

TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

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SGA executive board candidates share views at debate ahead of elections

Reno Waswil
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Elections for the Student Government Association (SGA) executive board, which includes the president, executive vice president (executive VP), finance board chair, vice president (VP) of academic affairs, VP of communications, and VP of student life began this week. The debates for each of these positions were held on Friday, April 1, from 12:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in Center Court, moderated by TechNews Editor-in-Chief Anoop Sundararajan. The debates were in the form of a set of questions that were formulated by Sundararajan with input from the SGA election committee and online submissions from the student body. Each section was followed by the opportunity for the audience to ask questions. The video recordings of the debate can be found on SGA's YouTube channel.

The first debate was for the presidential candidates, Irewole Akande, Hamze Leo Sukkar, Jerry Sha, and Khadijah Nesbitt, who started off with their brief introductions. The first question asked what qualifications each of the candidates held to represent the entire student body's thoughts and opinions to university administration and the Board of Trustees.

Nesbitt started off, explaining that her experience as a member of the President's Student Advisory Council (PSAC) allowed her to meet with President Cramb regularly to discuss student concerns, and having been to the Board of Trustees before, she is familiar with the process. She also said that her friendly and open personality as well as her skills speak to her ability to interact well with the breadth of the student body in order to be adequately considerate to their needs.

Sukkar went next, saying that he had become well acquainted with speaking to and interacting with university administration in his current position as VP of student life, and with students through his involvement in the Students Speak Survey. Outside of SGA, he is involved in the campus community as a Resident Advisor (RA) meaning that he has access to a variety of student opinions and is professionally trained to listen, reflect on, and act on student concerns in a proactive way.

Akande started by highlighting his involvement in a variety of student organization of differing sizes on campus over his time here. He has also been an active participant in intramural sports and has played varsity soccer. He tied these together saying that his curious nature has been one that always led him to ask important questions about how we can better our community, regardless of what

part of the community he was involved in.

Sha explained that although he does not have the most student organization involvement, only being actively involved in two student organizations, what makes him qualified is his awareness of the multitude of student concerns that he hears regularly. He finished by saying that he believes that he offers a much different perspective than the other candidates that would be beneficial to the position.

To Sha, it was pointed out that in his candidate packet, to the question asking what SGA was doing well and what he would try to continue or improve on, he wrote "no comment." When asked to explain or if he would like to amend his answer, he said that he didn't feel qualified at that point to answer that question, and that the first thing he would do in his position would be to figure out what is going on with the SGA agenda and work from there.

To Nesbitt, it was pointed out that her candidate packet indicated that she had never been a part of SGA, and that some students may be concerned that this would keep her from fulfilling her duties. It was asked how familiar she is with SGA's workings and how she would address these apprehensions of her. In response, she spoke to her interactions with SGA through RHA partnerships as well

as discussions with the current president and executive VP of SGA. She added that over that time she had become well aware of its workings, and would continue to strive to learn.

It was pointed out to Akande that in his candidate packet, he outlined a few methods meant to strengthen SGA's relationship with individual student organizations, but in fact, some of those methods are currently practiced by SGA. He was asked if he felt that his perceived disconnect from what SGA is doing would affect his ability to bring about effective change, or if it would help him.

He answered by stating that his ultimate goal in his plan is to make SGA work for the good of the student body, as outlined in his packet, but what needs to be done before that can happen is SGA being truly informed of the student experience and having an idea of the greater "student atmosphere."

Sukkar was asked how he would counter any bias he may have of SGA due to his prolonged experience in it and how he would interact with those that have generally negative attitudes towards the organization.

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IIT NECA students do energy audit at IIT Perspectives school

Julie Chandler
Emamouel Milanov
Justin Brinkerhoff
Maribel Nieves
TECHNEWS WRITERS

The National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) IIT student chapter will be competing in this year's 2016 Green Energy Challenge. In this competition, the chapter is required to conduct an energy audit of Perspectives/IIT Math and Science Academy. The team evaluated the school and prepared a proposal that lists out both short and long term recommendations to help the school become more energy aware and efficient. It was required to pick two rooms in the building on opposite sides for the assessment, while also exposing the students of the school to energy savings.

The team leader, Justin Brinkerhoff, is an electrical engineer. The co-leader is

Emanouel Milanov, who is a mechanical engineering major. The energy analysis leader is Brian O'Kane, who is studying industrial technology and management. The solar energy team was led by Sinou Xu, who is an electrical engineering major. The finance analysis leader is Andrea Rivera, an architecture major. The team is sponsored by the Chicago and Cook County NECA Chapter.

With the cooperation of the Program Manager for the after school engineer scholar's program, Jana Elion, the team was able to meet with several school engineers, students, and Mr. Faik, Perspectives' Environmental Sciences teacher. On one of the site trips we were able to talk to some of the students who were in Mr Faik's after school class, in which we explained how to use Lumen meters. These meters were then used by the students as an educational tool by helping the team gather data. They recorded the following: 621 laptops and 32 desktops computers in the building, 38 of which are left on constantly. There are 612

T-8 fluorescent light fixtures along with 26 high pressure sodium lights on the outside of the building. They also recorded measurements that were needed for the assessment tools to work properly in analyzing the school's needs.

The team went on several site visits and noticed several issues that could be addressed in order to save energy, such as (but not limited to): the type of windows, HVAC system, and the condition of the building exterior as well as the current use of lighting throughout the school. The current heating system allows some rooms to gain more heat than others. This causes the rooms that are overheating to require single unit air conditioners to be installed and operating.

Perspectives' Building Engineer, Daryl Jones, provided the team access to the roof to evaluate various fans and the current solar array. The team observed that the solar panel (which was donated in 2009) was connected to an inverter with nominal output of 1800W. The electrical tie-in routes

to a circuit breaker panel which contains incandescent and compact fluorescent bulbs. Due to the capacity of the system and the light bulbs on the connected panel, the installation is inadequate for energy reduction.

After doing some research, it was concluded that the windows should be replaced to reduce the amount of heat loss. The emergency doors should be replaced in order to reduce the gaps between the doors and frames along with the sweeps underneath to keep the heat in the building. For the HVAC systems it was recommended that a BAS/BIM system should be installed so that the engineers have more control of the system throughout the building. In turn, these recommendations could help regulate heating and cooling better, which would show in both the comfort of the occupants and the amount that would be saved for the school budget.



