

*Upper East Side of Texas*

MARCH/APRIL 2024

# county line

MAGAZINE



## **TERRY CRUM**

*Artist with an eye for women,  
nature, and legends*

PARIS, TEXAS  
LAUGH OUT LONGVIEW  
HEATHER LITTLE  
CERAMICS ART SPACE  
FEMALE ODD COUPLE  
CULTURAL CONNECT

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*Upper East Side of Texas*

# ECLIPSE

04.08.2024



*Follow this [LINK](#) for details on activities happening in the region for the eclipse.*

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MAGAZINE



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## EDITOR'S NOTES

Dear Readers,

It's an exciting time here in the Upper East Side of Texas as we prepare for the Great Eclipse weekend in early April and play hosts each week to more festivals, live music, art exhibits, worthy fundraisers, and unique events than ever before. Our region is bursting at the seams with fun and meaningful things to do.

From our cover story, meet artist Terry Crum. I first saw his work in Ben Wheeler at the former Flying Fish Gallery in 2009. His elegant paintings of women were painted on cardboard! I love what might seem as two contradictory ideas coming together to create these beautiful pieces. Since then Terry has branched into different kinds of paintings and often uses "normal" canvases now.

Another talented human I used to see in Ben Wheeler a lot and all over the Upper East Side of Texas is Heather Little. She's one of the best singer-songwriters I know. She shared her journey with her audiences through her songs and storytelling at the

mic and before and after performances. Her heart is big and there's no hiding it.

Heather moved to Tennessee from Lindale a couple of years ago. She's got a new album that captures emotions from much of her life during her time in Texas and she's returning to her home state for release parties to her fans delight.

Dive on in to this issue to find delicious meal ideas by Lauren Wacaser, my Oscar notes, a new improv group in Longview, fabulous art space in Winnsboro, and much more.

One more thing, if you are reading this, will you please drop me a note at info@countylinemagazine.com and let me know what you like about this publication and what you'd like to see more of in our editorial coverage. Do you use *County Line* to help you find fun things to do? We do this for you. Knowing what you want let's us know what direction to go.

Happy spring y'all!

— P.A. Geddie

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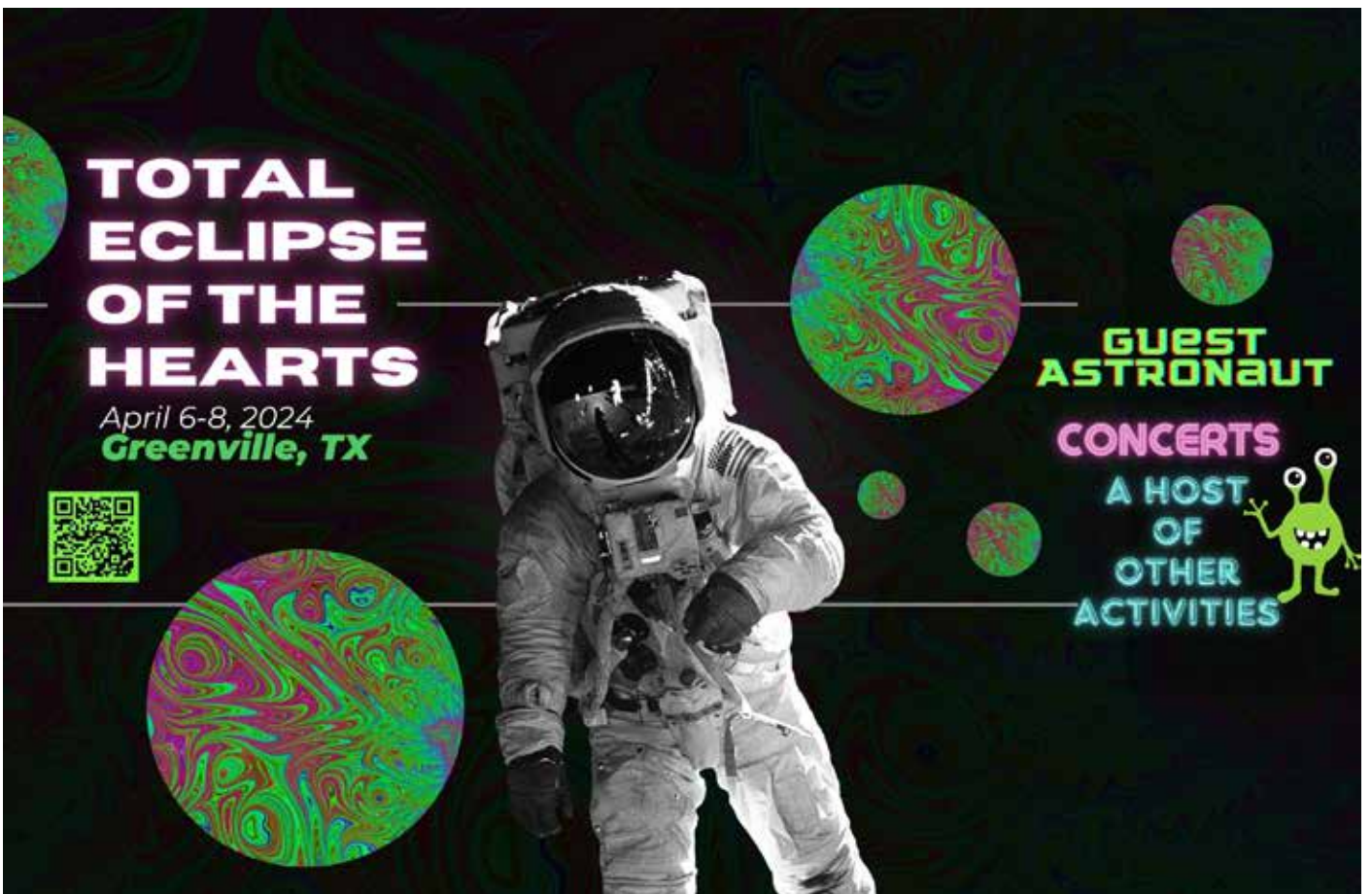




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# The Impactful Art of Terry Crum

*Artist has an eye for women, nature, and legends*



By P.A. Geddie

Terry Crum's interest in art began at a very young age. He recalls looking through the family book of American presidents and drawing each of them. In school he often created cartoons. Family vacations to Taos, New Mexico, solidified his deep passion.

"I was really drawn to the art there," Crum says. "From early artists, Joseph Henry Sharp, Walter Ufer, E.I. Couse, and W. Herbert Dunton, to later artists like R.C. Gorman and Fritz Scholder."

Photographer Richard Avedon's "In the American West" had a big impact on him and other influencers include John Singer Sargent and Richard Diebenkorn.

Crum worked for Williamson Printing in Dallas for 30 years.

"I worked with some of the greatest designers and graphic artists in the nation," he says. "This exposure to beautiful images and powerful design informs my artistic desires and methods."

He was living in Southlake, Texas, in

*"Diamonds Are a Girl's Best Friend" (above) is one of Terry Crum's oil paintings on canvas while "Jau-net Et Noir" (opposite page) shows one of his Mystique collection women painted on corrugated board.*

2009 when fellow artist Randy Martin invited him to show and sell his work from the Flying Fish Gallery in Ben Wheeler, Texas. Martin and his wife Sherrie owned and operated the eclectic shop for several years there and they had a good eye for talent.

*continued page 10*





**CRUM** *continued from page 8*

“It was great,” Crum says. “Randy helped me so much and I loved the Flying Fish.”

Crum’s early paintings of stylish women on worn cardboard are part of his Mystique collection. They were a big hit for the shop’s clientele.

“I started painting on cardboard simply because I had the urge to paint, but didn’t have a canvas available at the time,” he says. “So I did a quick little piece that turned out well, got it framed, and took it to the Flying Fish. Randy had it sold by the time I got it from the car to the gallery. So I thought I would just do that for a while and it was very successful.”

Crum’s success in East Texas spurred a move to Tyler in 2020 when he retired. He first set up a studio in a large storage unit and did that for a couple of years until moving his studio to his house for convenience.

He works in oils pretty much exclusively.

“My style is very eclectic. I do figurative, landscapes, and am currently working in a more graphic style.”

He says his process is motivated by a need to create images that are impactful.

“That’s one of the reasons I like working on a large scale. For landscapes, I want an image that draws the viewer in, that evokes a memory, an emotion, and a sense of place. For a figurative piece, I want the viewer to feel the presence and emotion of the subject. For a graphic piece, I want the viewer to enjoy the color, the design, and maybe feel a little surprised.”

Like most artists, creating art was a little intimidating in the beginning but comes much easier now.

“I have more confidence, but I do get surprised during the process. It’s really all about problem solving and reacting to what I’ve already put on the canvas.”

He hopes viewers will enjoy his work but getting it right for himself is important.

“Mostly I want to like the work myself, but I obviously want the viewer to like the piece. Hopefully, they will like what I



like. I hope they proudly display the work and that it brings a smile when they see it in their home or office or wherever. I always enjoy hearing from the collector and seeing photos of the piece when it is in its new home.”

While another artist told him once not to fall in love with his art, but “just go paint another,” he admits feeling bitter-sweet when he makes a sale. Some sales do form good memories though.

“I had a collector that bought an early work that I had done on cardboard. Her home was later featured in *D Home Magazine*. That made me very happy. It was an image of a woman facing a man whose back faced the viewer. She contacted me a few years afterward and wanted a companion piece to the first one. This one which would tell the story with the man facing the woman and the woman’s back to the viewer. And that made me doubly happy.”

Crum’s work was recently featured in an exhibition at Hinds Fine Art Gallery in Tyler and he’s hoping to have shows in other venues in the Upper East Side of Texas. In April he’s participating in a show at Royce Myers Gallery in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Featuring musical icons, his six pieces are paintings of Johnny Cash, Elvis, Stevie Nicks, Janis Joplin, Prince, and Buddy Holly.

His work is also for sale at LaMontage Gallery in Lewisville and he’s in the process of setting up an eCommerce website on Shopify. He continues to find inspiration all around.

“While I have not painted any of the local environs (yet), the beauty, pace of life, and the wonderful people of East Texas enliven my spirit and inspire me to create,” he says.

See more of his work and links to purchase on [TerryCrumStudio.com](http://TerryCrumStudio.com).

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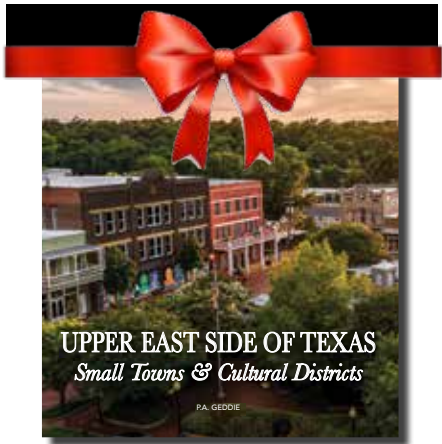
*“Italiana Moderna No. 10,”* is an oil painting on cardboard (top right); Terry Crum hangs out with his granddog Howdy (bottom right); *“Buffalo & Flying Prairie Chicken - Left”* (opposite bottom) oil on canvas; and an oil on canvas of *“Willie”* (opposite top). Crum’s *“Willie”* and a few others from his Icon collection are in a show in Tulsa in April.



