

# ARTIFACTS

ISSUE 5, VOL II  
2008



TRADITIONALLY, THIS SPACE WOULD BE USED BY THE ART DIRECTOR TO DISCUSS SOME OF THE TRIALS AND TRIBULATIONS OF LAYING OUT A MAGAZINE AND/OR THANKING THOSE THAT HAVE HAD A HAND IN MAKING IT LOOK AS IT DOES. WHILE I DO THANK THOSE INDIVIDUALS (DANIEL IYAGEH, ALICIA REBELO, AND ALL OF OUR CONTRIBUTING ARTISTS) FOR MAKING IT AS IT IS, I FEEL THERE IS SOMETHING ELSE MORE PRESSING THAT NEEDS DISCUSSION. I WON'T SPEAK AS A MAGAZINE STAFF PERSON, BUT AS AN ENRAGED STUDENT.

A STUDENT SHOULD BE ABLE TO TAKE PRIDE IN EVERYTHING ABOUT THEIR INSTITUTION. STUDENTS FROM YALE, PRINCETON, NYU, AND EVEN HUNTER SHOW IMMENSE AMOUNTS OF PRIDE IN THEIR SCHOOLS, AND ALL OF THEIR PUBLICATIONS. WHILE CSI STUDENTS DON'T SHOW THE SAME LEVEL OF PRIDE IN THE PUBLICATIONS, WE ARE GIVEN LESS REASON TO WHEN LOOKING AT THE "OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND." THAT'S THE BANNER, KIDS. MY COMPLAINTS ABOUT THE BANNER ARE NUMEROUS, AND I THINK MANY WOULD AGREE, IF THEY CARED WHAT WAS BEING PRINTED.

FIRST WOULD BE THE FACT THAT THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY REAL JOURNALISM IN THE PUBLICATION SINCE LAST YEAR. NOT 2007, BUT THE LAST SCHOOL YEAR. TWO TERMS AGO, BEFORE FRIENDS GRADUATED AND THE REIGNS WERE PASSED. THERE IS MORE JOURNALISM IN WEEKLY WORLD NEWS THAN THERE IS IN A CURRENT ISSUE OF THE BANNER, AND TWICE THE ENTERTAINMENT. WHILE IT'S CUTE TO HEAR ABOUT THE GYM FLOOR FAILING, OR THAT THE DOG AND PONY SHOW IS GOING ONLINE, OR EVEN THAT MTVU GAVE OUT AWARDS, IT ISN'T NEWS. IT'S NOTHING THAT WE COULDN'T'VE FOUND OUT THROUGH WORD OF MOUTH, OR EVEN FROM GOING TO THE SCHOOL. IF YOU GO TO THE GYM, YOU KNOW IF IT'S IN NEED OF REPAIR. IF YOU KNOW THE GUYS FROM DAPS, THEN YOU'LL KNOW THEY'RE GOING ONLINE. IF YOU GIVE HALF A SHIT ABOUT MTVU, THEN YOU'LL PROBABLY KNOW ABOUT THE "WOODIES" THROUGH THE IMMENSE AMOUNTS OF SPAM THEY SHOW.. AND WHAT FRIGHTENS ME IS THAT TWO OF THE THREE CITATIONS ABOVE ARE COVER STORIES.

WHILE MENTIONING THE DOG AND PONY SHOW, LET'S ANALYZE WHAT EXACTLY DAPS IS: TWO AND/OR THREE GUYS THAT THINK THEY'RE FUNNY, AND HAPPEN TO KNOW LAYOUT. NOTHING AGAINST THEM, THEY'RE REALLY NICE GUYS. THEY JUST AREN'T FUNNY, LET ALONE FUNNY ENOUGH TO HAVE HALF AN ISSUE'S WORTH OF SPACE TO MAKE GAY, DRAGON, AND FRANKENBERRY JOKES. IT WOULD BE FUNNIER IF ISSUES OF THE BANNER WERE USED TO ABSORB WATER WHEN THAWING OUT A REFRIGERATOR. IN FACT, WHEN I DID THAT, IT WAS FUNNIER THAN DAPS. I WISH THEM THE BEST OF LUCK, AS THEY WILL NEED IT. THEY SHOULDN'T'VE BEEN PRINTED IN THE FIRST PLACE, AND I DOUBT THEY WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THE PUBLICATION HAD ANY REAL JOURNALISM. I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT DAPS KNEW IT WAS A SINKING SHIP TOO.

HOWEVER, LET'S GET BACK TO WHAT ACTUALLY MATTERS BESIDES THE LACK OF JOURNALISM, AND THE LACK OF PROPER EDITING (PICK

UP A COPY OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2008 EDITION AND A HI-LITER, AND GO NUTS WITH A GAME OF SPOT-THE-FUCKUP): A LACK OF RESPECT FOR THE STUDENTS, LIVING AND DEAD.

