"I miss live music!" A chorus that AMP Board Member To me it speaks of the profound And as good as our intentions may be, a live stream or a Zoom dance party just isn’t the same. Live music is having a beer with the last band, while listening to the current band, while anticipating your moment to be on the other side. For me, it’s the pre show chaos, spaces between songs and sets. The always present “I wonder if anyone will show up.” And the answer, even if just a few, is always yes.

To me it speaks of the profound bond that Anacortes and music have. And the reason, quite frankly, I couldn’t care less if I never played for a different audience again. Growing up, the thought of a favorite “local band” didn’t exist. Local bands held just as much weight as any Top 40 band and still do today, if not more. Some of these bands still making relevant music in the purest form....for me.

What kind of art do you like to make? I like to make splots, and scribbles, and things like that. Flowers and butterflies and snowflakes. Once I made a butterfly that had all my favorite colors, blue, green, purple, red, and then magenta. And it had flowers around the butterfly and I think the background was blue.

When you make art, how does it make you feel? Making art makes me feel happy because it’s fun, to me at least. I’m especially happy when I’ve been bored for a little while and then I make art. Then I feel happy. But I’m not bored very often because I read a lot.

What are you reading right now? I’m reading The Secret Garden. I like it because there’s a secret garden and I like secret things. It’s about three kids and they find a secret garden and they plant seeds in it. And there’s Ben Weatherstaff’s robin. Ben Weatherstaff is a gardener.

What are you looking forward to in December? I like Christmas because I like how the Christmas tree looks. I like making presents for people. Oh, and I like opening presents that I get. That’s really all. ■

This Month on The NeXt Show: Karl Blau and more!

For your regular fix of local music discussion and artist interviews, tune into The NeXt Show, the live show where you hear the music and thoughts of artists from Anacortes and beyond. Streaming live on the first Thursday of every month. For December we have Karl Blau live with Shell Collection, Who is Eagle Bear, The Enthusiasts, and more! ■

December Cover Artist Marion Racicot

Our cover art this month comes from prolific multi-media artist, Marion Racicot, age seven. We spoke with Marion about the art she makes and the upcoming holiday season.

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In Memory of Della Moustachella

Photos and words by Thaddaeus Hink

Mourning the loss of a great friend, both to me, and our community.

I changed the hot tub water this morning. This normally routine chore was with a heavy heart today. Why? Just over a month ago I received news that my friend and performer Della Moustachella had been killed in an automobile accident on a snowy Montana highway.

I met Della several years ago at the Bellingham Circus Guild where she routinely performed. Along with the BCG she could be found performing at a plethora of local events in Whatcom and Skagit counties. Recently Della, and her partner Wren, were performing in Anacortes at the first AMPalunce tour last June with Tom Savage and Chris Nickerson around our little fishing village. So why the hot tub? Della and I had worked together over the last couple of years on studio projects that were either theme based or promotional for her acts. One such memorable project was recreating the Marilyn Monroe sidewalk/grave image but with a toilet instead. After our last shoot in February, we discussed what we would do next. She wanted to do something with the pig costume that she employed in some of her acts.

I asked her what about doing the Liebovitz/Whooper Goldberg bathtub image but with the pig costume and in the hot tub. Much laughter ensued and it would be our next endeavor together. Then the lock down hit and everything was postponed. In October we spoke and I told her I was getting ready to change the hot tub water so the timing would be good to do the shoot just before the water change. She let me know she and Wren were going out of town for a couple of weeks and we would convene on her return in November. With a certain sadness I drained the hot tub and cleaned the filters this morning thinking of my friend Della and the photograph we will never get to make. Della was always a point of light illuminating those around her, whether on the stage or off. She will be missed by her many friends and family along with the laughter and joy that only Della could uniquely convey. ■

Lincoln Theatre Livestream Series Continues

by Joel Askey

The Lincoln Theatre has ramped up their live music offerings significantly this month. After past successes with such acts as The Sky Cirkus, the Straightblazer, The Midnight Breakfast, and The Contagions, Mama Dirty Skirt showed its musical and video production proficiency which makes it a favorite of the bar band/festival circuit in NW Washington.

For the Month of December, Upcoming Livestreams Include:

- Charlie Hunter & Lucy Woodward Trio
- Britany Collins
- Magical Strings Celtic Yuletide

All dates TBA, check the Lincoln Theatre calendar at https://lincolntheatre.org/calendar for details.

Many of the paid events featured help to support live music and the Lincoln Theatre. Thanks to the Lincoln for continuing to be a leader in the arts and cultural life of the Skagit Valley. Please support their efforts if you can! ■
5th Annual
Rockin' Yule Bizarre!
Our local faves singing holiday tunes.

YULE 2020

December 19, 7:00 PM
Live Stream!
Tune in at anacortesmusicproject.org
Jack Mattingly
Karl Blau
John Van Deusen
Pearl Tottenham
Fanny Alger
The Enthusiasts

Ebb Slack & Flood
Allyson Foster
Marlo Cooley
Gillian Frances
& more!

Live Raffle!
Proceeds benefit Anacortes Music Project
Raffle prizes will be delivered to you curbside on the evening of December 20th, by Santa and his socially distant caroling elves, traveling in the festively decorated AMPulance!