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# Wings Over Pegasus 2024 Features Airshow for Rescued Horses



The live airshow Wings Over Pegasus returns to the Pegasus Project horse rescue ranch in Murchison from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, March 30. The airplane and equine extravaganza is held at the 95-acre Pegasus Ranch, located at 7111 FM 2339 in Murchison. Airshow starts promptly at 1 p.m.

Wings Over Pegasus features a variety of skydivers, airplanes, and helicopters. The breath-taking airshow includes performances by T-28s from the Trojan Phlyers & Racing Team, NextGen Eagles Formation Aerobatics Team, Jeremy Holt in the “Pegasus,” and Stephen Covington in the Raptor.

Expect a casual, family-friendly atmosphere featuring face-painting, an Easter egg hunt, gourmet food trucks, a raffle drawing for two roundtrip tickets on Southwest Airlines, a tennis ball toss contest and a flour bomb competition.

Guests can enjoy photo opportunities with a variety of aircraft, Pegasus horses, the Easter Bunny, and Pegasito, the winged-donkey in his kissing booth.

The Pegasus rescue horses are available to meet, pet, and finger-paint. Guests can visit with the Pegasus trainers and staff to learn about the horses and get information regarding adoption and sponsorship opportunities.

Parking is \$25 per vehicle. Pegasus merchandise, food, refreshments, raffle tickets, and participation in games are available for purchase. Free parking, VIP tent, lunch catered by the Montez Brothers, and many extra perks are available for event sponsors.

The event raises awareness about the lifesaving work The Pegasus Project does year-round to care for at-risk horses. Since 2010 the Pegasus Project has rescued, rehabilitated, retrained, and re-

homed hundreds of mistreated horses, donkeys, and mules.

Sponsors for this year’s event include Greg and Debbie Howison, Delano Family Charitable Trust, David and Deborah Dobbs, Deborah Race, Cooper Creek Growers, The Old Firehouse in Edom, Anne and George Ellis, Mike and Allyson DeCanio, Fears Law Firm, White Fox Winery, *County Line Magazine*, and The Pamela Walters Group. Numerous others are sponsoring horses and making other contributions to the event. See a full list [HERE](#) along with more information on sponsorship opportunities.

The public is invited to come enjoy the day and help with this worthy cause. All proceeds benefit the horses of The Pegasus Project. For more details, go to [www.WingsOverPegasus.com](http://www.WingsOverPegasus.com).

# Ceramics Art Space is Open for Makers, Visitors, and Shoppers



By P.A. Geddie

A ceramics art space in downtown Winnsboro is a hot spot for seasoned and amateur artists from all over Northeast Texas and beyond who like to play in the mud and other earthy elements. Ceramic arts there include clay pottery, mosaic glass, and stained glass.

The ceramics space is part of Winnsboro Center for the Arts (WCA), located in the WCA Learning Center at 212 Market Street in The Bowery Pedestrian Park. They provide a facility, equipment, and programs for artists of all levels to get creative. They have three pottery wheels, slab rollers, workspace, and two kilns with ongoing classes and workshops.

Many of the artists who frequent the facility have their creations on display and

for sale in the gift shop at the front of the building. Other ceramic artists from around the region are represented in the gift shop as well and plans are in the works to add other three-dimensional arts including stone and metal sculpture. It's a favorite place for shoppers as well as those who come in just to admire the work.

Overseeing the ceramics program is artist and facilitator Brenda Roberts who's held volunteer and board member positions for WCA since 2010, including board president and exhibition curator. She set up the studio space and equipment, coordinated classes, and curated and set up the gift shop that opened in March 2023.

A ceramic artist and teacher since 2002, Roberts discovering her passion of working with clay was a major turning point in her own artistic journey.

*A sampling of work in the gift shop at the WCA Learning Center include pieces by artists John Hill (above), Linda Sciogay (opposite-top), and Melissa Brown (opposite-bottom).*

“The tactile feeling of clay and making pottery is healing for both young and old,” she said. “Take elements from the Earth, add a little water, let dry, glaze with pretty colors, heat up to around 2,000 degrees in temperature – each step becomes a transition of raw material into a ceramic work of art.

“While working in clay we leave a part of ourselves in every piece. The feeling that our little clay pot will carry our essence and DNA far into the future gives us a sense of perpetual interconnectedness to our fellow human beings. All art — no matter what the medium is — has the

ability to bring joy, peace, and purpose into the lives of those who both create and receive it.”

In addition to making and selling her own pottery, Roberts teaches children’s general art and clay classes, adult hand-building, and acrylic painting workshops at the art center.

A good list of other talented artists are featured in the gift shop and otherwise are engaged with the program.

Colette Bowling is longtime volunteer and supporter and is instrumental in helping the ceramics center develop and grow. Her art endeavors include creating works with mosaic glass, clay, mixed media, pastels, ink, watercolors, and painting.

While working in corporate America, Georgia Gibson rekindled a spark for creating art that started in a high school art class as she threw clay on a wheel. Now working in both fused glass and clay, she loves to explore both mediums and make objects people will use and that add pleasure to their surroundings. She currently teaches wheel throwing and pottery at the WCA Learning Center.

Melissa Brown creates a mosaic series called Kindred Spirits and Hallelujah Ladies that she started with her late mother. Quite popular with shoppers in the gift store, each of the figurines has a story of its own that celebrate life. Brown also creates stained glass and mosaic mobiles, figurines, windows, wind chimes, and pet portraits.

Potter John Hill’s work is primarily wood-fired functional pieces and tall sculptural forms. He was first introduced to ceramics while attending Texas A&M University-Commerce. He took five semesters with renowned potter Barbara Frey to learn the basics, and after years of fine tuning his methods, he found his unique style working by intuition. He currently teaches elementary art in Greenville, Texas.

Cindy Fuqua works out of her Wood County studio in Alba where she stays busy creating pottery with the help of a menagerie of four legged friends. Ranging from functional wheel-thrown stoneware to low-fired horsehair applied Raku

*continued page 10*



## CERAMICS *continued from page 12*

pottery vases and bowls, Fuqua has a loyal clientele in East Texas. Her horsehair pottery is her most popular work and is created when actual horsehair is applied during the firing process. The horsehair creates a beautiful contrasting design as it is burned into the clay for a lovely decorative accent.

A Franklin County native for her entire life, Carmen Sparks' love of stained glass started while in high school. Her grandfather started creating pieces in stained glass and became intrigued with the way the light shone through the beautiful colored glass. Later in life she inherited tools from another family member and jumped headfirst into the world of glass. She says she loves the mix of art and science that is required to cut and arrange glass pieces and the excitement of opening the kiln after 18 hours to see the beautiful art.

Gus Gustafson creates powerful, functional and unique works of art known as orgonite pyramids and skulls. Incorporating power-generating Arkansas quartz crystals, various metals, semi-precious stones, fossils and resin, each sculpture is truly one of a kind.

Linda Sciongay began sculpting more than 30 years ago studying under and alongside some highly accomplished sculptors and monument builders in the northeast part of the country before finding "home" in Pittsburg, Texas, seven years ago. She is frequently accepted into juried exhibitions and winning awards from all over the country. She is not only an accomplished sculptor, but also in (sculpture) mold making and casting and has experience in monument building. She loves to share her knowledge and encourage others in the classroom to explore the world of sculpture.

Les Mitchell got excited about pottery when he was 10 years old. His parents

---

*Works in the gift shop at the WCA Learning Center include pieces by artists Les Mitchell (top), Georgia Gibson (middle-left), Cindy Fuqua (middle-right), Cindy Kent (bottom), John Simmons (opposite-top-left), Brenda Roberts (opposite-top-right), Carmen Sparks (opposite-middle-left), Sylvia Morse (opposite-middle-center), Gus Gustafson (opposite middle-right) and Collette Bowling (opposite-bottom).*





bought an old pottery shop in the Dallas area of Oak Cliff and the atmosphere and pottery process intrigued him. Mitchell continued his education in pottery at the arts magnet high school in Dallas and he hasn't stopped since. He is best known for his Raku Flash Pottery, a style of firing characterized by rich, vibrant jewel tone glaze colors. The art of Raku is based on an old Japanese method dating back hundreds of years. He also makes stoneware cups and dinnerware, along with his signature.

Cindy Kent's love of art started back in junior high and continued throughout high school and through collage, earning a bachelor's degree in art education, with an emphasis on painting and drawing. In 1990, she began teaching at Mount Vernon High School. Now resigned, she teaches art privately and works full time in her studio creating work with terracotta and stoneware clay. Her background in painting and drawing is often incorporated onto the clay.

Sylvia Morse creates art in all mediums – painting, ceramics, sculpture, photography, metal working/jewelry, and mixed media. Her latest jewelry creations use vintage silverware to make rings, necklaces, earrings, and other work. She teaches a variety of ceramics and sculpture workshops around East Texas.

A native Texan, John Simmons is a full-time rancher in Hopkins County. He enjoys dabbling in clay and specializes in creating functional and often large-scale pieces on the pottery wheel. Much of his work reflects the rustic, earthtone colors and effects that one would find in ancient, primitive forms of clay ware. A student of local master potters Gary and Daphne Hatcher of Pine Mills Pottery, he has traveled the world exploring pottery, kiln building, and the history of the ceramic arts.

Classes and workshops take place at the center Monday through Saturday. The gift shop and entire facility is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday for visitors.

Call (903) 312-0686 or visit [Winnsboro-CenterForTheArts.com](http://Winnsboro-CenterForTheArts.com) for reservations and more information on the current center and plans for expanded space in the near future



## Spring Time Means Good Times in East Texas



First Monday Trade Days, Canton, Texas. COURTESY PHOTO

Spring in the Upper East Side of Texas provides a beautiful backdrop of wildflowers and other floral presentations, wide open skies, and nature at it's best. The big thing going on this year is the rare eclipse happening April 8 with visitors coming from all over the world for a front row seat in this prime region. Visitors should make plans early and if there's no more room "in the house" consider exploring the area any time of the year. For a list of some of the activities going on, see this article in County Line eMagazine.

**Mrs. Lee's Daffodil Garden** with thousands of yellow flowers may still be in bloom for a while in March. Check for details [HERE](#).

Spring is a great time to visit **First Monday Trade Days** taking place February

29 through March 3, March 28-31, and May 2-5. Visit Canton, Texas, the weekend prior to the first Monday of each month for the trade days throughout the year — also known as the World's Largest Flea Market. [FirstMondayCanton.com](http://FirstMondayCanton.com)

The incomparable **Terry Bradshaw** is speaking and entertaining at the Cowan Center in Tyler on March 5.

See **Trevor Noah** at March 14 at Music Hall at Fair Park in Dallas.

