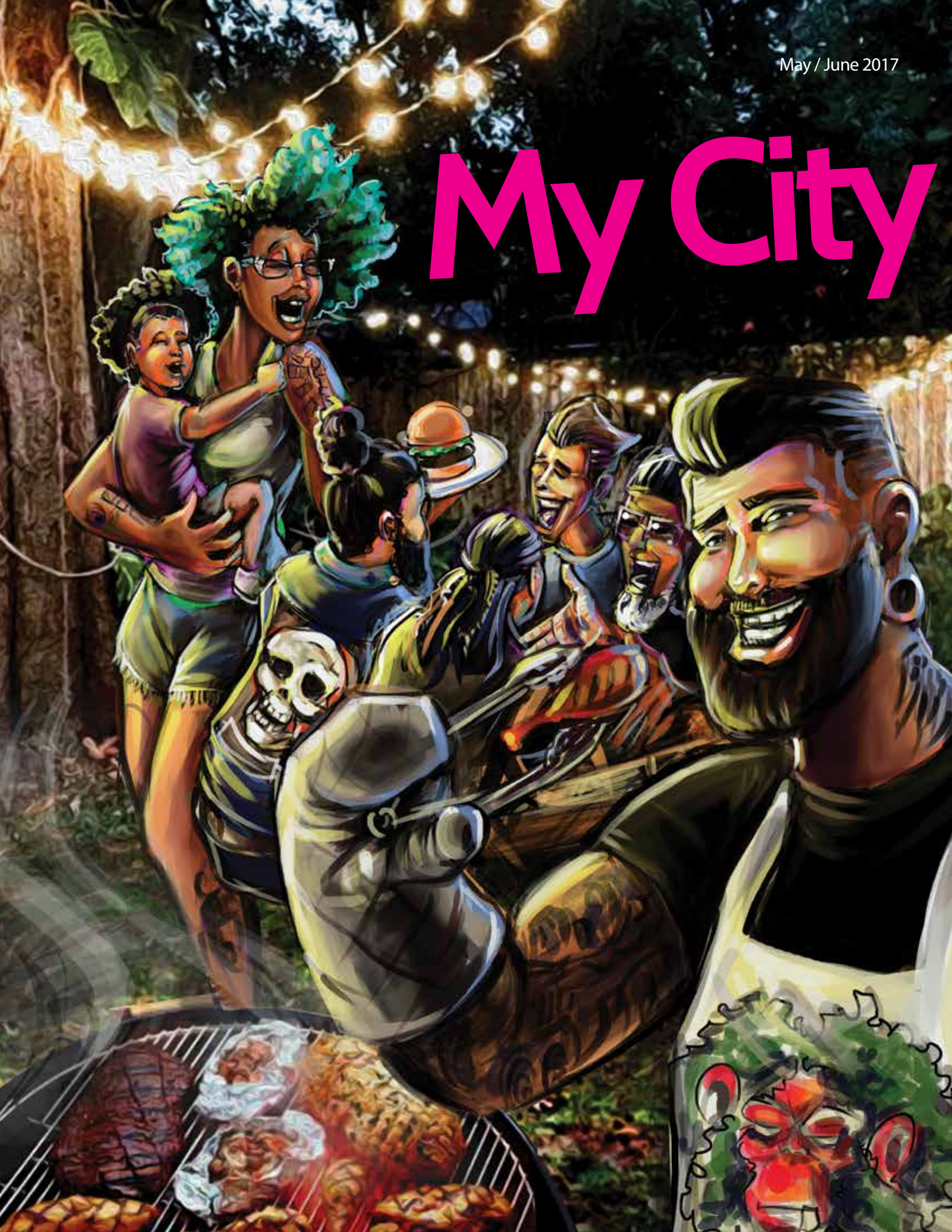


May / June 2017

# My City





# Letter From The Editor

May / June 2017

Hi Charlotte,

My City Magazine and staff hope that you are all enjoying a lovely spring and summer. In this issue, we have included some events in your city that run during the months of May and June. Tommy Heffner gives us a review of local stoner metal band Green Fiend and Becky Huskins tell us what she thinks about The Menders' new album "Nina". Amanda Dickinson schools us on why our beer tastes so good in "Brewing Ingredients" and Martin "the Clown" Barry gives us his advice column and his comic strip "Micro Monsters". We met local artists Nico Amortegui and Sarah Pollock and get to know the man behind the Double Door Inn rings, Brian Carpenter.

