didn't chase trends or clean itself up for wider appeal. That authenticity earned recognition beyond Utah, including being named one of America's top dive bars in the early 2000s. Comedian **Dave Attell** filmed *Insomniac* there, but even that felt beside the point. *Burt's* wasn't trying to be iconic; it just was.

As the 2000s rolled on, Salt Lake City changed. Development reshaped downtown, nightlife shifted and spaces that nurtured underground scenes grew scarce.



With the bar filled with concert-goers, Burt's Tiki Lounge stands as a memory bank for the good ol' times.



The iconic Burt's Tiki Lounge — Long gone, but never forgotten.

Burt's held on as long as it could, but when it finally closed, it felt less like a business shutting down and more like the end of a chapter.

Today, *Burt's* exists only in memory — in old photos, faded flyers and stories told by people who swear the shows were louder and the nights longer. Mention its name, and you'll see the smile and pause of recognition. *Burt's* wasn't perfect, but it didn't need to be. It gave Salt Lake City something rare: a place to be unapologetically itself. And long after the lights went out, it left behind an echo — loud, distorted and unforgettable.



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"Without naming names, culturally there is one side and the other," says owner **Phil Sherburne**. "A lot of kids don't fit into the norm. You gotta have somewhere to go, and *Kilby's* a great place for people who didn't find a home with the Young Republicans. Not to mention the great bands that come here." He continues, "It's not a clique or anything, but it's somewhere else to go besides a dance club. These kids think differently. And it's not just for kids, but for the whole community I hope."

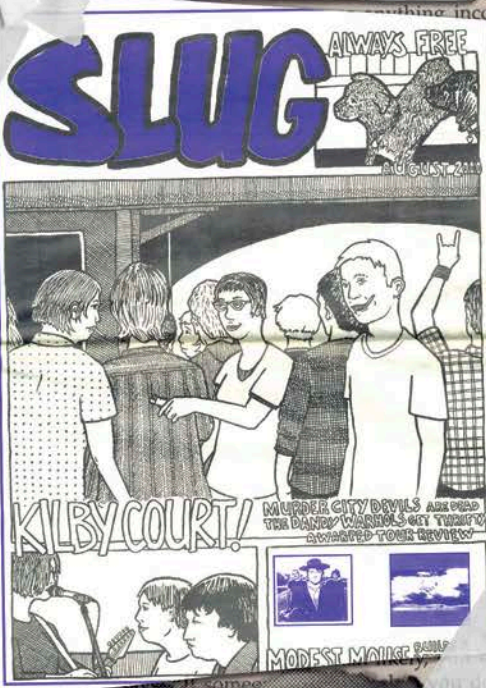
Kilby Court has been the place in Salt Lake to see an entire array of bands you'd

never find anywhere else in this state and one of the few remaining all-ages venues for live music. Visiting bands "appreciate being able to play for a crowd that is actually listening to you, unlike in a bar," says **Rex Shelverton** of the San Francisco group **Vue**. Over 100 shows have happened there since opening almost exactly a year ago on Aug. 9, 1999 with the **Pinehurst Kids** visiting from Portland. The lineups have read like a who's who of up-and-coming indie and smaller label rock bands.

Kilby Court

ISSUE #140: AUGUST 2000

By Brian Staker



FROM THE SLUG ARCHIVES

BEST OF THE 2000S

Tony Hawk

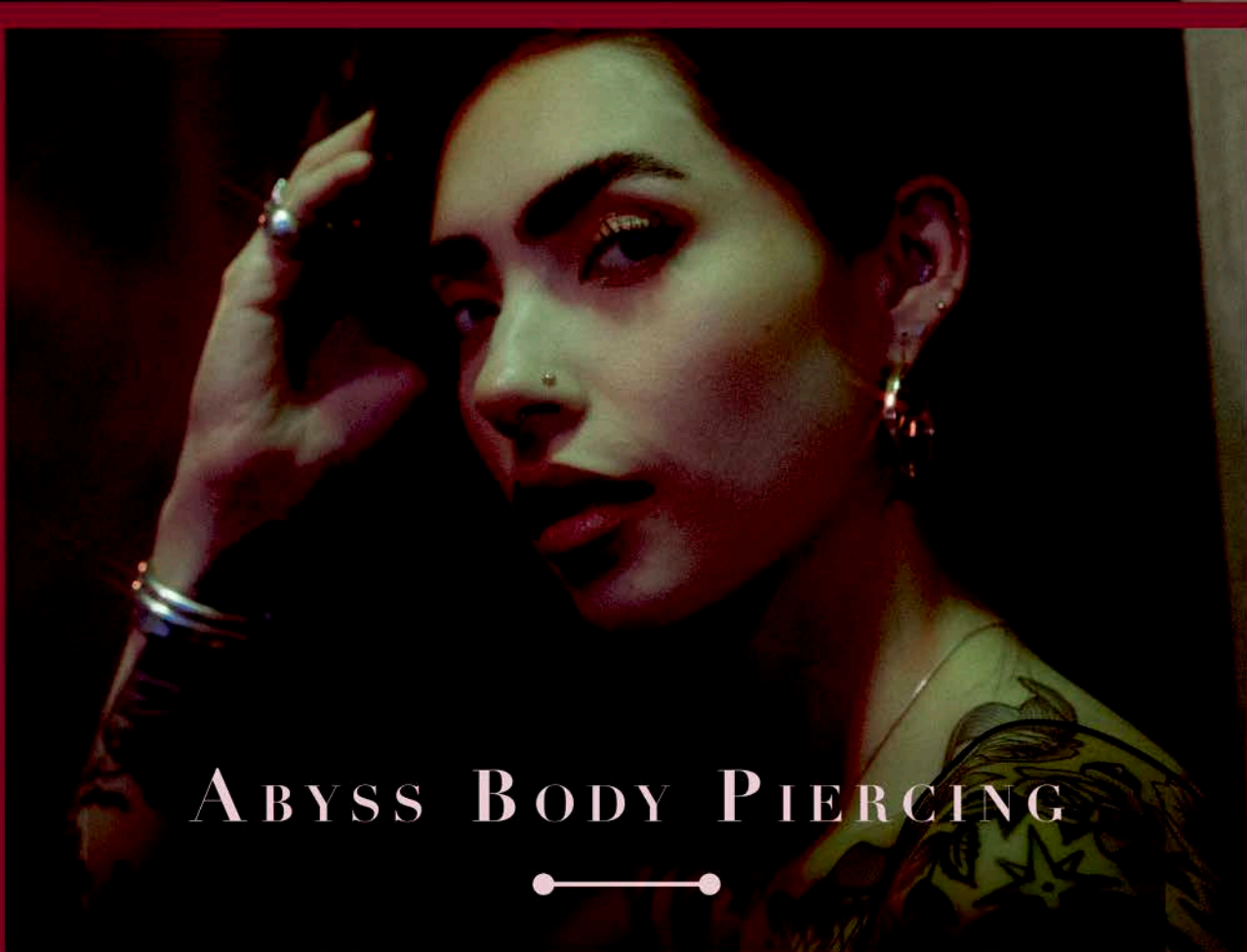
ISSUE #152: AUGUST 2001

By Mike



Tony Hawk has been pro for nearly 19 years and officially stopped competing in 1999. At 33 years of age, eating well and skating regularly keeps him healthy. "Having a family and business to manage, I can't spend all day at the skate park anymore," Hawk says. When you ride skateboards, injuries are part of the game, and although he says "learning how to fall is the best way to avoid getting hurt," Hawk has knocked out his front teeth, had a few concussions "before the days of good helmets," fractured a rib and broken his elbow. Oh yes, the pleasures of skating.

With skateboarding becoming more and more popular and accepted in mainstream culture, Hawk has taken advantage of the hype and used his name to make "much more than I ever thought possible." He only endorses products that he actually uses or believes in, so don't think that he's some sell-out corporate whore. You might have noticed that damn skateboard video game that everyone has been playing, the *Tony Hawk Pro Skater* game. "It's amazing that a video game finally makes the general public understand the technical aspects of skating," Hawk says.



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"It doesn't take a penis to hold a fucking guitar," says **Kelly Green**, guitarist and singer for the punk band **Teen Tragedies**. In a town where roughly one out of every five bands has a female musician — and maybe one out of 10 boasts a female band leader — some girls wonder if playing is a man's job. "Because I'm a girl, I always have to prove it," Green says. "But I don't think my music has anything to do with gender," she says.