Photo courtesy of IIT NECA student chapter

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SGA executive board candidates share views

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The next section of the debates was for the executive VP position, for which Jeremy Becker, Sonia Kamdar, and Soren Spicknall are running.

Asked how the candidates would handle situations when they disagreed strongly with the decision made by the senate, which they oversee in their position as executive VP. Becker relayed that it was very important and better for the organization that the person in the position present the unified position of the board over their personal opinion.

Spicknall agreed, responding that the power in the role lies with its obligation to make sure the discussion is proactive and is taking into account all positions, making sure the senators understand who would be impacted by their decisions.

Kamdar argued that the role of the position was as a moderator, whose job was to step in to offer the voice of reason when necessary but never to push personal opinions against the senate's decisions.

Kamdar was asked how she intended to increase SGA's communication internally as she said she wanted to do in her campaign packet. She spoke to the disconnect between the senate branch and the other two branches of SGA, Finance Board and Judicial Board, and how more recently, changes were made in SGA to ensure that they actually were included on a lot of senate updates, and how she would work to further this goal.

Becker was asked why he thought his goal to increase SGA's communication with student organizations as indicated in his campaign packet could be best accomplished from the executive VP position rather than any other role within SGA. His response was that the position held a lot of power to encourage senators to volunteer and get engaged with student organizations, and find out their needs and requirements.

Spicknall was asked how he would handle conflicts of interest when an SGA decision impacts an organization he is a part of. He stated his belief that the position is different than every other position on the board in that its only core role is advocacy for the students in general. This was followed by audience questions and the end of the executive VP debate.

Next up was the Finance Board Chair debate for which, although there are two students on the ballot, Sung Minh Choi Hong was the only one who was present.

After introductions, he was asked what one thing he would change in Finance Board and what detailed plans he had to change it. Hong responded that one thing that would have to change was that a greater effort should be made to inform student organizations about Finance Board policy and changes to that policy. One way he saw this as being accomplished is by taking a more advanced interest in student organization events and funding responsibilities, even semesters ahead of time, and making sure they know everything they need to in their particular situations about how to propose.

With regards to SGA's initiative for more transparency, Hong was asked by a member of the audience how he felt about the idea of live streaming hearing meetings as was

attempted during the last hearing, to which he responded that he was in general support of the idea, but would take into consideration whether or not finance board members were uncomfortable with it, and stated that they should not be forced to participate in those conditions if they felt too uncomfortable with the proposition.

The debate for VP of academic affairs was next, for which there is only one candidate, Akash Raina.

Following his introduction, he was asked how he would incorporate viewpoints of students from other colleges in light of coming from the limited scope of being a senator for the College of Architecture. He emphasized the importance of the senators to provide varied viewpoints to the committee, and that this was the best way of ensuring a balanced perspective.

When asked what experience he had beyond that of being a senator to take on the wide scoping position, he emphasized that his seasoned experience in the committee, having worked with three VP's of academic affairs in his time, and having learned a lot about the job from all of them made him well versed to take on the role. He touched on his commitment to being perceptive to all student ideas but added that it would not be his position to have all of the answers, with his main duty being to facilitate the platforms and provide the resources for students to solve their problems themselves, such as making sure their problems are heard by the Undergraduate Studies Council (USC) and University Faculty Council (UFC).

Addressing the problem of senators' hesitation to join the academic affairs committee due to projects in the committee tending towards long term rather than short-term impact, Raina was in support of enforcing more stringent deadlines and an openness for senators to ask for help when working on projects instead of keeping silent. If these are put into place, he argues, there would not be a slacking off of long term projects and the accomplishments would become more visible. This was followed by audience questions.

The next debate on the docket was for the VP of communications, for which there were three candidates running, Aditya Parakh, Aaron Carl Eckart-Frank, and Jelani Canty, though only the latter two were present.

Following introductions, and a question eliciting a discussion of the projects they had worked on as members of the SGA communications committee (ComCom), a question directed towards Eckart-Frank asked him about how he intended to encourage involvement in SGA and in the committee in specific and how he planned to bring in projects people were passionate about. He responded by highlighting the power that non-senators have in committee meetings, and stressed that, instead of trying to get students who want to make a difference to go to senate meetings, they should be encouraged to go to committee meetings where they can directly work to get things done.

Canty mentioned that the responsibility of SGA to communicate with the student body is a joint one shared by everyone in SGA, but the VP of communications would be present to make sure that it is happening efficiently. The inter-committee managing of

ComCom, he stated, would be the main focus of the role. Eckart-Frank expressed his belief that the job of the VP of ComCom is to lead by example and definition. This was followed by audience question and the end of this section of the debate.

The final debate was for the VP of student life position, for which there were four candidates: Tung Nguyen, Qianran He, Alyssa DeLuca, and Adrian Jr. Duenas. He, however, was not present.

Responding to a question about how candidates would, if elected, interact with other offices on campus that have similar missions, such as RGL and RHA to accomplish their goals, Duenas spoke to his relationships gained with public safety supervisors, facilities, and dining services through his time involved in SGA and working for OCL, and added that he would use those, and use the power of further developing close relationships with offices on campus to assure that things get done. Nguyen questioned why SGA had to distinguish itself from other offices if they shared common goals of bettering the student experience, and promoted close collaboration between all of the organizations with these same goals. DeLuca encouraged RHA and other student advocacy boards to have people involved in SGA and in the student life committee meetings so that they can collaborate on similar problems and corroborate all their combined knowledge and experience. This, she argued, would ultimately make it easier for everyone involved to get projects done.

When asked about how each of the candidates expects to engage students not involved in student organizations but who still wish to make change, Duenas spoke about using open and freely available resources like the Illinois Tech Student Community Facebook page (ITSC), and taking problems posted there as seriously as any other problem, with the obligation to address it and encourage students there to use SGA an avenue for solutions.

DeLuca said that she would engage students who are passionate about affecting change in certain areas and help them do what they want to do, and agreed with Duenas that resources like the ITSC page were useful in finding those passionate students.

Nguyen answered with the belief that if they cannot pursue typical avenues for affecting change, SGA has an obligation to bring those opportunities to them and added that they have been doing so through projects like the SGA Town Hall Forums. He encouraged the senators to reach out to all their constituents and finished by saying that no matter how small of a connection they have, their voice should still be heard.

