

The Art Fag's life of extremes

it seems that the Art Fag naturally leads a life of extremes. It is feast or famine, draught or flood, four inches or 10. So she finds herself in the situation of having to talk about not one but four artistic events she feels are worthy of her reader's notice.

The first is Portraits Of Gary Goodacre's Imaginary Boyfriends currently on display at the Collected Works Bookstore and Gallery. This is a thoroughly enjoyable exhibition featuring moody portraits of men rendered in poster paint, charcoal and graphite. Interspersed amongst the portraits are typed texts detailing the artist's affairs with various men—real and imagined.

In conversation with the Art Fag, Goodacre says he started with the drawings, text followed. Some of the stories are based on movie plots, some are completely fictitious and others are inspired by real incidents in the artist's life. There is no intended correlation between each story and a specific painting. He wants the viewer to make up their own mind as to which story goes with which drawing.

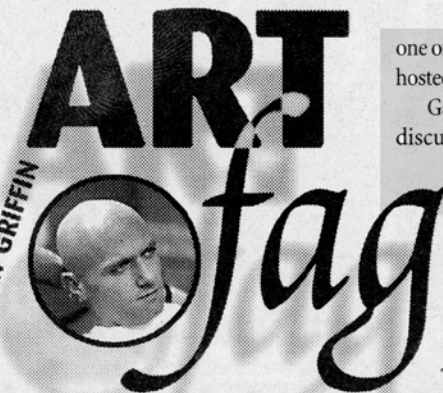
Fortunately for us, Goodacre plans to extend his whimsical creations backwards and forwards in time to encompass his historical and future imaginary boyfriends. He also has plans to compile the

results into a book and possibly a website as well—but do not delay, rush out to Collected Works and commence your enjoyment of Goodacre's fruitful imagination today.

It is the mark of a great artist that they can take materials and subject matter that have been used before and infuse them with a new life, vitality and integrity of artistic expression.

Such is the case with Barry Ace and his exhibition Modern Indians Standing Around The Post currently on display on the 2nd floor of Gallery 101.

Like many contemporary artists, Ace uses wire, bone, everyday and found objects, video projects and reclaimed historical images. Unlike



many of his fellow travellers, Ace manages to enliven his media with wit, insight and flashes of surprising beauty.

Perhaps it is the integrity of his vision? Perhaps it is the import of his themes? Whatever it is, Ace succeeds in creating

one of the best exhibitions Gallery 101 has hosted in quite some time.

Gallery 101 is also hosting a panel discussion—Hybrids, Half-Breeds and the Myth of Whiteness—that will feature Ace himself.

Recently the Art Fag and her entourage made a tour of Montreal. The first stop was a staged reading of Left Unsaid, a new play by Emma Tibaldo.

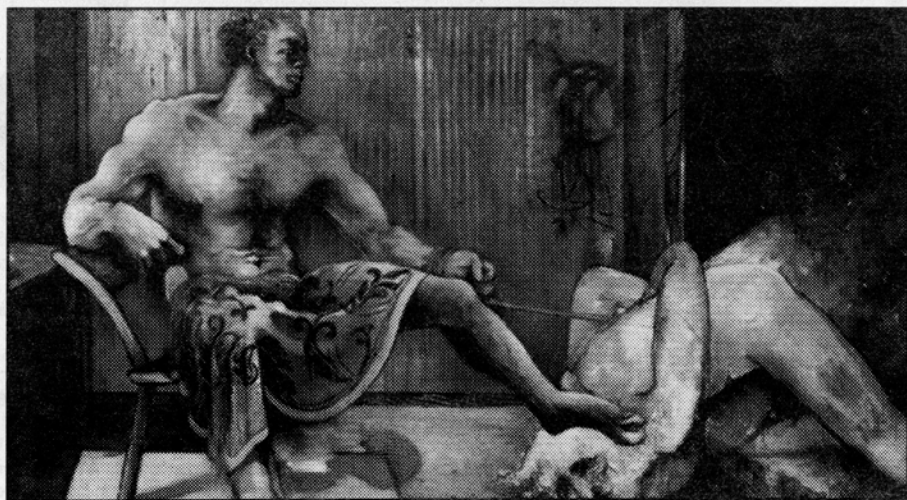
Tibaldo is a dear friend of the Art Fag and she was curious to see just what Tibaldo has to offer in the way of theatrical chops. The answer is apparently quite a bit.

Presented by Playwright's Workshop Montreal as part of their Write On The Edge student playwriting competition, Left Unsaid is a mono-

logue set in the back of a taxi cab. The passenger is a young woman who is on her way to the abortion clinic. On the drive there she regales the invisible cab driver with reminiscences of her Italian immigrant family.

By times hilarious, heart-breaking at others, Left Unsaid features some very strong and beautiful writing.

Unable to tolerate too much drama that she doesn't generate herself, the Art Fag retreated to 372 Ste Catherine St West. This building is home to about a dozen gal-



TRIUMPH IN THE SEARCH FOR AUTONOMY BY KAI McCALL

Portraits of Gary Goodacre's Imaginary Boyfriends

Until Apr 30
Collected Works
Bookstore and Cafe
1242 Wellington St
Info: 722-1265

Barry Ace

Modern Indians Standing
Around The Post
Until Apr 25
Gallery 101
236 Nepean St
Info: 230-2799

Hybrids, Half-Breeds and the Myth of Whiteness

Panel Discussion moderated
by Kevin Gibbs, featuring
Barry Ace, Susan Douglas,
David Hannan and Jeffrey
Thomas
3PM, Sun, Apr 19
Gallery 101
236 Nepean St
Info: 230-2799

Kai McCall

My Trip To The Caves
Apr 21–May 2
Gallery 306
80 Spadina, 2nd Floor
Toronto
Info: 416-504-7273

eries and well worth a visit the next time you are in Montreal.

The Art Fag was particularly impressed by the work of Kai McCall (at Espace 414 until Apr 18). His exhibition entitled My Trip To The Caves features large scale figurative paintings that reinterpret classical themes like the death of Icarus, often with a humorous, ironic touch. The show moves to Gallery 306 in Toronto after its Montreal stint.