We hope you enjoy this issue and thank you for reading. Don't forget to check out the exhaustive event listing on [MyCityMagazine.net](http://MyCityMagazine.net) and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Enjoy today and every day,  
Ellen Gurley and the other My City Magazine personalities



Ellen Gurley

[MyCityMagazine.net](http://MyCityMagazine.net)

P.O. Box 5606

Charlotte, NC 28299

704.575.6611

Twitter: [MyCityCharlotte](https://twitter.com/MyCityCharlotte)

Instagram: [MyCityMagazineCharlotte](https://www.instagram.com/MyCityMagazineCharlotte)

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Cover illustration by: John Hairston, Jr.

Hire him for your next commission or event (he does live art).

[john.hairston@mycitymagazine.net](mailto:john.hairston@mycitymagazine.net)

# Contributors this Issue



*Designer*



*Owner / Editor*



*Cover Illustrator*



*Columnist*



*Columnist / Comics*



*Columnist*



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# The Menders' "Nina"

review by Becky Huskins



I love music. But what I love even more is music with passion. The first time I saw The Menders, I saw it. Lead singer and guitarist Jesse Watson closes his eyes and sings sweetly. Guitarist and vocalist Wes Forbus tilts his head back and cries out. Phillip Anderson bangs his drums and also belts words out to the sky. And then Jonny Boswell seems to nearly squat at his keyboard all the while growling out his part of the lyrics. It's loud, it's emotional, it's exciting and it's passionate. I thought I could only really catch that passion from a live performance until I got my early download of their new record, *Nina*.

From the hard-driving kick-off song, "Carolina Highway", I am immediately pulled in. Jesse's beautifully pure vocals create a kind of

cataclysmic moment with the guys chiming in behind him with their powerful sound. Jonny's voice has a very different style which is easily recognized on a song like "Where Are You Now" with its classic bluesy style and gut-wrenching vocals. I also really like the even more up-tempo and slightly jazzy "Delores" which also features Jonny's raspy voice. I was repeating "uh-huh, uh-huh" for days after I heard that one.

It's no wonder to me how much I dig The Menders. They cite some of my favorite bands as their biggest influences: The Beatles, The Doors, Jack White, and The Black Crowes. These guys describe their sound as "raw garage folk", and I really can't think of better words for it. Together since 2011, The Menders originate from Gastonia, and bring their certain small town grittiness and rural vibe to their music. I can't really describe it, but if you grew up in a big town/small city you'll know just the kind of aura I mean. It's the sound of driving down country roads with good-looking people in pick-up trucks. It's the sound of freedom and of home. I wouldn't really call it dirty, but it's not altogether clean either.

The band members use words like “dark” and “morbid” to describe a lot of their songs, and it’s apparent on a tune like “Room for Two” which isn’t on Nina but was featured on their recent visit to Independent Artist Spotlight on WSGE 91.7. But while a song like “End of the World” may have a dark title and dark subject matter, it’s just too rocking and sexy to make you feel bad. And speaking of sexy, “Like Me Too” is the kind of song your mother warned you about. It makes you, uh, feel things.

It’s a tough call, but I think my favorite song on the record is “Out of the Light” because it combines every element that makes The Menders a true phenomenon: the tender vocal stylings, the powerful driving sound, the garage-style guitars, and story-telling lyrics that paint a dark but beautiful picture. I can also hear some of their local influences in their style like David Childers and The Serpents, Sinners & Saints and Bless These Sounds Under the City.

With everyone kicking in on the creative process, these guys are all practically always writing and coming up with new tunes. When I saw them just before the release of Nina, they had already moved on to performing new songs created after the record was cut last fall (Old House Studio). That gives me hope that we’ll hear a lot from these guys for years to come. At least I hope we do.