Following this were audience questions to the candidates, bringing the debates to an end. Debate links are posted on Facebook and the full debate can be viewed at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_uAAEF4QIU.

Voting is open for three days, from midnight on Monday, April 4, until 7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 6. Students from IIT, Vandercook and Shimer can vote using the following links: IIT - tiny.cc/itvotes, VanderCook - tiny.cc/vandercookvotes and Shimer - tiny.cc/shimervotes2016.

Second City performance celebrates Mies

Abhinaya Iyer
TECHNEWS WRITER

In 1938, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe came to Chicago with the intent of practicing architecture in the city as it was recovering from the great fire. During his stay, he was appointed the director at the College of Architecture and master to redesign the whole layout of the Armour Institute of Technology. His plan was to elevate all the buildings to the first floor and have students be able to walk across without any flow of traffic. However, after considerate deliberation he came up with the current plan of IIT and designed Wishnick, Perlstein, Crown and Alumni Halls. He is remembered at IIT for all his great works and his contribution to the current plan of IIT.

His 130th birthday was celebrated recently at the College of Architecture in Crown Hall hosted by the Mies Society. The event was open to all and free for students and faculty at IIT. The event took place on Thursday, March 31 at 7 p.m. but drinks were served from 6 p.m. to all external guests. It started with an opening speech by the President of the Mies Society who started by introducing the great works of Mies in Germany followed by his works in the United States. The speech mentioned all the struggles Mies went through as an architect that touched the hearts of all architects. It was followed by improv comedy by Second City where the actors portrayed the existence of a fictional society where architecture was a joke and of not much importance to modern society. It had a family who disapproved of their daughter joining architecture in parallel to her

life at college. It also reflected the difficulties the architecture students faced in life and how architecture was not valued enough. The show was great and helped students relate it with their current life. All external guests relished in their old memories about college life and the difficulties they faced.

It ended with a recap into Mies' life at the fictional 'Second City' where he is faced with family pressures and the different dilemmas. After the show, the president delivered a vote of thanks for all those who helped make the show a success. The ceremony ended with all guests talking about their time with Mies and a party afterwards. The ceremony marked the existence of a man who made a huge difference to IIT and the College of Architecture.

SGA survey hopes to measure impact of campus media

Soren Spicknall
TECHNEWS WRITER

As part of the 2015 Students Speak Survey, Illinois Tech's Student Government Association (SGA) commissioned a question regarding readership of TechNews. After 51 percent of respondents indicated that they read the campus newspaper, SGA's Communications Committee decided that it would be valuable to be able to take that insight further and expand the student body's collective understanding of its media landscape through more thorough metrics. As a result, SGA has created an independent "Media Outreach Survey" meant specifically to address questions about how effectively different campus media outlets reach students, and the methods by which they do so.

Principally covering TechNews and WIIT, with some mention of IIT Today and HawkLink as well, the Media Outreach Survey (available to fill out at goo.gl/forms/urDYHYZiN) begins by asking the reader the most basic question about each outlet: do they consume it? After that, the next question is one of frequency, tailored to each particular outlet. WIIT and IIT Today both have a maximum frequency of daily consumption, whereas TechNews has a weekly minimum due to its publication schedule. Beyond that, the queries diverge more significantly. WIIT listeners, for example, can provide a list of their favorite shows on the station, and TechNews readers can indicate a preference for the physical or digital versions of the paper. An early version of the survey was circulated among all the member

organizations of SGA's Media Advisory Board (which includes representatives of TechNews and WIIT), and those members were offered an opportunity for input so that the survey's questions would reflect what each media organization would like to know about its own audience, in addition to what SGA itself hopes to find out.

One of the more interesting aspects of the Media Outreach Survey is not in its content, but in its marketing strategy. As part of an attempt to understand how effective each campus media outlet is when it comes to distributing information, SGA is working with TechNews, WIIT, and IIT Today to include the survey in their regular publication processes, including the social media facets of some of those outlets. In order

to collect plenty of responses from those who don't regularly interact with either WIIT or TechNews, the survey's marketing strategy also includes physical posters and publicity efforts on ITSC and other online student groups, with the purpose of gaining an accurate picture of student media engagement. One survey question asks where students found information about the survey itself, and the response breakdown for that question alone holds promise for measuring the relative impact of various information sources at Illinois Tech. It remains to be seen how successful the project will be, but if executed well, it could lead to a fuller understanding of this university's student and professional media.

Herzog lecture discusses simplicity, clarity in architecture

Peter Regali
TECHNEWS WRITER

As an introduction, Jacques Herzog, a Swiss born Architect who was trained at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, currently heads the firm Herzog & de Meuron (HdM) in Basel, founded in 1978.

The Mies Society lecture's goal was the overall preservation of Mies's influence on the profession here at IIT and around the world. Herzog begins his lecture on a formal analysis of the Farnsworth House, located in Peoria, IL. Stating his overall low level of satisfaction upon digestion, the house is—in its most basic essence—a lifted floor plane completely surrounded with a glass plane, allowing for the occupant to have 360 degree views of the wooded environment or vice versa depending on perspective. The building acts as a vase to nature and becomes a frame in which people live. That was Herzog's main critique, the overall de-valuing of the resident,

who at the time was a single women. This was a commentary on Mies's tendency to view architecture from the outside rather than the interior. He ended this moment by discussing how the grasses found at the site have a profound resemblance of pubic hair and how sleeping under the house would seem more adequate for creating a sense of privacy.

He then leads the discussion to the reflective nature of glass and how—at its best—it can be used to facilitate curiosity. Questioning our utter fascination and dependency on the material as a vehicle for illusions to defy gravity. Maybe we have this because of the underlying narcissism that creates the façade of self-review, realization through the private experience of viewership. In this vein, he states that the sensual nature of building design is the real justification for architecture. He feels value in the profession's ability to deal with creating a feeling of power through the perverse exposure to the established surrounding elements.

In dialogue of his past work, he reveals his opinion against decoration, backing this up with an argument that ornament is in its most basic deception a nuisance to the eye only bent on stimulating confusion. He ties this conversation into his beginning remarks on the use of transparency. One project, (Ebersualde Library,) creates an interplay involving the typical use of the envelope's ability to create hidden moments. The building allows connection through internal light for transparency at night. During the day, a certain monolithic persona is taken on, shielding the internal systems. He is trying to constantly strive for unexpected situations though his mastery in understanding of various materials, with goals to use the medium of transparency to germinate space as an open mouth to landscape in conjunction with the structured environment.