THE EDITOR IN CHIEF (LUCIE LAURIA) IS A CARTOONIST AS WELL, BEST KNOWN FOR HER SIGNATURE PIG NOSE ON A STERFOTYPICAL BLONDE GIRL. SAID BLONDE GIRL SEEMS TO BE THE ICONIC FIGURE OF A STANDARD CSI STUDENT. IN FACT, UNTIL THE MOST RECENT ISSUE AS OF PRINTING, THE CENTRAL THEME SEEMS TO BE BASHING OUR STUDENTS, CALLING THEM STUPID, INCOMPETENT, AND EVIDENTLY FROM THE DRAWINGS, RATHER HOMELY. WHILE A SELECT FEW OF THE STUDENTS ON THIS CAMPUS DO FALL INTO ALL THESE LINES, THE VAST MAJORITY DOES NOT. IT'S LOVELY TO KNOW THAT THE EDITOR IN CHIEF OF OUR OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER THINKS SO POORLY OF US. CAN YOU FEEL THE LOVE? I CERTAINLY CAN. IT'S GLORIOUS.

ALSO IN THE MOST RECENT ISSUE AS OF PRINTING (FEB 20, 08 IF YOU'VE BEEN KEEPING SCORE), THE COVER ARTICLE WAS ABOUT THE DEATH OF ONE OF OUR OWN. WHILE I DIDN'T KNOW JACQUELINE DONADIO PERSONALLY, I KNOW MOST CERTAINLY THAT I WOULD WANT ANY IMAGES OF ME TO BE A LITTLE MORE PROFESSIONAL AND FLATTERING THAN MYSPACE SHOTS THAT WOULD BE USED AS A WAY TO ATTRACT A POTENTIAL MATE. I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE REMEMBERED POUTING MY LIPS, IN AN EMBARRASSINGLY TERRIBLE GLAMOUR SHOT, OR LAYING ON MY BED SHOWING THE START OF CLEAVAGE WERE I A WOMAN. NOR WOULD I WANT THE ONLY LINE OF HEADLINE BESIDES THE TITLE TO EMPHASIZE THE FACT THAT I'M DEAD AND IT SEEMS LIKE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN COMING. IT'S ABSOLUTE DISRESPECT AT IT'S WORST. HONESTLY, IF I WERE A MEMBER OF THE BANNER THAT KNEW THE DEPARTED, I WOULD MOST LIKELY TRY TO BAR THE PRINTING UNTIL THE PHOTOS WERE REMOVED, OR OUTRIGHT LEAVE THE PUBLICATION. IF I WERE A FAMILY MEMBER, I WOULD ASK FOR THE ISSUE REMOVED. IF I WERE THE DEPARTED, I'D DIE AGAIN AT THE DISRESPECT SHOWN TO ME.

THE FREEDOM OF SPEECH IS EXTENDED TO ALL, AND SHOULD NEVER BE REVOKED. I'M NOT ASKING FOR PEOPLE TO STOP READING THE BANNER, OR DEMAND THAT THEY NO LONGER PRINT. EVERYONE HAS A RIGHT TO BE HEARD. MY REQUEST IS MUCH MORE REALISTIC AND IMPORTANT. I HUMBLBY ASK SOMEONE -- ANYONE -- TO DENY THE BANNER IT'S TITLE. I DON'T WANT THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE COLLEGE OF STATEN ISLAND TO BE A RAG. I WANT A NEWSPAPLER TO HAVE THE TITLE, OR NOTHING AT ALL.

*-Andrew Oppenheimer*

*Art Director  
Angry Student*

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# DEAR SERPENTINE

*Dear Serpentine Magazine -*

*Do you theme your magazines? Last issue was mostly war related things, and the one before it was very like walking in hell.*

*Frederick*

FREDERICK -

IT'S FUNNY YOU SHOULD MENTION THAT, WE ACTUALLY NEVER PLAN THEMES BEFORE AN ISSUE IS MADE, THEY JUST SEEM TO EMERGE AS THE PROCESS GOES ON. FOR EXAMPLE, THIS ISSUE'S ARTIFACTS SECTION SEEMS TO HAVE AN ALMOST SUPERNATURAL THEME, WHICH WAS COMPLETELY UNINTENTIONAL. SOMETIMES HAPPY ACCIDENTS WORK OUT IN EVERYONE'S FAVOR.

-ED.

Hello!

You might already have won a visit to the themepark of your choice! Just [CLICK HERE](#) to get your code to find out what the next step is!

DEAR SPAMMERS -

WE'RE NOT CERTAIN HOW YOU GOT OUR NAME, BUT WE DON'T ACTUALLY WANT ANY OF THE PRODUCT YOU'RE ATTEMPTING TO PAWN OFF ON US. PLEASE TRY PEOPLE THAT HAVE MONEY, RATHER THAN COLLEGE STUDENTS.