Greenville is celebrating **All Pats Day** on March 16 with a pedestrian parade, green beer, entertainment, and merchant specials. [TravelGreenvilleTX.com](http://TravelGreenvilleTX.com)

The annual **Motorized Barstool Races** take place in Ben Wheeler on March 16. Live music takes place at The Forge

279 from noon to midnight and the races are at 3 p.m. [TheForgeBenWheeler.com](http://TheForgeBenWheeler.com)

**Texas Dogwood Trails Celebration** takes place March 22 through April 7 in Palestine. This long-time event takes place the last two weekends in March and first weekend in April. Enjoy the delicate beauty of the dogwood trees in Davey Dogwood Park and the surrounding area. Activities are scheduled each weekend to including special excursion train rides at the Texas State Railroad, the Farm & Flower Market, and a play at the historic Texas Theatre. Fairy Garden Trails take place from dawn to dusk March 22 to April 30 in Davey Dogwood Park. The park has five and a half miles of driving trails and those who walk onto the trails find hidden fairy gardens. Go to [VisitPalestine.com](http://VisitPalestine.com) for a full list of spring adventures.

**Tyler Azalea & Spring Flower Trail** in Tyler also begins on March 22 and goes through April 8. Download a trail map from [VisitTyler.com/AzaleaTrail](http://VisitTyler.com/AzaleaTrail)

Designated as “The Garden Capital of Texas,” Nacogdoches is home to lots of azaleas. Get up to date information on the blooms by calling (936) 564-7351.

**Wings Over Pegasus** is March 30 with numerous pilots performing an air show over the horse rescue ranch. [WingsOverPegasus.com](http://WingsOverPegasus.com)

**Ennis Bluebonnet Trails** takes place April 1-30 with a festival on April 19-21. [BluebonnetTrail.org](http://BluebonnetTrail.org)

**Illuminate** is at the Cowan Center in Tyler on April 2 featuring cutting edge technology and dance first seen on America’s Got Talent. [CowanCenter.org](http://CowanCenter.org)

**Four States Fair & Rodeo** is happening in Texarkana April 5-14. [FourStatesFair.com](http://FourStatesFair.com)

The **Nacogdoches Wine Swirl** takes place April 13. [VisitNacogdoches.org](http://VisitNacogdoches.org) and Paris is having Winefest that same day. [ParisWineFest.com](http://ParisWineFest.com)

**East Texas Wildflower Trails** in Rusk County takes place from April 15 through May 31, although only Mother Nature can say when the show is actually happening. Download a brochure from [VisitHendersonTX.com](http://VisitHendersonTX.com) for self-guided trails and call (866) 650-5529 to get up-to-date information.

The **39th Annual East Texas Gusher Days** takes place April 19-20 in Glade-water. [Gusher-Days.com](http://Gusher-Days.com)

**Terrell Jubilee** takes place April 25-28 in Ben Gil Park. [TerrellJubilee.com](http://TerrellJubilee.com)

**Hunt County Fair** takes place April 19-28. [HuntCountyFair.net](http://HuntCountyFair.net)

**Texas Hot Link Festival.** April 27. [TexasHotLinkFestival.com](http://TexasHotLinkFestival.com)

**Derrick Days Corsicana.** April 27. [DerrickDays.com](http://DerrickDays.com)

**Downtown Longview Wine Swirl.** April 27. [VisitLongviewTexas.com](http://VisitLongviewTexas.com)

*Find much more happening in the Upper East Side of Texas on the County Line Magazine CALENDAR.*



*Visit the Gregg County Historical Museum as they showcase 18 historical markers dedicated to African American people, places, and events in an exhibition through March 23. Learn more on [GreggHistorical.org](http://GreggHistorical.org)*

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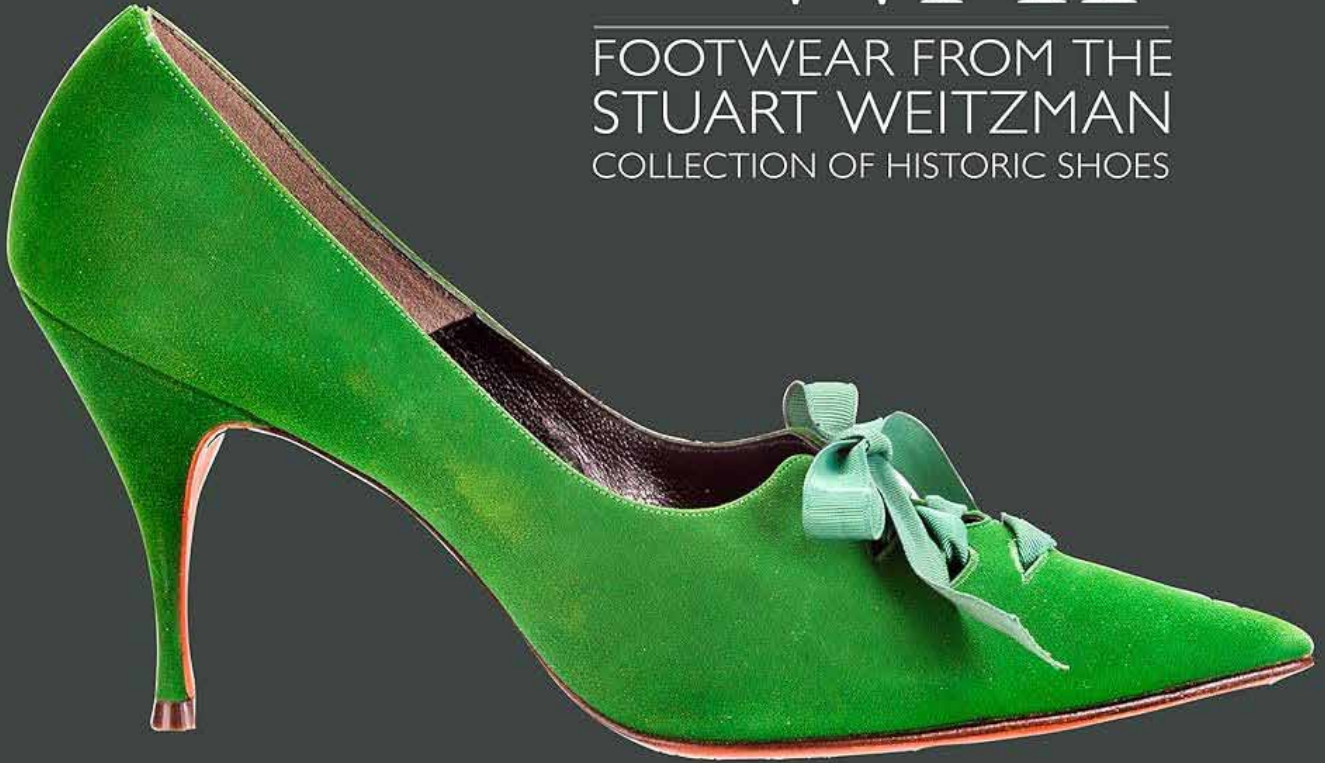
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# WALK THIS WAY

FOOTWEAR FROM THE  
STUART WEITZMAN  
COLLECTION OF HISTORIC SHOES



## 'Walk This Way' Brings Attention to Women's Rights

*Walk This Way* is a unique exhibition taking place through July 14 at the Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum.

From silk boudoir shoes created for the 1867 Paris Exposition to leather spectator pumps signed by the 1941 New York Yankees, *Walk this Way* features more than 100 striking pairs of shoes. This exhibition presents nearly 200 years of footwear from the collection of iconic shoe designer Stuart Weitzman, and businesswoman and philanthropist Jane Gershon Weitzman.

An integral part of human everyday lives, shoes not only protect feet, but tell stories centered around women's labor activism, the fight for suffrage, and the sexual revolution. Production and consumption

of footwear serve as pathways toward discovering the vital role women played in history.

Women take center stage as this exhibition explores a variety of shoes, including those worn by suffragists as they marched through the streets, Jazz Age flappers as they danced the Charleston, and starlets who graced the silver screen in the postwar era. In exploring the process of shoemaking, the role of women in one of the first mass production industries, and their participation in the forming of organized labor, the exhibition presents the story of the shoe as it has never been told before.

This exhibition is organized by The

New-York Historical Society and is sponsored by Neiman Marcus.

The Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum is dedicated to teaching the history of the Holocaust and advancing human rights to combat prejudice, hatred, and indifference. Permanent exhibitions include Holocaust in the Shoah Wing, a Human Rights wing, and a Pivot to America wing. Ongoing programs and events take place throughout the year.

The museum is located at 300 North Houston in downtown Dallas. It is open daily except for Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Learn more on [Dhhrm.org](http://Dhhrm.org) or call (214) 741-7500.

# Laugh Out Longview Improv Festival Set for July

Theatre Longview and the Duck. Duck. Moose! Improv Comedy Troupe proudly present the inaugural Laugh Out Longview Improv Festival on Friday and Saturday, July 5 and 6, at the Longview Community Center located at 500 E. Whaley Street, Longview, TX.

The festival will feature ticketed performances from improv teams from across the state and region on Friday and Saturday night. Participating teams will have the opportunity to engage in workshops led by improv experts during the day on Saturday.

The event will also feature performances by legendary musical improvisers Laura and Rick Hall as well as the Upright Citizens Brigade (UCB) Touring Company, both of whom will also lead workshops for participating artists.

Laura Hall is best known for her role as the band leader and pianist on the improvisational comedy television show *Whose Line Is It Anyway*. Rick Hall is an accomplished improviser who has opened two main stage shows at The Second City. Laura and Rick Hall will perform in a workshop instructor showcase Friday night. On Saturday, they will host a musical improv showcase highlighting artists who took part in their workshops.

The UCB Touring Company is a four-person group, which brings the best improv comedians from the legendary Up-



*The inaugural Laugh Out Longview Improv Festival features performances and workshops by legendary musical improvisers Laura and Rick Hall. COURTESY PHOTO*

right Citizens Brigade Theatre to new audiences all around the country. The Upright Citizens Brigade Theatre was founded by Matt Besser, Amy Poehler, Ian Roberts, and Matt Walsh in 1999 in New York City and has since expanded to Los Angeles. The UCB Touring Company show is a 90-minute, unscripted and to-

tally improvised performance which will take place Saturday night of the Laugh Out Longview Improv Festival.

For information on improv team applications, sponsorships, and ticket sales go to [www.theatrelongview.com](http://www.theatrelongview.com) or call (903) 387-3736.



*As "The Garden Capital of Texas," Nacogdoches is home to lots of azaleas. Get up to date information on the blooms by calling (936) 564-7351. PHOTO BY INE BURKE*

# Paris, Texas is Always a Good Idea



THE SECOND LARGEST PARIS IN THE WORLD doesn't officially share the same tag line as its "City of Love" sister city in France, but even so, expect a lovely time in Paris, Texas. Radio personality Paul Harvey once said it is a city "where tomorrow fell in love with yesterday, and side by side, they lived happily ever after."

An influx of Europeans in the 1880s created a cosmopolitan atmosphere in the rural town of Paris, Texas. After two devastating fires took out most of the downtown area, rebuilding in the first half of the 1900s included mostly brick materials. The national trend of eclecticism in architecture is clear. Historical preservation remains an important component

to citizens of this unique and culturally rich city. The most-recognized attraction in Paris is the "Texanized" sixty-five-foot Eiffel Tower replica, topped off by a red cowboy hat with a ten-foot brim and four-foot crown. It is a great photo opportunity, as are several creative downtown murals and "ghost signs" from the past.