During the Q&A session at the close, he dives into the considerations that create

quality architecture. Stating the fulfillment he receives from creating rather ordinary in appearance forms that augment typical definition. Reminding us to aim for simplicity when tackling problems, avoid fanatical forms, noting that the uncanny only realizes itself and therefore can never be properly described. Acknowledging the American architectural school systems obsession with theory, which is always attempting to create order and how that degrades the formal experience down to a graspable system, maybe architecture shouldn't be mastered. He encourages a straightforward client relationship, noting the drive to hide ideas in reluctance of being misunderstood, great design should promote a journey. Finishing with his belief that architecture should be true and clear. Remember to never try to hospitalize a building; the idea of a house as a museum is something we should rebel against.

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High hopes for the future of VanderCook involvement in IPRO

Reno Waswil
STALINIST OF SATIRE

The Interprofessional Projects Program (IPRO) is one of Illinois Tech's most cherished academic programs, providing to the school, among other things, a theoretical appeal to prospective students who are intrigued by the opportunity to work in an interdisciplinary team setting, additional business and government attention and sponsorship, and of course, a method of forcing students to provide free and largely unskilled work for a multitude of sponsored and internal projects. With these core tenets in mind, university administration, in conjunction with the IPRO program and the VanderCook College of Music, decided late last semester to open up the opportunity to be in any IPRO to all current VanderCook students in exchange for any elective class they may require.

When asked about the considerations leading up to this decision, Linda Wrightwren, the Vice-Co-Director of Undergraduate Academic Affairs' Secretary commented, "There were ultimately two possible outcomes to implementation that we could see; it would either be an astounding success, or it would be a disastrous failure, so we thought, why not? We wouldn't be losing money on it."

When pressed on why there had been no efforts to do smaller scale tests to determine the viability and practicality of the initiative before, she replied, "To be honest, this whole thing stemmed from a proposal made to us by an IPRO in the first place, and they would not have had time to carry out that sort of thing in one semester. It's all about having deliverables, you know?"

After the pitch for the initiative, which came from a 2010 IPRO project titled "Developing New and Innovative Methods to Improve Collaboration between VanderCook College of Music and Illinois Institute of Technology with Innovations and Explorations," Wrightwren met with several other secretaries of major offices on campus, along with the major affiliates, deans, and directors of VanderCook, and, as Wrightwren explained, "several years later, here we are!

Now, the only problem we really came across is that we found out quite early that we couldn't exactly require them to take the IPROs, seeing that we don't own the school per se. Despite this, we do expect them to do what is in their best interests." She trailed off with a sly grin and glared off into the distance.

Of the several IPRO Directors and affiliates that were contacted, none were available for interviews about the change, and only one offered a statement, in the form of a recommendation to "contact the faculty sponsor of the project you are interested in directly."

With IPRO Day coming up in a few short weeks, Technews decided to contact a couple of VanderCook students currently enrolled in the program to get their thoughts. Sun Shui, a VanderCook student in an IPRO titled "Integrating Eco-Friendly Ideas into Assembly Languages to Develop Smarter Processing of Big Data," when asked about what led her to choose such a nuanced project, responded, "I choose it mostly because it fit in with my schedule. Plus, I like the environment and being eco-friendly, so I wanted to work on something that would do that. I also did a bit of coding before and thought it was pretty fun so, why not?"

When asked about her experience thus far in the program, she said, "Well, the thing is I don't really know what's going on, but neither does anybody else that I know of. So, considering that, I think that I am doing pretty well. I am in a sub-group with two Psychology majors. We are doing some research and learning a lot about assembly languages. It's kind of interesting, actually."

When asked if she had any complaints, she responded, "If I was to have any major complaints besides the obvious 'this is stupid' and, 'what am I even doing here,' I guess it would be how annoying it is that everybody keeps joking that, because I am a music major, I can only count up to four. And I mean everybody; even the Business majors! Like, get over yourselves."

Some however, such as Marcos Milliano, take the discipline-oriented aspect of the program more to heart. Milliano, in his IPRO titled "Concepts for Designing

Packaging for Perishable Foods" strives to apply his music playing and teaching skills to this project, whether his teammates like it or not. He explains, "I'm taking the elevator pitch idea to a new level. Think of it like this, you get someone in a room to talk to them about your product and get them to buy it, but it's not just your idea that will sell it to them; it's the entire experience of the pitch! So I thought, 'You know what will get us to win this thing? If we had some music in the background that they couldn't say no to.'"

When asked what his group thought about this, he explained, "They keep saying things like 'I think that's beyond the scope of the project' and 'just do what we need you to do,' but I just feel like that's stifling my creativity. I have sort of gone off on my own, done some tests on some people and some experimentation, and I have this piece that I want to teach to the rest of..." He stopped suddenly. All that was heard was silence, but the look on his face revealed that he heard so much more.

Then, a faint din was heard in the distance unlike any other din before: more melodic and meaningful. "Ha! That must be Chris, my rival of sorts from the 'Innovative Motor Design' project or whatever," Milliano tried to say nonchalantly. But he looked anxious, and hurried towards it. "Let's just see how they're doing really quickly," he muttered.

We wandered towards the front-most hallway in Stuart where there was a modestly sized group of people standing around idly. Still from a slight distance, the sound, which we, at that point, perceived to be the din of a motor in a tiny, awkward-looking motorized car, could be heard changing rapidly, varying in pitches and tones, and sometimes manufacturing multiple wildly different sounds at the same time. Just as we approached the group, it went silent as a tall, lean woman named Christina Quinn, seemingly in the center of the widely spread group, placed the cart in front of an elaborate obstacle course extending down the length of the hallway. A switch was flipped on the back and it sped into action, maneuvering brilliantly past every sharp obstacle in its path. What was most stunning however was

how, all the while as it glided in and out, up and down, the motor loudly sang an intricate soundscape of noise in tune with its motion on the track. The car produced a wonderfully full, complex, and beautiful sound like an electronic symphony of the highest caliber.