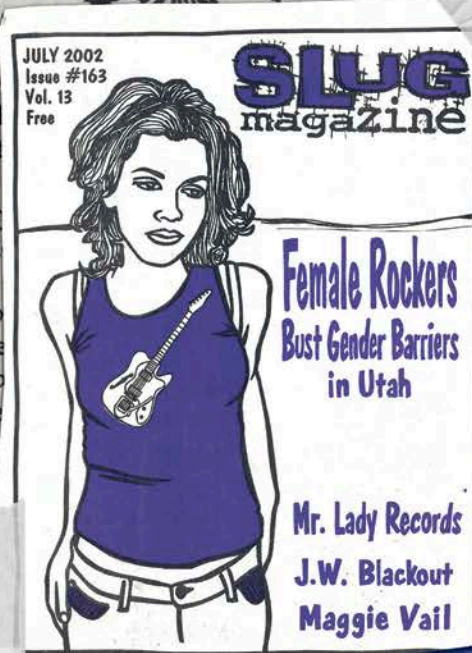
Victoria Johnson, the guitarist and vocalist for the all-girl band **The Basement**, is used to proving herself. "Male musicians have

really low expectations of females," she says. When a male coworker teased that he'd never met a girl who could do a guitar solo, she called him on it, promising to give him a lesson in female rock on their next break. **Liza Law** is a tough guitar player whose intelligent lyrics can barely be heard over the hard sounds of **Nell Nash**, her band. "We're calling bullshit on these motherfuckers," she says, when asked about men who don't take female musicians seriously. "We need to re-learn issues of gender ... to redefine what it means to be girls."

Female Musicians with an Agenda

ISSUE #163: JULY 2002

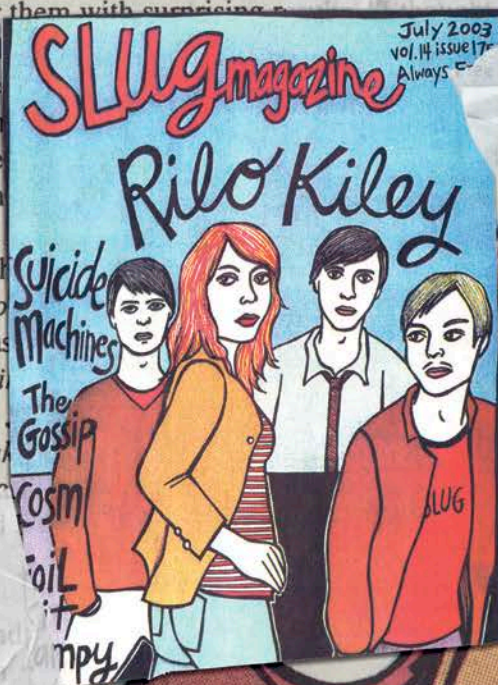
By Joey Marquart



An Interview with Rilo Kiley

ISSUE #175: JULY 2003

By Josh Scheuerman



BEST OF THE 2000s

I recognized money and time as both a despairing image and an answer to many of **Jenny Lewis'** lyrics in the last two albums. "I think my fears and anxieties take on a different word, face or emotion," she says. "Those are pretty consistent. I think this new record will have some war references, as I was watching the war on television." While some artists might scoff at the idea of being political or saying what's on their mind, this is exactly what many believe being an artist is all about.

"It's a really scary thing to expose yourself and then

scarier to expose your political ideas," she says. "Personally, I don't give a fuck. I'm going to say what I want to say and hopefully, the right people will hear, understand and relate to what I'm saying. More than anything else, I'm just afraid for the future of our country. That's why it comes up in our songs, because I'm scared for my own life." Lewis has every reason to be afraid for the future of America, but musically, Rilo Kiley already has two astounding releases under its belt and will return for a third this year.



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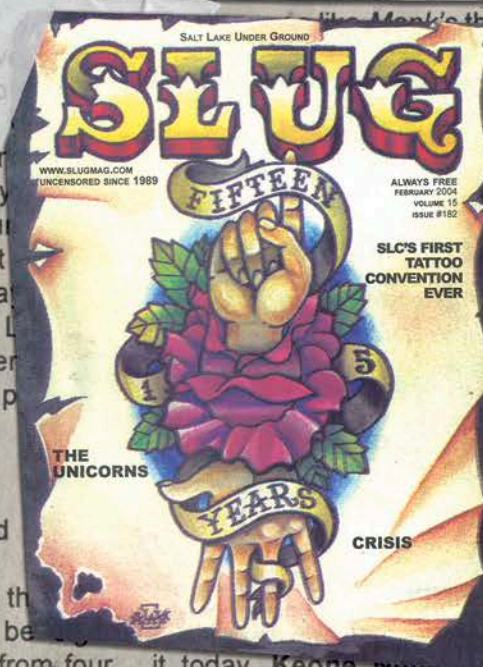
For many individuals living within the Utah state lines, Salt Lake City serves as a sanctuary from an otherwise by-The-Book society. Many members of SLC's subcultures do abide by a sort of writing, though — that of ink on flesh. You can spot tattooed youth anywhere from *Sage's Cafe* and *Albee Square* to the mall and McDonald's. Whether you view tattoos as a life-long symbol of dedication to a movement or a hip fashion statement that will make the girls at East High swoon, the caliber of tattoo artists in SLC rivals that of any major city in the world. That is why, on Feb. 27, 28 and 29, Salt Lake City will

be hosting its first-ever tattoo convention. Put together by *Lost Art Tattoo*, this year's convention ain't gonna be no wall-flower amongst the dozens of annual international tattoo conventions. "Ten years ago, this probably wouldn't have worked," says **CJ Starky** of *Lost Art*. "People weren't getting sleeves and back pieces — there wasn't the quality. But at this convention there will be eight international booths from four different continents. We've been planning this for a year now, and the time is right. Lots of good shops are thriving."

Salt Lake Shows Some Skin

FEBRUARY 2004: ISSUE #182

By Jennifer Nielsen



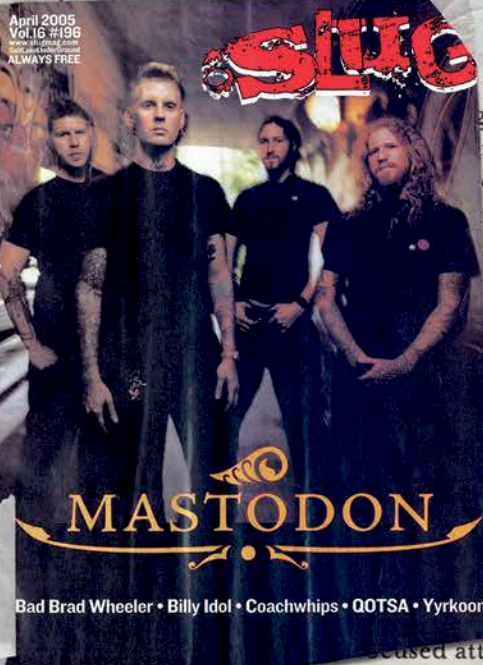
FROM THE SLUG ARCHIVES

BEST OF THE 2000s

Mastodon Has the Ability to Rule Us All

ISSUE #196: APRIL 2005

By Chuck Berrett



Last year proved to be another year of destroying the planet for Mastodon. *Leviathan* was released in 2004, an album that is just as complex, indefinable and crushing as 2002's equally acclaimed *Remission*. In a conceptual manner, Mastodon re-tells **Herman Melville's** tale of *Moby Dick*. The epic story of a man driven to manic obsession by his hunt for a great yet fictional white whale is just as twisted and gargantuan as the music of Mastodon. Last month, I had the honor of conversing with vocalist and bassist **Troy Sanders** about his band's decision to follow the theme of

Melville's novel.

"Well, the story of *Moby Dick* paralleled the lives of the four dudes in Mastodon so much, it was too easy for us to pick and pull similarities to Captain Ahab's character and the pursuit of the whale — and the dedication, persistence and sacrifice," Sanders says. "The longevity of his trip was almost like what we've done in our band for the past five years. So we just thought it would be cool to do something themed — not a direct concept album — but something themed with water and creatures, which we're all fascinated with."