In the Nationally Registered Historic District in downtown Paris are easily accessible and unique shopping opportunities. Guests find one of a kind Paris-themed gifts and souvenirs, an array of children's and women's clothing boutiques, and specialty shops for home decor and kitchen needs.

Entertainment in Paris includes live

*Culbertson Fountain, Downtown Paris (above). The Texas Eiffel Tower (opposite top), and participants in the annual Tour de Paris bike ride. COURTESY PHOTOS*

music at several venues. The Paris Municipal Band plays concerts in the park during the summer. A growing arts effort includes galleries and several shops featuring works by local artists. Nationally acclaimed comedy shows, an eight-screen movie theater, and the Paris Community Theatre offer more fun things to do throughout the year.

Bywaters Park in the Historic Paris District has a beautiful 1931 Corinthian peristyle with the unique design of a Grecian temple. It is often the site for concerts and special events. Annual

events celebrate a bicycle rally, pumpkins, and wine. Lodging choices include hotels, and several downtown loft rentals.

Taking center stage in downtown Paris is the Culbertson Fountain, made of Italian marble and surrounded by an inviting plaza with green grass, large trees, and attractive landscaping. It is a favorite landmark for those participating in the annual bicycle rally that takes riders downtown around the plaza before traveling along the Trail de Paris, part of the one hundred thirty-mile Northeast Texas Trail running through nineteen towns and seven counties. The trail goes through a ninety-acre wooded area in Paris and beyond with sites featuring unique bridges, creeks, rippling water, huge sugarberry and other varieties of trees, crape myrtles, honeysuckle, fireflies, underpass art, wildflowers, and pastoral scenes.

Walkers on the trail enjoy picking up a meal from a local restaurant or buying picnic ingredients from the local farmers' and artisans' market and finding a perfect spot to enjoy the day. There is no shortage of good dining opportunities in Paris, both downtown and on the loop that circles the city. Texan Parisian dining offers outdoor patio and indoor seating with a variety of culinary choices, including comfort foods like chicken-fried steak and bread pudding, plus steaks, gourmet tamales, street corn, Italian gelato, buffalo wings, and waffles on a stick. An artisan bakery sells European-style breads and pastries. Many locations offer craft beer and wine.

Other things to do in Paris include visits to the Red River Valley Veterans Memorial, Lamar County Historical Museum, the Sam Bell Maxey House State Historic Site, and the Valley of the Caddo Museum & Cultural Center. Several parks and lakes adorn the Paris landscape. Lake Gibbons is a refuge for geese. Lake Crook is perfect for fishing, boating, and picnics. Pat Mayse Lake is used for recreation and is the entrance for the Barber Hills Bike Trail.

Learn more about Paris on [VisitParis-Tx.com](http://VisitParis-Tx.com).

*This article is an excerpt from the book, Upper East Side of Texas, Small Towns & Cultural Districts, available on [www.speckledcrow.com](http://www.speckledcrow.com).*



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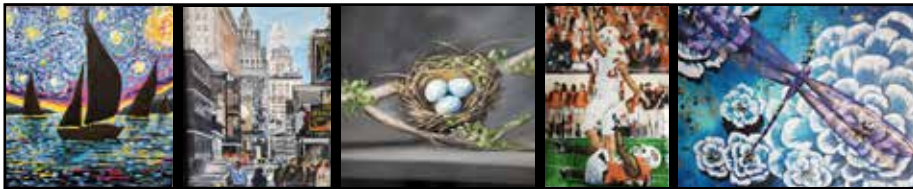
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## Variety of Art Forms Set to Captivate Audiences

Here's a sampling of visual and performing arts to choose from as visitors and residents alike get out and about this spring in the beautiful Upper East Side of Texas. Find many more in [CountyLineMagazine.com](http://CountyLineMagazine.com).

### ART EXHIBITS & EVENTS

Through March 10. **The Way I See It: Works by Cindi Holt and Susie Phillips.** Tyler Museum of Art.

Through May 30. **Seeing a World Blind Lemon Never Saw.** Dallas. African American Museum at Fair Park.

March 23 - May 25. **Vintage Art Exhibition.** Athens. 211 Gallery

April 5-7. **Dallas Art Fair.** Fashion Industry Gallery.

April 10-May 18. **Piece by Piece Art Exhibition.** Winnsboro Art Center

April 10-17. **Student Art Exhibition.** Winnsboro Center for the Arts.

### STAGE

Through March 3. **The Iliad, The Odyssey, and All of Greek Mythology in 99 Minutes or Less.** Commerce. TAMU Mainstage Theatre.

Through March 3. **Romeo & Juliet.** Kilgore. Van Cliburn Auditorium.

March 8-10 and 15-17. **Fiddler on the Roof.** Greenville Municipal Auditorium.

March 23. **Duck! Duck! Moose!** Theatre Longview.

April 4-6. **Chicago: The Musical.** Dallas. Winspear Opera House.

April 5-7 and 12-14. **Little Shop of Horrors.** Sulphur Springs. Main Street Theatre.

April 5-7 and 12-14. **Sister Act.** Palestine. Texas Theater.

April 5-7 and 11-14. **Harvey.** Tyler Civic Center.

April 7. **Artrageous.** Lufkin. Temple Theater.

April 18. **Dog Man the Musical.** Tyler. Cowan Center.

April 19. **The Great Dubois.** Lufkin. The Pines Theater.

April 19-20. **Dallas Black Theatre: Rising Excellence.** Dallas. Winspear Opera House.

April 19-21 and 26-28. **On Golden Pond.** Mineola. Lake Country Playhouse.

April 24-27. **Summer and Smoke.** Tyler. Rogers Palmer Performing Arts Center.

April 25-27. **Antigone Now.** Mount Pleasant. Whatley Center for Performing Arts.

May 8. **Hamilton.** Dallas. Winspear Opera House.





*ArtWalk Longview* (top) takes place this year on April 4, June 6, October 3, and December 12. Each event has a map of open venues and artists for a self-guided tour of downtown businesses exhibiting and selling art. Musicians and other performance arts are part of the event. It is free to attend. For more information, call (903) 738-1865 and visit [artwalklongview.com](http://artwalklongview.com). PHOTO BY A.L.O. PHOTOGRAPHY.

At the Greenville Memorial Auditorium, see **Vicki Lawrence & Mama: A Two Woman Show** (right) on April 26, *Vocal Majority* on April 27, and *The Righteous Brothers* on June 7. Get tickets and more information on [www.showtime-atthegma.com](http://www.showtime-atthegma.com).

See Kait Haire (opposite page) as former First Lady Jackie Kennedy in a powerful and revealing narrative set in her 5th Avenue New York City apartment. **"Jackie"** is showing March 9-10 at the Eisemann Center for Performing Arts in Richardson.



“Bird Droppings II,” by Valton Tyler



## Cultural Connect is on Exhibit Through 2024

Spanning 145 years of creativity, *Cultural Connect: Made in America* features 56 works of art, including paintings, prints, drawings, photographs, pottery, and sculptures. Its focus is on the diversity found among the artists of the Permanent Collection of Longview Museum of Fine Arts (LMFA), which consists of more than 1200 works.

Some of the work are showing for the first time. This includes 12 pastel drawings by Jewish American artist Irving Kriesberg. In 1945, his work was shown at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City alongside the Abstract Expressionists Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko. Nearby is a mixed media piece by Ben Culwell, who was part of a 1946 MoMA exhibition that also featured Robert Motherwell and Mark Tobey.

Three Asian Americans work in very different media but all three — Hung Liu, Darlene Nguyen-Ely, and Kunie Sugiura — tell stories with their art. Liu’s triptych is especially powerful, depicting a woman and girl bent over pulling a barge up a river is hard to forget. Likewise, Nguyen-Ely uses her memories to create boat-like shapes that remind her of her childhood, particularly when she fled Vietnam in 1975 with members of her family.

Latin America is represented by artists who work in unexpected ways. Roberto Matta for example, was friends with avant-garde artists Marcel Duchamp and Salvador Dali and his work shows their influence.

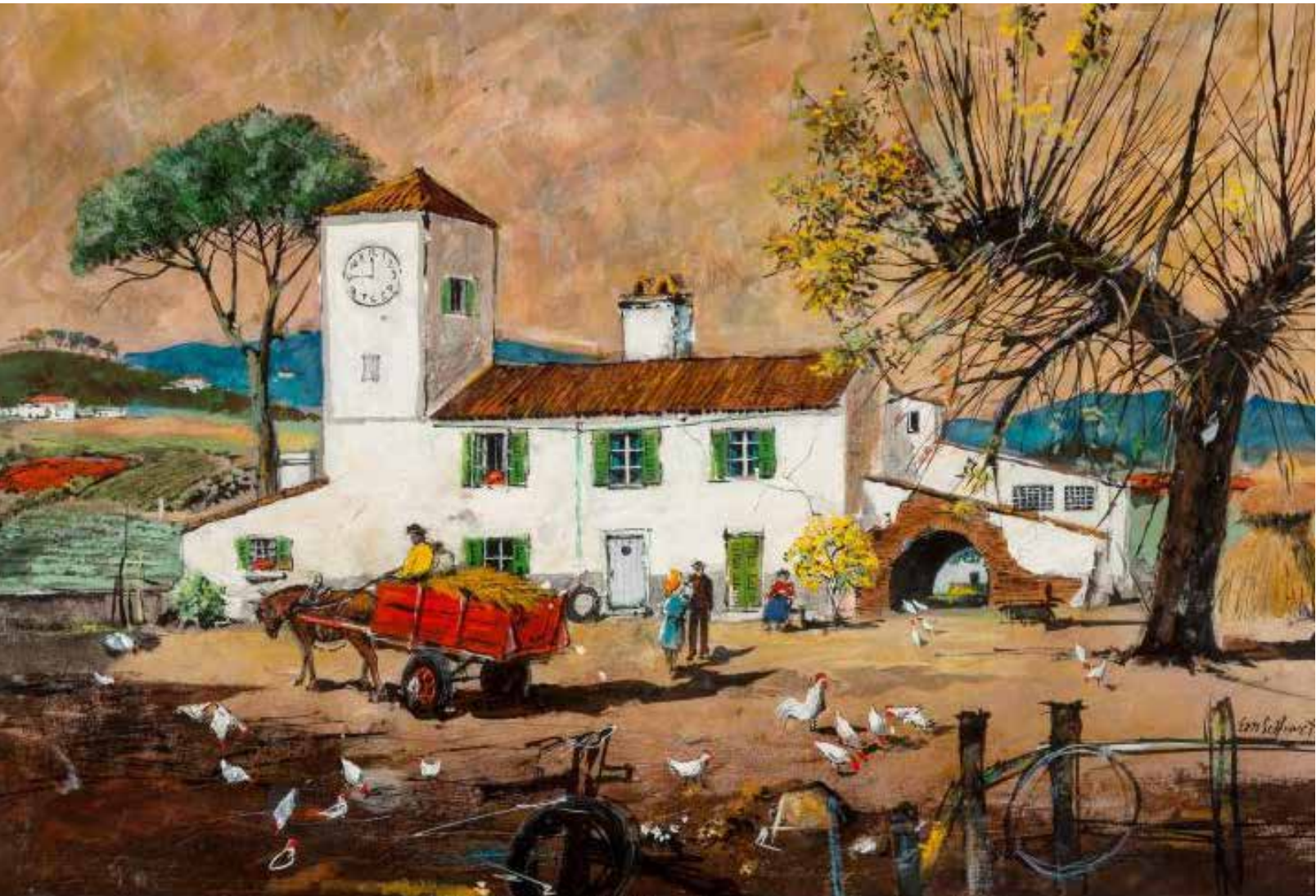
The curators at the LMFA recognize that not all great artists attend art school. As proof, they offer up works like a woodcut

from Winslow Homer, and paintings by Fort Worth artist Daniel Blagg and Dallas surrealist, Valton Tyler. All these artists were for the most part self-taught and commercially successful.

