

Format Press and a bunch of other stuff. They'll talk about the ins and outs of negotiating the Badlands of Australian culture, what the world looks like outside the metropolitan centres of Sydney and Melbourne, the penchant for Adelaide artists to talk endlessly about urban planning and their experience trying to run a non-profit arts production company.
www.format.net.au

VENTURES AND ADVENTURES WITH MADDY PHELAN
MON 23 NOVEMBER 6-7PM at Sticky

The search for fun in everyday life can be a difficult task. When we become dissatisfied with our social lives, what do we do for pleasure?

Maddy Phelan will raise themes from her zine 'Adventure Time' in regard to her recent unprofessional business venture Totoro's Tea House, touching on Renew Newcastle, how to have fun post-TiNA, plans for a Festival of Flaneurie, and how all this relates to the pursuit of an Adventure Life.

ADELAIDE

Watch out Dr Ware is on a media blitz...
LAUNCH OF 21 NIGHTS IN JULY
TUES 24 NOV 6-8PM at Felt, 12 Crompton St
Launch of the book that was formerly a zine. Yes, a zine book crossover and who was the man who went over to the dark side? Our fave Dr Ianto Ware, of course! It's the first release of Format Publishing, from the collective umbrella of Format shop, Format Festival, Format Teatowels etc. This is a great night to hear Ianto discussing great cycling literature of the modern age and providing a wide array of 'insightful' thoughts and overviews on the 2009 pro-cycling season.

[If you're not local and you can't get into Sticky, you can get a copy of the book thru sticky's mail order]
Plus, You'll also be able to hear Stanley Mahoney discussing the next release from Format Press, entitled "The Complete Home for the Def and Other Stories". Part analysis of the work of Adelaide artiste Nigel Koop, part short stories, part scathing critique of the modern age and, somehow, all informative guide to self improvement.
<http://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=167442183998>

PERTH

Something that's become increasingly clear the longer I stay in Shanghai is that there really are no absolutes. You read Western news reports about banned books and extreme internet censorship, and the next day you walk into a bookstore stocked with (albeit illegal) copies of one of these supposedly impossible-to-find-on-the-Chinese-mainland novels, or a clearly controversial website that has somehow slipped through the Great Firewall.

None of this means China is a society of individual freedoms, though, and while it feels like attitudes are quietly changing in the public consciousness, events like the country's recent 60th "birthday" are prime examples of how adept the government is at clamping down on anything and everything it perceives as a threat.

The last two years have been pretty turbulent in terms of the Chinese public's access to information. Both the Olympics and the Sichuan earthquake meant for a brief period of time the government loosened its control over internet censorship, but other events like the more recent turmoil in Tibet have caused an opposite reaction. As I type, Facebook, Twitter, Blogspot and Wordpress blogs, and "sensitive" articles on Wikipedia are all inaccessible from the mainland unless you use a web proxy (that is, if you can find one that itself isn't banned).

More frightening is the Chinese government's ability to censor anything it likes on the internet in real time, which means sometimes seemingly innocuous overseas websites are blocked for no apparent reason, and other times there exists a kind of imbalance where Myspace is not blocked but other social networking sites are, and Hotmail goes down for a day or two while Gmail and Yahoo are still up.

And then there's print media. Needless to say most newspapers and magazines are either state-owned or at least controlled, but so are most bookstores. The small handful of privately-owned bookstores in Shanghai like the Ji Feng bookstore chain have therefore been instrumental in introducing obscure and unusual publications in Chinese to the reading public, as well as foreign books that would otherwise remain unreleased in China (although there is an obvious industry in "bootleg books" produced by photocopying and binding copies of the original and selling them outside metro stations, only the most popular English books by the likes of Stephenie Meyer and Stephen King get this treatment).

Shanghai does have China's largest public library and an

Day 1: Graffiti, clothing, craft and carpets : HAJI LANE

I started my search for subversive culture in Arab Street District close to the city centre. Behind the bustling fabric shophouses of Arab Street, is 'Haji Lane'. I was first drawn to it because it was the only graffiti I'd seen in Singapore.

On the surface Haji Lane would be most known to tourists as the 'place to go' to hang out sitting on carpets in the street smoking nigeelas (Egyptian Tobacco Pipes). Haji Lane has a history of once being the notorious Opium Den district. Nowadays the old 2 story shophouses are home to clothing and knick knock boutiques owned and operated by young Singaporeans...It's one of the few places in Singapore where you can buy clothing and accessories and chat to the designer in person.

