

## letters

## FROM THE EDITOR: An obstacle-free send-off for our start-up...

Scribble, Crinkle, Toss, Scribble, Crinkle, Toss,

Think writer's block doesn't have a sound? Actually, it doesn't...at least, when you're on a laptop. The sound effects were purely for the benefit of those who still put pen to paper, a lost art among digital age denizens.

Ladies and gentlemen, even editors get writer's block, especially when crafting the first introduction of a premiere issue. What to say that hasn't already been said? I'm not the first to write about obstacles, especially the notorious chip on every writer's shoulder.

But every day we overcome our obstacles. Our monthly is at its genesis, and I expect my fair share of, ahem, shall we say, "learning experiences". They're fun, as long as our retractions and corrections column don't outnumber our angry rant letters. And, yes, we expect them,

and yes, we will publish them. But only if you're cruelly constructive in witty alliterative haikus, couplets, or metaphors.

Overcoming obstacles has been crucial in bringing you this series of works. Barriers will continue to be built, no matter how quickly they are broken down. But the lines of text and collection of images are proof positive that obstacles like writer's block or a blank canvas stem the imagination only for so long.

Then the dam of creative juices bursts. I don't know what that may sound like, but when I think of an appropriate onomatopoeia I will let you know.

And yes, I just ended that way because I love the word onomatopoeia.

See you in May.

Editor

## TO THE EDITOR: April Features Our Mission Statement

For this month, our birth month, we provide all our future readers with our mission statement. In the future, highlight responses will be published every month in this arena...sound off on the stories you read. Got something with more substance than a complaint? Send your letter in the form of a story and write a better piece...see our submissions guideline below. Most importantly, read, learn, enjoy!

Oh, and please, when gleefully pointing out our errors, go easy on grammar. Don't tell me you've ever forgot to spell check.

The founding goal of the Los Angeles Journal aims to provide creative writers and artists with a platform and forum to showcase brilliant material publicly. Topics are oriented around the urban counterculture Angelino lifestyle that a vast portion of the minority-majority society embraces. In the following pages the reader will discover tales of urban counterculture and compelling literary pieces such as arguments, satires, short stories, and poems for enjoyment reading, with pieces included from around the world incorporating global issues. The Los Angeles Journal seeks to revive the art of story telling through newsprint, a regeneration revival of local urban intellectualism in writing and illustration. The main intent is to showcase and display writing, as a museum would exhibit fine art. Hence, our publications found at any one of our quality distribution sites are free of charge....truly embracing the meaning of the term "available."

Currently our start-up publication has evolved as a grass-roots effort, sustained by continuous contributions by our most valued asset: the public. Offering content including music, movie and entertainment reviews as well as abundance of listings, classifieds and advertising, the Los Angeles Journal aims to satisfy the every need of the literary connoisseur. Our quality writers, illustrators, photographers and contributors are our peers and most vital assets in maintaining the freshest written material, both for and from our burgeoning multi-cultural community.

Our website, http://www.losangeleshournal.com, is a submission device for talented writers and artists seeking publication, and is also a tool for readers to view monthly publication features, community discussions, and classifieds. Our website acts as a forum to discuss and analyze featured print pieces and possible potential works for future issues.

The Los Angeles Journal staff prides itself on recognizing and evaluating every submission sent for consideration for print, regardless of professional status or personal career endeavors. At the Los Angeles Journal, we welcome and encourage all relevant submissions. Writing and illustration submissions should be directed to: submissions@losangelesjournal.com. All comments and questions can be sent to: info@losangelesjournal.com.

#### Staff

Publisher Arnel Guiang

Editor in Chief Blaise Morita

Assistant Editor Carolynn Romana

Production Director Polly Bull Marketing Manager Avelina Tilly

### **Contributors**

#### **Featured Writers**

bjongohs@hotmail.com

Mark Ferguson
mark.ferguson@comcast.net
Brian Mazo
stuffoflegends.tripod.com
Gareth Roberts
geroberts@hotmail.com
Robert J. Nebel
bobnebel.tripod.com
Stuart Schwartzapfel
stuart.schwartzapfel@mbusa.com
Alia Curtis
alia\_curtis@hotmail.com
B. Jon Gohs

#### Jessica Amaya

jesamaya@ucla.edu
Nate Rothstein
nrothste@student.umass.edu
http://www.angelfire.com/zine2/explic
itlyrics/

Jesse Keller shantidude@yahoo.com Mark Sotelo www.lainheat.com mlsotelo2002@yahoo.com Everett T. Ruth Strt486@cs.com Alex Kalim alexkalim@hotmail.com J.D. Smith smitros34@hotmail.com

Keith Pittell www.keithwrites.com Jennifer Stein Gypsy@bust.com Paige Nick paige@kingjames.co.za Jes Alexander write.jes@gmail.com

### **Featured Illustrators**

Cesar Gomez
cesar@brazenpathdesign.com
Eric Orr shnubert2002@yahoo.com
Christopher Umana
sonik75@hotmail.com
Julia Dungan www.designark.com
julia@designark.com
Ben Louria ben.louria@c2media.com
Aaron Jackson
aaron@ajacksonstudios.com
www.ajacksonstudios.com

Vivianna Calabria stiletto\_art@yahoo.com

Gabrielle Rogers
rogersgabrielle@hotmail.com
Helen Kim byehjk@yahoo.com
Mario Delgado

mariodelgado1979@hotmail.com Michael Kilmer

mike@disposablereality.com

Jesse Koskey jessekoskey@gmail.com

Munish Asnani

MunishAsnani@yahoo.com www.MunishAsnani.com

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by Robert J. Nebel

Nipplegate. Wardrobe malfunctions. The FCC's worst nightmare and the crackdown that continues to grip TV.



#### **Monsters of Rock**

PIAIGIÉ 6

### by Gareth Roberts



Ghetto blasters versus ipods? Breakin' down the new science of the mobile music master.

## **Cover Story: The New Beat Generation**

by Mark Ferguson

PIAIGIE 8

The beat goes on...another youth movement takes ahold of the counterculture of old.



front cover illustration by Chris Umana

Back cover photography by Cesar Gomez

# wanna write?

# wanna draw?

**Illustrators and Artists-** Seeking fresh styles. The experimental and mixed media are very welcome. Links preferred. Please limit attachment to a JPEG or two totaling 150kb. Things that especially interest us:

Underground bands - send us your reviews or have your music reviewed by us. Tell us about your fanbase, send us your web link.

Independent, Low budget films- announce them with us and get them reviewed too. Art galleries - send us your announcements and events.

 $Lectures, Readings, and \ Special \ Events-let \ us \ know \ what \ needs \ to \ be \ heard, \ said \ or \ done \ in \ your \ neighborhood.$ 

Fiction – short? Long? Personal or "loosely" autobiographical? Sci fi and erotica ok? ... All goes, style it yourself, but the more urban and LA-centered the better. Poetry- see Fiction.

All submissions may be sent to submissions@losangelesjournal.com Currently compensation is limited to cover stories/art.