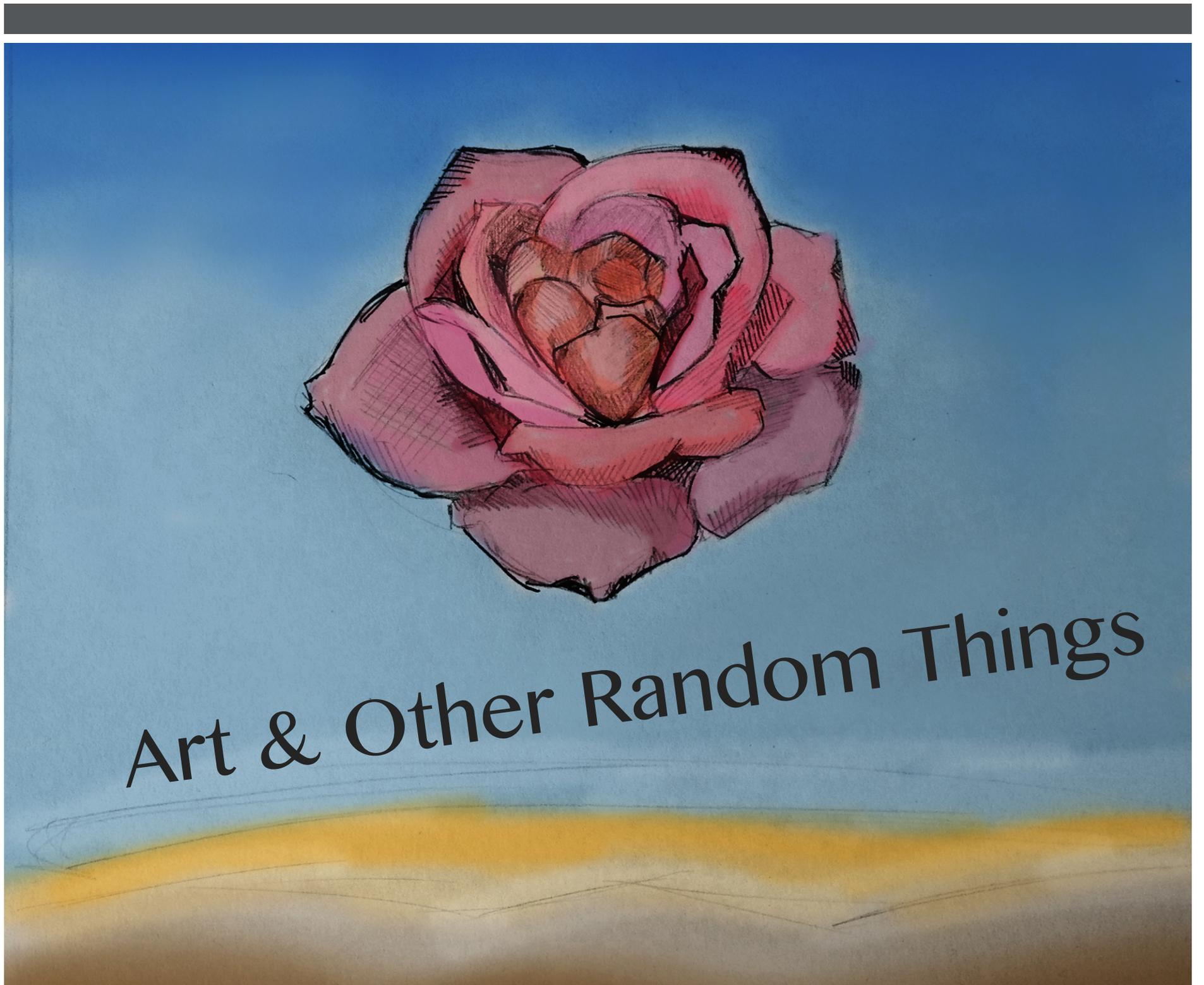


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Art & Other Random Things

Inside: A Nobel Prize Winner, Dali, and the Cubs

# 10.22.2015

## Vol. XLVII, No. 6

# CONTENTS



*The Indy* is as surprised as everyone else that the Cubs have lasted this long.

Cover design by Anna Papp

- 3 Rights for Baha'is
- 4 A Noble Achievement
- 5 A Passion for Painting
- 6 Referring to Hotness
- 7 Referring to Hotness / Artsy Updates
- 8 On the Open Seas
- 9 Field of Dreams
- 10 Rollin on the River / Crimson Craze
- 11 #tbt

As Harvard College's weekly undergraduate newsmagazine, the *Harvard Independent* provides in-depth, critical coverage of issues and events of interest to the Harvard College community. The *Independent* has no political affiliation, instead offering diverse commentary on news, arts, sports, and student life.

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## The Invisible Iranians

The Baha'is wait for justice.

By ADITYA AGRAWAL

As the world debates the Iran deal, Baha'is wait with bated breath. After decades of persecution by the Iranian state, the deal could be the harbinger of recognition and equal rights that the outlawed Persian community has long awaited.