-ED.

serpentine...i like your magazine but i think you need better writing n stuff...please hire better writers...vanessa

VANESSA-

I THINK IT MIGHT BE BEST IF YOU WERE TO PROOFREAD YOUR LETTERS BEFORE SENDING THEM, ESPECIALLY LETTERS CONCERNING OUR CONTENT AND EDITING. IT'S MORE OF A SIGN OF RESPECT AND INTELLECT. ALSO, TO CLARIFY, ALL OF OUR WRITERS AND ARTISTS WRITE TO SEE THEIR WORK PUBLISHED, NOT FOR MONEY. WE'RE NOT RICH ENOUGH FOR THAT.

-ED.

Dear Serpentine-

Who made the great covers for the issue last year? It had Heaven and Hell on the covers.

A loving fan.

FAN-

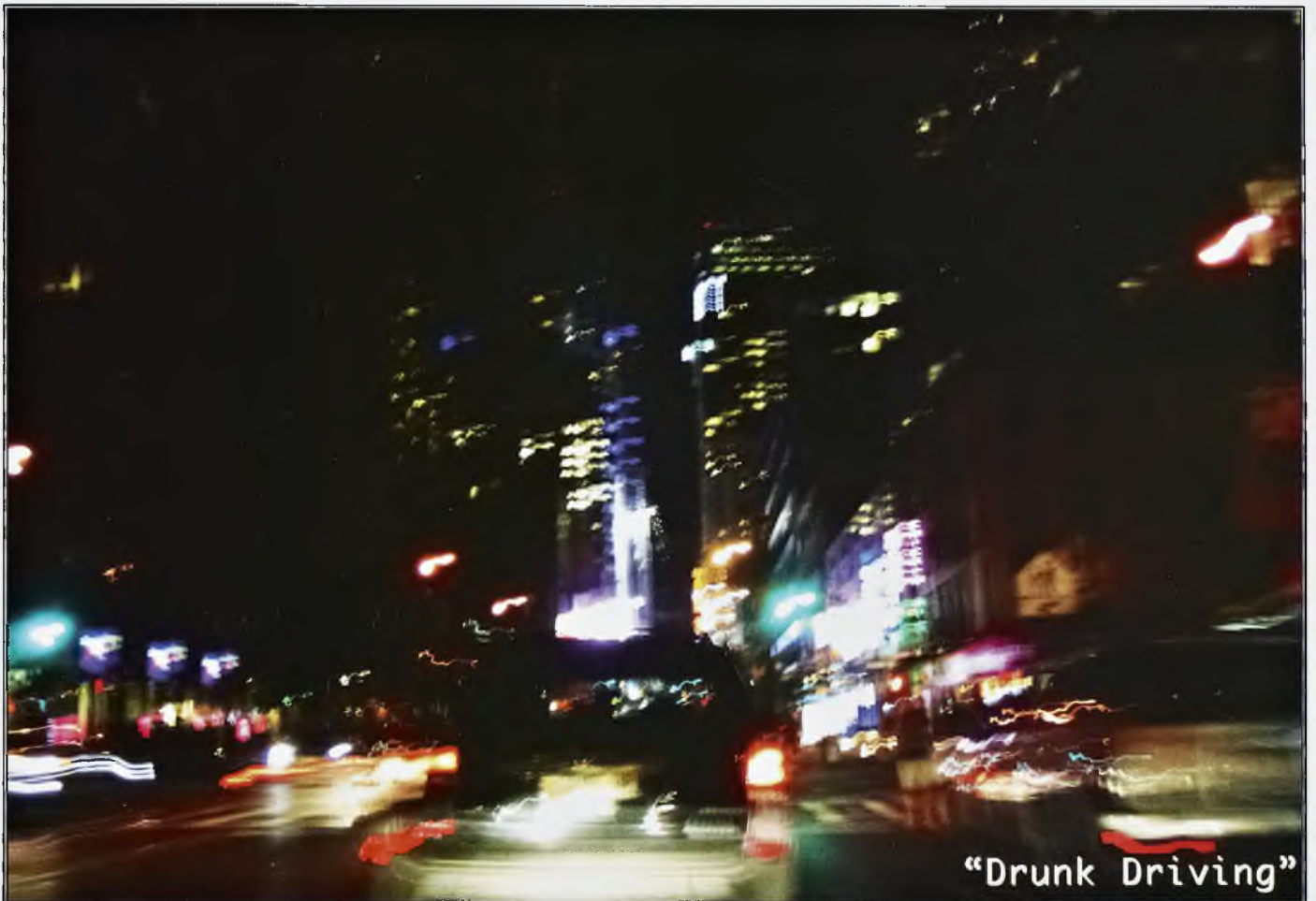
THOSE COVERS WERE DONE BY NONE OTHER THAN OUR OWN ALICIA REBELO. IF YOU SEE HER, CONGRATULATE HER ON A JOB WELL DONE.