Photography credit

Album Cover: Emily Quezada

Tintype: Jeff Howlett (Howlermano Photography)

[TheMendersNC.com](http://TheMendersNC.com) | [Twitter.com/TheMendersNC](https://twitter.com/TheMendersNC) | [Facebook.com/pg/TheMendersNC](https://facebook.com/pg/TheMendersNC)

## UPCOMING SHOWS

- May 19th-20th @ Union County Dragway
- May 25th @ Quest Brewing Co. (Greenville, SC)
- June 30th - July 2nd @ Heavy Rebel Weekender (Winston-Salem).

# Ask The Clown

What do I know I'm just a clown?  
Advice from Martin "The Clown" Barry



Q

Dear Clown,

Here's a poser! I just moved from my townhouse in the milquetoast area of Ballantyne to a renovated house in Plaza/Shamrock as this area is more suited to my personality/career (I'm a graphic designer/musician/actor). The issue? Meeting like-minded, mainly, single women. I'm not a "bar goer" and I work from home. The catch? I relate better to younger people but, no matter how I try, I'm still 60 (often mistaken for my 40s; fit). I have no problem with younger women but many younger women have a problem with an older guy (hey! you're my dad's age!).

Most of the women my age are, quite honestly, old! Old in style and spirit... that and/or very religious (or conservative). Doing and have done the dating sites, but it has yielded nothing. The "Meet-ups"... same thing, same people each time. I prefer something more "organic." Suggestions?

Sincerely,  
Searching

A

Dear Searching,

Venue changes are needed. It will be refreshing to step outside your comfort zone and try some new things. This will not only be helpful in seeing new faces, it will also help you see some new dimensions within yourself. Dating sites and meet-ups are quite stale, as you have noted. For a more "organic" approach, try something brand new, like stand up paddle boarding, white water rafting, volunteering for beautification projects, or anything else you have not tried before. As you

focus on the new activity, conversation with others tends to fall in naturally. I also suggest plotting out culinary tours of our fine city at least once per month. Put yourself in the more interactive areas of the places you go, even if it does mean sitting at a bar once in a while.

Happy Hunting,  
The Clown

---

Q

Dear Clown,

Following the death of a close relative, my family has been arguing over what is left behind in his estate. The will gives us the disposition of nearly everything he left, but some relatives are fighting this and insisting that they have claim to specific assets and valuables. They have retained lawyers to pursue these claims in some instances. The thing that they do not know is that I was named executor of this will and I was given a letter that was to be opened upon the death of my uncle. I have all I need to shut down the claims, but I feel like I should re-arrange a few things to allow everyone in the family to feel included and to be rid of this animosity. What do you suggest?

Sincerely,  
Willing

A

Dear Willing,

I would recommend that you shut down all of the outside litigation with the will and the letter first. The next thing would be to have a family meeting and discuss your ideas on items that you would like to divide or re-distribute. Preface the conversation with a statement that any argument stemming from this conversation will result in the will standing as is.

Good luck!  
The Clown

---

Q

Dear Clown,

My workplace has suddenly become very uncomfortable. An unidentified co-worker has begun lodging complaints against me for the smallest things. My manager has approached me with these items and discussed them at a level of seriousness that made me wonder if I should be in fear for my job. I have never had any performance issues and I do not want these petty complaints to push me out of a job I have held for the past seven years. Help?

Sincerely,  
Puzzled

A

Dear Puzzled,

This is certainly NOT a fun situation. Should you choose to stay, make changes to comply with whatever items were discussed and continue to do your job admirably. If that path seems too burdensome, begin the job search immediately so that you will not suffer from a gap in employment. Remember, even if you find out who lodged these complaints, vengeance is never a good thing.