Stateside criticism of the recently brokered deal has focused on the deal's blind spot to Iran's underhanded terrorist pursuits. But much less criticism traces itself towards Iran's muted terrorism against its own minority Baha'is. Members of the community, outlawed in the country since its inception in the mid 19th century, have found themselves at the heart of sustained state efforts to exterminate their religion along with all its social and cultural roots.

While surrounding countries are often noted for their poor record on human rights, Iran tops them all. It is one of the only states in the world to constitutionally deny recognition to a religion. The Iranian constitution, drafted in 1906, recognizes only four major religions: Islam, Zoroastrianism, Christianity and Judaism. "We are the invisible Iranians," says Anthony Vance, director of the US Baha'i Office of Public Affairs.

While the Iranian census does not provide statistics for the community, UCLA professor of Baha'i Studies Nader Saiedi pegs the Baha'i population at over 300,000, making it "higher than the sum of all other recognized religious minorities in the country."

The persecution has extended beyond a matter of legal recognition. A 1991 memorandum approved by the Supreme Cultural Council of Iran prescribed that the government must deal with the community in such a way

that "their progress and development are blocked," while seeking ways to "destroy their cultural roots outside the country." It called for a denial of schooling and employment to those who identified as Baha'i, and equated their political activities with espionage—a charge that has been wielded to arrest group members. The British embassy in Tehran, that shut shop in 2011 and resumed operations this past week, was accused of creating the Baha'i religion to cause the decline of Shia Islam.

The United Nations Baha'i office estimates that there are over 116 Baha'is serving prison sentences under false charges, in addition to several others who have been killed, assaulted or denied higher education. Bahai's have been denied government jobs since after the 1979 revolution, and private Muslim businesses are often pressured to fire Baha'i employees.

At first glance, the problems seem to stem from Baha'ism to not mesh with Islam. For example, Baha'ism refuses to recognize Prophet Muhammad as the last prophet. "For us, the revelation of God develops as humanity progresses," he says. Additionally, no person is born Baha'i—members actively opt into the religion. The bedrock of the Baha'i project is the idea, simple but seldom observed, that individuals are capable of making their own rational decisions. This falls at odds with the Islamic sin of 'apostasy,' which is the renunciation of Islamic religious belief. Past punishments for apostasy in Iran have included prison sentences and lynchings.

But religion alone cannot explain the selective discrimination faced by a single minority in a country teeming with several others. In fact, according

to Saiedi, Baha'ism is the only religion in Iran that accepts the sanctity of Islam. Saiedi views Baha'ism as the most progressive movement to have swept Iran in the recent past. Its basic tenets—including the separation of church and state, rejection of a holy war, and its emphasis on individual reasoning—undermine the very foundational pillars of the modern Iranian state.

As Iran prepares for an era of global integration after nearly 45 years of sustained Western sanctions, cautious optimism runs wild in the Baha'i clan. "It could go either way—an improvement or further deterioration," muses Vance. The normalization of relations will bolster local 'soft' industries such as tourism and entertainment, putting local living conditions on the global radar. This renewed focus could help the community's struggle gain traction or, at the very least, put the Baha'i agenda on the table.

At the same time, the deal, which sidestepped Iran's human rights record, could create a new environment of political normalization. "The clerics are deriving an increasing sense of empowerment from the deal that, in a sense, legitimized Iran's human rights abuses externally and internally," Saiedi quips. This implicit legitimization may inspire a sense of entitlement to continue these abuses, or even intensify them if only to chafe the West.

*Aditya Agrawal*<sup>17</sup> (adityaagrawal@college.harvard.edu) wishes the world would pay more attention to Iran's human rights record.



## In 'Nobel' Company

Nobel Peace Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi comes to Harvard.

By PULKIT AGARWAL

On October 10, 2014, the Norwegian Nobel Committee announced a joint Peace Prize to Kailash Satyarthi and Malala Yousafzai. They called it “an important point for a Hindu and a Muslim, an Indian and a Pakistani, to join in a common struggle for education and against extremism.”

While much is known of Malala’s struggle for education against the Taliban, Satyarthi’s story, unfortunately, had not received much attention before this. But ever since the prize, his work to save children from forced labor and slavery has received great appreciation around the world. Last week was one such occasion.

On October 16, 2015, before a packed house at Memorial Church, Kailash Satyarthi was conferred with the Harvard Foundation Humanitarian of the Year Award in the presence of Dean of Harvard College Rakesh Khurana, Director of the Harvard Foundation Dr. Allen Counter, and many others who Satyarthi was prompt in describing as his fellow brothers and sisters.

He is the first Indian to receive this award, which has previously been bestowed upon venerable individuals whose names ring almost like a roll call of honor – Kofi Annan, Ban Ki-moon, and Martin Luther King Sr. among others.

He accepted it with grace and delivered a speech that left everyone in the Church

truly inspired. This inspiration wasn’t only a result of the heart-wrenching stories that he shared, but also of the manner in which they were recounted. We could hear in Satyarthi’s voice a vision of a brighter tomorrow that we would all want to be a part of.

He began by clarifying that child slavery was not a problem exclusive to developing countries. “Here, in the United States of America,” he said, “there are hundreds of slaves who are forced into labor, pushed into sex trade or trafficked into domestic labor. Undocumented immigrants, people in the margins of the society are pulled into a circuit of slavery.”