-ED.



“My Hand”

by Anthony DePrimo



“Drunk Driving”



"Queen of Chaos"  
by Dan Iyageh



"Cowboy" by John Takle



"Precious Angel" by Lilith Oya.  
Lyrics by SemiPrecious Weapons.



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# COMIC RELIEF

BY ANDREW OPPENHEIMER

## PART OF HIS CHARACTER.

THERE ARE TWO WAYS TO LOOK AT CHARACTERS. THE FIRST IS THAT THEY ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A DEVICE OF THE PLOT, OR A MESSENGER OF A JOKE. THE OTHER WAY TO LOOK AT THEM IS TO SAY THAT THEY ARE DEEP, IMPORTANT, AND OFTEN TIMES GREATER THAN THE PLOT. HOWEVER, SINCE WE'RE MAKING A COMIC STRIP AND NOT HAMLET, I'M GOING TO LEAN MORE TOWARDS THE FIRST LINE OF THOUGHT IN THIS CASE.

YOUR CHARACTERS DO NOT NEED TO BE COMPLEX, NOR DO THEY NEED TO BE ABUNDANT. SOME OF THE GREATEST STRIPS EVER HAVE ONLY HAD ONE CHARACTER, OR VERY SIMPLE CHARACTERS. FOR EXAMPLE, *CYANIDE AND HAPPINESS* (I FEEL ONE OF THE FUNNIEST COMICS ON THE WEB) USES STICK FIGURES. FOR THIS STRIP, MY CHARACTER IS GOING TO BE A ROCK.

MY ROCK IS A SIMPLE ONE: AN UGLY SHAPE DRAWN WITH THE PAINT BRUSH TOOL, FILLED WITH BROWN, BLACK LINES, AND THEN THE BLUR FILTER UNTIL I COULDN'T TELL THEY WERE LINES ANYMORE. NOT EVEN A FULL PARAGRAPH FOR CHARACTER CREATION.

IN CONTRAST, A COMPLEX CHARACTER MIGHT TAKE SEVERAL LAYERS OF COLORING AND DETAIL, IF YOU SO WISH TO INVEST THAT MUCH TIME INTO IT. YOU MIGHT HAVE TO PLAY AROUND WITH IDEAS FOR A WHILE UNTIL YOU FIND A CHARACTER YOU'RE HAPPY WITH (FIG. 1). DON'T GET DISCOURAGED, GET CREATIVE. IT'S NOT JUST CHEESEY, IT'S GOOD ADVICE.

## THEY NEVER SHUT UP.

THERE'S A FEW WAYS YOU CAN SHOW THAT A CHARACTER (OR ANYONE ELSE) IS TALKING. THE MOST NOTORIOUS OF THEM IS THE SPEECH BUBBLE, WHICH ALL READERS WILL KNOW OF, UNLESS THEY'VE BEEN LIVING IN SOME OBSCURE PLACE THAT DOESN'T HAVE THE CIVILITY TO HAVE COMICS. THERE ARE SEVERAL WAYS TO MAKE A

SPEECH BUBBLE, THE EASIEST BEING TO SIMPLY USE THE CIRCLE SELECTION TOOL, HOLD SHIFT, AND USING THE POLYGONAL LASSO TOOL. NOW FILL THE WHOLE THING WITH WHITE AND STROKE IT IN BLACK (FIG. 2). TA-DA. I WON'T BOTHER SHOWING THE OTHER WAYS, SINCE WE'VE ALREADY GOT THE SPEECH BOX.

## EYE KAN RITE 2!

WHAT YOU HAVE YOUR CHARACTERS SAY AND DO IS JUST AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT THEY ARE AND HOW THEY LOOK (REALISTICALLY, MORE SO). I CAN'T MAKE YOU WRITE ANY BETTER OR WORSE THAN YOU ALREADY DO, AND IT WOULD BE A CRIME FOR ME TO EVEN BOTHER TRYING. I WILL, HOWEVER, SAY THAT YOUR AUDIENCE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN YOUR CONTEXT. IF YOU KNOW WHAT PEOPLE LIKE, TRY TO STAY IN THE SAME LINE OF THOUGHT.