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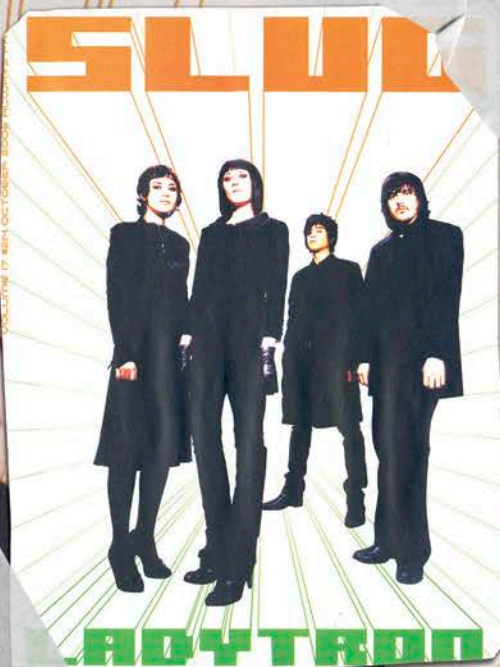


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An Interview with Ladytron

ISSUE #214: OCTOBER 2006

By Lynne Scott



It seemed like a long three years of anticipation for the 2005 Ladytron album, *Witching Hour*. Rich guitars blending into a harder rock sound was a surprise, yet the band flattened their integrity through the same richness of analog synths and gentle female vocals. **Reuben Wu** says it was a conscious effort to hold on to the original sound of Ladytron. "There is as much synth as there is on our previous records," he says. "We've just been able to experiment with the sound and broaden our range of instrumentation."

Adding guitars to *Witching Hour* came naturally to the band. "We use synths as a

foundation and build on top of that," Wu says. "We don't try to stay within one realm of instrumentation. It's all sound. We treat a guitar like a synthesizer, but with strings."

With three out of the four members being DJs, it seemed natural for Ladytron to slip in some vinyl scratching, blending the beats in the vein of *Portishead*. Wu says they tried, but it was a "bad idea." What about male vocals? Wu suggests listening very carefully to "International Dateline." The subtleness of male vocals rewards the listener paying close attention.

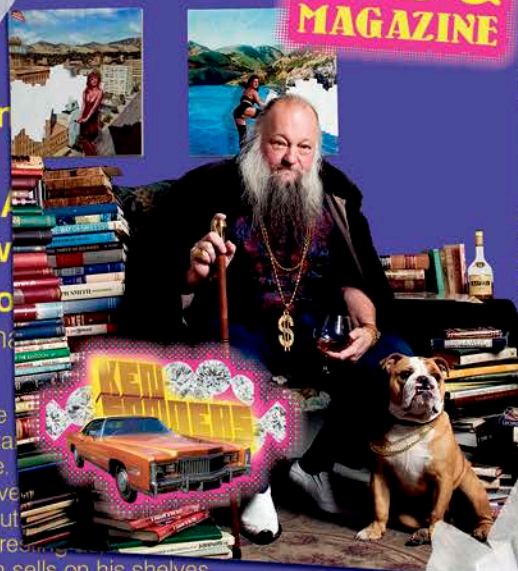
FROM THE SLUG ARCHIVES

Ken Sanders: The Pimp of the Printed Word

ISSUE #228: DECEMBER 2007

By Erik Lopez

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MAGAZINE



BEST OF THE 2000s

In one form or another, Ken Sanders has been involved with books and the book business his whole life. But the transformation from bibliophile to book seller is as interesting as any printed matter that Sanders sells on his shelves. "I read books omnivorously from the time I could read," Sanders says. "I don't ever remember a time when I did not read books."

Born in 1951, Sanders' obsession with books started at a young age. At Woodrow Wilson Elementary, Sanders read every book in the school's library that interested him — from the fantasy fiction of *Lewis*

Carroll to the morose horror stories of *Edgar Allan Poe*. In class, Sanders would receive boxes of books from the Errol book shipments, which is something like the Scholastic Book Fairs of today. Every week he would get a weekly reader, and every month he would order bunches of 25-cent paperbacks. "[Most kids] would end up getting a book or two. I had more books than the whole rest of the class combined," Sanders says. "To me, it was a lifeline." Thanks to his early attachment to books, Sanders became a serious book collector by age 14.

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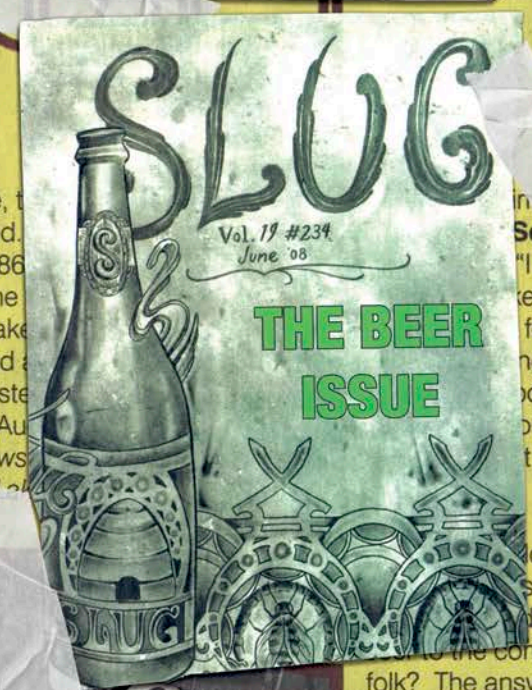


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The History of Beer in Utah

ISSUE #234: JUNE 2008
By Evan Sawdey



Today, LDS Church members adhere to the *Word of Wisdom* quite strictly... but it wasn't always that way. Back when Salt Lake City was in its infancy, the church and its members proved to be both active and vital in the movement to keep Utah soaked in booze. Economically, it was a great way to attract people to Utah's ever-growing populace.

A Mormon (one that was oft accused of killing people) started the first Utah brewery. Indeed, the infamous **Orrin Porter Rockwell** established the *Hot Springs Brewery and Hotel* in 1856. Rockwell himself was a colorful character: He was

the personal bodyguard to both **Joseph Smith** and **Brigham Young**, and with his **Manson-like** beard and intense, thunderous eyes, he turned out to be as intimidating as he looked. During a speech given by Vice President **Schuyler Colfax** in 1869, Rockwell blurted out, "I never killed anyone who didn't need killing." This certainly makes sense when you take into account the fact that he was arrested for the murders and attempted murders of multiple men, including notable Western figures such as **Lilburn W. Boggs**, **Lot Huntington** and **John Aiken**.

FROM THE SLUG ARCHIVES

BEST OF THE 2000s

The Rebirth of Raunch Records

ISSUE #252: DECEMBER 2009
By Ryan-Ashley Workman



Brad Collins is going full-on with the resurrection of *Raunch Records*, knowing all too well what a financial gamble it may be. His reasoning is not for any kind of "get rich quick" aspirations, and he acknowledges that others may question the intentions of this business endeavor. "There's been a couple guys that are going, 'You're a dope! What are you doing it for?'" Collins says. "As far as the [current] economy goes, most people are saying, 'You're crazy!' Even the distributors that sell the music are saying I'm crazy ... I'm 52 fuckin' years old. Am I going to relate to the

16-year-old [customers]? I'm not sure yet." *Raunch Records* opened its first location on July 4, 1984 on the corner of 400 South and 400 West. The building that housed *Raunch* would soon after be known as *Positively Fourth Street*, which was also the home of rehearsal studios and the legendary *Painted Word* all-ages music venue, which brought in most cool, touring bands of the time if the neighboring *Speedway Café* couldn't accommodate them. It was in the worst part of town at the time, hidden by a now non-existent overpass, just south of Pioneer Park.



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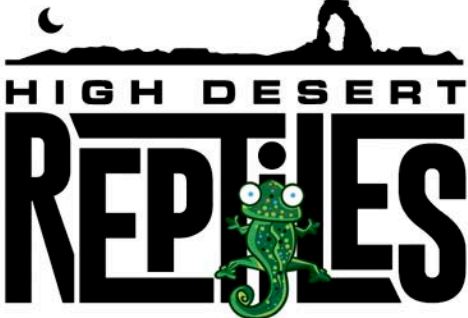


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SLUG

ANNIVERSARY

37 LOCAL BANDS, 1 NIGHT, 1 SONG EACH




For 37 years, *SLUG Magazine* has been amplifying Salt Lake City's thriving alternative and underrepresented music, arts, events and community subcultures with thoughtful media coverage and event curation.

