



# THE GRAIL

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ISSUE I

INSIDE

ANARCHY 110

## PUNKDEIA

Off campus but inside the law, Olde Reed lives on as Hotboxxx becomes a haven for students to teach Paideia classes not approved by the College.

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## TOP 6 US

FOR MORE!

POP THE BUBBLE

## CULTURAL CALENDAR

A look at the month ahead in the land of not-Reed: George Clooney, The Pixies, and Vladimir Putin. What do they have in common?

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# FROM THE EDITORS

Dear Reader,

The Grail is your newsmagazine.

This issue is funded by the Student Body, and we'll need your help to keep the publication running. Voting in Funding poll and Top Sixing us is the easiest way to assist this endeavor.

We focus on the timeless aspects of news and allow stories to evolve. Our schedule — we publish fortnightly — lets us do this. We will feature culturally relevant journalism and creative works. Feel free to submit drawings, poems, reviews, or anything else you are passionate about.

We want our paper to be created by Reed students — for Reed students. We will try to mobilize the Stu-

dent Body to develop their opinions about what is seen as worth publishing.

If you'd like to join our cause, come to the lobby of the Performing Arts Building on Mondays at 8 PM or let us know at reedthegrail@gmail.com.

While this issue is small, with your support we will grow in our upcoming issues.

We hope you, our reader, will help us on our journey to redefine what student publications can and should be.

Love,  
The Editors

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# DAY OF PUNK

By BENJAMIN WILLIAMS

Paideia went punk. Junior physics major Julia Selker organized Punkdeia at an off campus house the Wednesday of Paideia 2014. Completely autonomous from Reed, Punkdeia was a daylong progression of Paideia-style classes, several of which would likely not have been approved by the administration. But first some history. Julia was embroiled in the controversy that racked Paideia last year.

As Paideia Czar for the 2013 Paideia, Julia had been responsible for all of Paideia. She collected and went through the proposed classes and met with Community Safety and Facilities Services who looked for safety hazards and ensured that no buildings or trees would be damaged. The CSO check was pretty rudimentary. They made sure the liquor courses would check for IDs and the teacher of the straight razor class wasn't a budding Sweeney Todd.

Julia published the 20-page Paideia schedule, which was available for almost a full week without any complaints. This is when Kroger ran headlong into his first Reed controversy, ordering that a fermentation class cut its alcohol component and that two other courses be cut entirely. Kroger was as heavy-handed as he was hands-off, delegating his pronouncements through intermediaries. In Julia's opinion, the most objectionable part was how he passed off contact, first to Kristin Holmberg, Director of Student Activities and then to Mike Brody, Dean of Students.

Kroger's main line of reasoning was liability: the school could be held accountable for what was taught in Paideia classes. The Paideia controversy attracted the attention of alumni, many of whom saw the controversy as the latest emanation of Administration vs. The Student Body. The backlash built until Kroger scheduled a Reed Forum. He responded to student complaints and Olde Reede territorialism in reticent, lawfully fashion. But that's old news.

Julia joined the 2014 Paideia Commit-

tee, remaining committed to the tradition. "Paideia's one of the reasons I came to Reed. We teach each other every day. Paideia is a symbol of that. Paideia is a chance to get an audience, to get money. You get such validation from teaching a class. You teach someone one moment, and then you're learning from them later," says Julia. "You can learn something, anything, well enough to teach it to your peers for an hour. That's the truth of it. It reminds me what I can learn."

But the bureaucracy had started to wear on Julia. Liability was the new buzzword, and hardline mandates would hamstring what classes could be conducted. If anyone was injured in any way, and it was found that the student had learned about what harmed them in a Paideia class, even if it was just possible that they had learned about it in a Paideia class, it could be really bad for the school.

At this juncture, Punkdeia was born. The "Punk" is about an ethos and not a genre of music, harkening to grass roots and defiance toward authority. Though the school would likely not have approved some of the Punkdeia classes, none of the Punkdeia activities were inherently illegal.

The pseudonym-wielding Tesla Maus taught a class on Stick and Poke Tattoos, which are permanent tattoos that are almost as simple as they sound. Participants took sterilized needles, wrapped thread around them, applied ink and repeatedly stabbed someone until they made a tattoo.