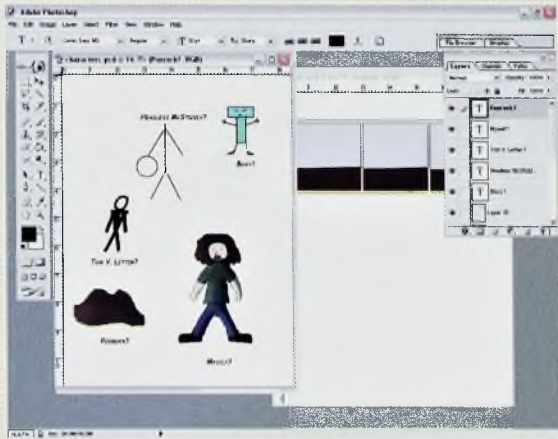
IF YOU'VE GROWN AN AUDIENCE THAT RELISHES DARK HUMOR, FOR EXAMPLE, SWITCHING SHARPLY TO A SCI-FI ROMANCE IS LIKELY TO HAVE YOU LOSE READERSHIP AND/OR BE STONED ON THE WAY TO THE BODEGA ON THE CORNER. IT'S HAPPENED IN THE PAST, DON'T LAUGH. ONCE YOU SET A PRECEDENT, IT'S BEST TO KEEP UP WITH THE SAME GENRE.

THE NEXT MOST IMPORTANT THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND ARE SPELLING AND GRAMMAR. IF YOUR READERS CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'VE WRITTEN, THEN IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW CLEVER, DEEP, OR HILARIOUS IT IS. YOU'LL BE BRANDED AS AN ILLITERATE FOOL, AND IGNORED FOR THE REST OF YOUR CAREER. IT'S ALRIGHT FOR HAND DRAWN COMICS WHEN YOU'RE 8-12, BUT AFTER THAT IT'S INEXCUSABLE. PUT IT ALL DOWN IN WORD AND SPELL CHECK IT FIRST, AND RE-READ EVERYTHING.

FOR THE SAKE OF THIS COMIC, WE'LL GO WITH SOMETHING SIMPLE. "WHY DID THE CHICKEN CROSS THE ROAD?" "...I WISH I HAD FRIENDS." (FIG. 3)

NEXT ISSUE: FINISHING TOUCHES, GOOD SITES, FINDING EXPOSURE!

FIGURE 1



THEN, OUT FROM NOWHERE!

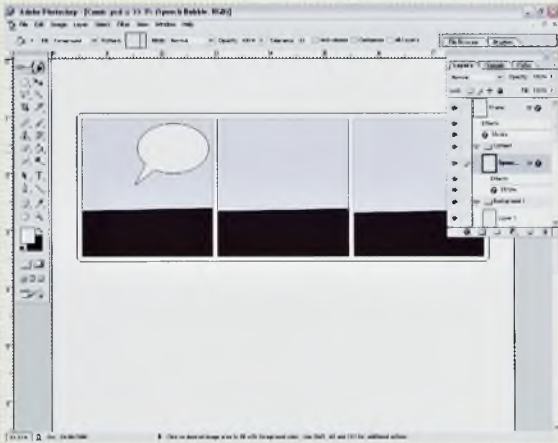


FIGURE 2

JUST AS YOU THOUGHT IT WAS SAFE...

FIGURE 3





Jacqueline Genco "Passion" Oil on Canvas; 13 x 9 in



Photography by Mary Bradley



# ATTENTION ARTISTS! ORPHAN WORKS LEGISLATION WANTS TO TAKE YOUR RIGHTS AWAY!

by Alicia Rebelo

“That’s a very lovely painting you have there. Is it registered with the government? No? That would look great on my advertisement billboard. I’ll just be taking this from you now. You can try and prove it’s yours. Oh, and by the way, you won’t be receiving any money from this either.”

Has this happened to you? I hope it hasn’t. In a situation like this you have the right and choice to pursue any legal actions against someone who takes your creation and uses it without your permission for personal gain. With “Orphan Works” you’d be shit out of luck.

“Orphan Works” is being presented to Congress and is very close to becoming a law. You might be asking “Orphan? Like the children?” Well, not exactly, in fact, not at all. “Orphan Works” takes away all your rights in owning your artwork. This includes, but is not limited to, every sketch, painting, photo, sculpture, drawing, video, song and every other type of creative endeavor. Currently in the United States, copyright law allows artists ownership immediately after creation. Although it’s not registered with copyright establishments, whoever created it, owns it. Someone wants to change that. What “Orphan Works” will do is force every artist to register their pieces of art with Copyright registries and will make you pay money to do so. This is to ensure you that your artwork will not become “orphaned” like a little lost child. In other words, if your work isn’t registered than anyone is entitled to take it.

Not only does this force you to pay your hard earned money but gives complete strangers the right to take your art and use it in whichever way they choose. This is a very serious issue. This will greatly affect the careers of artists everywhere. Everything that was created within the past 34 years will become public domain. If you’re thinking “Well, I’ll just register my artwork and it will be safe.” you’re wrong. Registering your art doesn’t make it safe. There is no guarantee that someone who wishes to steal your creation won’t successfully prove your work is orphaned and then legally use it for free. You will not receive any recognition or money.

