Police Station Zebra

BY SPACE HOOKER

I was able to make it out to law enforcement camp yesterday to interview Rollo, a Burner like any other, dousing bright colors and calmly musing on the nature of the universe while keeping a diligent eye out for moop. Except this Burner's universe is law enforcement for Black Rock City.

Rollo Mendez heads the Bureau of Land Management team tasked with patrolling the Playa, coordinating law enforcement and emergency services. Mendez said he likes to think of himself as a zebra: a metaphor for the tension between the social expectations undergirding outside law enforcement and the purposefully “artificial” environment in Black Rock City. “I come wanting to believe I’m a zebra, and though I’m not, when you recognize me as a zebra, I’m excited. At the end of the week, I hope it’s no longer necessary to dress as a zebra.”

For the record, Mendez does not actually dress as a zebra: he wears a typical park ranger-like uniform, covered in moop.

A city of Black Rock’s scale and diversity comes with the same problems as any other metropolis, but Mendez insists that the natural tension between law enforcement and participants is not insurmountable. “My role is to facilitate this environment so that nobody is purposefully harmed,” he says. “We all have individual choices to make, and my default is that each decision is purposefully harmed,” he says. “We all have individual choices to make, and my default is that each decision is purposefully harmed.”

The burning question of course: what can you get arrested for? I tell my staff to focus on education and preventing de-escalation to solve things at the smallest, most nonviolent level possible,” said Mendez. “This is an apocalyptic environment, but we all know that knowing some that knowing choices can count as real crimes that will carry consequences.”

Sheriff Storyteller

BY DURGY

The Black Rock Beacon ran into Richard Machado, the new sheriff of Pershing County, in Wadsworth on Saturday. Sheriff Storyteller, to use his police name, seemed upbeat about the event. He wishes for Black Rock citizens to have fun this year, yet through happenstance, luck, and a timely connection, Syn, the conceptor, joined Greg, the artist, to create Otic Oasis.

The artists are not burning the structure, said Bevin. The style was adopted of the Trojan Horse story. “The human power is true to the original story, the myth. It’s not an art car, it’s an installation. It’s a blend of old and new, never meant to be a reenactment of the story. There are no rules with it. It’s a blend of everyone’s interests and passions and hopes of the people that want to be a part of it. Everyone contributes.”

You Can Walk to an Oasis of Calm

BY AZALEA

The walk-in camping area at 2:30 far beyond the Playa has a new art installation, an electronic piece, called Horus the Agressor. The idea of an oasis emerged, “seeded from random cause: Horus, sound waves bearing.” The approach sunk, and the form of the concept was solidified once the first drawing was submitted to Jay of the Banshee Center in Alberta, Canada. “It was a drawing of a bird-like creature, dainty,” tall and done in a cubist style, said Bevin. This style was adopted and gave an old story a modern shape: the polygram cubist form.

For the project’s realization, it attracted “incredible talent, diverse, eclectic mix; young, old, young at heart,” said Bevin’s partner Alaya. Merely a year later, she coordinated the installation’s arrival by connecting minds, bodies and passions across borders, cities, and the desert.

There were many players involved in this installation: Erik, aka Hunter, was responsible for much of the canvases and Dan Swain was the architect who made an astounding first contribution to the Playa.

Don Fox, the construction coordinator, keeper of the heart’s facts, shared the logistics of the structure of the beaches. The ceremony will occur on the 5th of August when the horse is dragged by ropes about 100 yards to its firey destination.

Alan beautifully explained the one-time adaptation of the Trojan Horse story. “The human power is true to the original story, the myth. It’s not an art car, it’s an installation. It’s a blend of old and new, never meant to be a reenactment of the story. There are no rules with it. It’s a blend of everyone’s interests and passions and hopes of the people that want to be a part of it. Everyone contributes.”

A Square Horse in a Round City

BY DARCY DODDLE

As mischief and the Playa go hand in hand, the rumors flying around Trojan Horse are as consuming and intriging as the horse. Composer Douglas Bevin was inspired to create a piece for Burning Man after his previous art installation, an electronic piece, called Horus the Agressor. The idea of a horse emerged, “seeded from random cause: Horus, sound waves bearing.” The approach sunk, and the form of the concept was so

ART ATTACKS

BY OCEAN

A number of art pieces on the Playa have been vandalized this year. According to Bettie June, manager of the Art Department for Burning Man, here are a few that have been harmed:

Not Whips by Vincent Leclerc. This series of light structures with long tendrils were designed to be played with, however four of them have already been so badly broken by vandals that they had to be removed from the Playa.

Another Door by Calen Barca-Hall. Calen was present while the piece was being vandalised, but his requests to stop harming the piece were ignored.

Auroa by Charlie Gadeken. This 30-foot tall tree with 4,100 handmade metal leaves is being damaged by people climbing it, ignoring requests to stop harming the piece.

A Light Hazing by Matt Gillo-Tenas. The centerpieces of this installation, a screen emitting beautiful light, was destroyed by vandals who used paint to graffitii it. It cannot be repaired and will likely have to be removed.