Though some practiced their tattoo making on oranges, others went in for the real thing. A mini pentagram was tattooed to a finger; whales and trees took to arms and a lion landed on a wrist.

Classes and activities filled the day. A fire starting class lit up the back yard and Curbside Redemption taught a rolling class. Unregulated Depressants, the class that had been canceled when it had been called "Put This in Your Pipe and Smoke It," was held, Kroger unwittingly gave the course its title

in his letter to the community about Paideia last year. It turns out that by "unregulated" they mean completely legal to purchase and use, and by "depressant" they mean mellow—sort of like how alcohol is a depressant but with a less intoxicating effect.

We ended up on the back porch taking turns sharing poems. Someone sparked a J. "Try this," they said, offering it my way.

"I'm set," I responded, "I don't smoke weed these days."

"It's not marijuana," he said. "It's a bunch of other herbs: lavender, mugwort and mullein leaf." The smoke was pleasant. As I relaxed into a mellow sensation, I realized that I held in my hand the root of last year's controversy. I exhaled. So much fuss over this?

The night evolved into standard revelry with dance music in the basement and (legal) consumption of alcohol. The neighbors were undisturbed and no cops showed. Punkdeia was pulled off with hardly a hitch. It succeeded for the same reason that Paideia continues to succeed despite overbearing oversight: "We have so much to teach each other, and there's so much to learn," says Julia. "You're only at this school for so long. Go to the clubs. Go to the talks. Learn something, and then teach it. We won't be in an intellectual community like this again." ▾

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*"I'm set, I don't smoke  
weed these days."*

*"It's not marijuana," he  
said. "It's a bunch of  
other herbs."*

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**Punkdeia 2014** all events at the  
Hobboxxx  
Wednesday, Jan 22

- 11am Pancakes for the People The brunchquad will feed you!
- 1pm Vocal Mimicry w/ Natural Log
- 3pm Stick & Poke Tattoos w/ Tesla Maus et. al
- 4pm Open Mic @ the Hobbarrr and Lounge
- 5pm Primitive Firemaking w/ Tape Deck
- 6:30pm Unregulated Depressants w/ Lavender & Mullein
- 7pm Rolling Sannies w/ Curbside Redemption
- 8pm Tank Dirt the major protest picture  
please use unregulated depressants because we don't want cops  
Aren't you ever used a blunt in a car-somewhere  
with  
Reed@reed.edu is where questions go!

Julia Selker  
The Punkdeia schedule poster shared around the Reed campus.

# Entheogenesis: an Alum's Banned Paideia Class

By BRIAN CLICK

The monumental Paideia schedule dominated the GCC Lobby from January 18th until the first day of classes, directing knowledge-seekers to an exhaustive list of educational and recreational opportunities. One of the week's events, however, appeared nowhere on the list.

On January 24th, the Friday of Paideia, alumnus Richard Milsom led an unofficial, unsanctioned "Entheogenesis Seminar" in the Student Union. Participants discussed legal issues surrounding psychoactive drugs used for spiritual purposes, or entheogens. Conversation focused especially on the 2006 Supreme Court case *UDV v. Gonzalez* — in which the Court unanimously upheld a religious movement's right to the sacramental use of ayahuasca, a Schedule I substance — and its implications for religious freedom and drug policy in America.

The Grail spoke to Mr. Milsom a week later about his past, his class, and his motives in holding it even though he had been denied permission by the Paideia czars.

**TG:** How did you first become involved with the subject of entheogens?

**RM:** I was involved with entheogens before I came to Reed. In the 1960s I'd been fascinated by religion as a haven for hypocrisy — but also as a place where people would stand up for their beliefs and have long-standing faith in causes. As I used to say to students while teaching religion and American studies, you cannot understand something like Martin Luther King's movement without understanding the community he came out of and the impact that faith had on that community — both for organization and for shaping his beliefs. Of course we have to try to understand religion.