I met one of the shop owners, Max, who he gave me an insight into the frustration and difficulty facing Singaporean Graffiti artists. You have to give them credit for endurance and bravery. There is not one place in Singapore (perhaps besides Haji Lane) where it is legal or even slightly tolerated to spray Graffiti...

If you are brave enough to risk spraying in Singapore you better be prepared for harsh penalties in this 'no crime tolerance' society.

In a few rare instances graffiti art may be commissioned but there are strict guidelines on content which are more conservative than you can imagine; and it has to be whitewashed over after just a few hours, so the only evidence it existed is recorded on camera.

Day 2: Chinatown, Stationary heaven, and a cool bookshop in Ann Siang Hill

Plan: to track down a couple of bookshops after a tip-off that there are a couple of alternative book shops around Ann Siang Road (a small walk from Chinatown)...decision to go via Chinatown *MRT ...and I'll just have a quick gander at the infamous 'People's Park Complex' (an old shopping complex escalator free with one entire floor dedicated to fabric haberdashery and sewing shops)

[*MRT: (Mass Rapid Transit) Singapore trains]

... A heavenly but deadly distraction... Amongst the tactile merriment I stumbled across the most wonderful, stationary shop

zine was used in an advertisement for the Australian mens fashion label "Nana Judy". The zine was used without my permission and the company made no effort to get in touch with me to ask for consent. If the company had asked for my permission I would have said no and it made me feel sick to the stomach to think that my zine was being used to sell clothes.

I wanted to write about this here to let the zine community know what happened so if it ever happens to one of our zines again we have a reference point for what to do/what not to do.

The advertisement appeared in the Australian fashion magazine "Fashion Journal" (Issue number 93, page 52. You can view it online at the Fashion Journal website at www.fashionjournal.com.au and also the Australian fashion magazine "Lure" (Issue number 2, page 15).

After the ad was first brought to my attention I felt very conflicted as to what to do. I was very unhappy that they were using my zine but felt like something of a hypocrite as I have used, as many zine makers do, other peoples work in the creation of my zine a few thousand times. But this was advertising. ADVERTISING!!!! I also felt very weak and powerless and was worried that if I called the company up to complain they would just laugh in my face.

I decided the best thing to do was to tell as many people in the zine community as I could what had happened in an attempt to figure out what I could do. I wrote on the Forum page on the We Make Zines site and posted a listing on the Australian Zines Email List (see Links on Sticky's website). Next I contacted as many people as I could through Sticky and waited for a response. What came back ranged from advice to "lynch the capitalist scum" to "be flattered and wear it".

I was not flattered and did not decide to wear it.

After reflecting on the situation for a week and speaking to lots of different people I decided to talk to a lawyer. The responses from the people I asked were incredibly divided as to whether it was appropriate to speak to a lawyer or not. I consider myself to be punk and it was very unclear to me what a punk should do in such a situation.

I decided to speak to a lawyer as I felt very powerless in the situation and I was trying to gather some strength. I was lucky

philosophies on affairs of the heart based on her entire back catalogue and I gotta say, it's bloody excellent. The layout rocks, love the font and how can you ever get bad photos of Dolly? is there such a thing?
-MARIA MARKOV

CHRONICLES OF NADIA VOL 1.
Nadia Brady
\$3
PO BOX 1412 Toowomba QLD 4350
chroniclesofnadia.wordpress.com
nadia.brady@gmail.com

It's OK. I like the layout, the layout is cool. But it's kind of pretty generic content. The comic is cool...the letter to the library is hilarious. I really like the insert with tips on things in the kitchen you can use as exfollients and stuff. I love that. The job reference is hilarious too. Cover is cute.
- RED INK

I feel bleurgh about this zine. Title is terrible. (RED INK: Yeah, tht title is a bit of a dud joke). I hate the recycled Officeworks style 'boutique stationary' paper that has been used for the cover. I know millions love it but to me it's naff. I also hate the opening page where the writer thanks all the people involved and how long its taken to put together etc. This is not compelling reading. Especially when you think the zine is pretty average to begin with. Contains stuff on feminism which I deliberately skipped. Love the insert zine but there is no way in hell I would shave using peanut butter. (RED INK - Yeah, I don't know how I'd feel about that). Comics are terrible. Blah.
-MARIA MARKOV