YOU WILL LOSE YOUR RIGHT TO MAKE MONEY FROM YOUR CREATIONS.

And your creations aren’t even the end of it. What else could they possibly take? How about those photographs you have in your photo albums? Pictures taken of your personal lives stand at stake to “Orphan Works”. Photographs of your children, your family, photographs from birthdays, vacations, all of them are at risk. That means unless you register them with Copyright anyone can take them and use them for magazines, newspapers, billboards, the possibilities are endless. With millions of people sharing photos online with free sites like Shutterfly or Snapfish, there is a huge opportunity for anyone to take them, legally.

So why would anyone allow this to happen? Could you just imagine how much money the government can take from us because of this? Hypothetically, if the average person takes 500 photos a month, I’m sure some take more, some take less, if a Copyright registry charges \$5 per photo that’s \$2,500 to register them with no guarantee they are safe. Oh, and there are more than one registries out there. So say you want to protect them with two registries, that’s \$5,000 to protect your works and guess what, you’re still not guaranteed. Pissed yet? It gets even better. If someone takes your creation and registers it before you, you could be illegally using your own creation. Does anyone else see a problem with this? This could never happen with our current laws.

If this bothers you then do something about it. Get up from your seat and contact your legislator. Go to <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml> and let your voice be heard. Tell them it is wrong to take away your right to own something you’ve created. We should stay protected by Copyright law, not abused by it.

There are several articles online about this issue. I encourage everyone to look this up online. You can use search engines just type in “Orphan Works”. There are also a few online petitions that you can look into as well. Please, don’t let this bill become law.

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...FOR NOW.





“Lucifer” by Christopher Cuccia





Don't Let Your Sexual Orientation Define You  
Feel Free To Be Yourself!!

We meet on Wednesdays  
Building 2N, Room 108  
For room change check for flyers.