I should say — after Chicago, and after I worked with teenagers in Toronto, who were involved with various drugs, including psychedelics or what we now call entheogens — I came back to Oregon and was the executive director of the Oregon Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction. It was a citizens' advocacy that had as its mission a public health approach to drugs that clearly had the potential to hurt people. (And any-

one who doesn't realize that drugs can hurt people is an idiot. But the laws that make them illegal are worse.) I also worked for an ecumenical group, where I was sort of the pagan-in-residence, doing advocacy about public health issues, including drugs. So my interests in civil liberties and in how to deal with alcohol and other drugs have been very longstanding. That's why, when I heard about last year's Paideia and the big censorship kerfuffle, I was interested.

**TG:** That was my next question — is that why you decided to teach the class? Because you'd heard about last year's debate?

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*I never thought that  
comfort level was  
a deciding factor  
in whether or not  
something should be  
studied here.*

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**RM:** Yes. I'd taught a very similar Paideia class about eight years ago with no controversy. I thought this would also be relatively uncontroversial. I wasn't planning to give out mushrooms, I was planning to talk about the legal context in which they are used and why important changes in the law should be understood. As well as a conversation from a history of religion perspective about how this stuff is not rare in human history. Not every religious movement in history has entheogens as part of its heritage, but many do — including the venerated Greeks! It should be talked about, it should be studied, it should be an object of inquiry.

**TG:** What was the reception from the Paideia czars when you initially proposed the class?

**RM:** Well, it took them a couple weeks, but eventually they emailed me back saying that they'd had a long conversation, had considered at length the possibility of such a course, and had decided that they "weren't

comfortable" with the subject being dealt with under Reed's auspices. I never thought that comfort level was a deciding factor in whether or not something should be studied here. If that was the case, we'd have a very different set of theses being written.

I think there's a story behind the story. It took me a while to figure out, but I think I know. You, I'm sure, know that someone tragically died here a few years ago. It's been well reported that Colin Diver had a visit from state and federal law enforcement and was told, "you have to crack down," Reed can no longer be a de facto the-laws-don't-apply-here zone. Now, if that's all we knew it would simply be an intriguing mystery. But I found an article in the Chronicle of Higher Education that said that if you look at any grant of federal funds that any school in the United States receives, there's a clause that says that the institution is going to make a very strong and good-faith effort to make illegal drug use not occur. Now, that's a big club to hold over any school. Every single school in the country gets money from the federal government. It is huge. Now, I have a very strong suspicion that that was what was going on, and that probably had a lot to do with Kroger being hired. Now, Kroger is a very smart man. I don't underestimate him, and I'm not trying to vilify him. But his record was: [stomp] we're going to fight the drugs. Fine. It's one thing to say the school's not going to look the other way when people get stoned. But to translate that into, "we're going to control what you can study, because we find it disturbing," that is wrong.

**TG:** What do you say in response to the claims that classes on drug-related topics will hurt our reputation?

**RM:** A person might very reasonably think that these entheogens don't really have all the properties ascribed to them. Fine. But you don't have to win the validity argument to have the free exercise of religion in this country, and you certainly don't have to in order to discuss it. This is a debate which should interest people here, because it's not just about getting high and going to a Grateful Dead concert. It's about what can be examined. ▼

# A bitch in the boardroom, a bore in the bedroom, a tiger on the toilet.

GRACEFUL GROUSINGS

Grace Fetterman

My family has never believed in privacy. Getting my period for the first time was recounted in an early draft of our Christmas card letter. And we're Jewish. Potty training in the Fetter-

man household was a spectacle for everyone who's anyone to enjoy. As I was perched naked on a Fisher-Price toilet seat, family,

friends, and CVS pharmacists gathered to watch my excretion efforts, while enjoying my mom's artichoke dip.