This is not a well-known fact, and worse still, often ignored as an anomaly we are comfortable believing that slavery was abolished over a century ago. But Satyarthi helped us confront the truth that evening, and he shared with us the driving force behind his work—a raging anger.

He said, and quite rightly so, that anger is nothing but an energy. It simply needs to be harnessed in the right manner to produce worthy results. He personally has been able to achieve that quite convincingly. He gave up his practice as an electrical engineer to found the Bachpan Bachao Andolan, which in English translates to ‘Save the Childhood Movement.’

The movement has been seen as the most successful of its kind in South Asia, having prevented thousands from servitude through community intervention, public awareness drives, and extensive rehabilitation programs.

He clarified that those working in the private sector could also increase their involvement in protecting children through

corporate social responsibility initiatives.

While stressing the importance of mass mobilization combined with help from the corporate sector, he also highlighted the importance and necessity of global governments in ensuring that their children’s interests weren’t neglected. In his very humble style, he told us how “the Nobel Prize actually helped [him],” communicate his ideas to several heads of state, including President Obama, and get them on board to include clauses relating to child labor in the recently declared Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations.

This was something he had failed to accomplish back when the Millennium Development Goals had been announced in 2000. He actually used his Nobel Prize as a means to an end, not an end unto itself!

Humanitarians around the world share the sentiment that in service lies their true satisfaction; Satyarthi is no exception. The Nobel-winner said that every time he hears the laughter of a child who has been rescued from bonded labor, and sees a tear roll down a mother’s cheek when she holds her child she could have lost forever, he witnesses “the glimpse of God.” This tender image conveyed the vast emotional struggle that many around the world have to overcome.

As the evening drew to an end, Satyarthi was thanked on behalf of all children in the world. It was a fitting end to a beautiful evening.

*Pulkit Agarwal’19 (pulkitagarwal@college.harvard.edu) can’t wait to see what else Satyarthi accomplishes.*

*Photo courtesy of Rangel Milushev.*

# The Lapsed Artist Returns

One former art student's Harvard-subsidized return to watercolors.

By ANDREW LIN



Beneath the brushed metal, polished wood, and prematurely creaking doors of the renovated Leverett House there lies a quiet and rather out-of-the-way gem for anyone seeking to practice the visual arts in their spare time. The Leverett Art Room, kin to similar art rooms in Dunster and Holworthy (for the freshmen) among others, is buried deep within the subterranean basement complex of McKinlock. At the end (and on the left of) a long tunnel fittingly framed with original paintings from Leverett residents, the Leverett Art Room is open 24/7 to anyone with Harvard swipe, and features a wide-open space in which to create all manner of visual arts—and a perfect space for a lapsed visual artist to reawaken old habits.

From my elementary and middle school days through high school, I was an enthusiastic practitioner of the traditional visual arts: figure and portrait drawings, oil paintings, and watercolors done in the painstaking atmosphere of my art teacher's suburban basement studio. Times change, however, and we must change with the times. As a now-pre-med science concentrator, it can often be difficult to squeeze the visual arts in between classes and the daily grind of life as a college student. It was for this reason that I decided during the sunny

that I needed to choose a more substantive medium.

The Leverett Art Rooms offer a wide choice of media to work with, ranging from acrylics and watercolor to canvas for oils. I, however, did not have the time for a long and drawn-out work, so I needed a quick medium. This requirement ruled out the use of oils, which require long drying times—most artists who work in oils often have multiple projects running in tandem so as to allow one painting to dry while the others are worked on. In this vein, acrylics with their chemically-synthesized quick-drying would seem like a better choice, and indeed this would be true but for the fact that I had never worked with acrylics before. This left watercolor as the best choice—quick drying, watercolors require fast work and careful application to pull off successfully. But they can be executed in the space of an hour or less, the biggest draw considering the problem sets jostling for my attention.

One rapid-fire decision and one hastily sourced landscape photograph (a sylvan river glade with an imposing background mountain) later, I was ready to start my artistic endeavor. Watercolors are a tricky medium for several reasons: their quick drying nature requires fast work if you want

Sunday of the three-day-weekend to traipse down to the Leverett Art Room to reawaken long-dormant skills. Coming into college, of course, I had not entirely sworn off the visual arts, what with the constant appeal of doodling (more often than not during classes) and the occasional scratch-paper sketch. But I wanted something more substantial to play with, an artwork with more flavor than a furtive classroom sketch—and for to mix colors on the paper, and mistakes in watercolor once dry stay mistakes. Moreover, mixing of colors is a trickier proposition, as colors often dry on the paper far differently than they may appear in the tiny plastic palette. With all this suddenly remembered knowledge in mind, I made the first tentative brushstrokes, filling in a soft pencil outline of some leaves on the western bank in translucent permanent green. The colors at first barely seemed to even appear on the paper, their trails of pigment washing out into globules of water pooled on the surface. But with more pigment and more water, the leaves and flowers began to come into focus, bright leaves and strong green hues demarcating the boundary between grassy knoll and gentle brook.