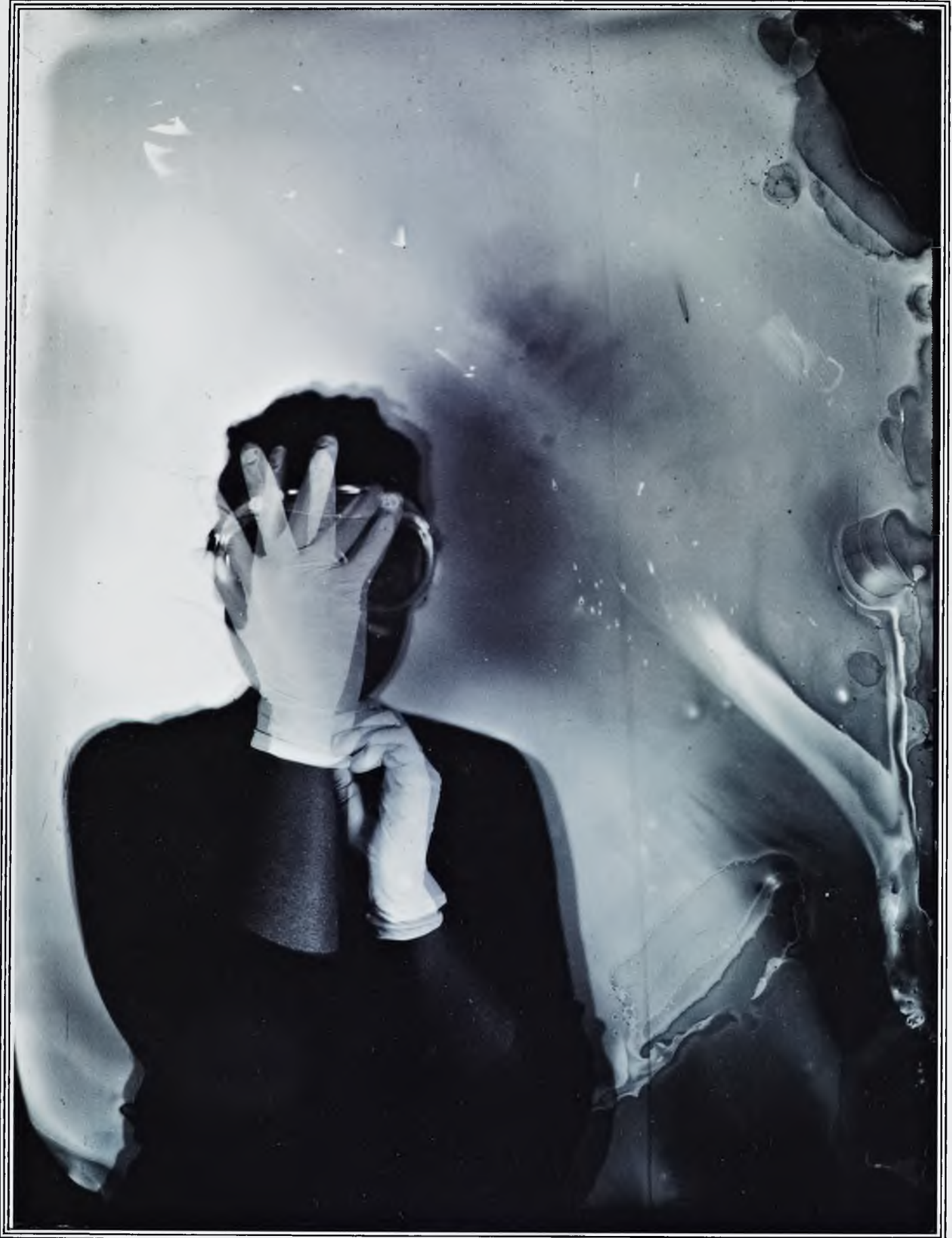
**DISCRIMINATION WILL  
NOT BE TOLERATED!!!**

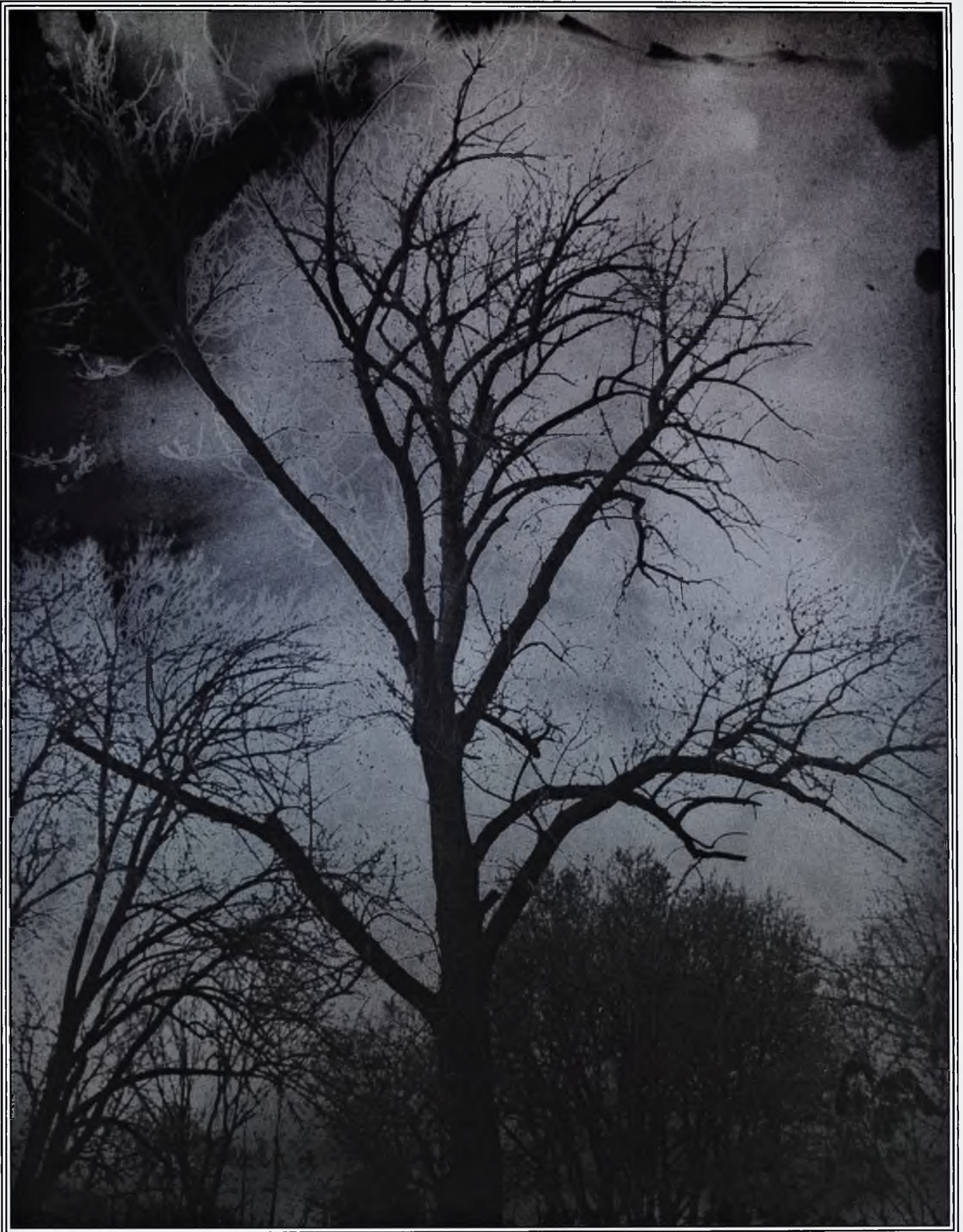
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Photography by





Who said that heart does not exist

In nature's creature - werewolf

muscle legs and stoned his fists

From inner he's battles that he's scared of

He once was man, obeyed the laws

Had wife at home and children

A bite from drunk, it was

the cause

For deaths he made that drew

him wilder

Alone he's howling into the woods

asking for attention

His kind that lives are not food

As a decision his own for true

He end redemption.