I am convinced these childhood poop pageants explain my issues with intimacy and using public restrooms. But I'm not the one with the problem. It's high time that people who choose a bathroom stall right next to another occupied one, even though there are several other poop coops to choose from, be held accountable for their actions. This is a vile and malicious act hap-

pening daily, and yet, there is never dialogue about it. If you do this, STOP, and the same should go for urinals. We are born and die alone, so naturally, we should use the bathroom alone. It's an inalienable right. Next time someone enters the stall right next to yours, you need to fight back. Ask them why they thought it was remotely OK to encroach upon your freedom. Yell, cry; make them repent. Be the tinkle gadfly. The sound of a flush ushers in a rebirth, and hope for a better tomorrow. ♣

## Dressing Up & Down

We are Alexis Angulo '16 and Mia Uribe Kozlovsky '16. We're starting column focused on Reddie fashion. As you've probably observed, Reedies tend to be eclectic in their fashion choices and usual-

DE SASTRE

Alexis Angulo  
Mia Uribe Kozlovsky

ly can't be found in your typical collegiate sweatpants and Ugg boots. So if you see us around, tell us whaddup, and we'll be happy to take your picture and hear the story about what you chose to put on your body today. Have fun deciphering why we called it "De Sastre," and we can't wait to see you in two weeks. ♣

## Return of the Prodigal Dharma Bum

By LAUREN COOPER

Gary Snyder '51 will be returning to Reed this Friday, February 7th at 5:15 PM in Vollum Lecture Hall to give a talk and receive this year's Thomas Lamb Eliot Award which recognizes sustained distinguished achievement by a Reed College graduate.

Snyder is a poet who is often associated with the Beat Generation and whose works have won worldwide acclaim, receiving the Pulitzer Prize, the Bollingen Prize for Poetry, the Ruth Lily Poetry Prize, a Guggenheim Fellowship, and the International Award from the Buddhist Transmission Foundation.

Snyder has been committed throughout his career to pursuing Buddhist spirituality and his connection to nature, he is often considered the "poet laureate of Deep Ecology." Deep Ecology is an environmental movement whose ideology is based on the belief that the living environment and its components should be respected and regarded as having inalienable legal rights to grow and prosper regardless of whether or not they are commodified for human use. He is also well known and commended for

his environmental activism as well as his translation of Chinese and Japanese literature into English.

During his time at Reed, Snyder lived at 1414 SE Lambert St., in what is considered to be one of the first co-ed postwar Reed Houses. His thesis, an analysis of a Haida Indian swan-maiden myth foreshadows much of his future work and is rumored to be the most photocopied thesis at Reed until its publication in book form in 1979. Snyder also features prominently in Jack Kerouac's novel *The Dharma Bums* under the pseudonym Japhy Ryder.

In a 1999 Reed Magazine article written by John Sheehy, Snyder says: "I'm one of those people in whom the experiential and the intellectual is not clearly divided... So when I first heard about Native American sweat lodges—without even thinking twice about it, I went out and built a sweat lodge and tried it. Then I understood with my body how deep that practice is."

This idea of experiencing something to learn something is an ideology and technique that has followed Snyder through the rest of his endeavors. ♣



Alexis Angulo & Mia Uribe Kozlovsky

"People think I'm dressing up when in reality I'm dressing down, because I mean, pants are hard. As for the dress, I can't remember where I got it since I've had it since middle school." — Aysha Pettigrew '17

# Communism, Judaism, Free Love

*Dissident Gardens*

By Jonathan Lethem

Doubleday, 384 pp., \$27.95

Jonathan Lethem's latest novel, *Dissident Gardens*, weaves together Communism, socialism, hippieism and even the Occupy movement — the threads of dissent in American culture — only to have them unravel. His characters seem unconcerned with maintaining their objective ideological identities if they appear to be at odds with their personal aspirations.

Lethem began his career hoping to become a writer of cheap sci-fi paperbacks, but the ghosts he exposes no longer take the

shape of anthropomorphic kangaroos or baby faces (*Gun, with Occasional Music*). Instead, the MacArthur Fellow describes a multigenerational family drama of radicals and Communists, something that would struggle to grace the pages of the War Free edition of the New York Times (*Chronic City*), regardless of the protagonists' predilections for pacifism. Their world is a working-class slog, which is the only way they'd have it (they'd let you know), buried in the socialist enclave of Sunnyside Gardens.

