

STREET SCENE

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Monday, April 20, 1992

IN CONCERT

Monday, April 20

- Paradise Valley Jazz Jam
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit.
832-2355
- Going Public
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747

- Thunderharp Choir
With Howards at Lill's 21, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck.
875-6555
- Holy Cows
With Mirror/Mirror at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit.
831-4070

Tuesday, April 21

- Jerry Sprague and the Juveniles
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747
- Pit Dog Pondering
Blind Pig, 206-8 S. First, Ann Arbor.
996-8555
- Lisa Blue Tremblay
The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor.
761-1451
- Chisel Bros. with Thornetta Davis
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit.
832-2355

Saturday, April 25

- Hopo Orchestra
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit.
832-2355
- Alexander Zonje
Murdock's, 2086 Crooks Road, Rochester Hills.
832-0550
- Jelly Roll Blues Band
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747
- Frank Allison and the Odd Sox
Blind Pig, 206-8 S. First, Ann Arbor.
996-8555
- The Golden Ring
The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor.
761-1451
- Grady Jacks
With Splitters at Hamtramck Pub, 2048 Caniff, off I-75.
363-2829
- Mislead in Diary
With Dusk at Finney's Pub, 3965 Woodward, Detroit.
831-4070
- Skilston Crew
With Boce at Lill's 21, 2930 Jacob, Hamtramck.
875-6555
- The Generals
Hendelberg, 215 N. Main, Ann Arbor.
Cover is \$4.662-1674
- Mary McGuire and Myk Rise
St. H's, 3946 Hochester Road, Troy.
638-6070
- Pollah Muslims
Playbecks Lounge, 2932 Caniff, Hamtramck.
872-8554

Wednesday, April 22

- First Light
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747
- The Attic
With Bartonians at Blind Pig, 206-8 S. First, Ann Arbor.
996-8555
- Earth Day Concert
With Tracey Science Quartet, Jamie Haxling and Tom Doyle at The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor.
761-1451

Thursday, April 23

- Incurables
Playbecks, 2932 Caniff, off Jos. Campbell, Hamtramck.
872-8554
- John McLaughlin Trio
Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor. Tickets are \$16.50.
96-MUSIC
- First Light
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747
- Sunrise Highway
Blind Pig, 206-8 S. First, Ann Arbor.
996-8555
- Utah Phillips
The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor.
761-1451
- Frank Allison and the Odd Sox
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit.
832-2355

Friday, April 24

- Dee Dee Ramone and the Chinese Dragons
Kub Puggy Love Circus at Harpo's, 14238 Harper, Detroit.
824-7709
- Grady Hazy
Blondie's, 21129 W. Seven Mile Road, Detroit.
235-9108
- Obnoxtones
With Incurables at Hamtramck Pub, 2048 Caniff, off I-75.
363-2829
- Saulhough Zak
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747
- George Bedard and the Kingpins
Blind Pig, 206-8 S. First, Ann Arbor.
996-8555
- The Golden Ring
The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor.
761-1451

Sunday, April 26

- Romeo Moo
With Tascha & Friends and Michael Nance at Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit.
832-2355
- Benefit for Homegrown Women's Music Series
With Kathy More, singer Karen Pernick and comedian Kathy Geta at The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor.
761-1451

Monday, April 27

- Born Naked
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747
- Paradise Valley Jazz Jam
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit.
832-2355

Tuesday, April 28

- Jerry Sprague and the Juveniles
Rick's Cafe, 611 Church, Ann Arbor.
996-2747
- Eich-Sketch
Benefit for Tennent's Union at Blind Pig, 206-8 S. First, Ann Arbor.
996-8555
- Chris Proctor
The Ark, 637 1/2 S. Main, Ann Arbor.
761-1451
- Chisel Bros. with Thornetta Davis
Alvin's, 5756 Cass, across from Wayne State University, Detroit.
832-2355

No Hazy days in L.A.

Band chooses to stay home in Detroit

By Larry O'Connor
staff writer

Their bags were packed and ready to go. L.A. was outside their door. But Grady Hazy was smarter than that.

They could see through the smog, peer beyond the pretension and realized broken dreams and psychic fallout was what Los Angeles was all about. Grady Hazy came to their senses and stayed put in Detroit.

"The whole L.A. scene turned us off," said Alexander Scott, the band's guitarist and vocalist who was one of the leading proponents for the group to head west only a year ago.

Oh, there were other factors that turned the minds of Grady Hazy from California, dreaming into Midwest realism.

For one, the band didn't have the money to fulfill their dreams. Also, Scott said they got a good deal to record at The Disc in Detroit.

And, yes, Scott is quick to add, he got a good job here after receiving his degree in industrial design from the Center of Creative Studies.

THINGS HAVEN'T been so bad in the less surreal, more subdued Detroit area, really.

Grady Hazy has a new bass player, an accomplished musician from Germany named Svez (replacing Alan Wigley). Club owners are calling them for bookings and they've just released a self-titled four-song EP.

Four-song releases are usually to be mentioned in passing, often an interim project produced as a hint of things to come from a soon to be released all-encompassing major studio effort.

Grady Hazy is holding up their EP as a testament to their quest of mixing the most divergent styles — from reggae to thrash to pop — into four separate containers of virulent, evocative musical statements.