To mark this incredible anniversary, *SLUG* will be holding a one-of-a-kind night of live music where 37 local artists will perform one song each on Saturday,

Feb. 21 at *Metro Music Hall*. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the party starts at 8 p.m. — purchase your tickets today for just \$15!

In anticipation of our biggest event of the year, *SLUG* asked each performing band or artist a few questions about their music, plus some just for shits and giggles!



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RAJ AND WILL

SEAN BAKERS
RECYCLED STARDUST

VICIOUS SOULS

SLUG: Who is your favorite Utah celebrity or local legend?

Wicked Temple: Corky from KBER’s Salt Lake Soundcheck.

IMAG!NARY FRIENDZ: Sammy Brue.

Emily Hicks: Heather Gay, Whitney Rose and Angie K from The Real Housewives of Salt Lake City.

TREESON: The Used.

Red Bennies: Jeremy Devine.

UltraVatic: The Sinclair dinosaur.

VAL/IN/TIME: Ken Sanders! He’s been selling important books to the community for 50 years!

Secondhand Sun: Dan the PC man from PC Laptops! Or Tony Johns, the most drop-dead gorgeous guy in this state of Utah. Or Philip Seymour Hoffman — he did his own stunts.

CHAC XOL: Lara Jones and the wizard of Liberty Park.

SLUG: Describe your music style as if it were a cocktail.

Raj and Will: An old fashioned mixed with PVC shavings and social engineering.

The Glitter Bombs: A pop rock-dusted snow cone flavored with absinthe and tiger’s blood.

Flat Rat: Survival water.

Wasatch Valley Drifters: You can drink any kind of booze to our music.

The Painted Roses: An Irish coffee in a gas station to-go cup at the ski resort parking lot.

Number One Babe Team: Mezcal-infused Zelda Heart Potion.

Purr Bats: Black Lotus: three opposite flavors with a red wine float. Long-lasting on the battlefield.

T.A.O. Ensemble: Fizzy Lifting Drink, ayahuasca and Egyptian embalming liquid.

Shecock: A double shot, bottled in bond Rye Manhattan with a luxardo cherry.

SAEMORE: A Velvet Lantern: aged gin, elderflower, a twist of blood orange, a dash of lavender and sparkling rosé.

SLUG: If you had a time machine that could only be used for heists, what object would you steal from the past?

Eyes of Eva: The Ark of the Covenant.

Star Carmen: The Voynich Manuscript, a mysterious text with weird language and drawings.

crimcore: Frank Zappa’s journal.

Seasonless: Joseph Smith’s Golden Plates.

Demons: Another beer mug from *Ya’ Buts*.

Tempting: The light cycle from *Tron Legacy* — we’d love to get drunk and drive that baby around.

BANSHEE TWIN: Scully and Mulder’s wardrobes.

The X’d: The Holy Grail.

CLUB MUNGO: The ear Mike Tyson bit off.

SLUG: You just pulled a bad fortune from a fortune cookie. What does it say?

Lab Animals: “Catastrophic failure; meltdown imminent.”

Graveyard Violet: “We’ve been trying to reach you regarding your car’s extended warranty.”

Vicious Souls: “Unfortunately, you will be hungry again in one hour.”

Midnight Jaguarz: “The SAIM, after emerging, has decided that you are extra. Report for disposal.”

Cathode from the SLC Synth Alliance: “Gaze long enough into an abyss, and the abyss will gaze back into you.”

Runestomper: “Please don’t eat the paper again.”

Sylke: “Your parents secretly hate you.”

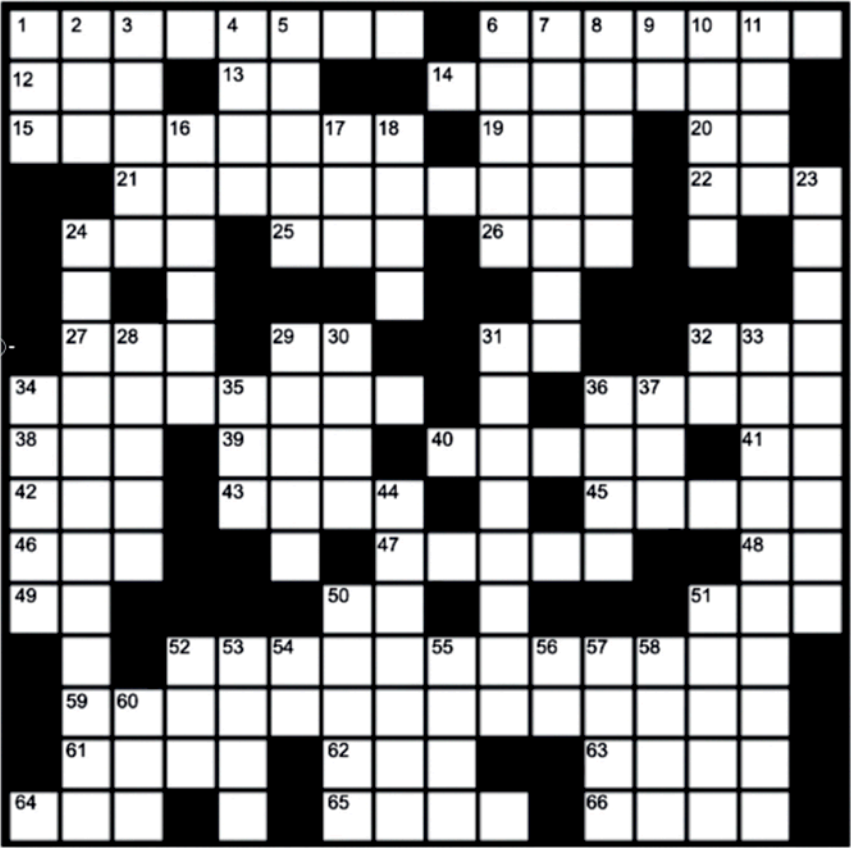
Gage Brigance: “The road you’re on will work — just not how you planned.”

Sean Baker’s Recycled Stardust: “I shit your pants.”

BANSHEE TWIN, Cathode (SLC Synth Alliance), CHAC XOL, CLUB MUNGO, crimcore, Emily Hicks, Eyes of Eva, Flat Rat, Gage Brigance, Graveyard Violet, IMAG!NARY FRIENDZ, Lab Animals, Midnight Jaguarz, Number One Babe Team, Purr Bats, Raj and Will, Red Bennies, Runestomper, Saemore, Sean Baker’s Recycled Stardust, Seasonless, Secondhand Sun, Shecock, SLC Demons, Star Carmen, Sylke, TAO Ensemble, Tempting, The Glitter Bombs, The Painted Roses, The X’d, TREESON, UltraVatic, Vicious Souls, Wasatch Valley Drifters, Wicked Temple, VAL/IN/TIME



CROSSWORDS ARE FOR LOVERS



ACROSS

1. The 38th state
6. Things you wear
12. Rocky Mtn college with a ram mascot
13. The horse Mr. ____
14. "____ and the chocolate factory"
15. Rejects often or what someone does at the end of a large tomato harvest
19. Upstate New York airport code
20. Country between CHN and JPN
21. Where you can find Los Angeles, Los Gatos, and Los Banos
22. Largest salt water lake in the W. Hemisphere
24. Hockey org.
25. Letters found on many bracelets
26. Small insect that lives in a colony
27. Head injury, for short
29. "Yes" in Spanish
31. Famous road in NYC
32. Hubbub
34. Coffee flavored dessert
36. Man at the altar
38. Business metric for gauging profits, abbr.
39. 140 in Roman numerals
40. Jetson's dog or a Chevy van
41. Univ. in Eugene
42. Pride ____ Prejudice
43. State that was the deciding vote to end prohibition
45. What you may go into after spending too much on an apple device?
46. Middle eastern country
47. Person who lives on Alaskan island chain
48. Masculine "the" in French
49. Smaller than a gal or a pt
50. Social security or short stop
51. Type of light bulb
52. Actress who plays Pam Beesly
59. Pop the question
61. Billy ____
62. SLC soccer team
63. Zero in tennis
64. Year in Spanish
65. Blue green color
66. Central African country