The story opens with Rose Zimmer, "pure pugilistic screw-you Noo Yawk," being put on trial by her small cell of the Communist Party. Wishing not to incite too much backlash from the fiery Rose, "their incessant, mealy-mouthed usage, droning again and again from the fog of their talk was 'associations'... They meant, of course, the association of her rapidly aging Jew Communist vagina with the black lieutenant's sturdy and affectionate penis."

Lethem is a master of preordained regret, idealists' minds chagrined by the conditions of the world their bodies have been forced to inhabit. He has always enjoyed creating claustrophobic social spaces for his characters, forcing them to acknowledge the shortcomings of their own eccentric and brazenly ideological approaches to dealing with what they see to be societal flaws. He succeeds in *Dissident Gardens* when the characters set their own snares.

Rose Zimmer was born Jewish in 1920s New York, but found herself compelled to take on her own brand of virulent Communism, marry a German immigrant, and have an affair with a black cop.

With her lover's son, Cicero, an overweight homosexual black man described with Lethem's sullen facetiousness as a "career magical Negro," Rose sees her opportunity to properly honor the memory of Lincoln contained in Carl Sandburg's six volume biography:

"His scholastic excellence was an offering to gratify Rose: She'd produced a marvel! A black brain!...One of his minor revengees: Rose's Marxism quit at Marx. When Cicero'd one time popped a little Deleuze and Guattari on her ass, she'd balked."

Young Cicero shows signs of becoming a chess prodigy, but after being thoroughly beaten in a chess match by his cousin Lenny, Rose's daughter Miriam, takes him to an astrologer to learn his fate. Astrological inquiry, which subtly weaves its way through the novel, is what Lethem characterizes as a "fake lie":

"Cicero's capacities were reserved for the lies that mattered. Ideology, although that word was as yet unknown to him: the veil of sustaining fiction that drove the world, what people needed to believe. This, Cicero wished to unmask and unmake, to decry and destroy."

The central figures of the novel; Rose, Miriam, and Cicero, have this in common. They cling to their ideas and deny the locality of human suffering; if you don't think there's a problem right underneath your nose they'll find a way to situate one there.

While the three of them bear the brunt of each others' criticism, others also get caught in the crossfire. Miriam's husband, Tommy Gogan, is a struggling folk musician in the 1960s who learns that being known as a Dylan can be just as constraining as being a Commie. (His name, to me, is a play on Gauguin, as he attempts to find a place for his post-impressionistic art within the expressionistic currents of the age.) There's also Lenny (Lenin), who attempts to have "The Sunnyside Proletariats" become the the new ball club in Queens, instead of the Mets.

That the plot is minimal shouldn't come as a surprise, given the political nature of the characters. The "real lies," or ideologies, are intentionally disparate, and Lethem's failure to tie them together is nothing but a parallel to the individualized nature of Leftist thought. Although, it can also be said that Lethem gets lost in his own ideology, and his conclusions lose some of the emotional strength they're seeking as a result.

Rose, realizing that her once ardent Communist sympathies are dissipating later in life, finds that she's maintained her pseudo-ideals, which really "existed in the space between one person and another, secret sympathies of the body." Lethem's fictionalized Archie Bunker gives this the name of "Comraderism." She had once found it in rallies and protests, where people got together to wage their own wars, but later in life finds that it's just as available at the funerals of Jews she's never known or with an old bigot at the bar. Her epiphany, however, seems like just another idealistic rationalization, as if she, like Lethem, is in love with the idea of camaraderie as the grand answer, but fails to make her actions anything but placeholders for her thoughts. The realizations seem hollow, without body; but maybe it was all a fake lie. ❧

BURN AFTER READING

Brendan Sorrell



Mountaineering Club members prepare to ascend du

# Your Hum Conference is About to Get Worse

I'm sure you're all feeling relieved with the sun in Aquarius and out of restrictive Capricorn. No more oppressive families and back to good ol' academic masochism. On top of this rejuvenating freedom, Venus finally ended its retrograde on January 31st, which means that your stilled love life has hopes of taking off again.