THE BAT AND THE RAINBOW
\$2
shiktang@yahoo.com
I loved it. This is a true zine. A bunch of really hilarious random stuff, dodgy handwriting and stapled together, dodgy drawings, and I do like 'interview with a wife' and the letters to the editor. And the apple quiz.
-RED INK

Yes this zine is insane. It's just meandering crap in weird handwriting that goes absolutely nowhere but is funny and takes the piss and relies on quizzes about apples to keep you wanting more. It includes some handcolouring which is always a novelty too I guess. There's also something that annoys me about it... maybe the drawings or something. It's rushed, I think it could be even more insane if it was presented in a bit more of a measured way. Not sure. But I do love it. \$2 is maybe pushing it a bit. (RED INK - I would probably charge \$1 as opposed to \$2).
-MARIA MARKOV

YOKE

\$2

www.yokemagazine.blogspot.com
yokemagazine@live.com.au
www.myspace.com/yokemagazine

Parts of it are good, parts of it aren't. I dont like the interviews or the photographic shoots, because they make it a wanna-be magazine. But the other pieces, like bits about the 90s, and the things Yoke doesn't contain, are pretty funny. I think it needs to decide what it is, because at the moment it sits on the fence trying to be a fashion mag but also trying to be a zine, and it doesn't work. I like the price. The price is right. (MARIA MARKOV: The price is excellent, and the zine includes some special hand touches so all the more brownie points for that).
-RED INK

I am always skeptical of 'lifestyle' zines, mainly because they are always done so badly and want to be like Vice. However Yoke has a bit of attitude and comes through with decent writing, intelligence and stuff to laugh at. It's done by a teenage girl who should, according to market research, be reading Dolly magazine, so it's awesome to read what's really going on in teen bedrooms around the country. Some of the feature articles on fashion labels read a bit like press releases, but the band interviews are pretty funny and the other articles are great (I loved the hannah montannah review). In fact I think this is what appealed to me the most - the fact that Yoke passes their critique on mainstream alleged fads. Fave page was at the back containing stuff the magazine did NOT contain (ie, croc shoes, etc). The only thing is that the editorial is a bit consciously "we're gen y man and nobody gets us" which is absolutely not necessary, the contents take care of that without trying. I like

it. Oh but I hate the fashion photography section. I hate all amateur fashion photography. Save it for your artsy blog for when you and your amateur model (read, best friend) get discovered.

-MARIA MARKOV

KAGEMONO: TOOTH AND CLAW

Jason Franks/Black Glass Press

www.jasonfranks.com

Edited and collated by Melbourne's Jason Franks, the project has excelled at bringing out mad and frequently violent horror tales with some deliciously talented artists brought on board. I could go the whole whinging 'But they're not Australian artists!' path but I'd rather not. Kagemono's latest volume has hit 84 pages and there's both fantastic writing and art in here.

Of note is Nicholas Hunter's amazing lineart (99% likely digital, but it's so well cross-hatched we'll forgive him), outsourced talents Carl Yonder, Carlen Lavigne and local super-talent Renan L'Hopsum. L'Hopsum's grimy characters manage to be both morally repugnant but visually endearing and his choice of dramatic black and whites rival workaholic local artist Bobby.N. Franks' writing in works like 'Trauma Ward' and 'Seen and Heard' rise above the sea of tired Horror cliches and inject fresh imagination into the genre, making me excited for 2010's "The Sixsmiths", Franks' novel-length collaboration with longtime artist/publisher J. Marc Schmidt.

-ANDREI B

THE GARBAGE TRUCK FAILURES

James Andre/Milk Shadow Books

www.milkshadowstudios.com

[You can also get it on sticky's mail order]

Andre (I'm guessing totally a glass half-empty kinda guy) should be very proud of this latest collection of verse, written word and overheard lower class proletariat drudgery and suburban despair. While seeming a little short at 24 pages, Andre's writing is given the impact it deserves by enlisting a number of appropriate and talented comic artists on board including Brendan Halyday and the workaholic Bobby.N. Halyday's black blotted

the title of a best selling badly written teen / overtly christian vampire craze. Your dual-sign succeeds by understanding that no two situations are alike, that Twilight has a lot of oh-no-she-bumped-and-scratched-herself-and-now-she's-bleeding, and whatever seems to be at opposite ends this month, study the clues and the moves for your answers. Pick up a random book and read what it says on page 22 and somehow take that sentence, the first one on the page, and run with it. This promises to be an expansive phase, for promoting whatever takes your fancy (vegetable coop) or for making a zine. It's been a while, you know.