On "Grady Hazy" (Chaos Network), guitarist Terry Trout, drummer Mick Stone and Scott build solid structures using some of the aforementioned styles only to revel in their subsequent self-immolation within the base of the song.

Normally this would lend itself to a discordant, wholly fractured sound. Grady Hazy has mastered subtlety in their two-year existence, playing the launtness between a deliberate reggae-like pulse and the impulsiveness of a thrash guitar solo as in a number like "Lost Space" to ear-rendering extremes.

As a result, a semblance of a melody swaggers forward or an engaging lyric protrudes through the fray. There's nothing homogeneous here; no "Grady Hazy" sound per se.



Grady Hazy band members hold up their EP as a testament to their quest of mixing the most divergent styles — from reggae to thrash to pop — into four separate evocative

musical statements. The band kicks off a series of shows in the metro area starting Friday, April 24, at Blondie's in Detroit.

At the very least Grady Hazy's songs ferment in their diversity, laying vulnerable to a complete re-interpretation at the whims of their creators. Band members, who all contribute in the songwriting effort, like it that way.

THE PROCESS of composing such material is obviously very painstaking, though.

"Maybe that emphasis on completely different songs is why we're only coming up with one

new song a month," said Scott, providing insight to why the band released four-song EP. "To come up with substantive ideas, we scrap a lot of stuff. We're very critical of ourselves."

"There's a lot of pulling and tugging, but it's worth it." A solid recording project should anger well with an established stage presence. Grady Hazy has long been lauded for their frenzied live shows in this area.

The band kicks off a series of shows in the area, starting Friday,

April 24, at Blondie's in Detroit in support of the new EP. "We get really wild onstage," Scott said. "We don't smash our instruments. Even if we could afford to buy new ones, we wouldn't smash them."

L.A. can wait. Grady Hazy performs with Duality Stick and Mishroom Head Friday, April 24, at Blondie's, 21139 W. Seven Mile Road, east of Telegraph, Detroit. For information, call 525-9108.

STREET SENSE

It takes courage to travel the road of self discovery

Dear Barbara:
I read your interesting Livonia (Observer column).
HELP! I'm a healthy, bright, college-age male (23) with a big problem. I think I'm gay though my friends and family would never guess it. Of course, I'd like to change my sexual preference, who wants to be shunned by our "open-minded" society as a "faggot" or "queer"?
I know that many homosexuals write off their lifestyles as unchangeable or genetically based, which entitles them to act without guilt. While I find it horrid that we, as a society, chastise our own friends, family and neighbors who may be gay (as this causes needless suffering and helps nobody), I wonder whether homosexuality is a product of low self-esteem or neuroses based in childhood (as Ellis hypothesized).
What do you think? How would one, especially a virgin such as myself, "learn" to become heterosexual? I'm anxiously awaiting your answer!
Thanks!
Confused and Closeted

P.S. I'm not religious and do not suffer from homophobia as far as friends are considered. I just fear the way society treats homosexuals and want to have the benefits of a "straight" relationship and marriage (including children).
I can't tell you in words how much agony this problem has caused me.
Dear C and C:
Yours is another courageous letter. I am honored to have received many in the past year.
Books have been written on the topic of homosexuality and its causes. Most recently a theory was developed by Simon LeVay, a biologist at San Diego's Salk Institute. He found that a small section of the brain in the gay men he studied was like the same section in women, and different from straight men's. He concludes from this research that homosexuality is genetically predetermined.
This position (not necessarily the research) is the official position of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays). They cite such statistics as the historically constant

Books have been written on the topic of homosexuality and its causes. Most recently a theory was developed by Simon LeVay, a biologist at San Diego's Salk Institute.

percentage of homosexual men in the population as proof.
A different viewpoint has been put forth by various psychotherapists, most notably Charles Socarides in New York. He says that he has successfully treated men like you who were highly motivated to be straight.
My own opinion is that the complicated nature/nurture equation is at work here as it is in most other aspects of human development. The relative impact of inheritance and environment is not measurable and is probably different for each of us. Often, motivation accounts for the difference.

I empathize with your anxiety over the exclusion and prejudice you will suffer if you are gay. It is an unfortunate reality of the world in which we live. On the other hand, I have known some gay men and women who, even with these bad odds, have happily found their niche.
Right now what is most important for you is that you stop running away and start finding out who you are. In the "Power of One," a recent movie, a young boy finds his courage with the help of a medicine man. His demons came from his environment, yours come from inside yourself. But you need to find your courage to

stand up to them just as he did.
At present, your anxiety is blocking you from any real enjoyment in life, whether as a gay person or a straight person. Some people have gotten stuck in this position. It is painful and scary to begin the journey of self-knowledge, but it also offers the possibility of eventual relief. You will need a guide on this journey and so I recommend that you begin seeing a therapist.
In your letter, you stress that you are highly motivated to be heterosexual and live a conventional lifestyle. Your high motivation may put you in that group for which intensive psychotherapy has resulted in a heterosexual orientation.
In most responses, I would say that the therapist should be unbiased. In your instance, I am sensitive to your goal and therefore recommend someone who truly believes it is possible to achieve it. The attitude of the therapist contributes greatly to the outcome.
If you will send me your name and address, which will be completely confidential, I will send you some



Barbara Schiff
names of therapists who can help you.
Barbara
If you have a question or a comment for Barbara Schiff, a trained therapist and experienced counselor, send it to Street Sense at 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.