United States veterans are celebrated in this exhibition as well. The works of 10 artists who served their country in the Army, Marines, Navy, and Coast Guard during World War II, The Korean War, and Vietnam are featured.

*Cultural Connect: Made In America* is on display through December 21. LMFA is in downtown Longview, at 215 E. Tyler Street. Museum hours are Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is free. For more information on membership, exhibitions, and events, visit online at [lmfa.org](http://lmfa.org).

# Museum Presents The Artistic Legacy of Buck Schiwetz



*"Italian Farmyard and House," by Buck Schiwetz. See works by the late Buck Schiwetz at the Tyler Museum of Art through April 14.*

An exhibition titled *The Artistic Legacy of Buck Schiwetz* is on view through April 14 at the Tyler Museum of Art. Organized by Texas A&M University Press, the show explores the life and artistic career of Edward Muegge (E.M.) "Buck" Schiwetz. Born in Cuero, Texas, in 1898, Schiwetz spent his entire life creating, including stints in advertising and architecture.

During his fine arts career that spanned more than 60 years, Schiwetz's work was featured in more than 80 juried exhibitions, winning prizes in many. Today, his work can be found in numerous private and museum collections.

This exhibition is accompanied by the book *The Artistic Legacy of Buck Schi-*

*wetz* (TAMU Press, 2023), a scholarly examination of his full body of work.

From the pine forest of East Texas to the Coastal Bend, Schiwetz documented much of the state and helped to preserve what he called the "unheralded buildings of historical significance" that were slowly being eroded by time.

He called himself an architectural and historical artist saying, "Far more artists know how to paint a nude than how to catch the sunlight and shadow on an old courthouse, or the charm of a Mexican cottage, or the rugged strength and power of an offshore drilling rig."

Schiwetz's sketches of Texas courthouses and other old buildings prompted inter-

est that often saved them from demolition. He gave speeches to groups about preserving their local heritage and worked with preservation organizations to save old buildings. His contributions to Texas were honored in 1965, when he was made a member of the Knights of the Order of San Jacinto. He was also a member of the California Watercolor Society, the Texas Watercolor Society, and the Philosophical Society of Texas.

The Tyler Museum of Art is located at 1300 South Mahon Avenue on the Tyler Junior College campus. They are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday and 1-5 p.m. on Sunday. For more information call (903) 595-1001 and [TylerMuseum.org](http://TylerMuseum.org).

# Female Odd Couple Performance Scheduled Along with a Full 2024 Season for Athens Group

Henderson County Performing Arts Center (HCPAC) is excited to bring the female version of *The Odd Couple* to the HCPAC Main Stage. Written by Neil Simon, *The Odd Couple* is a play that showcases two mismatched roommates: one who is neat and uptight and one who is messy and easygoing. In 1985, Simon adapted the play to feature a pair of female roommates: Florence Ungar and Olive Madison. *The Odd Couple Female Version* is under the direction of Joclyn Ewers. Production dates are April 18-27.

HCPAC kicked off their 2024 season in February with the mystical *Into the Woods*. After *Odd Couple*, they return with *Legally Blonde Jr: The Musical* with shows July 11-20. Under the direction of Troy Martin, *Legally Blonde Jr* follows the transformation of Elle Woods as she tackles stereotypes, snobs and scandals in pursuit of her dreams. When Elle's boyfriend, Warner, dumps her for Harvard and a new girlfriend, Elle takes matter in her own hands. With the help of classmate Emmett and spunky hairdresser Paulette, Elle finds that books and looks aren't mutually exclusive.

September brings Michael Fran's *Noises Off* which takes a fond look at the follies of theatre folk, whose susceptibility to out-of-control egos, memory loss, and passionate affairs turn every performance into a high-risk adventure. This play-within-a-play captures a touring theatre troupe's production of *Nothing On* in three stages: dress rehearsal, the opening performance, and a performance towards the end of a debilitating run. Frayne depicts a window into the inner workings of theatre behind the scenes, progressing from flubbed lines



and missed cues in the dress rehearsal to mounting friction between cast members in the final performance. Brimming with slapstick comedy, *Noises Off* is a delightful backstage farce, complete with slamming doors, falling trousers, and flying sardines. *Noises Off* is under the direction of Allison Martin. Production dates are set for September 12 – 21, 2024.

Directed by Shaydi Clary, *Wait Until Dark* presentations take place October 24-27. The suspenseful play focuses on a blind woman who is terrified by a trio of thugs while they search for a heroin-stuffed doll they believe is in her apartment. Little do

the thugs know, this chic middle-aged blind woman can easily outsmart them.

HCPAC ends their 2024 season with *Elf: The Musical*. This hilarious comedy follows Buddy the Elf on his quest to find his identity. After discovering he is a human who was raised by elves, Buddy makes the journey from the North Pole to New York City to find his birth father and share the true meaning of Christmas along the way. *Elf: The Musical* is co-directed by Kara Davis and Shaydi Clary. Production dates are December 5-21.

Get more information and tickets on [hcpac.org](http://hcpac.org).

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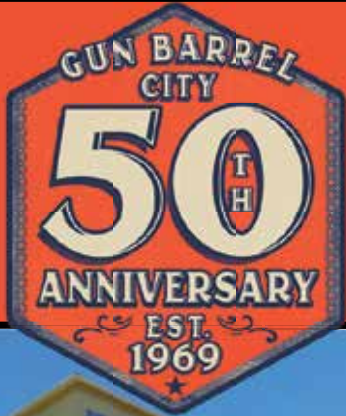
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## Live Music Shows Fill Venues This Spring

The number of options for live music in the Upper East Side of Texas throughout the year is always plenty to satisfy any music lover. But every spring there's a surge as people start getting out more after winter's chill. Every year, the number of shows increases from the last as new local talents are discovered and savvy community organizers and venues seize the opportunities to showcase local as well as traveling performers. Here are a few shows to choose from and the list on the online calendar has even more as new dates are added regularly so check it out the County Line CALENDAR.

### MUSIC LISTING

Every Friday April 5-May 31. **Down-town Live** at 5. Longview.

March 1. **Indigo Girls with Kristy Lee.** Dallas. Longhorn Ballroom.

March 1. **RaeLynn.** Longview. Belcher Center.

March 1. **Olivia Rodrigo.** American Airlines Center.

March 3. **Cary Cooper.** Edom. The Old Firehouse.

March 8-10. **Camp Street Blues Jam.** Downtown Crockett.

March 9. **Garrett Owen with Kevin Tinney.** Winnsboro Center for the Arts.

March 10. **Tribute to Townes Van Zandt.** Ben Wheeler. The Forge 279.

March 15. **The Heart Collectors.** Longview Museum of Fine Arts.

March 16. **David Starr.** Edom. The Old Firehouse.

March 16. **Old Crow Medicine Show with Vincent Neal Emerson.** Dallas. Longhorn Ballroom.

March 16. **Dagnabbit.** Kilgore. The Back Porch.



The vocal ensemble **Voctave** performs April 18 at UT Cowan Center in Tyler. Their incredible a cappella harmonies cover a wide range of music from the Disney screen to the Broadway stage. Their popular show "The Corner of Broadway & Main Street" spawned a chart-topping album and is sure to be an unforgettable evening of music for the whole family. *The Orlando Sentinel* raves "Voctave brings vocal magic." COURTESY PHOTO

March 17. **Love of Nature and Unity.** Mount Vernon Music.

March 19. **Celtic Angels Ireland.** Mount Pleasant. Whatley Center for Performing Arts.

March 21-23. **Old Time Music and Dulcimer Festival.** Palestine.

March 22. **Pure Prairie League.** Marshall. Memorial City Hall.

March 22. **Zach Williams.** Longview. Belcher Center

March 22. **Radney Foster.** Greenville Municipal Auditorium.

March 23. **Celtic Angels Ireland.** Marshall. Memorial City Hall.

March 23. **Windy City.** Greenville Municipal Auditorium

March 24-25. **Madonna.** Dallas. American Airlines Center



**Amy Grant** performs March 8 in Corsicana at The Palace Theatre and March 9 at the Temple Theater in Lufkin. Courtesy photo

# Randy Travis' More Life Tour Comes to Greenville

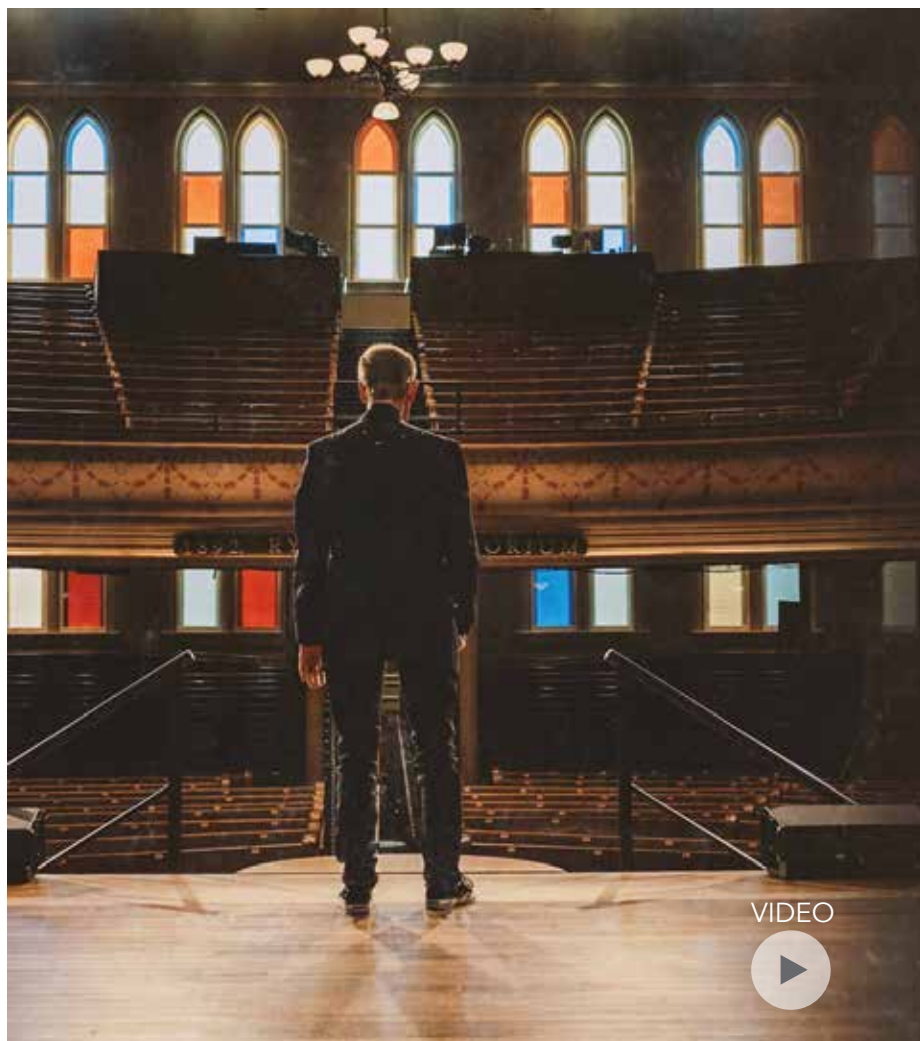
A few years ago Randy Travis released his book, *Forever and Ever, Amen: A Memoir of Music, Faith, and Braving the Storms of Life*. He takes readers through his humble background in North Carolina to his success with his first album in 1986, *Storms of Life*. The book covers years of his rags-to-riches story in country music to his downward spiral that began in 2009. His marriage to manager Lib Hatcher dissolved, he discovered his finances had unraveled, and his struggles with anger led to alcohol abuse, public embarrassment, and a police arrest in 2012.