Milliano tried to maintain poise, but began to silently weep as the demonstration went on. By the time the little car putted to the end of the course with a set of staccato buzzes followed by silence, Milliano's face was covered in tears and he was gritting his teeth. He quickly wiped off his face the best he could and greeted Quinn, "Chris, that was really good! I do think it flourished a little bit there near the end, and at the beginning, and that the harmony in the middle wasn't quite on key; I would look at all of that. Still though, great job! I think you are almost making it hard for me to compete."

We came back to Milliano's work space a little later, when seemingly everyone else had left the building, hoping to get a follow-up interview. Instead, we found Milliano ripping up his notes in rage and yelling at the top of his lungs, not exactly in a state to be interviewed. We decide to leave him with his business.

When asked about the future of this program integration, Wrightwren responded, "Oh, I don't know. It depends on how well it does. Most people don't even know that it's going on right now, so how can we fairly judge it? Like, did you know that we had an IPRO with Shimer too (referring to the 'Creating and Demonstrating a New Shimer + Illinois Tech + Community Forum for Collaborative Social Innovation' project)? I just learned about that yesterday."

She finished, "When we'll really know is during IPRO Day when we finally see their deliverables. Let me give you some advice, deliverables are all that matter in this world, kid. No matter how you get there, as long as you come out with deliverables, you'll be fine. I don't think I have to tell you what they do out there in the real world to people that don't provide the deliverables, do I?"

We will just have to wait until IPRO Day to see how all of this pans out.

RHA Executive Board splits, forms rival factions

Soren Spicknall
CO-OPTER OF MEETINGS

On the eve of choosing its next president, Illinois Tech's Residence Hall Association (RHA) was rocked by scandal and deceit, culminating in a full public split of its current executive board on the first of this month. Each member of RHA's leadership aligned themselves with the Hall Council they live in, establishing makeshift headquarters scattered across various campus residential complexes in an ongoing situation of great concern for Residence and Greek Life (RGL).

What began as a seemingly innocent comment from Arlene Hayes, former president of the unified group, has devolved into an all-out war between members of the executive board claiming to represent the conglomerated East-Fowler-Noth, Lewis-Grad-South, SSV, and Carman-Gunsaulus Hall Councils. Hayes, a Gunsaulus resident, initially complained that no RHA general body meetings had been held during the 2015-2016 academic year anywhere outside MSV, specifically mentioning that plans for such a meeting in Carman had been changed the previous month to take place in McCormick Lounge instead. Khaleela Zaman, an SSV resident and former Student Advisor to the original RHA, joined Hayes in expressing that sentiment, but relations between the two soured quickly when Zaman pointed out that RHA's water filtration project had prioritized Carman and Gunsaulus before SSV.

Various other members of the executive board eventually joined the fray, scrambling to demonstrate the great need of the Hall Councils they lived in. At the end of it all, the group collectively stormed off in various directions after fitting awkwardly through the tiny door to the MSV Fishbowl conference room, uniting in subsets around

each complex they felt deserved special attention. RHA staff advisor James Thomas was quoted as saying that the spat "felt exactly like what not having RHA in the first place would be like," a cacophony of voices each claiming that their own living places were in the most need of improvement from RGL.

Arlene Hayes and Khadijah Nesbitt,

former RHA Vice President, attempted to establish an initial headquarters in Gunsaulus, where both live, but were forced to relocate to the rear lounge of Carman Hall instead after being chased out of their first location by a swarm of cockroaches. Khaleela Zaman, quiet and resourceful, accessed a hidden stash of supplies hidden in SSV's bushes, and set up

shop under a large umbrella adorned with Christmas lights on the rooftop deck of SSV Middle.

Rafi Islam Zareef (former National Communications Chair), Madina Tahmas (former Publicity Chair), Krithika Subramani (former Treasurer), and Soren Spicknall (former Secretary) briefly seemed to be the strongest group, fiercely defending the original RHA office in MSV on behalf of the East-Fowler-North Hall Council, but collaboration between the four almost immediately broke down when Spicknall spelled Subramani's name wrong while drafting a new constitution, causing her and Zareef to break away in righteous rage and claim domain over the Lewis-Grad-South complex. With only two members per group, all were overwhelmed by a horde of RAs eager to annex the RHA office for themselves and begin stealing RHA's supplies, as if they didn't do that already.

At press time, Spicknall and Tahmas had set up a makeshift office underneath the McCormick Lounge piano, while Subramani and Zareef had found a strategic placement in the Grad Hall kitchen, giving them a strategic position to watch the comings and goings of their rivals. The former RHA office had been completely stripped of its board games, its food, and even its furnishings, and a team of RA Architecture majors was devising plans to knock down the dividing wall between that space and the Leadership Office once and for all. The elected members of next year's RHA Executive Board, not having been informed of this situation, had been waiting at the Grand Lux Café for three days now, waiting for the previous Executive Board to arrive and begin their annual transition dinner. They had racked up a 2,160 dollar bill for the university, one which would almost certainly be passed on to all residents as a collective fine despite the fault lying with a specific set of individuals.