Yours

# Serpentine Magazine

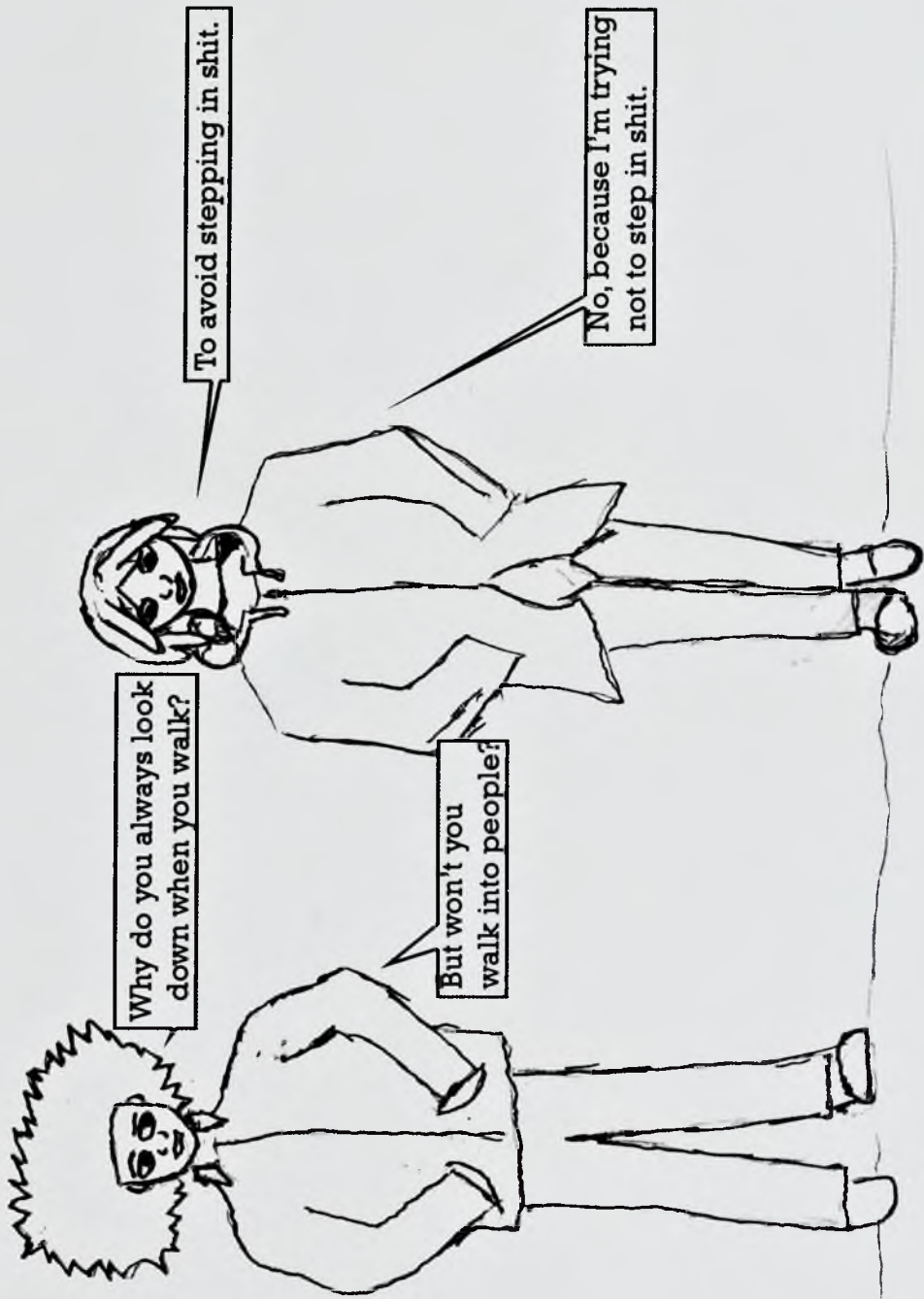


Art.  
Literature.  
Awesome.



Submit at [magazine.serpentine@gmail.com](mailto:magazine.serpentine@gmail.com)

**My Brother and Me**  
By Nelo Maxwell



# REVISED HISTORY

BY MICKEY MALONE