As he was putting his life back together, Travis suffered a massive stroke in 2013. While he remains handicapped by that, he's come much further than doctors expected. The book is filled with stories of his success and road to recovery.

Before his stroke, Travis filmed a movie called *The Price* where he plays a country music legend who attempts to make amends with a son he never knew who is an aspiring musician. The son is played by James Dupre. The movie released in 2015.

In 2019, Dupre was handpicked by Randy Travis as vocalist for a tour called "More Life." Along with Randy's original band, Dupre performs all of Travis' biggest hits. The tour is coming to Greenville, Texas, May 21.

The Randy Travis long-time touring band members include Steve Hinson, David Johnson, Lance Dary, Bill Cook, Joe Van Dyke, and Herb Shucher. Tour



manager Jeff Davis joins the group for the first time since before Travis' stroke in 2013.

Dupre and the band perform all 16 of Travis' iconic number ones including "On the Other Hand," "Forever and

Ever, Amen," and "Three Wooden Crosses." Travis is scheduled to make a special appearance and VIP passes are available for a meet and greet with him.

Tickets are available on Showtime-AtTheGMA.com.

March 30. **Women of ETX.** Ben Wheeler. The Forge 279.

March 31. **Dallas Symphony Orchestra.** Greenville Municipal Auditorium.

April 4. **GRIT-Girls Raised in Texas.** Marshall Memorial City Hall

April 5. Love and Light Tour: **Colton Dixon and Jordan Feliz.** Greenville Municipal Auditorium.

April 6. **The Haggards** with **Kelly**

**Willis and Brennen Leigh.** Greenville Municipal Auditorium

April 12. **Reckless Kelly** with **Matt Hilyer.** Dallas. Longhorn Ballroom.

April 14. **Jefferson Ross.** Edom. The Old Firehouse.

April 25. **The Starlets.** Terrell. Jaime Foxx Performing Arts Center

April 27. **Longview Symphony Orchestra.** Longview Belcher Center.

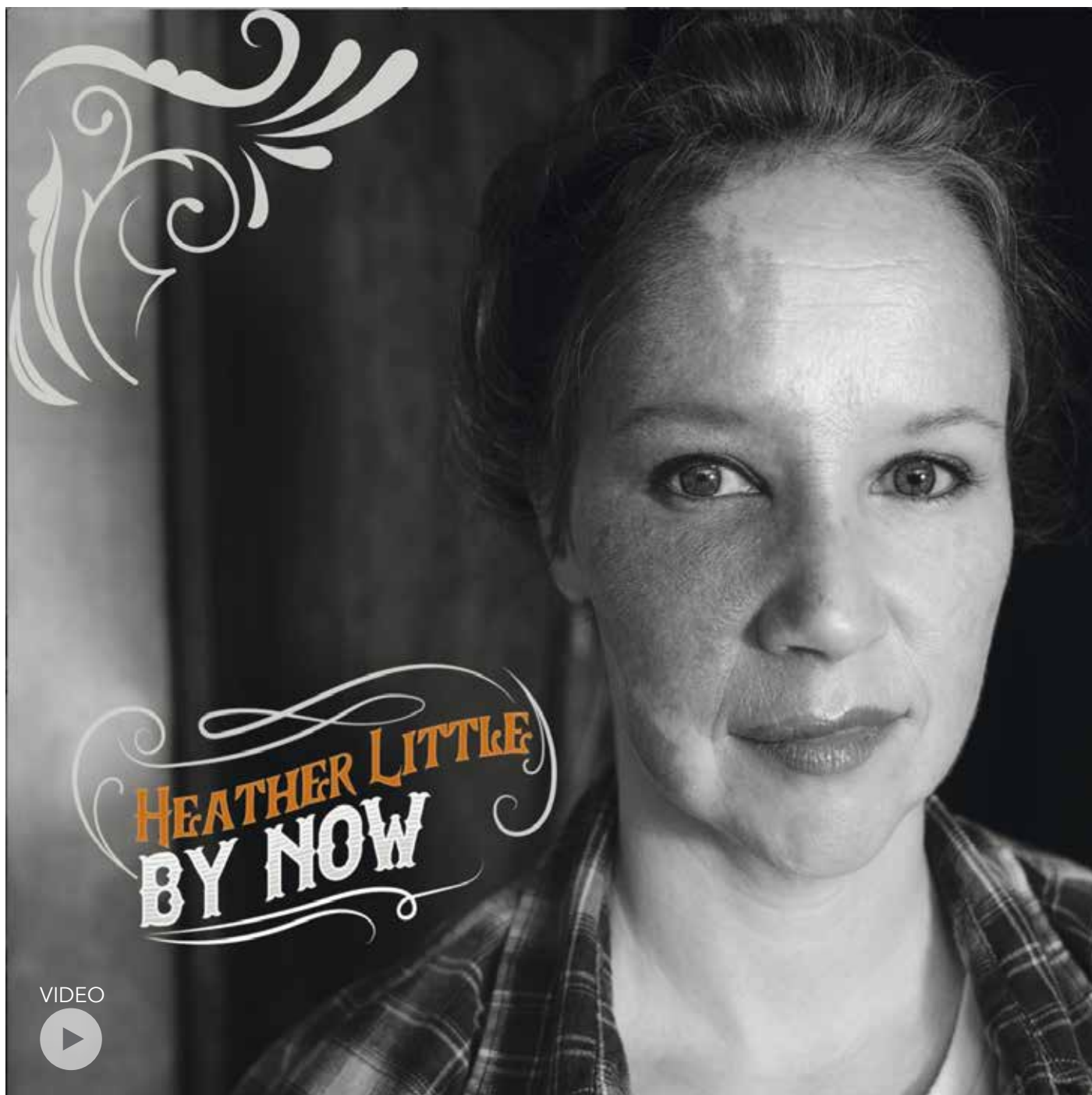
April 27. **Terri Hendrix** with **Lloyd Maines.** Winnsboro Center for the Arts.

April 27. **Vocal Majority.** Greenville Municipal Auditorium.

April 28. **Ally Venable Band.** Dallas. Granada Theater.

April 30. **Rhiannon Giddens.** Dallas. Longhorn Ballroom.

# Heather Little Releases 'By Now'



By Adam Dawson  
Broken Jukebox Media

Heather Little fans in the Upper East Side of Texas have known for a long time that she's pretty amazing. From her former home base in Lindale, Texas, she graced stages all over the region for a couple of decades. The singer-songwriter puts her heart and soul into lyrics and

melodies, often touching her relating audiences deeply.

She moved to Tennessee in 2022. Her Texas fans continue to cheer her on and are eagerly anticipating her new album, *By Now*, and shows in Dallas and Winnsboro.

Saying someone is a "songwriter's songwriter" is a cliché for most folks to de-

scribe someone that writes great songs but isn't famous. Heather Little shatters the cliché because there is a very good chance she is your favorite songwriter's favorite songwriter.

With a career that started in the early 2000's, Little has been crafting perfect songs for a long time in relative obscurity, at least as far as the general public

is concerned. But, with songs covered by some of the biggest names in country music, Little's songs have garnered her two BMI awards for songwriting and the songs she's written or co-written have been spun millions of times by fans all over the world.

Little's own recordings have been few and far between. *Wings Like These*, 2013, is her only proper full length release until now. Partnering with the folks at Need To Know Music (producers Brian Brinkerhoff and Frank Swart) has led to an album that Little herself says was "46 years in the making." Coming out on April 19, *By Now* is poised to not only bring the brilliance of Little's songwriting, but also her vulnerable, awe-inspiring vocals and delivery which has drawn comparisons to the likes of Patty Griffin and Lori McKenna.

The basic tracks for the album were laid down in the Need To Know studios in California in 2023. Once those were in the can, an all star cast of musicians including Audley Freed, Paul Griffith, John Dederick, Jared Tyler and more began recording and sending in parts to flesh out the tunes.

On top of that, the list of guest vocalists on the album include the aforementioned Patty Griffin, Leslie Satcher, Crystal Bowersox and others. While the talent surrounding Little on this album is impressive it is imperative to note that they all served the star of the show — Little's songs and voice. The landscape that was created is a perfect backdrop to what will prove to be one of the most compelling collection of songs released this year.

Throughout the album, Little is unafraid to turn her impeccable eye for detail in song onto some of the most universal and difficult issues that affect all of humanity. Whether she is speaking from personal experience or embodying the trials and tribulations of another, Little has given us a master class on understanding the human condition.

Little says of the album, its themes and the journey it took become a reality :

"This record is about how easy it is to be hard on yourself, and how hard it is to be easy and cut yourself a break sometimes. Grace is a dense pigment that takes over

what it colors, but so are resentment, contempt, anger, fear, and indifference. It took a long time for me to learn the lessons given by the people I've known along the way thus far, and even longer to see clearly the situations and circumstances I created with my own choices.

"There is a good bit of reprogramming, re-parenting, rebuilding, and re-planting yet to do, but this is a start.

"These songs would not exist were it not for the awful parts I did not expect to survive. The existence of this record is proof love will always win in the end — love of each other as humans, of healing and communication through music, and of what happens when the notes and words and sounds string us all together in the universal language of song. Music is universal. Love is universal. Music is love."