To be sure, there were problems as the watercolor session went on. An attempt to paint around some delicate yellow flowers I had laid on earlier ended up leaving gaping white flower-shaped holes in the waterside reflection. Colors that I thought would represent everything from the dark depths of wooded forest to the proud spires of evergreens in the distance stubbornly refused to darken. But an hour and fourteen minutes after the start of my little artistic jaunt down memory lane, it was at least finished: a watercolor scene, done up in a soothing if somewhat subdued palette of greens, blues, and greys (the yellow flowers forgotten). But that hour and a bit in the Leverett Art Room yielded more than just a delightful little accouterment for my dorm room wall. Taking that little bit of time for yourself and reawakening any skill from the past, whether it be art or music or streaming television, is a delightful thing to do—and when Harvard subsidizes it directly, it becomes that much sweeter.

*Andrew Lin '17 (andrewlin@college.harvard.edu) is now taking commissions from anyone willing to pay him in pretzel chips and HUDS cookies.*

*Photo courtesy of Andrew Lin.*

## References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot

A Review of the Fall 2015 Visiting Director's Project in the Loeb.

By AUDREY EFFENBERGER

Sometimes, life is awkward. Sometimes, you have to go to the Harvard Box Office and say a very strange play title with a very straight face. Sometimes, you walk through the wrong door trying to get to the mainstage of the Loeb Drama Center, and sometimes you trip over your shoes trying to walk to your seat. But when the Harvard-Radcliffe Dramatic Club (HRDC) puts on a truly stunning opening performance of *References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot*, as they did this past Friday night, there's absolutely nothing awkward about that.

In conjunction with the Office for the Arts, HRDC manages the Visiting Director's Project, which brings a professional director to the Harvard campus for a semester to work with an undergraduate cast and crew. This fall saw Kat Yen, co-artistic

director and founder of Spookfish Theatre Company and resident director at The Flea Theater in NYC. She, alongside producers Betty Lema'17 and Jared Slesinger'16, directed this fall's production, *References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot*, a play written in 2000 by José Rivera.

*References* captures a few critical days in the lives of Gabriela, a lonely army wife, and her husband Benito, who has just returned from the field. The small cast and setting belie the play's historical depth, as it comes on the tail of the First Persian Gulf War. To a modern audience, Benito's insistence that the war is over is ironic and his echoes of PTSD are painfully relevant today. Benito and Gabriela also evoke the specific relationship between the Latino communities and the U.S. Army, adding another layer of voice to Rivera's work. Most

centrally, however, remains the question of their marriage. Can you live with someone who's lost what you fell in love with? Can you expect someone to stay as what you know when you've changed, too?

In addition to the complexities of the ideological content in *References*, it's a practically tricky play to present. While the majority of the play takes place inside their tension-fraught home, the time Gabriela spends lying in the backyard is just as important. Dali-esque surrealism comes into play when the moon must descend from the sky and make out with the human object of his affection. Gabriela's cat flirts with a coyote and elopes into the night. Permeating the show is this seductive magical realism, shifting the weight of feeling convincingly into the force of physicality.

*continued on pg. 7*



Photo courtesy of Audrey Effenberger

## References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot

continued from pg. 6

By AUDREY EFFENBERGER

To capture this, the Loeb Mainstage is transformed into a field of gravel, representing the desert. The walls of their home fall away, and LED strips are instead hung from the ceiling to create the idea of a house. The moon is a man, waiting above in a catwalk, who climbs down a ladder to dance upon the desert floor. It is this spare yet ethereal setting that the characters fill with their despair, human wants, and poetic words, invoking the play's namesake.

The duality of dreams and reality so fundamental to surrealism also comes out in the parallelism of the relationships that populate Rivera's work. Cat and Coyote mirror the past and possibility of two lovers torn apart by death. Martin, Gabriela's 14 year-old neighbor, demonstrates the stupidity and beauty of youthful impulse. The moon, ever watchful, gives Gabriela the barest fragments of poetry to frame her memories and guide her choices. At the end of the play, it's uncertain whether the entire play has been a dream. Here, Yen and her cast excel in subtly tying together the motivations of Rivera's characters; they weave an ambiguous tapes-

try of desire and destiny that, with willing suspension of disbelief, transfixes the audience totally.

Without spoiling the contents of the play, I can confidently say that Rivera's words really come to life between the mouths of the actors. It's easy to conceive unilaterally of a failing relationship between an empathetic Army wife and a callous soldier, or a tired soldier and his ungrateful spouse. But the ways in which Gabriela and Benito mirror each other in their wounds and flaws pull at the heartstrings genuinely. Gabriela feels like her husband has closed his mind and heart to her, and fears he's stopped caring. Benito thinks Gabriela says that things are "like" other things too much, and desperately wants her to love him as much as he does her, though he struggles to love himself.

Eli Rivas '16 and Juliana Sass '17, who have both acted in previous HRDC productions, interact as Benito and Gabriela so movingly on the stage. With their words and with their bodies they evoke Rivera's image of imperfect soul mates in imperfect love further tangled and marred by war. I am not

afraid to admit that I shed a tear or two at certain points. I am also not ashamed to admit that, during a sex scene, I glanced at the elderly couple sitting in the front row to see their reaction. (They left. I leave it to your imagination the reason why.)