DOWN

1. FDR alphabet organization
2. Female bear in Spanish
3. Meal between breakfast and dinner
4. Not fake
5. Improvise
6. Most populous country until 2023
7. Hispanics
8. Choice of headwear?
9. ____;DR
10. Popular dating app
11. Startled squeels
16. Sage plant
17. Opposite of "on"
18. Fake meat
23. Moved from one place to another, by train
24. Shout at the end of the 2019 World Series
28. A woman in white
29. Manhattan street that ends at Central Park
30. "Island" in Spanish
31. Purple flowering vine plant
32. 1st tennis grand slam of the yr
33. Oboe or bassoon
34. "Dream" in German
35. Where Black Panther and Iron Man are from, in short
36. Sand paper characteristic
37. Golden ____
44. Serves a purpose
50. What may happen if you laugh too hard
51. River in Russia
52. Jenny from the block
53. Fanning or Woods
54. Empire state
55. Law that allows for time off due to medical or family reasons
56. Mr in Spanish
57. Shape with no corners, abbr.
58. PCT lingo for "be yourself"



They say home is where the heart is. Well, the heart of Design Within Reach (DWR) is style for your home that endures. The prominent furniture retailer, which opened its first Utah store at City Creek Center in November, exists to provide access to authentic modern design, inspiration and high quality, generational pieces fit for building lasting spaces.

DWR was founded in San Francisco in 1998 by **Rob Forbes**, who identified that many iconic pieces, like the popular Eames lounge chair and ottoman, were “out of reach” for most homeowners, due to industry exclusivity and long delivery times. “Rob’s mission was to give people access to the best in modern design,” says **Omar Nobil**, DWR’s Creative Director. “We do that by curating what we think has importance and will make a meaningful difference in people’s lives.”

Nobil calls the Eames chair an “integral, critical part” of DWR’s central assortment. The womb chair by **Eero Saarinen**, originally designed for Knoll, is another. Both pieces, which have been around for over 70 years, represent renowned classics by historically significant designers.

DWR places emphasis on the word “modern” in the term “midcentury modern.” Nobil says, “As we think about design, we don’t compartmentalize. We only market products that can live up to these historically significant icons, and our goal is to always have them live together.” This “dynamic, eclectic mix” of designers past and present can be found in every vignette, or setup, at each DWR store.

STYLE YOUR HOME
FOR GENERATIONS
DESIGN WITHIN REACH



By Kyle Forbush • @kisle_writes
Photo courtesy of Design Within Reach

“We work with people who have shared values with us,” Nobil says. “People who are thinking about life today and how to improve it, as opposed to someone who just wants to catch a trend, or someone who does have the ability to create beautiful things, but they don’t function for life.” He adds that DWR looks to collaborate with current designers who can create pieces that are “culturally relevant now but have an enduring quality to them.”

Susan Clark is one such modern designer. She is also a gallerist in New York City and is steeped heavily in the industrial style. Her Contra Sofa can be found in-store alongside the Noguchi Table, a coffee table designed by legendary 20th century designer **Isamu Noguchi**. Nobil says Clark has a “real deference for the heritage of making in America,” informed by her personal training in “glassblowing, metalworking, weaving and wood-working.” Exemplifying this ethos, her Contra Sofa relies on sturdy, solid wood in its construction,


which intentionally complements the solid wood of the Noguchi Table base in the Salt Lake City store.

“The materials that really resonate for us as a brand are largely natural materials,” Nobil explains. “We’re a brand that leans heavily into high-end and luxurious upholstery textiles and natural fibers. Structurally, we use a lot of solid wood and natural stones.” DWR’s commitment to excellent craftsmanship means their pieces are meant to last and be moved from home to home or generation to generation.

Besides traditional living room furniture, DWR’s new store has a litany of bed and bath pieces, lighting options, rugs, fine art and décor. And if you’re not sure how to put it all together in one space or home, they offer personalized interior design services free of charge, coming equipped with a 3D home rendering system for composing your ideas.

At DWR, you’re not just purchasing furniture, you’re investing in both storied and cutting-edge works of art that will last a lifetime and maybe more. In their current state of expansion, Nobil says establishing a storefront in Salt Lake City was a must. “We want to make sure we’re bringing access to the best in modern design to parts of the country where there’s a cultural interest in design and the arts,” he says. “And we see Salt Lake City as emblematic of that.”

DWR’s spring collection launches this month. You can shop online at dwr.com or visit the store at 51 S Main St., #162.



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With their new store in City Creek Center, Design Within Reach continues to be a prominent furniture retailer.





Creative Director Omar Nobil is keeping modern design alive with Design Within Reach.

BRANDED CONTENT

SLUG MAG

ASTROLOGY

FORECAST



February 2026

A Flash of Clarity

By Nichole Huntsman • nicholehuntsman@gmail.com

“Suddenly a mist fell from my eyes and I knew the way I had to take.” —Edvard Grieg

ARIES: *Divine Sacrifice*
Creation and destruction require one another. Horns are caught between branches, so keep your blade strapped to your side. Sharpened words will fall edge-wise. Be prepared to free yourself from the thicket, but do your best to remain calm. The branches may be beneath you.

TAURUS: *Territorial Rights*
Don't let the chaos invade your private space. You need room for decompression and reflection this season. Protect the order in your life. Gift yourself with an intentional approach to your waking hours: perhaps light and sound baths for a slow rise to the day. The days will move more smoothly if you've created a predictably controlled environment.

GEMINI: *Iceberg Ahead*
You're being told to maintain the status quo and trust the experts, but the boiler room is overheating. A survival instinct kicks in when you see the deck tipping. Remain disagreeable by withdrawing your feedback. There will be a certain satisfaction watching them rearrange deck chairs, especially when you already told them what to expect.

CANCER: *Black Waters*
Why search for distant waters when your pool holds the deepest? Reckless self-abandonment leads to self-destruction. Take back your birthright and do

not trade your God-given gifts for security. Radical ownership of your life will demand new contracts. Your autonomy is not up for negotiation.

LEO: *Trust Issues*
It's time for delegations and shared duties. The devil is in the details, and micromanaging will prove futile. There's more than one way to bring this project to fruition. Don't expect everyone to cooperate with your plan or sacrifice without reciprocity.

VIRGO: *Crash Averted*
Forgive trespasses and release resentments; waiting and watching will prove beneficial. There will be strange turns of events that will shift outcomes.

Your past embarrassments were due to oversights. Patience in the process, dear one.

LIBRA: *Witnessing from a Distance*
Distractions arise from afar. Keep your mind focused on what you can control and avoid meddling in others' crises. Harness your early morning verve to tackle the difficult. When Mercury stations retrograde at the end of February, you'll be glad you pushed through the distractions.

SCORPIO: *Crisis Management*
Stay in your lane. You're not responsible for holding the world together or saving anyone. Avoid over-involvement for your own peace and recognize old enemies as teachers. Let

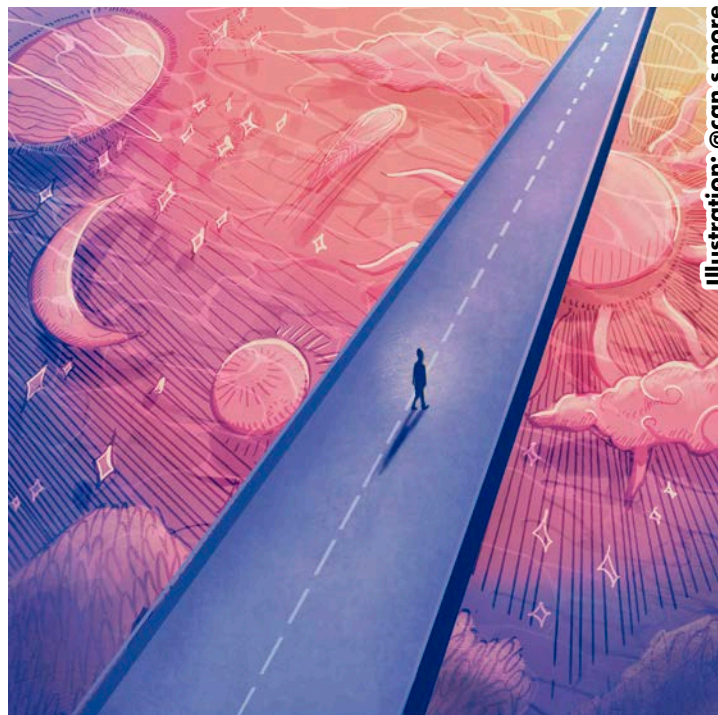
karma make her final judgments, so you can get some sleep.