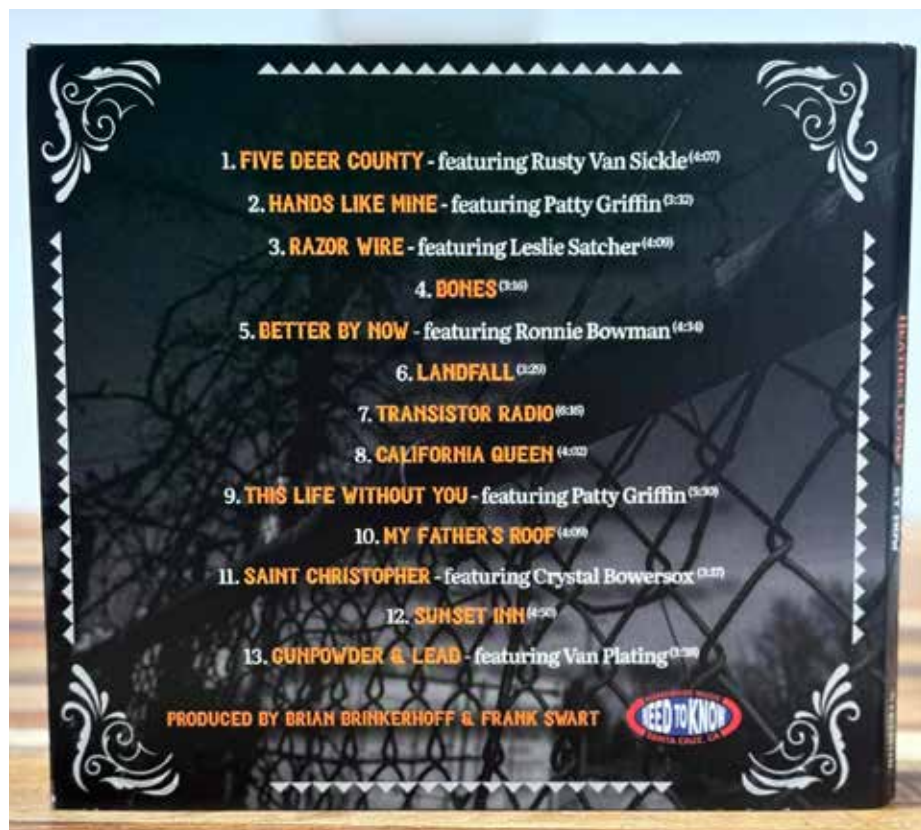
Every track presented here tells a story that the listener cannot turn away from. "Hands Like Mine" featuring Griffin is an unflinching look at the difficulties of marriage. The gut wrenching "Razor Wire" takes on the topic of abandonment in a way that has never been done. Further along the record Little takes on

abuse in two different relationships, each with its own way of coming to terms with a situation that far too many people find themselves in. "My Father's Roof" shining a light on what it's like to grow up in a house infected with evil and "Gunpowder and Lead" (made famous by co-writer Miranda Lambert) closes the album with the story of a wife taking matters into her own hands when the system fails to help her complete with a never before recorded second verse.

When taken all together *By Now* is a snapshot of a songwriter and artist at the very top of her game. These songs are born from a wisdom and compassion that can only come from experience, learning and living.

Heather Little has given the world a record that will inevitably stand the test of time to sit among some of the finest albums in recent memory.

Little is having a Record Release Show on March 30 at Winnsboro Center for the Arts. Get tickets at [WinnsboroCenterForTheArts.com](http://WinnsboroCenterForTheArts.com). She performs May 8 at Open Bell Coffee in Dallas. Learn more about her on [HeatherLittleMusic.com](http://HeatherLittleMusic.com).



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EMBRACE THE SPIRIT OF CREATIVITY

# Finding Good Movies With the Oscars

By P.A. Geddie

Finding good solid storylines in movies is often a challenge. Too often they rely too heavily on sex or violence to carry it or boring predictable, cliched formulas.

So I pay attention when it's time for the Oscars. Surely they will lead us to a goldmine of good stories.

The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences presents the 96th Oscars on Sunday, March 10 at the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles. It is set to broadcast live at 6 p.m. CST on ABC. A number of streaming services like Hulu Live and YouTubeTV have options to watch as well.

The Academy has presented awards since 1929 to recognize excellence in cinematic achievements. There are a few stories as to how the award got the name "Oscar" but the most reported one is that Margaret Herrick who served as the Academy's first librarian, and eventually its executive director, remarked sometime in the 1930s that the statuette resembled her Uncle Oscar. The Academy officially adopted the "Oscar" moniker in 1939, but the statue's full, technical name remains the "Academy Award of Merit."

The Academy has 10,000 plus members who select the nominees and winners. Members include actors, writers, directors, costume designers, makeup artists, producers, and other film industry professionals. Members are invited to join by the Academy "based on professional qualifications, with an ongoing commitment to representation, inclusion, and equity."

This year there are 10 films vying for Best Picture and a few more are noted in 22 other award categories for actors, directors, or other contributors.

As we race to see as many as we can before the award show, in today's streaming world the first challenge is to find out where we watch them. Some of the major film contenders may still be in theaters, some are available now only in paid Video On Demand, and a few of them are out on subscription streaming services.

With my subscriptions so far I've been able to watch *Killers of the Flower Moon*, *Maestro*, *Nyad*, and *Past Lives*. I'm going to have to temporarily sign up for the other streaming services, pay for Video on Demand, or just wait and hope the others

eventually show up on one of the many streaming services I already have. Does that happen?

I was thoroughly entrenched in *Killers of the Flower Moon* (Apple TV) and never got bored or wanted a break during its three hours and 26 minutes. I learned so much and, having Osage friends brought it close to home. It deeply shows how men seeking money and power will stop at nothing to get it. Horrific betrayals are weaved throughout the film. It has 10 nominations included for picture, director, actress (Lily Gladstone), supporting actor (Robert DeNiro), original song, cinematography, original score, film editing, production design, and costume design. Lily Gladstone is the first Native American woman to be nominated for a Best Actress Oscar. If she wins, she will not only be the first person of Native American heritage to win the Oscar for best actress, but she will also become the first person of Native American heritage to win any acting Oscar. She is phenomenal.

I enjoyed *Past Lives* (Showtime). Although being a little melancholy and slow moving made it hard to get into at first, that pace becomes important to best experi-







ence this story's simultaneous feelings of longing, sorrow, hope, and acceptance. It is nominated in two categories — picture and original screenplay.

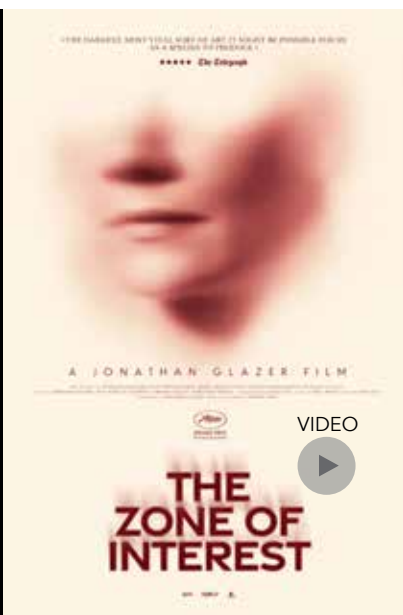
I tried three times to watch *Maestro* (Netflix). I could not get in to it and I hated that because I am a Leonard Bernstein fan. I can see why Bradley Cooper might receive a nomination for Best Actor in a Leading Role as there were elements of his performance that were good, but his phony “nose cold” speech was so off-putting to me I did not enjoy it. Obviously a lot of people did as it has seven nominations including picture, actor (Cooper), actress (Carey Mulligan), original screenplay, cinematography, sound, and makeup and hairstyling.

*Nyad* (Netflix) has nominations for actress (Annette Bening) and supporting actress

(Jodie Foster). I enjoyed the film's portrayal of the determined Diana Nyad's story and loved seeing these remarkable actresses in strong women roles.

On my “must see” list now are *American Fiction* (On Demand) with five nominations for picture, actor (Jeffrey Wright), supporting actor (Sterling K. Brown), adapted screenplay, and original score; *Anatomy of a Fall* (On Demand) with five nominations for picture, director, actress (Sandra Huller), original screenplay, and film editing; *Barbie* (MAX/On Demand) with eight nominations for picture, supporting actor (Ryan Gosling), supporting actress (America Ferrera), adapted screenplay, original song (2), production design, and costume design; *The Color Purple*, with Danielle Brooks nominated for supporting actress; *The Holdovers* (Peacock/On Demand) with five nomi-

nations for picture, actor (Paul Giamatti), supporting actress (DaVine Joy Randolph), original screenplay, and film editing; *Oppenheimer* with 13 nominations including picture, director, actor (Cillian Murphy), supporting actress (Emily Blunt), supporting actor (Robert Downey Jr.), adapted screenplay, cinematography, original score, film editing, production design, sound, costume design, and makeup and hairstyling; *Poor Things* (On Demand) with 11 nominations for picture, director, actress (Emma Stone), supporting actor (Mark Ruffalo), adapted screenplay, cinematography, film editing, original score, production design, costume design, makeup and hairstyling; and *The Zone of Interest* (On Demand) with five nominations including picture, director, international feature, adapted screenplay, and sound.



# LitCon Takes Place in Greenville

W. Walworth Harrison Public Library presents the fifth annual LitCon from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. March 16 at the Fletcher Warren Civic Center in Greenville. The family-friendly event is a celebration of the science fiction, fantasy, and superhero genres in pop culture. The library highlights its collection of graphic novels and the day is filled with vendors, panels, gaming, cosplay contests and special guests.

Guests lined up for this year include:

**Voice Actors:** Amanda Gish, Lara Woodhull, Stephanie Nadolny, Nasim Benelkour, Drew Breedlove, Derik Snow, Van Bar, Jr., Roni Laux, and Ryan Seale.

**Comic Creators:** Cary Vallery, Matt Holland, Ben Dunn, Ocean Rising Comics, Bryan Kelly, Samuel Vera, Matt Cole, Ashley Villers.

**Artists:** TZ the artist, Upcoming Artist Zaida Hite, Special FX artist Jennifer Keohane and Upcoming artist Chassidy Bridges.

**Cosplay:** Pixel Vixx, Godzilla, and Bumblebee.

**Comic Shops:** Grumpy's Comics, Gambi's Grotto, and Terps Toys and Comics.

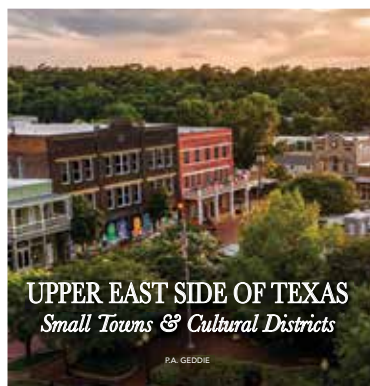
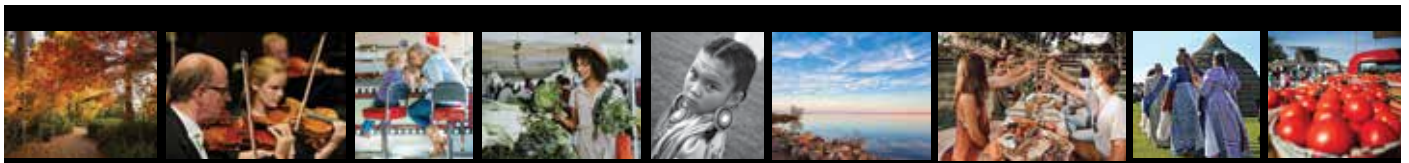


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**Authors:** Danielle N. McDonough and Erik Williams. There will also be face painting, photo ops, and free In & Out Burgers. Admission is free. Call (903) 457-2992 for more information.