It's this balance of humor and tragedy that different characters bring, and the flow of crass words and meaningful looks between them, that really ties the poetry of *References* to the reality of the lives it tries to capture. This is the real magic of the play. While surrealism may not be everyone's cup of tea, *References* does a pretty good job of convincing you to try.

*References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot* will be in the Loeb Mainstage on Thursday, October 22nd, Friday, October 23rd, and Saturday, October 24th at 7:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased through the Harvard Box Office. The play contains gunshot sound effects and nudity.

Audrey Effenberger '19 (effenberger@college.harvard.edu) is two pieces of bread expressing the sentiment of love.

Need some weekend plans? Want to immerse yourself into the Harvard art scene? Then read up on upcoming exhibits, lectures, and performances!

### Popular Paintings

Even though the Corita Kent exhibit will be here until May 8, 2016, you should still get out of the blustery fall weather and dive into Kent's 1960s pop art. While at the Harvard Art Museums, be sure to check out the other special collections on display including the Gordon Ward Gahan collection and the Social Museum Collection.

### The Play by Play

In addition to *References to Salvador Dali Make Me Hot*, there are a few other shows worth checking out this weekend. Os-

car Wilde's classic *The Importance of Being Earnest* is at Farkas Hall for its last weekend. This rendition of *Earnest* takes the characters out of Victorian England and places them in Williamsburg, Brooklyn.

You can catch the show at 7:30PM Thursday, October 22nd through Sunday, October 25th for the steep, steep price of a Harvard ID.

If you want to relive your summer camp days, go see Mike and Micah Lose a *Bunch of Kids*. You even get to witness some stand-up from various Harvard comedic groups in the opening. The show runs at 7:30 Thursday, October 22nd through Saturday, October 24th in the Loeb Experimental Theatre. You can request free tickets by emailing mnmintheex@gmail.com.

## Artful Delights

Upcoming events in Harvard's Art Scene.

By SHAQUILLA HARRIGAN

### Artful Entrepreneurship

On Thursday, October 22nd, the Harvard Innovation Lab will launch the 2016 President's and Dean's Challenges Kickoff at the Harvard i-Lab. If you have an entrepreneurial spirit that has an artistic flair, you should definitely enter the competition for the Dean's Cultural Entrepreneurship Challenge: Converting Your Passion into a Journey. The i-Lab will be giving away over \$300,000 for student initiatives and innovations.

## Sail Away With Me

Harvard team wins New England Match Race Championship.

By CAROLINE CRONIN



This past weekend, while many turned towards the Harvard victories at the Head of the Charles, the Crimson earned another victory also out on the treacherous waters of New England. This one consisted of saltier water, a few more life jackets, and markedly different vessels. But whether the crimson sails were unfurling or the crimson oars were feathering, the men and women of Harvard once again nobly met the standards to which they are held.

The Harvard Sailing team competed in the New England Matching Races Championships hosted by Salve Regina University. While, some people's knowledge of the nautical arts extends only to what is available in movies such as *White Squall* and *Master & Commander*, the skippers and crewmembers of the Harvard sailing team are brimming with experience and skill to boot. This experience and skill was put to good use by the boat that won the championship over Saturday and Sunday. The intimidating team of Taylor Ladd'18, as main and spinnaker trimmer, Nick Sertl'18, as skipper, and Jacob Brandt'16, as jib trimmer/bow person manned this vessel. On Saturday, October 17th, the crew finished fourth in a round robin of 8

teams. They then went on to slaughter Rhode Island (2-1) in the quarterfinals, outclass Yale (2-1) in the semifinals, and trounce Dartmouth in the finals (2-0) on Sunday, October 18th. An appropriately proud Ladd says on the matter, "Winning the regatta was amazing. There was an identifiable point when we realized we might actually be able to win it, which I think really empowered us." This victory also led to Ladd, Sertl, and Bradt being named NEISA coed sailors of the week for Week 7 of the Fall 2015 season. In fact, this is the second week in a row that Harvard has had athletes named the coed sailors of the week since Andrew Mollerus'16 and Sydney Karnovsky'16 just received that honor after winning the A-division in the Moody Trophy race at University of Rhode Island on October 11th.

At the NE Match Races all teams were sailing Ynglings—a particular kind of sailboat that, according to the International Yngling Association website is, "a sleek and seaworthy small racing keelboat, succinctly described as an agreeable cross between a planning dinghy and a keelboat. Its design is classic, and its construction is durable." The word Yngling actually means "youngster" in Norwegian as the original designer of the boat intended to make it for his young son. Another common barque sailed by the Harvard team in these competitions is the radial dinghy, which is a singlehanded watercraft.

Ladd, Sertl, and Bradt's triumph marks the first time Harvard has won the NE Match Race Championship since 2001. The first and second place finishers

have, as a result, been invited to the Intercollegiate Sailing Association (ICSA) Match Race National Championship to be held in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina on November 20-22 this fall. There the Crimson will compete against nine other keen teams for the first time since 2005 when Harvard won a 10th place finish in Gull Lake, Michigan. Ladd is excited for this upcoming championship, stating, "We went into the regatta not knowing what to expect, so this outcome gives us a lot of hope for Charleston. We're looking forward to match racing some more, and being in the warm in late November!"