Jupiter moved into opposition with Pluto on January 31st as well. This emphasized the sense of freedom brought on by Sun in Aquarius with an added ambitious focus and drive for success, perfect for the start of the semester. You will feel very powerful, but be careful how you handle this level of energy. It will be tempting to dominate the conversation in conference and challenge your professors or other authority figures. Balance will be crucial with the upcoming Sun square Saturn transit. Enjoy the feeling of ambition, but avoid power struggles. Moderation will be very difficult with this aspect, but Sun square Saturn will be easier to handle if you keep your life balanced.

The Sun square Saturn transit on February 11th is inherently difficult, but will

be an opportunity for growth and can be rewarding if overcome. You may begin to feel disillusioned, blocked from achieving your goals, and lacking in energy/confidence. If your work suddenly seems more overwhelming than usual it is due to these poor spirits and lack of motivation brought on by this aspect and is not reflective of your actual ability. Although you may not feel like doing work, this is a time in which buckling down is very important. Saturn makes apparent the weaker areas of your life, enabling you to strengthen them. Take the time to sort out your life and focus on self-improvement. The tendency of Reedies to work too hard will only lead to frustration and setbacks during this time. A slow and steady pace will bring success.

Mercury goes into retrograde on February 6th, meaning messages might be lost in translation, and communication can start breaking down. (Great time to release the first issue of a paper.) Worse yet, Mercury is transiting through spacey Pisces, where others' thoughts can sometimes be confused for your own. But Mercury in retrograde need not be a bad time if used correctly as a time of reflection, especially when Mercury re-enters Aquarius, the sign of visionaries and geniuses, next week. Use the next few days with Mercury in Pisces to

get an understanding of the space around you with heightened sensitivity. When the planet shifts to Aquarius, where the Sun, representing the Self, is currently transiting, it can be a great time for contemplation with a new perspective. Conference classes during these transits might be frustrating, as retrograde Mercury in Aquarius can give a false sense of heightened intellectual acuity when you're really being a complete airhead.

The communication problem will be further exacerbated by Jupiter trine Chiron transit, Jupiter in exhalation in Cancer positioned for extreme protectiveness, especially with the strong focus on the self necessitated by Chiron. Expressing harebrained ideas as visionary genius and viewing any counter-argument as a personal attack can be a pervasive sub-current of any Reed class, but during this time those emotions might come more easily to the surface. Look out for this, but understand that the whole time you will also be under the same influence and your own ideas may be more ignoble than ingenious. Be nice, although Mercury trine Mars (February 16th) might make that difficult. ❖

## ASTRAL PROJECTIONS

Clara Rice  
Brendan Sorrell

## Ascend Ozone with the Mountaineering Club

By NICK TILL

When the Mountaineering Club pulled up to the Ozone climbing area last Saturday I eagerly awaited my first view of the jagged basalt rocks, hidden within a forested area. We clambered out of the van and surveyed the rocks, thought about which routes we wanted to climb, set up our gear and talked excitedly about the promise of the day.

The weather at Ozone has been phenomenal this year, and Saturday was no exception. It was crisp and cool, with pervading sunshine that filtered down on us through the trees and illuminated the rocks and our chosen routes. Ozone overlooks the Columbia Gorge and offers rock climbing that ranges in difficulty from 5.9-5.12.

The seven of us stormed the wall putting up a handful of bolted and mixed routes and then proceeded to tackle the rock. It's

nice to get off campus and set yourself to a more physical challenge, to clear your brain from the cobwebs of physics and Hum homework and remember that there's a world outside of 3203 SE Woodstock Blvd. that needs to be played in.

The highlight of the trip was watching Jonathan, one of our members, hop on a 5.12 called "The Crumbling". He struggled at the beginning, letting out a couple of yelps and even a couple whimpers, but determinedly clung to the rock, eventually making an impressive ascent of the route.

The Mountaineering Club is planning a pile of trips to Smith Rock State Park as well as trips to closer rock climbing destinations this semester. If you want to climb with us, come to a Friday meeting in the Backpack Co-op, or email [ntill@reed.edu](mailto:ntill@reed.edu) ❖



Nick Till

ing their February 1st climbing trip.

# Cultural Calendars

By CHARLIE WILCOX

## Events

**Feb. 6th-22nd**

### Portland International Film Festival

There's like a million films showing around the city. You have time to see at least one. No excuses, you uncultured American swine!