The artists create these pieces for our community to enjoy and that need our help protecting them. If you see someone harming an art piece in any way please ask them to stop.

You can check with the Artery to see which pieces can be climbed without being harmed.

If you want to volunteer to help repair broken pieces stop by the Artery and ask if they need help.

RITES OF PASSAGE • SETTLING DOWN EDITION • WED AUG 31, 2011 • VOL VII, NUMBER 18
When the player shreds a dark, heavy chord of flame shoots from the corresponding poofers. In the game, a colored light goes on and a blast of flame dances above the screen. When the player videotape someone playing the game while giving it to them he insisted that in exchange for it he just finished welding school. He came up with the Rock Inferno concept and built parts of the piece, including the clinches and machines, dressed to death, dust-proof electronics box. Dennis and Jeff are the components he brings from Rock Inferno. Jeff runs computerized boilers, and his expertise parlayed into making flames blast out of chimney pipes at the top of a bunch. He smoked a lot and spoke casually. The electrician Ray included his participation in Rock Inferno on his resume, which got him a job from an employer who was understanding enough to grant time off to attend Burning Man. Lizzy is able to hold onto a chew toy while being swung in circles through the air. Jen and Chris' first at Burning Man, and Rock Inferno's second. The 2011 model improves vastly upon the previous, though, thanks to a Black Rock City honeymoon grant. Though the team funded the Rock Inferno prototype themselves, the grant helped to get expensive parts like the propane solenoids and 15,000-volt transformers in the poofers, and the bobbing of gallons of propane they expect to ‘pool.’

The Beacon visited the Rock Inferno crew on test night before the piece was loaded into the Boston Burningtruck, but testing was canceled because of weather. Instead the Beacon was treated to a video of a part in a Winnie-the-Pooh costume spreading the hell out of Foreigner's 'Juke Box Hero.' Rock Inferno's huge sound system can belt out hundreds of death-defying beats, liquid metal and the team expected the sound to fear and loathe the robo-blood, fire-breathing device — but they were wrong. "Ev- eryone has been very supportive," Jeff said. "This year's double-hopped lager costume came from one neighbor, a hand-dying Viet- nam veteran and garbage man who was there one day to play. 'He's a double-hopper, but he's one of us'" Dennis said of the man. Perhaps he got the costume out of someone's garage. When he gave it to them he insisted that in exchange for it he videotape someone playing the game while giving it to them. Eventually the team got a video of Camp Here campmate NotKnocks in the Pool while, playing the guitar behind his head and doing Angus Young impressive stage gymnastics with a wall of flame in his face. Amongst his PlayStation games, Dennis has Rock Band, Guitar Heroes, II, III, and III, and Guitar Hero Aerosmith, "Denn- nis plays Dance Dance Revolution in expert mode," Jen said. But not everyone in the team is even into Rock Band. "I don’t really like it," Chris said as he drifted a hole in Rock Inferno's projector box. Hey BRC, hope you've been enjoying our seven years of off-line newspapering. We could use some help in two disparate ways: Sunday distribution. If you are sticking around on Sunday, we need some people to distribute our Exodus edition. We have routes inside the city, and you can also say goodbye to Burners waiting patiently to be pushed out of the city. It's a great chance to work your favorite daytime costume (or lack thereof) one last time.

Mac Magician. We produce the Beacon on a fleet of venerable G3 Blackbirds. If you are looking for a better view of the wheels and the Space Station Fly-Over, 9:07 a.m., North by Northwest

The moon rises after the sun on Wednesday and Thursday.
Source for astronomical information: www.sunriseandsunset.com

The leftover letters form another word related to a rite of passage.

ANNIVERSARY, BIRTHDAY, COMING OUT, DIVORCE, ENGAGEMENT, ESPAñAñE, FEMALE, ORGÁMICO, HAJJ, IMPUDÉNCE, INITIATION, JAIU, JOURNEY, KINDERGARTEN, LIMINAL, OBITUARY.

BRAINTEASERS BY DURGY

The leftover letters form another word related to a rite of passage.

ANNIVERSARY, BIRTHDAY, COMING OUT, DIVORCE, ENGAGEMENT, ESPAñAñE, FEMALE, ORGÁMICO, HAJJ, IMPUDÉNCE, INITIATION, JAIU, JOURNEY, KINDERGARTEN, LIMINAL, OBITUARY.

These words are in the grid:

"No man should be a president who does not understand hues." -President Harry Truman

The Power of Rock and Roll

By Nathaniel Page

An artwork called Rock Inferno comes to Black Rock City in 2011 by way of Danbury, Connecticut. “This is Rock Band with flame through the video,” said one-of-a-kind designer who designed and built the piece over the past 15 months. “But you can play through things by BRC, you can have things by BRC, you can easy to set up, distribute, display, and perform the information and images contained in them, makes derivatives works, and makes commercial use of the work under the following conditions: You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the Creative Commons license, and indicate if changes were made. You may remix, transform, or build upon our material only if you adhere to the license terms.

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