Labor On,  
The Clown

---

Do you have a question for The Clown? Write him at [Martin@MyCityMagazine.net](mailto:Martin@MyCityMagazine.net)



# Events In Your City

by Ellen Gurley



My City Magazine has the most exhaustive event listing in town. We kid you not and we know that we do as we've seen all of the rest. Why go to all the websites when you can go to just one and see the only go-to event listing in town? Subscribe to the weekly event newsletter while you are there. You can do this at the bottom of any page. We spend a lot of time on our list and want you to be able to enjoy it. We no longer have room to list all four pages of events that we normally run in our print edition but we urge you to go to [www.MyCityMagazine.net](http://www.MyCityMagazine.net) and subscribe today.

Here are just a few events in the Charlotte area for the months of May and June 2017.

Mon., May 1st @ the Evening Muse  
8pm "Find Your Muse" open mic band night  
w.guest headliners  
w.Shaun Martin (Snarky Puppy)

Tues., May 9th @ the Neighborhood Theatre  
SuicideGirls BlackHeart Burlesque

Thurs., May 11th @ the Neighborhood Theatre  
Robert Randolph & the Family Band

Sun., May 14th @ the Bojangles Coliseum  
Johnny Gill, Charlie Wilson

Wed., May 17th @ Spectrum Center  
the Weeknd

Sat., May 20th @ Misty Meadows Farm  
10:30am-6:30pm [www.DrumStrong.org](http://www.DrumStrong.org) 2017

Sun., May 21st @ the Spectrum Center  
Lionel Richie, Mariah Carey

Thurs., May 25th @ Snug Harbor  
10pm DJ Scott Weaver Presents: "Shiprocked" - the Grand Finale

Fri., June 9th @ PNC Music Pavilion  
Iron Maiden

Sat., June 10th @ Ovens Auditorium  
7pm Jermaine Dupri, Bow Wow, Dabrat, the Rap Game

Sun., June 24th @ the Milestone  
New Wave Undertow w.DJ Price

Sat., June 24th @ PNC Music Pavilion  
Chicago, the Doobie Brothers

Fri., June 30th @ the Neighborhood Theatre  
the Loudermilks, 6 String Drag, Amigo

Mondays @ the Visulite Theatre  
Monday Night Allstars

Tuesdays @ Hattie's Tap & Tavern  
1st Tuesdays 7-10pm Beard & Mustache Club of NC monthly meeting [www.BMCofNC.com](http://www.BMCofNC.com) (+ tacos & bingo)

Thursdays @ Rhino Market  
DJ Jah-Sun Rising (Jason Herring) + 1st Thursdays of the month wine tasting

Fridays @ the Last Word  
FNM Magic the Gathering

Saturdays [CharlotteRollerGirls.com](http://CharlotteRollerGirls.com) @ Home  
- 5.20 All-Stars vs. River City All-Stars of Richmond, VA / B-Dazzlers vs. Smoky Mountain  
- 6.03 Double-header vs. Rogue Rollergirls of Fayetteville

# Green Fiend

## High from Charlotte North Carolina

Review by Tommy Heffner  
Photography by Ellen Gurley



Drugs. The word invokes one of a few initial reactions. A scourge upon what would be a normally functioning society? A necessary remedy for symptoms of an illness otherwise plaguing one's existence? Or, perhaps, time to party? It could be one of the above, or it could be all three. Regardless, Drugs are here to stay. Love them or hate them, partake or abstain, they aren't going anywhere. Neither is Charlotte North Carolina based Stoner/Hardcore/Punk/Metal Band, Green Fiend. And much like Drugs, Green Fiend offers the user a multifaceted array of potential applications. You should strongly consider trying them.

Green Fiend, at the time this article is being written, is currently engaged in their residency performances at Snug Harbor. As a bartender at Snug Harbor, I've had the opportunity to inhale Green Fiend every Wednesday Night for

the entire month of April. It's been a more than enjoyable high, let me tell you. The energy this band emits from the stage will take the listener through a gamut of hardcore speed, to the downs of a dope low, and right back up into the brutality of an alcohol fueled rage. Founding member, Joshua Taddeo, has a reputation of crowd pleasing musical projects in his stash and Green Fiend might be highest quality substance he has peddled yet. So, why all the drug references? Well, let me pass this on for you to puff on yourself. When I asked Taddeo what makes Green Fiend the band that it is, his response was, "Drugs". Funny and not at all surprising. Obviously meant to be taken tongue and cheek, But make no mistake, this band is not some kind of gimmick band that is trying to elevate their notoriety via some controversial taboo.