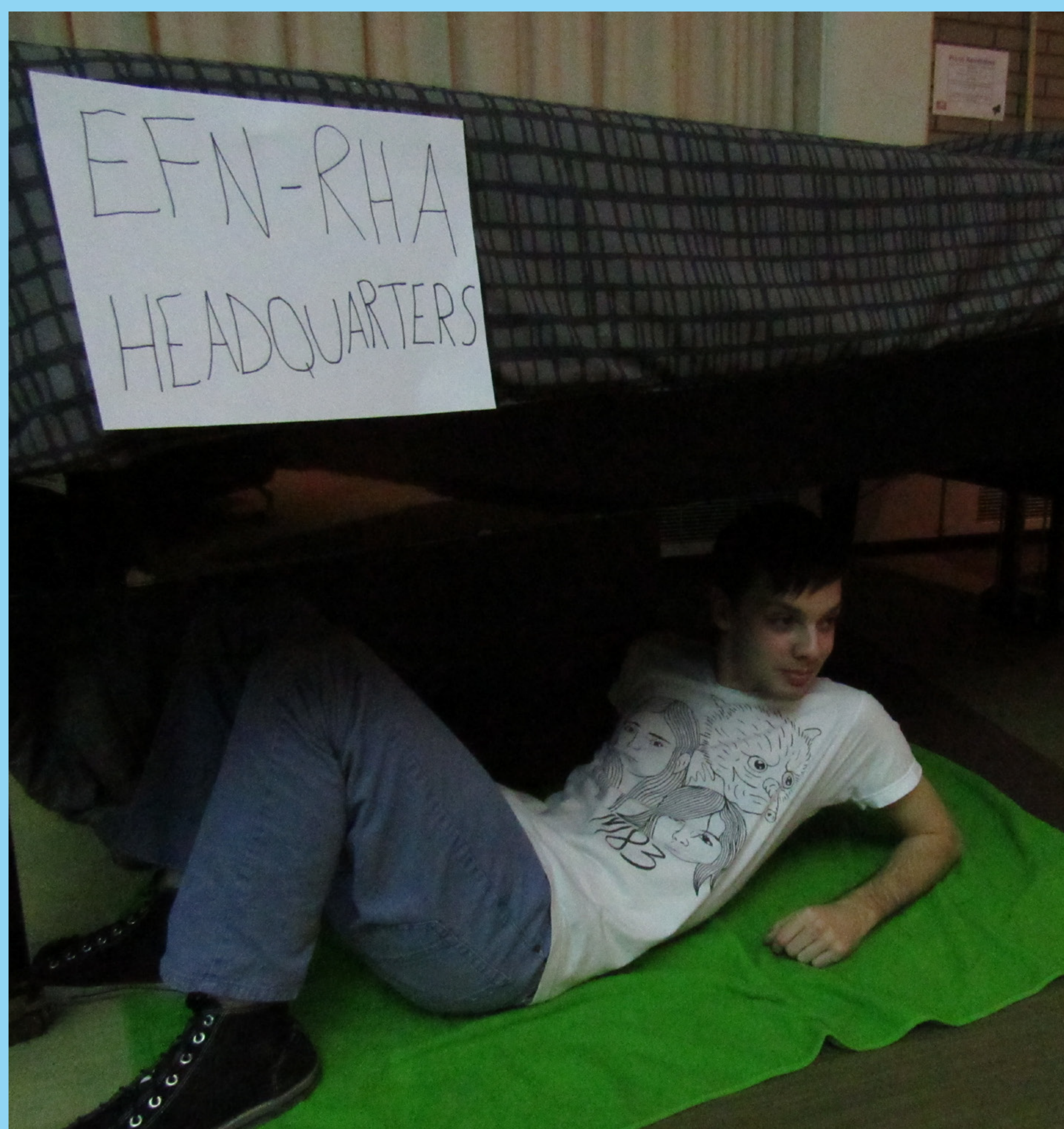


Photo courtesy of Soren Spicknall

Is "Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush" the greatest album of all time? The answer is yes.

Soren Spicknall
BELIEBER-IN-CHIEF

WIIT usually only features new albums in its music reviews, but this particular album is special in spite of its age. In fact, it's possibly the most important album of all time. Randomly placed on our shelves by an extremely eccentric gust of wind and discovered there by our Music Director, *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush* is a true masterpiece of modern music, the crowning achievement of political advocacy, investigative journalism, and rock opera-meets-EDM composition. Delving deep into the poisons of the American mind and its ongoing corruption by backwards speech, *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush* deserves recognition as one of humanity's greatest works of art to date, one that will certainly not be surpassed for years to come.

Consisting of brief backwards loops of speeches from the former U.S. President set to music that can only be described as "immaculate", *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush* features chilling revelations about the hidden meanings behind the man's statements. In the song "Men", we find out that W is quite a homophobe (who would've guessed!). In "Cincinnati", he

MORALITY ROCK



Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush

Photo courtesy of Morality Rock

reveals an unhealthy obsession with Ohio's third-largest city (really though, that one's a surprise). In "Satan" and "Marijuana" it's unclear to the listener what exactly he's saying at all, but on a masterpiece of this grand scale, the obfuscation of meaning is only a product of our simple minds, not the quality of the art. Clearly the person (or godly entity) which produced these seven songs exists on a plane above our own, which also explains why we cannot easily interpret their choice in harmonies when performing the keyboard intro to album closer "War".

To uneducated ears, *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush* may simply sound like a joke gone awry or a too little, too late attempt at satire of the 1970s infatuation with backwards loops, Satanic messages, and record burning. If you listen deeper, though, you'll find layer upon layer of biting social commentary, gritty beauty, and pure, unadulterated hope in these compositions, proving once and for all that life is worth living and that humankind is beautiful. To give such an album a rating would be a crime, so I leave you with this and this alone: *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush*. *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush*. *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush*. *Morality Rock: Music inspired by the subliminal backward messages in the speeches of George W. Bush*.

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Reviews:

Parquet Courts' "Human Performance" is their most compelling album yet

Soren Spicknall
WIIT STATION MANAGER

There are countless many lines that can be drawn between Parquet Courts and other festival-heavy acts of the last five years. The group rose to prominence on the simultaneous nostalgic waves of revival surf punk and 60s-style psych, straddling the line between the nonchalance of groups like Wavves and the reverb-driven concentration of Cloud Nothings with the added stylistic consciousness of Temples. Yet despite the ease at which comparisons can be made when discussing the group, Parquet Courts are very clearly a unique entity that remains compelling for the way they blend all these disparate facets of the rock genre. On their newest album, *Human Performance*, they craft a set of songs that are at one familiar and daring, a collection that stands as their strongest to date.

Parquet Courts' most recognizable track to date, 2012's "Stoned and Starving," is a poor first impression to measure their music by, though it does serve vaguely as a milestone for how far they've progressed in the last three and a half years. That song is similar in structure Black Flag's "TV Party," but lacks the classic hardcore punk piece's social satire or manic energy. Instead, as its title suggests, it's a fairly lazy stoner punk anthem, lacking dynamic contrast or any sort of musical shift during its run. The first piece on this new album, titled "Dust," would be easy to dismiss as similarly simplistic on first blush, but it evolves slowly into a much more thoughtful composition, culminating in a crescendo swirl that evokes Wilco's more experimental moments, of all



Image courtesy of Parquet Courts

things.