CANCER JUN 22ND - JUL 23RD:

Now that it's only x amount of shopping days left till xmas, achievements in several directions cannot be dismissed. You deserve a show of hands damnit. Your Cancerian desire to cling and hold hard will be tested. But the real challenge will be to detonate this same power into reverse, let go, and liberate your heart and mind from the chains of putting off until tomorrow what you could succeed in doing today. In other words, stop rearranging your bedroom already. There's only so many furniture combinations you can do!

LEO JUL 24TH - AUG 23RD:

As your badly taped paper boat of the year dips and dives into the last weeks of another calendar, strive and stride to clear-up loose ends and unworkable threads and weaves. Cleaning that desk down would be a great start. The planetary horizon is beset with unexpected twists and turns, but above all the personal, financial and emotional tows and tugs, simply spread your Leo strength with a touch of modest charm. And icecream is not a lunch time food. Nor is it a dinner supplement.

VIRGO AUG 24TH - SEP 23RD:

Humble-pie isn't a November dish at the Institute, but if you feel you might partake, it could take the heat out of a vexing situation. It may also spoil your appetite. The freshness of this busy month will add a glow to your chances of making headway on all fronts. It's going to be a prime period for cultivating a wider network of helpful contacts and/or Facebook Friends. Focus

on all imaginative or career activities. Which is a nice way of saying, do not focus on boring activities. And you're a virgo, so you're quite likely to focus on boring activities.

LIBRA SEP 24TH - OCT 23RD:

With summer on the horizon, you will be planning ahead, particularly for events like Interesting Dan and Trash Talking with Dr Ianto Ware. The second and third weeks are set to see some "changeable moments" as we refer to them in the industry. It remains important to arrange things so that you can relax and unwind. Whatever you're aiming to achieve, take the initiative and maintain the pace. Check the car mirror.

SCORPIO OCT 24TH - NOV 22ND:

November's mixed weathers will symbolise an assortment of social, domestic and close-hearted events. Close-hearted events are when people with hearts are not allowed to attend. Consequently the event numbers are always down. Even though this may seem to be a more-or-less time of the year, what with hearts or no hearts etc, you have the power to make a positive impact on your personal surroundings and impress those who matter (zinesters and people who work at copying places). A change of routine will have a healing effect and recharge your goals.

SAGITTARIUS NOV 23RD - DEC 21ST:

There are potential benefits in any new, spare time pursuits. Despite certain clouds and insecurities, it's normal for thunderstorms at this time of year. Move on and you will feel less restricted as fresh opportunities and friendships become established and your jeans stretch back into their natural shape after a few wears. Alternatively, if you are focusing on networking your talents, the chances are that you're more a craft person than a zinester. Zinemakers don't 'network' their talents.

CAPRICORN DEC 22ND - JAN 20TH:

With work and specific aims to the fore, the cosmic map is awash with myriad minor and significant comings and goings, as well as

University High School: 20!!! we have hit the 20 mark-----
Princess Hill Secondary: 9
Kew High School: 3
Carey: 19-----
Williamstown High School: 6
St Columbus College: 4
Toorak College: 15
Melbourne Girls College: 19-----
Coburg Senior: 1
Millpark Secondary College: 1
Fitzroy High School: 11
Our Lady of Mercy: 4
Layola College: 3
MLC: 11
McKinnon: 6
Diamond Valley College: 4
Westbourne Grammar: 2
Werribee Secondary College: 1
Swinbourne Senior Secondary: 11
Frankston High: 1
King David: 3
St Pats College, Ballarat: 4
Star of the Sea: 5
St Aloysius College: 13
Blackwattle Campus: 1
Ringwood Secondary: 3
Collingwood College: 1
Mowbray College: 3
MacRob: 25 IN THE LEAD!!!!!!-----
Firbank Grammar: 1
Mandeville: 1
Avila College: 2
MacKillop College: 5
Eltham High WITH ATTITUDE: 18
Forest Hill College: 1
Kingswood: 5
East Doncaster: 4
Fintona: 2
Hailybury: 5
Macleod College: 2
Farn (Tasmania): 3
Northcote High: 1
Clifton Hill Primary (Gold St): 1
Melbourne High: 4
Presentation College: 2
Elwood College: 3