This past weekend Harvard also sent sailors to a few other races as well. Those who ventured to the Truxton Umsted Memorial Regatta finished third overall out of 19 teams with impressive performances by Juan Carlos Perdom '17 on a solo Radial dinghy, A-division duo of Mollerus and Karnovsky, B-division pair of Marek Zaleski '16 and Julia Lord '17, and Andrew Puopolo '19 also going solo. Furthermore, two crews combined earned a seventh place finish at the FJ/NC Firefly Invitational, hosted by MIT. At the Captain Hurst Bowl, hosted by Dartmouth, Harvard placed 14th of 18 teams. Finally, Harvard also won a 17th place finish at the Yale Women's Inter-conference Regatta.

Well, its time to batten down the hatches because the season continues to keep our nautically inclined athletes busy as they sail into this weekend. Harvard will be hosting Mrs. Hurst Bowl and sending boats to competitions hosted by Brown, MIT, Boston College, and Rhode Island. But the other teams will surely give Harvard a wide berth, as the Crimson threatens to take the wind from their sails in our voyage to victory.

*Caroline Cronin '18 (ccronin01@college.harvard.edu) is in need of more sailing jargon suitable for daily use!*

*Photo courtesy of Rob Miggiaccio via ICSA.*

## A Well-Deserved Win

When the World Series ends, let the party begin.

By PEYTON FINE

“Pigs have flown, hell has frozen over, the Saints are on their way to the Super Bowl!!” When Garrett Hartley’s game-winning kick sailed through the uprights to send the New Orleans Saints into the 2010 Super Bowl, a long-time radio commentator for the team reacted with that quote. The jubilation in his voice was something that still today sends chills up my spine. The Saints for years were the laughing-stock of the entire NFL. At times, it got so bad that fans would arrive to games with bags on their heads to hide the shame they felt for cheering for such a bad team. For my entire lifetime as a sports fan, the Saints struggled. It was as predictable as death and taxes.

When the Saints won the Super Bowl in their next game, it really did feel like pigs were flying. It seemed to be a foregone conclusion that I would never have the pleasure of seeing the Saints win a Super Bowl. And, I had only dealt with this personal hell of losing for 15 years. Older fans had lived with this for over 40 years. Their reaction to the Saints win was not simply celebratory; it was cathartic. All of the boneheaded mistakes, coaching missteps, and general mediocrity were finally thrown by the wayside, so people could party. The victory parade for the triumphant Saints was attended by over 2 million people, which is especially impressive considering the population of New Orleans has struggled to break a half million people after Katrina.

The reason I relate this story is that the Chicago Cubs for the first time in over 100 years have a chance to end the personal hell felt by their

fans. The Cubs have not won a World Series title since 1908 and have not even made it to a World Series since 1945. Almost three full generations of Cubs fans have lived without tasting anything close to victory, and no living fan has seen the Cubs win a championship. Can you imagine the jubilation that Cubs fans would feel if they won? No one really can. I recently asked a friend from Chicago what a Cubs World Series would look like, and he simply said, “I may not be able to go back home. The party could destroy the entire city.”

But, the Cubs are not the only underdog story of the MLB postseason. All four of the teams remaining in the postseason are historically bottom-dwellers. The Mets have not won the World Series in over 30 years, and the Royals had not made the playoffs for 30 years until last year. The Royals’ opponent, the Toronto Blue Jays, are playing in the postseason for the first time in 20 years. In a normal playoff series, the underdog is easy to spot, but this year, every team can be labeled as the “lovable loser.” All of these teams could be in for a Saints-esque celebration by the end of October.

Going back to the Cubs, I am a fan of theirs. I am biased when I say that I think the Cubs’ fans deserve this title more than any other team, and I am also probably too optimistic when I say that they will ultimately win a championship soon. But, unlike past years where a Cubs World Series seemed like the dream of a hopeless romantic, this Cubs team looks like they have even better chances in future years. The Cubs have started

four rookies routinely throughout the playoffs and set records in baseball for the youngest team to make the playoffs. The Cubs have literally rebuilt themselves from the ground up with a new owner, stadium upgrades, new manager, and the aforementioned crop of new, young players. Even if the Cubs do not win the championship this year, hope will be restored to Wrigleyville.

Most times, just thinking about one of my favorite teams losing would make me crazy, but this year is just different, and not just for the Cubs. As a sports fan who suffered through losing season after losing season, I know what each of these fan bases has gone through in the last 20, 30 or in the Cubs’ case 100 years. All of them deserve victories. No child should have to grow up only watching powerhouses like the Yankees or Cardinals win titles. It’s time for the losers to finally become winners, and when it happens, I hope they can listen to those same wonderful words, “Hell has frozen over, and pigs have flown.” Then, let the party begin.