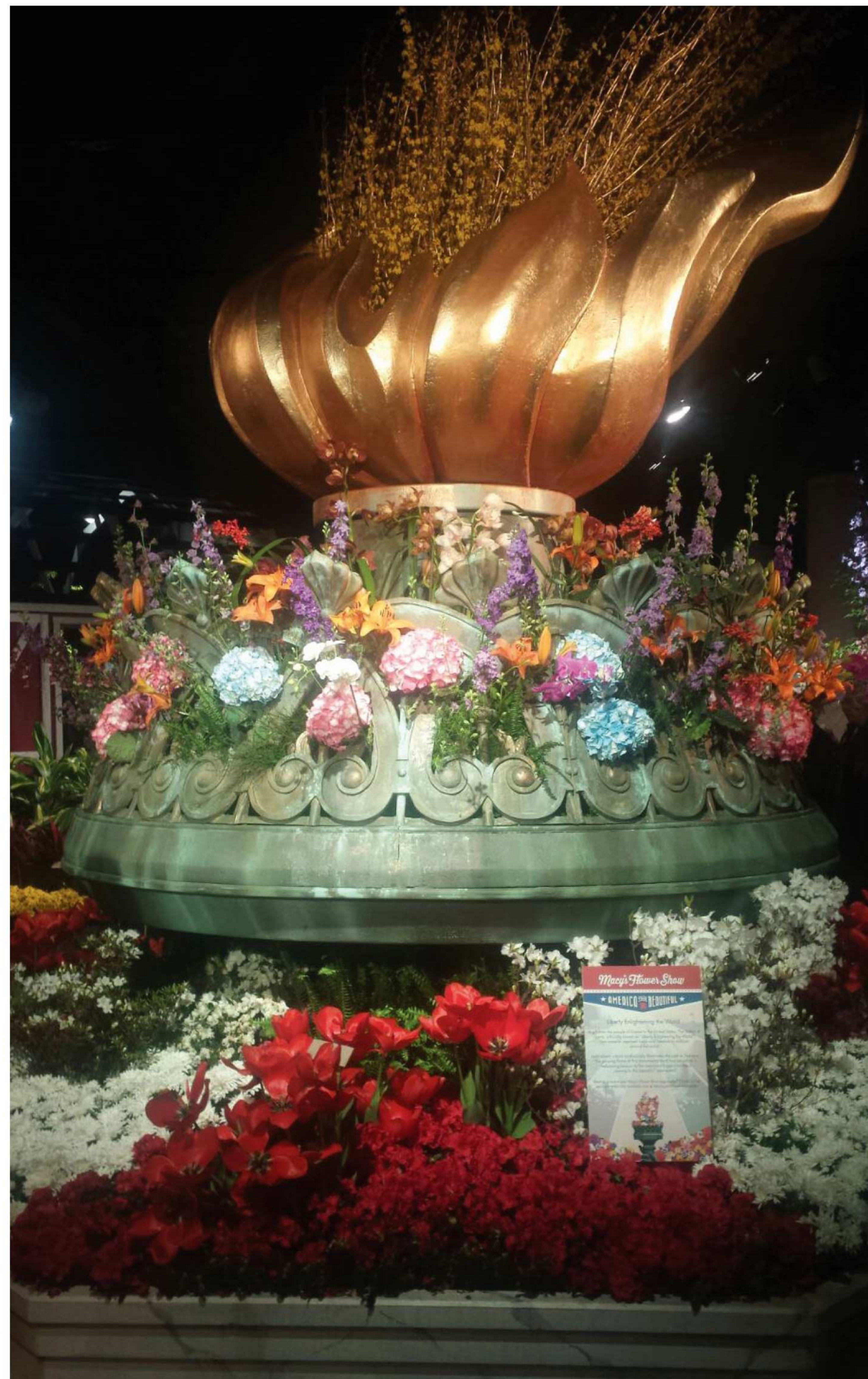
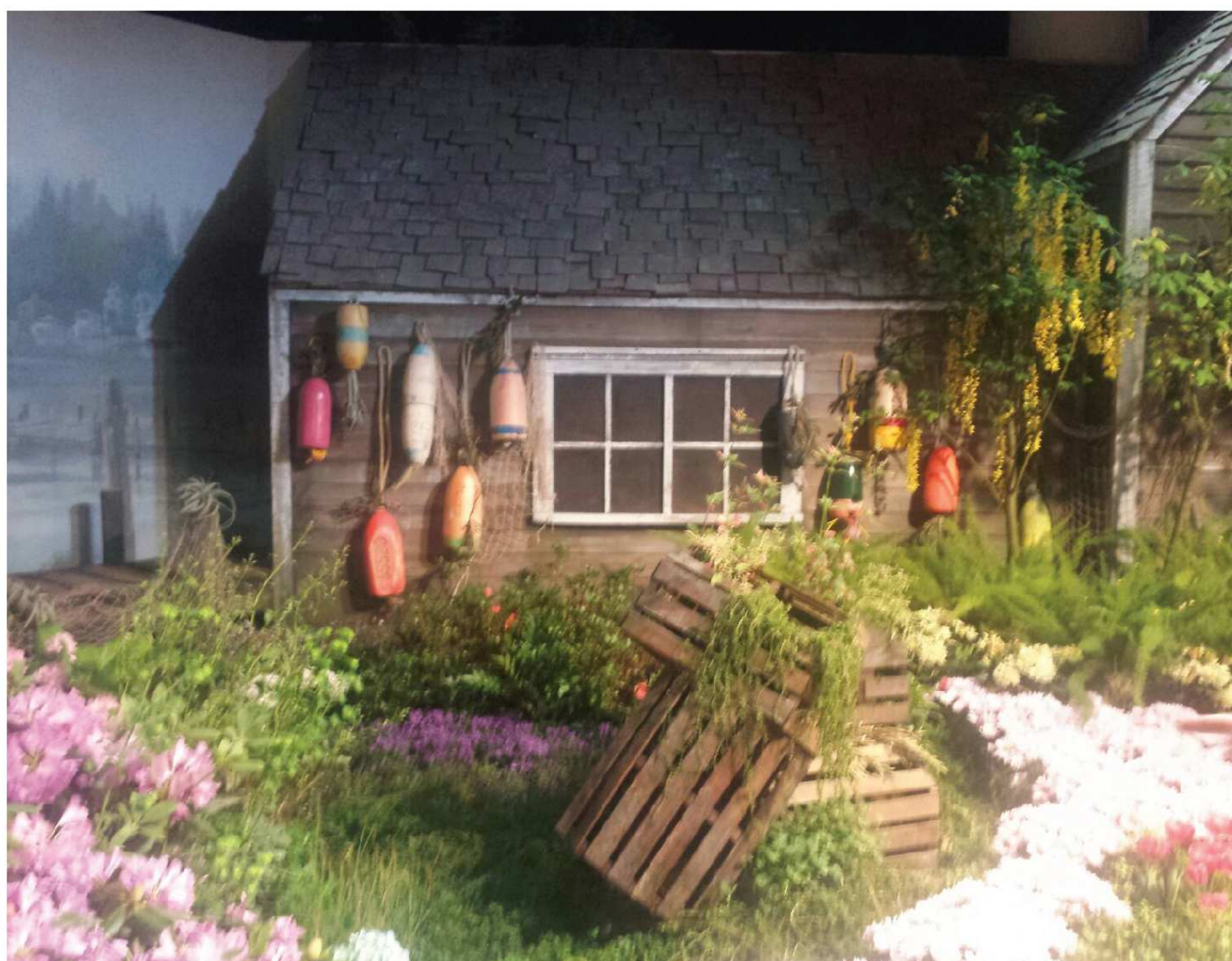
The bulk of the album moves deftly between styles, never jarring the listener with an out-of-place transition or an outlier track