**Friday, Feb. 7th**

### Movie — The Monuments Men

The big story around this movie lately has been its postponement from December to February, which doesn't exactly bode well (December is the battlefield for those Oscar-baiting prestige flicks, while February... well, you can see how many other movies I'm excited for in February). However, this film is stacked with big names, like Clooney (who also directs, which isn't exactly the side of the camera that I prefer him on), Damon, and Blanchett. Basically, the reason I'm advocating this movie is because both Bill Murray and John Goodman are in it, which is pretty much the curly-fries-in-Commons type of magic of the film universe. And, to add on to that, they are fighting and stealing art from the Nazis. If anything, this movie will probably make me want to watch "Inglourious Basterds" again.

**Feb. 7th-23rd**

### Sports — Olympics

C'mon, this is one of those times when you can strap on your American Flag sweatpants, crack open a Bud Light, and scream "USA! USA! USA!" at a television and only be partially ironic about it. And to our Russian hosts, съестъ моих американских шорты!

**Wednesday, Feb. 19th**

### Concert — Pixies w/ Best Coast Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall

Some of my friends vehemently hate the 21st-century incarnation of Pixies, one of indie rock's most respected institutions. I'm rather ambivalent to the new material that they've been trotting out, but I didn't get a chance to see them on their recent

Doolittle (their best album, duh) tour, so this is my first experience with Black Francis and co. I'll be happily screaming along with "Tame" and "Wave of Mutilation." Bland Coast is opening.

**Sunday, Feb. 23rd**

### Reading — The Wes Anderson Collection Powell's Downtown

Since everyone at Reed is pretty much required to love Wes Anderson, and have a ranked list of his movies in your head to compare with other Reedies at moment's notice (by the way, the right answer is putting Royal Tenenbaums on top and Darjeeling Limited at the bottom), this reading ought to garner some campus attention. The Wes Anderson Collection is a book-long interview with Anderson on his films, along with never-before-published pictures. Wes won't be at the reading, but the author, Matt Zoller Seitz, should have plenty of good stories about the director, and if nothing else, this should stoke the fires of anticipation for his new film coming out next month, "The Grand Budapest Hotel."

**Sunday, March 2nd**

### Television — The Oscars

My favorite annual hate-watch, the Oscars are one of those things for which there is no logical reason to get excited. It's stupid, the right movies rarely win, and they have inspired the genre of film known as prestige pictures that everyone from budding teenage cinephiles to faux-intellectuals to midwest moms and dads can watch and feel cultured™. But the Oscars are kind of like fantasy football for movie-goers, there's pleasure to be found in predicting the winners, in whining about the inanities that the stars continuously spew, in the occasional insanity that our goddess Folly might spring upon the auditorium. By the way, if Leo wins best actor for Wolf of Wall Street and comes on stage high on 'Ludes I win five hundred bucks. We can hope. ▼

## Album Releases

*TALI = take a listen if..*

**Feb. 11**

### Sun Kil Moon — Benji

TALI: You like confessional poetry set to guitar, complaining about kids, or Ben Gibbard is, in fact, your friend.

**Feb. 18th**

### Angel Olsen — Burn Your Fire for No Witness

TALI: Your record collection is pretty much all female singer-songwriters (not a bad thing).

### Guided By Voices — Motivational Jumpsuit

TALI: You listen to everything that Bob Pollard releases (which means you can't possibly have any other interests).

**Feb. 25th**

### Beck — Morning Phase

TALI: You just woke up (literally and/or figuratively) and reconciled that Beck will never release another Mellow Gold or Odelay.

### Damaged Bug — Hubba Bubba

TALI: You've traded in your San Francisco Garage rock albums and guitar for synthesizers and Devo albums.

### Neneh Cherry — Blank Project

TALI: You've been waiting with bated breath for nearly twenty years for this new solo album, and rightly so.

### St. Vincent — St. Vincent

TALI: You like music.

**March 4th**

### The Men — Tomorrow's Hits

TALI: You would actually love to get in a fight at a biker bar. ▼