Apple Air Pods
Donated by Schaffner Pharmacy
schaffnerpharmacy.com/

Handmade Alpaca Wool Hat
Donated by Isola
Handmade Originals
isolahandmadeoriginals.com

Two Original Oil Paintings
Donated by Anacortes artist Paula Anderson
fineartamerica.com/profiles/paula-anderson

$100 Gift Card to Tangles Hair & Co.
Donated by Jenn White
facebook.com/tanglesanacortes

Handmade Medley: Pencil Case, Cards, and Holiday Mask
Donated by Christine Olsen

Three Rare Gravel Singles
Donated by former Gravel guitarist Rich Papritz

Handmade Rainbow Wall Hanging
Donated by Clarity Miller
etsy.com/shop/FriendsOfSocktopus

Pair of Handmade Enamelled Earrings
Donated by Silver Strand Creations
facebook.com/SilverstrandCreations

Four Jars of Jam
Donated by 3 Generations Jam
facebook.com/3generationsjams

One hour Photo Session
Donated by Katharine Williams Photography
katharinewilliamsphotography.com

Check Out the Amazing Raffle Prizes!
Buy a Raffle Ticket now!
Scan this code with your phone to go to the raffle page!
Or go to this funky URL:
https://antelope-cube-ep9m.squarespace.com/

Ringing the Bell for Anacortes Music /// Brought to you by Anacortes Music Project
Verse Chorus Verse

Anyone who has ever gotten lost in the liner notes knows that reading the lyrics of a song can give you a whole new perspective on a band or musician. As we experience the music in our town, we can appreciate the wonderful poetry and writing that goes along with it. Here we highlight the words of one song. Each piece of writing featured here has a unique Anacortes connection. This month we have words and art from Allison Foster, who lives, works and creates art and music in Anacortes.

**Chime Chat with Cherry**

In the tradition of the great personal advice columnist, Crystal, we at Chime Chat with Cherry. Do you have a problem you need help with? Are you wondering who you can turn to? Cherry doesn’t just dish out advice; she peers deeply into your soul to find the answers within you. She also specializes in naming bands, boats, and babies. Write to Cherry at theshowchime@gmail.com!

Dear Cherry:

My dad’s favorite Christmas album is Kenny G’s Miracles and my brother’s favorite is Jingle Cats. Needless to say, I dread the upcoming holiday season and writing that goes along with it. How do you suggest we keep our sanity this holiday season? —The Grinch

**New Releases**

From Phil Elverum

**Microphones in 2020**

Silent Version

Phil Elverum has created a new book of 761 photos filmed Microphones in 2020. Silent Version. The book compiles images taken from the short film of the same name, which accompanied the Microphones first album in 17 years (also called Microphones in 2003).

“It’s a culmination of a lifetime still under way. I’m still taking pictures in the very low light with the same obsolete camera, finding ways. The pursuit continues, the path through distortion and grain twists forward.”

to be released on December 25, 2020

P.W. Elverum & Sun

**Anacortes Music Channel**

Do you know about the Anacortes Music Channel? One great pool of Anacortes music, just churning away—24/7! Each sound recording played at Anacortes Music Project online radio has an Anacortes tie-in, a story that, if not rooted in Anacortes, is affected by or involves a person from our town. Tune in day and night at anacortesmusicproject.org.

**Music Resources**

The Business

The Business cultures Anacortes and the world with its selection of fiercely independent new music. They play new music subscriptions, curate local shows, and offer label submissions and mail-order fulfillment for many self-releasing artists and labels. Located at 216 Commercial and thebusinesscan.com.

The UNKNOWN: Recording Studio

It’s an amazing place to record music. It sounds huge because it is huge. Our great collection of equipment and instruments plus the skills and familiarity with the space have made consistently great albums for people from all over the world who have traveled here to record. Email Nich at nicholas@fonteoufoni.com

**Honeymoon Coffee**

Missing your library? Check out Hoopla, a digital media service provided by the Anacortes Public Library with support from the Manieri Endowment. Access music, audiobooks, movies, e-books, comics, and more, all in an incredibly user-friendly interface. Sign up with your library card at hoopla.com.

KENNELY KEYS MUSIC

Kennely Keys provides instruments, supports concerts, and runs the venue space for performance, private parties, and weddings. Check their website at kennelykeys.com/locations/anacortes/ for updates on their operating schedule.

**Town Talk**

**Call for Band Bios**

AMP's radio plays 1000's of songs by Anacortes connected artists 24/7! Now we are ready to add all the details. The AMP archive of Bands, Venues, Shows, Compilations, Events, and Players is just getting started! We are compiling photos, videos, and music, and along with details of each artist/band. We need help from the community to build out this amazing resource. If you want to have your band included, just fill out our Archive Questionnaire!

**Call for Contributors**

Show Chime is looking for volunteers to help us cover the local music scene. Send your skills and passion to help promote the homegrown music you love and help us grow great local music publication. Cover one show or become a regular contributor. Have ideas about what you’d like to see covered? Write to us at theshowchime@gmail.com to start the conversation.