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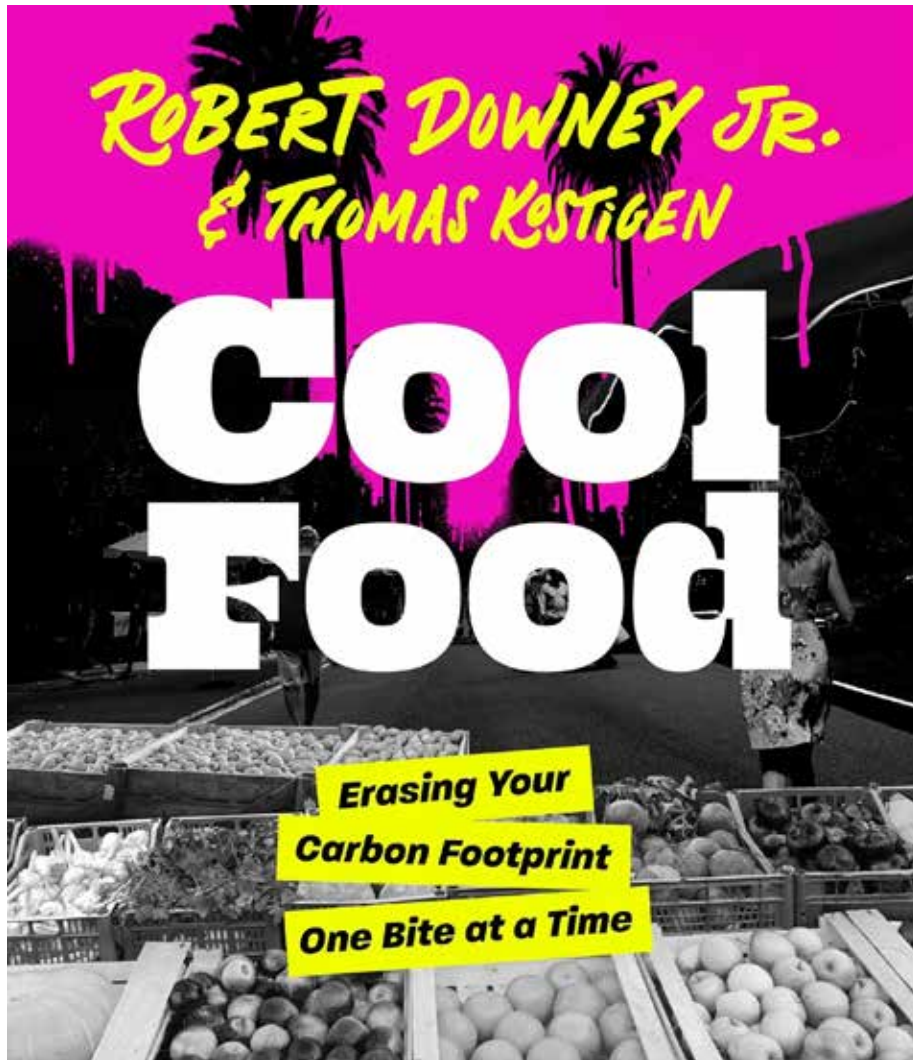
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HARDCOVER & eBook VERSIONS

# New Book Shows Helpful Ways to Eat To Make the World Better



## **Cool Food** **Erasing Your Carbon Footprint** **One Bite at a Time**

By Robert Downey Jr.  
and Thomas Kostigen

In *Cool Food*, celebrated actor and philanthropist Robert Downey Jr. and *New York Times* bestselling author Thomas Kostigen team up to discover how we can erase our carbon footprints one bite at a time.

What we eat matters to us and to the

planet. *Cool Food* is a food category and way of thinking that can help fix the climate is the main message of the book.

This engaging and persuasive book shows how to make simple choices, starting today in the supermarket, in the kitchen, and in the world to reduce environmental impact. Hundreds of cool foods exist, but until now have gone largely uncelebrated for their climate-positive powers.

The book says some of these foods may already be on your shelf, and some are

just on the horizon. But cool food is much more than just a shopping list: it's a way of life vitally important to our future.

Packed with eye-opening information, actionable items, and two dozen delicious recipes, *Cool Food* comes alive with engaging storytelling and refreshing humor. Kostigen and Downey have talked with experts around the globe — from farmers who are pioneering new pathways to more sustainable food, to cutting-edge, climate-friendly chefs. In seeking answers to what each of us can do, the duo discovered:

- the power of ancient grains;
- revolutionary farming techniques that create more sustainable foods;
- the unexpected benefits of meal kits;
- future foods that are made of thin air;
- delicious and different recipes that do the world good, and much more.

What we choose to eat, where we shop, and how we plan our meals are daily choices that can have a wide impact on the world, whether we realize it or not the authors say.

In his intro, Downey says,

*“Cool Food* is really about lifestyle — transformational shifts from little actions, experiences, and different choices. It's a holistic approach to making the world a whole lot better by simply making more informed decisions about something that each and every one of us does anyway: eat.

“The stories we tell in this book are unique. There are commentaries, anecdotes, factoids, and hard science that add up to something we think is worth your time to read from beginning to end.”

The first part of the book is devoted to specific foods that are better for the planet than others, the authors say. The second part is about our relationship with food: where and how we buy it, and what we can do not to waste it.

## READ A GOOD BOOK LATELY? WROTE A POEM?

Poetry and book review submissions welcome.  
Submit your poems or reviews for possible inclusion in a future  
County Line Magazine to [info@countylinemagazine.com](mailto:info@countylinemagazine.com).

### Three Quick and Delicious Healthy Bowl Meals

*From Let's Eat Well Chef Lauren Wacaser*

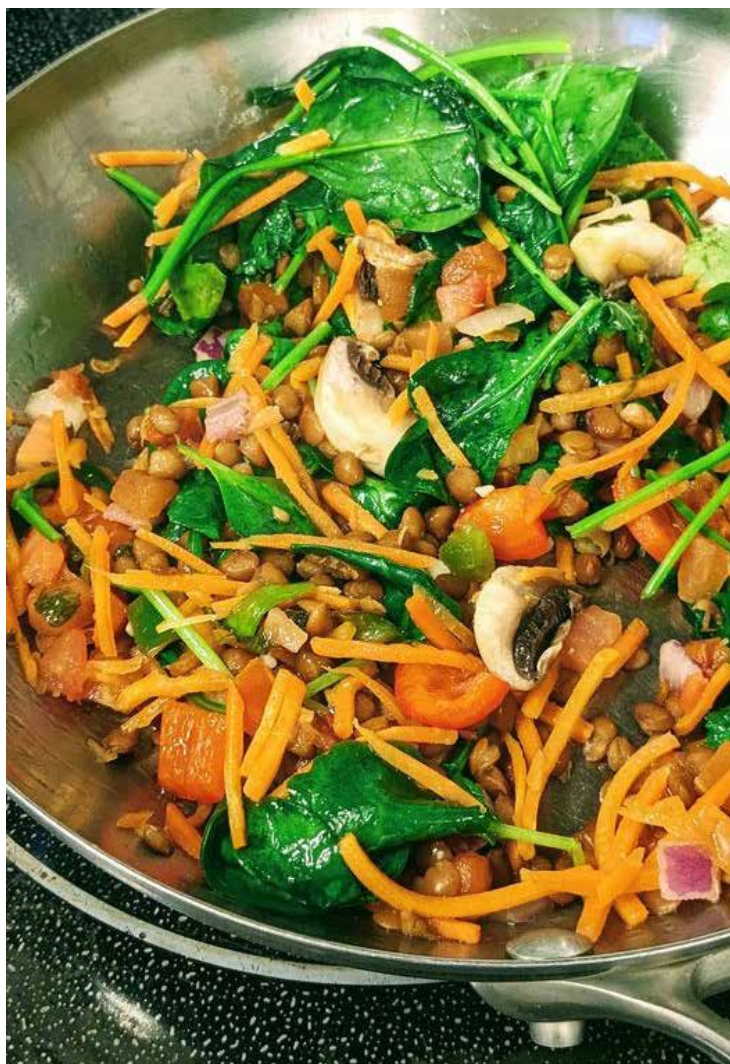
Sometimes I plan on making a salad for dinner but then the temperature drops just enough to make me want something warm. "Cooked salad" has become my new seasonal term.

Saute mixed greens like spinach and kale, shredded carrots, lentils, red bell peppers, mushrooms, and some red onion just until veggies are soft but still have a little bite. Drizzle your favorite dressing or vinaigrette over the top and serve.

People who watched *Blue Zones* heard a lot about purple sweet potatoes and they are now becoming much easier to find in grocery stores in the Upper East Side of Texas. Here (bottom right), I've paired them with regular sweet potatoes, roasted Brussels sprouts, and barbecue seitan.

The delicious green beans and chickpeas bowl (below) came together with leftovers. A budget-friendly meal, I cooked frozen green beans and tossed with a beautiful lemon vinaigrette. From the pantry, I grabbed a can of chickpeas and chopped up some leftover onions and bell peppers I had from the fridge. I remembered that I also had a "spicy butternut squash & chickpea" blend in the freezer as well. In a large skillet, I sauteed everything up until crispy and tossed with our favorite enchilada sauce. I added vegetable protein but I think turkey sausage would do really well with this dish.

*Find more recipes and videos by Lauren Wacaser on the Facebook group "Let's Eat Well."*



Just play. Have fun. Celebrate!

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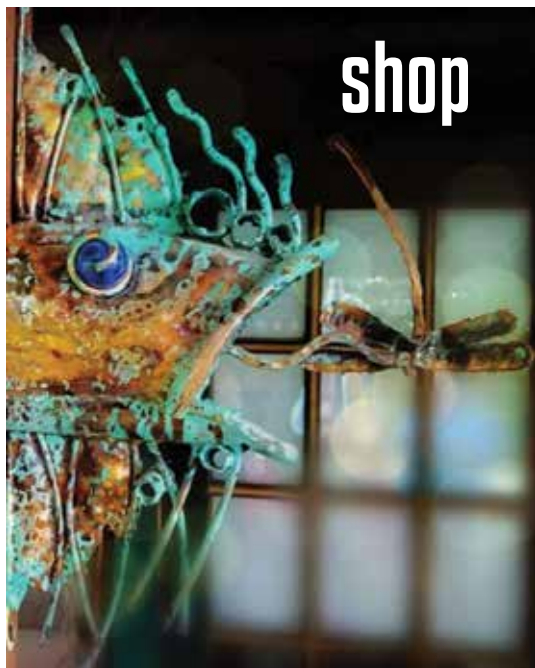


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