SAGITTARIUS: *Give and Take*
Messy obligations may overtax you this month. Did you miss reading the fine print? Focus on your personal agenda. Keep a close eye on your energy and reject demands that pull you from hard center. If your intentions are being questioned, you might want to question your intentions.

CAPRICORN: *Be Cool*
What an odd experience. Lay down the old battle axe; you're about to be given a new weapon of choice. Alternative methods will appear and you have a chance to be unorthodox. But don't forget that the rulers of the game are changing. They might not be as powerful this year.

AQUARIUS: *Do You Remember Me?*
Where's the feeling? It's the end of an era — lost but not forgotten. Pretending is fraud. Someone is waiting for you on the last page, and they're bored with the chaos. Old comrades and parties are writing the story in reverse. These are only endings beginning again.

PISCES: *Hand Over the Well*
The immaterial and material — you're seeing both. Is it worth reaching for the grasp? You must watch both the flow and the go. “Move!” you say. But the shimmering stones under the surface stand stiller. It will take your will to raise them to the present.



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Roadtrips reimagined

How Outdoorsy is Changing Travel

By Grace Simpson
simpson.ograce@gmail.com
Photos courtesy of Outdoorsy



BRANDED CONTENT

Outdoorsy combines the luxury of an Airbnb and the mobility of camping.



Outdoorsy offers a modern twist on the classic American road trip through an Airbnb-style marketplace for RVs and camper vans. With over 30,000 vehicle options across all 50 states and Canada, Outdoorsy makes road trips and outdoor exploration accessible for everyone, from first-time adventurers to seasoned travelers.

The company was founded just over a decade ago by **Jeff Cavins** and **Jennifer Young**, who both felt it was time to leave corporate America and have a closer connection with the outdoors. They sold their houses, put their possessions in storage and started touring the country with an Airstream trailer and truck they purchased. After staying at many RV parks and campgrounds and speaking with thousands of vehicle owners, the two saw a clear opportunity for a peer-to-peer marketplace similar to Airbnb, but centered around RVs and campers.

Bryan Rucklos, Outdoorsy's Head of Growth, explains how Outdoorsy turns dormant vehicles into opportunities for both travellers and hosts. "RVs are sizable assets that people are constantly not using, but costs like registration, storage, insurance and maintenance continue whether or not you're using them," he says. Rucklos adds that Outdoorsy helps turn this financial burden into an opportunity. "It's not just something hanging over their head," he says. "It becomes a revenue driver."

Since its founding, Outdoorsy has grown exponentially, now offering tens of thousands of RV and camper van options hosted by owners across the country. Over the past 12 months, the company has also pushed to increase the quality of its inventory by carefully curating vehicles and raising standards across the platform. Many hosts enjoy the personal side of the experience while meeting guests and learning how their RV will be used. "They get a fair amount of joy in that handoff process," Rucklos says.

The mission of Outdoorsy resonates strongly in Utah, home to five national parks and world-renowned outdoor recreation. But the appeal in Utah goes far beyond national parks. "It's not just a family of four going away for a long weekend," Rucklos says. Utah renters use the platform for hunting and fishing trips, off-road cycling in Moab, ski trips between resorts and multi-day camping trips that require gear storage and flexibility. RV travel offers that flexibility in travel for families, adventurers or those just looking to explore. Plus, renting an RV is almost always at a lower cost than hotels, making trips feel like "effectively free lodging," as Rucklos puts it.

Outdoorsy's selection spans vintage Airstreams, haulers, fifth-wheelers and Class A, B and C motorhomes, as well as towable options like trailers. These are all vehicles not offered by mainstream RV rentals or major vehicle fleets. With countless vehicle options, every renter is sure to find one that fits all of their needs. Pet-friendly, kitchens, baths, entertainment systems and storage can all be accommodated based on renters' needs. Some hosts will even deliver and set-up the RV, removing excess stress for renters.

2026 will be a huge year to travel in the United States. Route 66 is celebrating its 100th anniversary, plus America's 250th birthday and the World Cup will bring many travelers across states. Outdoorsy is positioning itself as a preferred way to explore the country for events like these. For many, it's also a smarter alternative to ownership. "People either use us to test before they buy, or they've done the math and realized renting just makes more sense," Rucklos says.

If you have your own vehicle you're looking to rent out, you can sign up as a host with Outdoorsy for free and be paid weekly. Or are you a traveller ready to hit the road? Use the promo code SLUGMAG to get \$100 off any RV rental, valid through June 30. Head to outdoorsy.com to browse RV options and read more about their mission.

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TACOS ARE A LOVE LANGUAGE AT LONE STAR TAQUERIA

By Christian Ledek | sea.ledek@gmail.com
Photos by Diego Cuevas

There's a certain type of restaurant that exists purely to be photographed. You know the ones: neon signs telling you how to feel, tacos stacked too tall to eat, menus that read like a branding exercise. *Lone Star Taqueria* is not that restaurant. *Lone Star* does not care about your ring light, your caption or whether the salsa matches your aesthetic. *Lone Star* cares about one thing only: feeding you well, consistently and without unnecessary commentary.

Sitting on Fort Union Boulevard, *Lone Star Taqueria* has been quietly holding its ground since the mid-90s, long before "street tacos" became a personality trait. Walking in feels like stepping into a place that knows exactly what it is and has zero interest in reinventing itself to impress strangers on the internet. The decor is casual, a little chaotic and unmistakably lived-in. It's like your favorite hoodie that somehow still looks cool no matter how many times you've worn it.

I wanted to try a wide range of menu items to see if I could pinpoint a favorite. I ordered four tacos: Pescado, Carne Asada, Carne Deshebrada and Pollo Asado (\$2.69 each) and topped it off with some Chips & Salsa (\$2.09). The tacos arrived quickly with warm tortillas, generous fillings and

the quiet confidence of food that knows it's about to be eaten, not analyzed.

I bit into the fish taco first, and it was exactly what I wanted it to be — lightly battered, flaky, still juicy, tucked into a soft corn tortilla with crunchy cabbage, pico and a drizzle of that jalapeño-cilantro sauce that somehow manages to be creamy, bright and addictive. It's the kind of taco that doesn't ask you to pause. It wants momentum.

The chips and salsa got bites in between (and sometimes at the same time) as the tacos for texture mix-ification. The chips were thick, sturdy and crunchy. I think it's impossible for them to snap under pressure or disintegrate mid-dip. The green salsa I went with struck a perfect middle ground of just spicy enough to wake everything up without hijacking the meal.

Next up: the carne asada, well-seasoned and chopped into pieces that actually fit the tortilla. The flavors were clean and savory, elevated by nothing more than a squeeze of lime and a hit of their green salsa. It's simple in a way that only works when the fundamentals are nailed.