They are the real deal. Musically, that is. A truly organic growing process wherein various musical influences from each member's past, solid musicianship, and very cohesive song writing has truly made for an awesome strain of music that results in songs that really offer a little bit of everything to any aficionado of heavier styles of music. True, they party, a lot. But, it's a lifestyle that existed before the band, during the band, and will so long after, I'm sure. Even if drugs and partying aren't your thing Green Fiend still offers the sincerity and spirit in their music that any fan of aggressive music will appreciate regardless of lifestyle. Drummer, Taylor Arthur, notes the frequency of straight edge fans at their shows despite the band's obvious references to drugs. Possibly a result of the band's clear diversity concerning what makes Green Fiend sound they way they do. But, we will get to that shortly. These guys are all good friends outside of the band as well, and after sitting down and talking to the entire band, it became clear that what these guys are dealing here is as genuine and passionate as any band I've encountered in the Queen City.

Green Fiend was born from a conversation, whilst getting high of course, between Taddeo (Scowl Brow/Vulture) and co-founding member, Taylor Arthur (Stone City/Viajando). Nothing profound, nothing epic. Just two friends talking about how they really should make some music together. Some of the best things are procured in such a way. Initially beginning as a three piece, with Taddeo on guitar/vocals, Arthur on Drums, and long time bandmate of Arthur's, Justin Bickley (Stone City, Viajando) on bass, the trio knew right off the bat (or maybe it was a bowl?) that they were onto something good.

Their initial songwriting attempts were already yielding music that all three found enjoyable. A second guitarist, Kennan Kerr (My Hero is Me), enters the picture shortly thereafter following a casual conversation with Taddeo/Arthur. Not long after, guitarist John Stone (Columns/Vulture) was brought in, at first to fill in, as Taddeo was suffering from a broken hand (from a fight, perhaps? Oh that, Taddeo!) but wound up becoming such a compliment to the band's performances and song writing process, that he became a permanent member, leaving Taddeo to focus on vocals. And the Green Fiend joint as it is now, was rolled, and ready to burn!

So, enough with the punny drug references? Fine, we'll do it your way. What makes this band, musically appealing to me is that what is often contrived and boasted with other bands is truly apparent in this one. And that is the culmination of members, that while they all have musical influences and back grounds in similar bags, they bring a substantial degree of different musical inputs to the party. It comes through in the music. Green Fiend might get labeled as a Stoner Rock band, or a Hardcore Band, or a Metal Band, etc... but one can clearly hear examples of all of those styles in the music.

The band's earliest recording, a split EP with Toke (Wilmington NC), displays a little more Stoner Rock than perhaps the other elements, with an original track called "Purge" (one of my personal favorites by Green Fiend), and a cover of an Eric Clapton song, "Cocaine" (shocker!). The evolution of the band's music and the influence of each member's collective input becomes much more apparent on the band's first solo EP, "Higher Than Heaven, Heavy As Hell". Right out of the gate you might ask yourself, "This is a Stoner Rock band?!".

Because track one, "Dying Sun", blisters the listeners ears with hardcore/punk tempos and riffs that wouldn't at all seem identifiable as "Stoner Rock", but be patient. That buzz is coming about two minutes and forty seconds into the song and it flows from speed freakdom into stoned-off-your-ass as smoothly as your favorite soda flows down a cottonmouth, parched throat. Track two, same story, "Erectnophobia", bashes you around the pit with all the abrasiveness of hardcore/metal core, but slams you right into the chunkiness of great sludgy southern metal. Tracks three and four are my standouts on this EP. "Three Minute Exhale", is a beautifully written southern sludge tune that grooves and pounds with the best of them and caps off with a Sabbath-esque riff that invokes your head to start nodding, willing or not. Track four, "Captives", is another great example of the bands diversity. The song maintains a Metal/Metalcore feel but cascades in and out of a punk/hardcore vibe and does so so fluently that none of those styles dominates the song. It just becomes it's own beast! The EP finishes off with the title track, "Higher Than Heaven, Heavy As Hell". An apt title for a song that pushes the listener through all the highs and lows, all the speed and heaviness, all the aggression and groove, that makes this band precisely what they are. High and Heavy!