*Peyton Fine '17 (peytonfine@college.harvard.edu) is a passionate Cubs fan desperately hoping for a miraculous end to this postseason, but even if it does not arrive for the Cubs, he knows the cathartic jubilation that one fan base will surely feel after the World Series.*

## Women's Lightweight Crew: Simply the Best

### Radcliffe Lightweight proves to be the best college on water at Head of the

By PEYTON FINE

Quick question: what is the best sports team on Harvard's campus? You may have said football, basketball, women's soccer, or on the more obscure side, squash. All of these are great guesses, but all would be objectively wrong. The real answer here is Harvard's women's lightweight crew. The names Pate, Henry, McNeill, and Lang should float off your tongue with the same frequency and reverence as Saunders, Chambers, Stanton, or Sobhy. Why? Simple, they win and have won. In the last three years, Radcliffe Lightweight Eights has placed second, then first, then second in the end-of-year national race. The particular combination of Olivia Henry'16, Gabrielle McNeill'16, Naomi Lang'16, and Elizabeth Pate'17 has rowed on the top boat since their sophomore year. In their time with the top boat, the four women have set course records in the EAWRC sprints and Head of the Charles. They were part of an undefeated season in 2014 that saw the boat named Crew of the Year by the International Rowing

Association.

This weekend saw Radcliffe Lightweight add one more title to its mantle: fastest collegiate boat on the Charles. Behind Henry, Pate, McNeill, and Lang as so many times before, the crew finished less than a tenth of a second off the school record in Head of the Charles. It should come as no surprise that these four helped set that record as sophomores. In fact, Radcliffe was so fast this weekend that they only lost to one boat in the entire Lightweight division. It was the Dutch National team.

So, what does the rest of the season have in store? First and foremost, hope for a balmy winter. Last year, ice de-

played the team's spring start, and ultimately the team placed second in the national championships to Stanford, whom they also were runner-up to in 2013. Second, they will look for a repeat of their undefeated season from 2014. And, it will all culminate at the end of May with a hopeful national championship. Only one other lightweight class has won multiple championships during their four years with the program. Henry, McNeill, Pate, and Lang may just add their names to that list.

*Peyton Fine'17 (peytonfine@college.harvard.edu) wouldn't mind being the coxswain for the Radcliffe Lightweight top boat.*

## The Fan Base

### The Indy tells you which games to watch this weekend.

By SHAQUILLA HARRIGAN

Basically, if you have the Crimson Craze you should plan to spend your entire Saturday at the Harvard Athletic Complex. Several of Harvard's teams will be taking to the field, ice, and pool to vie for glory. This weekend, four of Harvard's teams will be competing at home against the Princeton Tigers.

Here's the run-down of upcoming home games:

- Men's Water Polo versus San Jose State | Friday, October 23rd @ 10:30 pm
- Field Hockey versus Princeton | Saturday, October 24th @ 12:00 pm
- Football versus Princeton | Saturday, October 24th @ 12:00 pm
- Women's Soccer versus Princeton | Saturday, October

24th @ 1:30 pm

- Men's Soccer versus Princeton | Saturday, October 24th @ 4:30 pm

- Men's Water Polo versus Fresno Pacific | Saturday, October 24th @ 8:20PM

- Men's Ice Hockey versus New Brunswick | Saturday, October 24th @ 7:00PM

- Men's Soccer versus Boston College | Tuesday, October 27th @ 7:00 pm

- Field Hockey versus Boston University | Wednesday, October 28 @ 6:00pm

In other news, the past week represented a series of wins for the Crimson. Men's water polo dominated MIT 14-12 last Friday bringing their overall record to 9-8. Men's heavyweight crew and men's lightweight crew both came in third at the 51st Head of the Charles Regatta. Women's Hockey is back in full swing with a 3-2 win over McGill University last Saturday. Men and women's soccer both handed Brown 'the L' with 1-0 victories. Traveling to Ithaca, New York, the women's volleyball team went to five sets, but still walked away with a win. Hopefully, the Crimson can keep up its win streak with its slew of games.

*Shaquilla Harrigan '16 (sharrigan01@college.harvard.edu) will be making her rounds to all of the Crimson's action this weekend.*

*This week, the Harvard Independent is bringing you an article from our October 25, 1984 issue on Harvard deciding to restructure its mental health services.*

Going to Harvard is like walking a tight-rope. It's said they involve the same motions. The long passage from Yard to diploma can demand a stupendous balancing act, and they say the wire is pretty thin.

If the daredevils take a tumble—too bad. Harvard will await them below, like a giant safety net looming to break their fall. But Harvard will not be up there steadying them aloft. For its said that this is strictly a solo performance.

There are some people on campus, however, who refuse to accept this scenario. The University's mental health workers—ranging from the psychiatrists on the third floor of UHS to the student counselors manning a basement office called Room 13—make it their business to help students maintain a rather delicate equilibrium.

They point out that all Harvard students, whether insured on a family plan or by the University's Blue Cross/Blue Shield, are paying \$500 a year for out-patient psycho-therapy. And they stress that it's ok to need some help.

"If we could," maintains Dr. Randolph Katlin, psychiatrist and chief of Mental Health Services (MHS), "we'd be right up there with them, holding on."

Psychiatric care is a thorny issue, particularly at Harvard. Mental health specialists on campus are the first to admit that Harvard students can be somewhat timid when it comes to seeking aid. Justin Richardson'85, co-director of Room 13—a peer counseling group open nightly from 7:00 pm to 7:00 am—suggests that the country at large believes that, "There's something wrong with me if I go to a psychiatrist."