The carne deshebrada leaned fully into com-

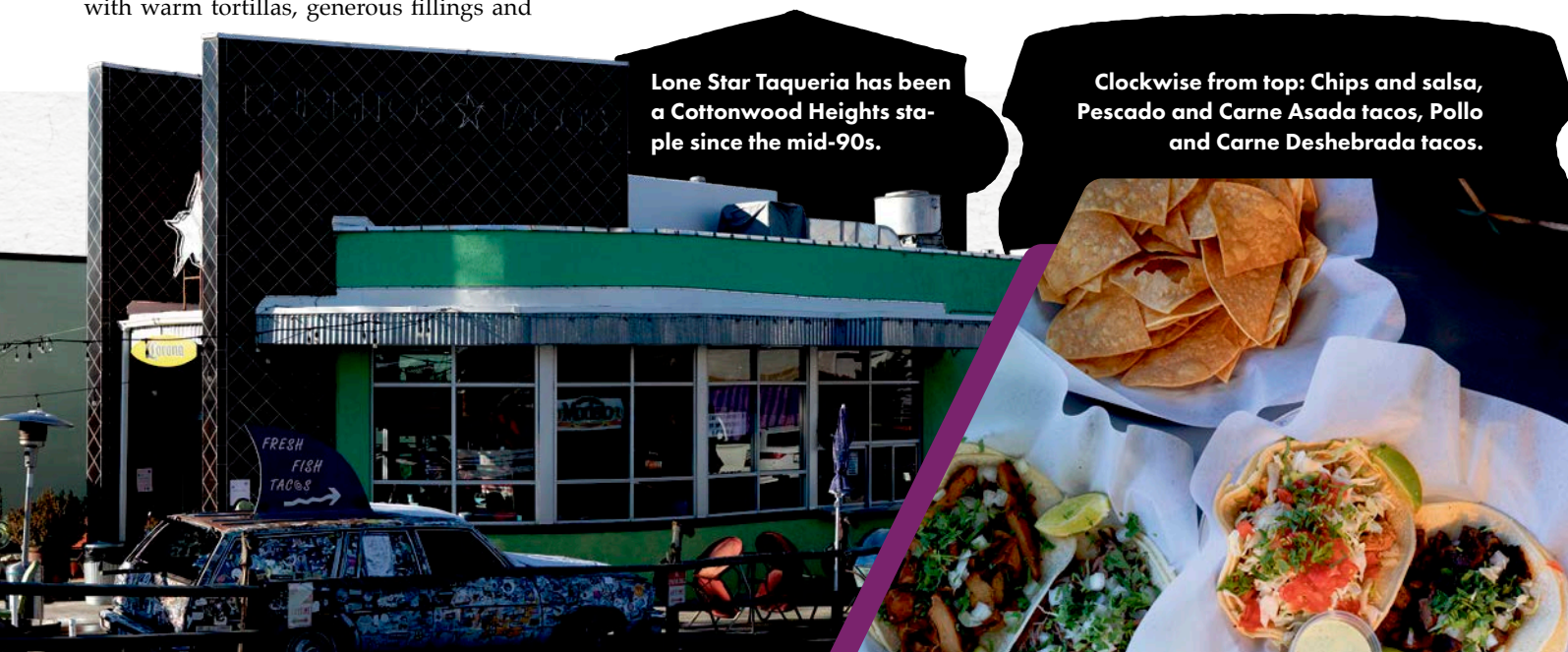
fort territory and might have been my favorite. It was tender, slow-cooked and rich in savory flavor. This is the one you order when you want something that feels familiar without being boring. The pollo asado rounded out my lineup, and sure, chicken can sometimes feel like the safe choice. This one, however, held its own as juicy, well-marinated and grilled with just enough char to add depth. Each of the protein options at *Lone Star* are balanced and quietly dependable.

What became clear halfway through my meal is that *Lone Star* isn't trying to surprise you; it's trying to satisfy you. Every taco feels intentional, built for repeat visits. There's no weak link, no filler order, no sense that anything exists just to pad out the menu. The food is designed to be craved, remembered and ordered again without hesitation.

Lone Star Taqueria proves that longevity comes from knowing what you do well and continuing to do it well. Just solid tacos, made with care, that keep people coming back because they work, every single time.

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DAILY CALENDAR



Need a last-minute date idea for your Valentine this month? Scan the QR code for even more local events on our daily calendar!

Tuesday Feb, 3
Briscoe — The State Room

Friday Feb, 6
Goth Night — The Beehive
Lobster Knockout — The Depot
Local Kin — Kilby Court
Peter Pan Goes Wrong — Jewel Box at Hale
Centre Theatre Sandy
The Charm Bar — The Local Artisan Collective
The Importance of Being Earnest — The Theater at Mount Jordan
With Andrea — Kilby Court

Saturday Feb, 7
Another Quiet Morning — Kilby Court
BATTLE OF THE BANDS - NIGHT #4 — The Pearl on Main
Brian Wilson Tribute Night — The Urban Lounge
BUNUEL — Metro Music Hall
Flamingosis — The State Room
Galentines Night Of Fun And Felting Hats! — The Local Artisan Collective
GOLDN: KPOP Dance Party — The Depot
Silver and Sweets — The Local Artisan Collective

Sunday Feb, 8
27 Club: A Musical Tribute Show — The DLC at Quarters
Among Wolves album release — Pearl on Main
Fire Hawk — Leatherheads Sports Bar

Monday Feb, 9
Olivia Barton — Kilby Court

Tuesday Feb, 10
Clue (Touring)

— Eccles Theater
GHOST — Delta Center

Wednesday Feb, 11
Sasha Haydn — Kilby Court

Thursday Feb, 12
ARKONA — Metro Music Hall
Breakfast Biscuit — Kilby Court
Jeris Johnson — Urban Lounge
Oskar & Julia — Kilby Court
Valloween! The Soakers
MPNK Willoh & Pirates of the Promised Land — Aces High Saloon

Friday Feb, 13
Anything for Love: a one woman cabaret, starring Sequoia — The Urban Lounge
Cyril Neville — The State Room
FIIG, Bone Thrower & Glory Trip — Aces High Saloon
Khamari — Soundwell
Pink Floyd's Dark Side Experience live with The Discographers — The Depot

SLC Creatures & Features Market — Murray Armory

Saturday Feb, 14
Freya Skye — The Complex
Marbling Jewelry — The Local Artisan Collective
Seventh Seal — The DLC at Quarters

Sunday Feb, 15
Club 90s Presents Heated RivalRave (18+) CLUB XCX — Urban Lounge
DYKED — Metro Music Hall
Exhorder Luicidal Phobia Slowhole & Exclusionist — Aces High Saloon

Wednesday Feb, 18
THE RAMONA FLOWERS — Kilby Court

Thursday Feb, 19
CORONER — Aces High Saloon
SAVAGE MASTER — Kilby Court

Friday Feb, 20
Kate Leduce & The Rubes — Aces High Saloon

Saturday Feb, 21
Annika Wells / Rachel Bochner — The DLC at Quarters
Clover County — Kilby Court
No Horizon — The Pearl on Main

SLUG Magazine's 37th Anniversary Party
— Metro Music Hall

Sunday Feb, 22
BAD OMENS — Delta Center
Charlie Berens — Eccles Theater
The Narcs — The DLC at Quarters

Monday Feb, 23
ERNEST — The Complex
STRAWBERRY FUZZ — The Urban Lounge

Tuesday Feb, 24
Brandi Carlile — Delta Center
Sabaton — The Union

Wednesday Feb, 25
Rivers of Nihil — Urban Lounge

Thursday Feb, 26

Infamous Stringdusters — The Commonwealth Room

Friday Feb, 27
Badflower — The Complex

Saturday Feb, 28
Alicia Villarreal — Eccles Theater
Electricide EP Release Show — The DLC at Quarters
FETISH - CABARET — Metro Music Hall
Magda-Vega Dragster Gas & Unseen Corners — Aces High Saloon

Sunday Mar, 1
Human Clay "A Tribute To CREED" — Leatherheads Sports Bar

Tuesday Mar, 3
Stella Standingbear — Kilby Court

Thursday Mar, 5
Alexander Stewart — The Complex
Terry Tempest Williams — In Conversation with Ken Sanders — Salt Lake City Public Library

Friday Mar, 6
Benee — The Complex
MIGUEL — The Complex
Nekrogoblikon — Metro Music Hall
Salt Lake City Tattoo Expo 2026 — Salt Palace Convention Center, Exhibit Hall #5
Young Dubliners Hot Toddy Tour — The Depot

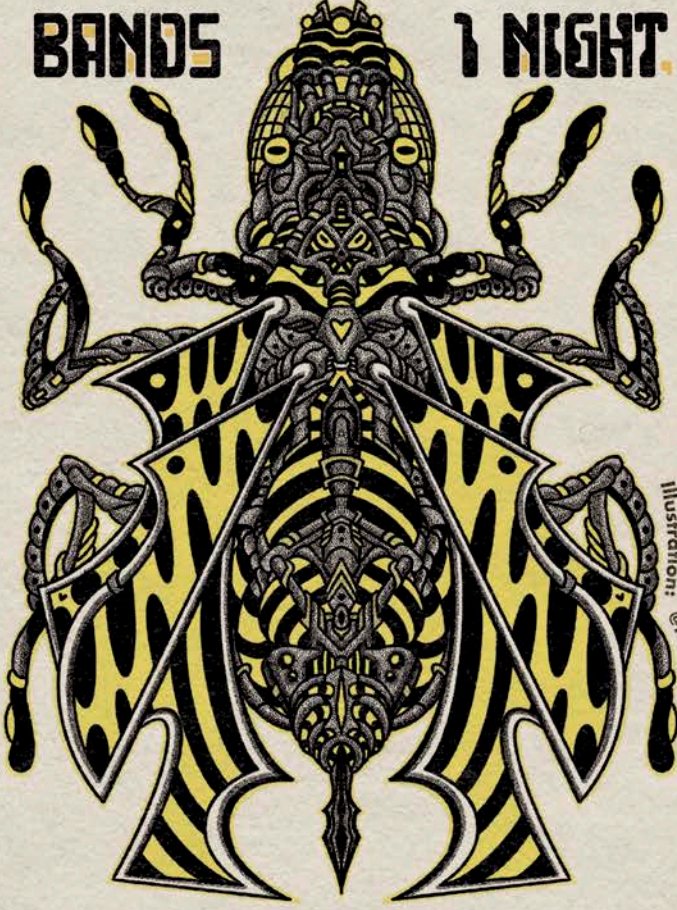
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2026 LINEUP