If you love heavy music, regardless of the sub-genre, Green Friend more than likely has something you can sink your teeth into or fill your lungs with. Their recordings, thus far, should leave you looking no further. Their live performance offers every bit of what you hear on record; all the energy and all the party that they are in the studio. This isn't some kind of local Charlotte side project, either. All the party jokes aside, this band is very serious about what they are doing and where they are going. With a full length record to come later this year and the search for the right record label deal already underway, Green Fiend isn't going anywhere anytime soon. You might like it. You might love it. You might hate it. It might kill you. You should try it either way. Just like drugs.

[GreenFiend666.Bandcamp.com](http://GreenFiend666.Bandcamp.com) | [Facebook.com/GreenFiend666](https://Facebook.com/GreenFiend666)

- Catch Green Fiend at the Visulite Theatre on Friday, May the 26th.
- Check out their EP on Spotify and Apple Music.

\*My City Magazine does not endorse the use of illegal substances and the author of this article, Tommy Heffner, is, ironically enough, a sober person.



# Nico Amortegui

by Ellen Gurley

Some people paint because they like to make happy, little trees. For Nico Amortegui, life, as he has seen it, hasn't been pretty flowers, so he paints what he knows. Most of his characters have suffered through travesties, many are people he has met, and none of them are forgotten. Borrowing mostly from African



art, Nico's messages of social injustice and use of some of life's darker themes in his art isn't a burden, it's a necessity. If he doesn't let these people speak through his work, then he will explode, so to speak. That energy absorbed has to be released. "With destruction, I create", Nico says and he goes on to explain that all of the recent occurrences in the political and religious climate internationally and nationally are not only necessary, but they are a promise for change. Once it all comes to a head, then a lot of positive results will come about. "These things have to happen in order for us to move forward", he tells me. "Things have to get bad before they get better".

I was lucky enough to visit Nico in his habitat; a home in the heart of Shamrock Gardens that houses not only his studio but his beloved family. As far as life plans go, Nico won the lottery. He wanted to have a Spanish-speaking household and that he does. Marrying a beautiful woman who majored in Latin American studies, he has the life he always expected, complete with two inquisitive daughters. "We spend the lot of our time and money on travel.", he says, telling me that he and his wife have the same vision; to experience as many different cultures as physically possible.

Just returning from Israel, Peru, Mexico, and Cuba, I chat with Nico about the "what's next" over a beer, while he occasionally says something in Spanish to his oldest child, who keeps peeking in to see what we are doing. I met Nico many years ago when he and his sister ran their own magazine (a Blü in the beginning of the 2000's). Now an avid painter, Nico still uses the skills he obtained in fashion, construction, and in (once considered) war-torn Colombia as a child. Like a Native American born in the depression, he uses the whole buffalo, so to speak, in the manufacturing of his sculptures, the remodeling of his home, and the construction of many of his canvases. He wastes nothing. We laughed about the similarities of Greek and Spanish households and he is a very humble person. He has met a lot of people and influenced a lot of them and while a lot of his subjects may be in the middle of hell, as it were, sometimes he has caught them in a rare moment of joy. He tells me "even when people are struggling, they can find beauty or happiness in something as simple as a cup of coffee".

Though he has laid down some roots in Charlotte, he and his family are not here to stay permanently or at least not year 'round. In order to allow him to grow as an artist, we have to allow him to go. With a lot of his art adorning the walls and yards of some of the most prestigious homes in some of Charlotte's finest neighbourhoods, Nico will always have a special place in his heart for our city.