"Among Harvard students," Richardson says, "if they go, they won't tell. Or if they tell someone, they'll say, 'It's just for one time,' or, 'I just went to get a sleeping pill.'"

Overcoming the stigma branding mental health care has become a big problem for mental health workers, especially because it seems to be reinforced by the Harvard mystique. "Harvard is a difficult place to be," notes Marcia Rorty'85-'86 co-director of Eating Problems Outreach. "Our campus puts an emphasis on self-achievement, on the person rather than on interdependence with other people. And it's hard to admit that you need other people, because the stress is on the autonomous individual. It can be a lonely place."

Isolation on a hushed campus where psychiatric care is taboo can lead to the worst possible situations—notably suicide—Katlin points out. The MHS director remembers the case of one Harvard student who, in the months leading up to his death, became increasingly introverted and later left notes indicating that he was hearing voices. According to Katlin, the student's fellow classmates assumed that he was "just doing his own thing." They left him alone. "Don't let people get too uninvolved," Katlin advises.

## #tbt: 'The Big Balancing Act'

### Harvard restructures its mental health services.

By JENNIE KASSANOFF '85

Sometimes it's not that easy though. Interceding in such cases requires can be extremely delicate. According to Katlin, "If you say, 'Well, you seem disturbed, you should see a psychiatrist,' then that may put them off." But Kathleen Kniepmann, health educator at UHS, points out that, regardless of what approach is taken, anything is better than not saying anything at all. "Because there tends to be a shroud of secrecy, there's a belief that hardly anyone else has mental health problems," she says.

Harvard undergraduates, however, have very real mental problems. Most of these dilemmas are developmental rather than congenital, Katlin reports. "For undergraduates, there is a pressure that is felt to be involved, to be responsive, to make commitments and deal with the consequences. And they're certainly concerned about rejection and depression about attachment and obligations." In simple terms, this translates into homesickness, boyfriend-girlfriend break-ups, roommate problems and other such everyday college worries.

And being in Cambridge can make it all worse. "It's exacerbated by the fact that everyone wants to be an overachiever here," claims Michelle Healy'81, patient advocate at UHS and liaison between the Health Services and the Student Health Advisory Council (SHAC). "It's hard to sparkle here."

"I don't think it's the Harvard environment per se," Quincy House senior tutor Eliot Cohen'77 contends. "The student body here is highly motivated—they couldn't have gotten in if they hadn't been driven. Meeting with failure for the first time—that's a critical experience and often a difficult one."

Cohen pauses, adding quickly, "I don't think it's that Harvard students are crazier than anywhere else. I think they're better adjusted than, if you'll forgive me, an MIT student for example."

The central problem, then, is reaching the people who need help the most. MHS does no good if it exists cloistered within Holyoke Center, says Katlin. For this reason, among others, the Mental Health Services has set its roots, both overtly and covertly, into the College community.

At its quietest, MHS affiliates all psychiatrists, psychologists and psychiatric social workers with a House of freshmen advisory unit. Staff members then hold bi-monthly meetings directly with the senior common rooms and senior tutors, trouble-shooting and finding ways to cope with student problems. "It's very important to know your own limits," Cohen says. "To know when

you're touching on things that are best worked on by a professional."

Senior tutors are charged by MHS to canvass their Houses continuously, alerting themselves especially to roommates who may be concerned about their friends. "If I hear reports that are sufficiently alarming," affirms Lowell House senior tutor John Lee, "I'll investigate them."

Confidentiality plays a large part during these conferences. "We try to talk somewhere in between general and specific terms," Lee emphasizes. "But one of the basic ground rules of all discussion about students is anonymity."

Better-known channels of MHS access to undergraduates are the campus network of peer counseling groups and the Bureau of Study Council. Once a week, UHS's Nadja Gould meets with Room 13, RESPONSE (for rape crisis and sexual harassment issues), Eating Problems Outreach, Peer Contraceptive Counseling, and Gay and Lesbian Student Association (GLSA) representatives. Each group undergoes extensive orientation in the fall and is supervised closely—by these meetings—throughout the year.

The peer groups, Gould says, "operate in a very matter-of-fact way, student-to-student. I think one of the most important things we're doing is outreach."

Through student organizations, MHS subtly taps directly into student concerns without appearing under the intimidating banner of "psychiatric care." Room 13's Richardson suggests, "We may seem less threatening. Some people are worried that if they go to UHS, it means that they have a problem." Room 13 receives an average of 2.5 calls each night and 1.5 "drop-ins" to its Stoughton Hall basement office. Fifty-seven percent of its clientele is male with 43% female.

Sometimes talking to a fellow student, however is just not enough, "Usually students seek out peer counseling on their own," Cohen says. "Going to the Mental Health Services is a bit bigger step. You can tell someone that you think maybe they ought to see someone at the Mental Health Services and frequently, they give a sigh of relief. It's been something they've been turning over in their minds for a while."

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*While the atmosphere around mental health at Harvard and the ways in which we discuss it continue to change, it is clear that this is a burden many Harvard students have been carrying for years. With a little insight from the past, and an optimistic view of the future, perhaps this burden will become lighter.*

# captured and shot



**Paris, France  
by Albert Murzakhanov**