(with the exception of semi-acoustic closer "It's Gonna Happen," which could have and probably should have been left off the LP.) Parquet Courts' truest talent comes from blending

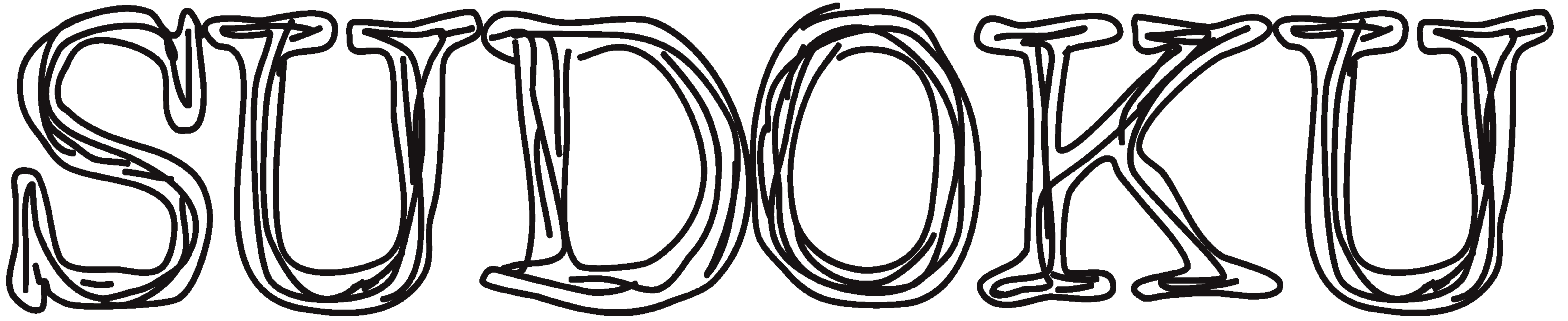
influences in a completely organic manner, resulting in songs that can't possibly be pigeonholed into any particular subgenre. 'Human Performance' moves through Reflektor-esque psychedelic pop, talk-singing moments reminiscent of Cake, and countless other rock microcosms with absolutely zero sense of intention, leading the listener to suspect a writing process that consists primarily of just "feeling it out." In the context of today's independent music landscape, that works in Parquet Courts' favor.

There are quite a few low energy moments on 'Human Performance,' but they aren't so casual that they can't stand on their own. The most memorable song of the album won't be the relatively calm "Steady On My Mind" for any fan, but it and other predictably structured pieces from the LP exhibit some of the band's best songwriting to date, and are worth paying attention to on a close listen. On the other hand, tracks like "I Was Just Here" and the stellar "One Man No City" (whose three-minute solo guitar exploration mimes Them's 1968 milestone "Square Room") grab your attention instantly, but their focus is more musical than literary, and their simplistic lyrics may turn off fans of Cloud Nothings and other groups that occupy the same scene. What's most interesting about the album, though, is that Parquet Courts have left themselves plenty of room to grow. While some artists (like Wolfmother, for example,) bring their best music right at the start of their careers, Parquet Courts have proven again that they have more tricks still to come. 7.3/10

Chicago Flower and Garden Show in full bloom at Navy Pier



Photos by Neesha Narayanan



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数独

The word Sudoku, above, is actually the abbreviation of "Suuji wa dokushin ni kagiru," meaning "the digits must be single" or "the digits are limited to one occurrence."



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SPORTS



Wednesday, April 6
Women's Lacrosse
v.s. Elmhurst
7 p.m.

Friday, April 8
Track and Field
@ Illinois Tech
TBA

Saturday, April 9
Track and Field
@ Illinois Tech
11 a.m.

Women's Lacrosse
v.s. Cornell College
1 p.m.

Sunday, April 10
Women's Lacrosse
v.s. Hamline
1 p.m.

Wednesday, April 13
Women's Lacrosse
@ Augsburg
7 p.m.



Friday, April 15
Women's Lacrosse
@ Illinois Tech
11 a.m.

Women's Lacrosse
v.s. Cornell College
10 a.m.

Women's Lacrosse
Track and Field
@ Illinois Tech
10 a.m.

EVENTS IN April



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5  Stoop Kid MTCC Welcome Center 7 p.m.	6 Matilda (the play) Oriental Theater, 7 p.m. Ticket Sales: March 29th Pitch Perfect Movie Wisnick Auditorium, 9:30 p.m.	7	1  SPRING FORMAL! The Art Institute of Chicago, 6-11:30 p.m.	2
10 	11 Filharmonics Center Court 1 p.m.	12	13	14 National Dolphin Day MTCC Bridge, 12-1 p.m.	15 	16  Big Event, 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. UB BBQ, 1 p.m. Relay for Life Keating, 6 p.m.
17	18	19 	20 Food Trucks Between MTCC and MSV 12-2 p.m.	21	22  Women's Lacrosse Senior Night/Earth Day Stuart Field, 7 p.m.	23
24	25	26  Pretzel Day Perlstein Hall, 1-2 p.m. Student Performers MTCC Welcome Center, 7 p.m.	27	28	29  End-of-Year Dance Party The Bog 9:30 p.m. - 1 a.m.	30