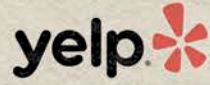
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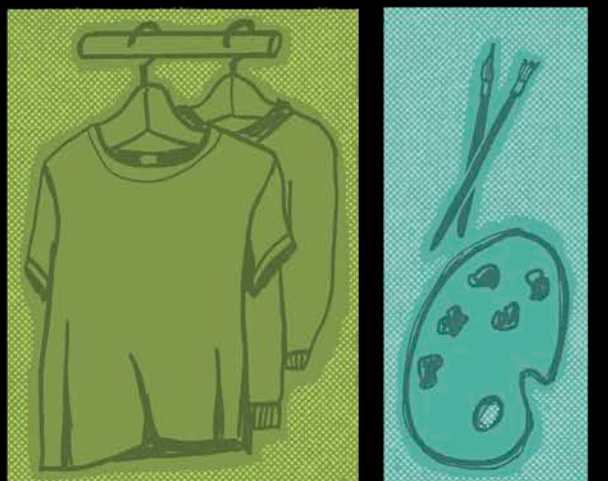
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FEBRUARY 2026

Del Water Gap - 2.9 The Depot | **Snow Strippers** - 2.13 The Complex | **Khamari** - 2.13 Soundwell
East Forest - 2.26 The Complex | **Badflower** - 2.27 The Complex | **Alex Sampson** - 3.4 Soundwell
BENEE - 3.6 The Complex | **Peaches** - 3.11 The Complex | **The Strumbellas** - 3.13 The Complex
Steinza - 3.13 Soundwell | **Indigo De Souza** - 3.14 Soundwell | **ARIES** - 3.19 Soundwell
Jonah Kagen - 3.20 The Complex | **ALEXSUCKS** - 3.20 Soundwell | **Landon Conrath** - 3.27 Soundwell
Yellow Days - 3.27 The Complex | **Machine Girl** - 3.28 The Depot | **The Wonder Years** - 3.28 The Complex
LANY - 3.28 The Delta Center

KILBY COURT

David Ramirez 2.3
Weakened Friends 2.4
Local Kin 2.5
With Andrea 2.6
Another Quiet Morning 2.7
Olivia Barton 2.8
Sasha Hadyn 2.10
Oskar & Julia 2.11
Breakfast Biscuit 2.12
Over Under 2.13
Braden Bales x Ezra 2.14
Beauty School Dropout 2.16
The Ramona Flowers 2.17
Savage Master 2.18
The Hit 2.19
90.9FM KRCL Presents: Clover County 2.21
Taraneh 2.22
SPYHOP: Boxed Hair Dye, Slugghead, Evelyne 2.23
If and When 2.25
Camp Ghost 2.26
Wilbere 2.27
Noah Rinker 2.28

METRO MUSIC HALL

BUÑUEL 2.6
Heated Rivalry Dance Party 2.7
ARKONA 2.11
2016 Party 2.13
IDYKED! 2.14
Irene the Alien & Jarron't 2.20
SLUG's 37th Anniversary Party 2.21
LIGHTS 2.24
Cecret So 2.26
FETISH - CABARET 2.27
Daft Disko [french house & disco party] 2.28
Nekrogoblikon 3.5
The Emo Night Tour 3.6
The Browning 3.7
Sappho After Dark- Noche de Lucha 3.13
All Your Friends: The Indie Party! 3.20
POPSCENE Presents: VANDELUX 3.25
NINI COCO of RuPaul's Drag Race 18 3.27
Eidola 3.28
The Menzies 3.29
Metalachi 4.4
Ty Segall 4.17
Chet Faker 5.11
Osees 9.6

URBAN LOUNGE

SOS: The Recession Pop Party 2.7
Jeris Johnson 2.11
Anything for love Starring: Sequoia 2.12
NewCityMovement Love Is The Answer 2.13
club xcx: everything is romantic 2.14
Samm Henshaw 2.17
Damien Jurado 2.18
SZA DANCE NIGHT 2.20
A Wilhelm Scream 2.21
Strawberry Fuzz 2.22
Rivers of Nihil 2.24
Mat Kerekes 2.27
DRAMA 2.28
Capstan 3.2
Corb Lund 3.5
FREE SHOW: Musor Single Release 3.6
Beehive Prom 3.7
GRIZZ CLL 3.15
Pixie and the The Partygrass Boys 3.17
Dark Divine 3.18
The Warped Band 3.19
Clay Street Unit 3.20
CRIMEWAVE: A POST-PUNK & DARKWAVE PARTY 3.21
Band Of Skulls 3.23
Night Cap 3.25



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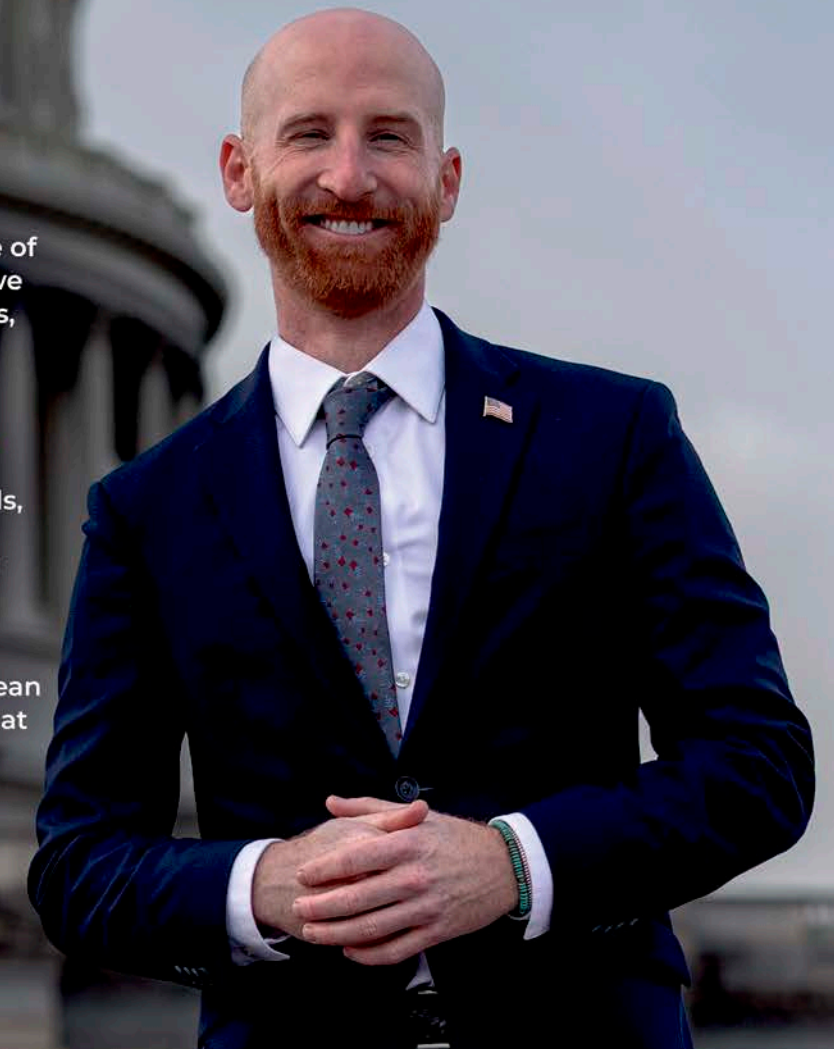
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