[NicoArte.com](http://NicoArte.com) | [NicoArte.Tumblr.com](http://NicoArte.Tumblr.com) | Instagram: [Nico\\_Mal01](https://www.instagram.com/Nico_Mal01)

• THRU July 5th @ Tate Hall (CPCC): We See Heaven Upside Down: Sensoria 2017 feat. Nico Amortegui, Raed Al-Rawi, Case Baumgarten, Hanna Tadrous Girgis, Phillip Lattimore, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Susanne Roewer, Tina Roozbehi, Dellair Youssef, CPCC students.











# Brewing Ingredients:

## What makes your beer so delicious?

by Amanda Dickinson



We all have our favorite beer styles, but have you ever thought about why it tastes the way it does? All beers contain the same four basic ingredients but different types of these will alter how a beer looks, tastes, and smells. Styles can range from malty, bitter, tart, along with a multitude of different flavors. The German purity laws, called the Reinheitsgebot, date back to the 1500, state that beer can only contain barley, water and hops. It was later amended to allow yeast, after it's discovery. Other brewing regions in Europe had rules that varied, but they all utilized the same basic ingredients. Craft brewers in the United States based their beers on these old world styles, but in traditional American style we amplified everything about them. Craft beer in America can be whatever it wants. We add fruit, herbs, chocolate, yeast strains cultivated from the brewer's beard, and pretty much any weird thing we can think of. Let's take a look at all the basic beer ingredients and how they affect the flavor of our beer.

### WATER

Beer is mostly water so its contents can greatly alter the flavor of the brew. Different brewing region's water contains various types of mineral content affecting the taste of the beer. Modern brewers learned to treat water to remove chlorine to prevent off flavors in the final product. Munich and Dublin have water with high limestone content. Darker malts are used in these areas to balance out the chalky flavor of their beers. This is why you see a lot of dark and malt forward beers coming from these regions. Soft water, which is found around the Czech city of Plzen, is perfect for their production of great pilsners. This style of beer was originated there and now brewers treat their water to recreate this classic style. Burton-on-Trent in England has water with very high gypsum content. It is utilized to create dry, hoppy ales for which this region is known. Many home brewers use a technique called "burtonizing" to make Pale Ales and IPAs. Burton salts can be purchased and home brew supply shops to add gypsum to local water sources.

## BARLEY

Barley grows in two varieties. 6-row barley is native to North America and 2-row is grown throughout the rest of the world. 2-row is the preferred variety because it contains more carbohydrates which provide a richer, maltier flavor. Prior to brewing, barley is treated in different ways to become malt. Green malt can be kilned, stewed, or roasted to achieve various colors and flavors depending on the style of beer it will be used for. The two types of malt are Base malts and Specialty malts. Base malts, such as Pilsner malt and Maris Otter are paler and used to make lighter colored beer styles. Darker Specialty malts like Victory can range in color and add more flavors depending how long they have been kilned. Stewed malts are created by kilning in a very moist environment. They can vary in color and flavor, as well. Lighter versions impart a sweet caramel flavor, while darker versions give a fruit flavors such as plum, fig, and raisin. Roasted malts, such as Chocolate and Black Patent are created in a drum roaster. They are heated to impart dark color and roasty flavors. Roasted malts provide chocolate and coffee taste and are essential for making porters and stouts.

## YEAST

Ale and Lager yeast are the two most strains used for brewing. Ale yeast ferments at higher temperatures and Lager at lower. Ale yeasts produce fruity esters such as banana, orange and plum. Some strains also produce spicy phenols like nutmeg, clove or white pepper. Weizen yeast, used to make wheat beers are especially known for their bubble gum, clove and banana characteristics. Lager yeast works slowly and creates less esters and phenols than ale yeast. Brettanomyces is wild yeast used to ferment tart beers but also provides flavors that are described as "barnyard. It is used when brewing styles such as lambic, old ales, American sours, and Gueuze.

## HOPS

Hops are the most important ingredient for all of you IPA lovers out there. Hop cones contain essential oils that make a beer taste bitter. Hops are added at different stages of the brewing process depending on the end result the brewer is trying to achieve. Some hops are added for aroma, others for flavor. Germany grows the largest amount of hops in the world. They are perfumey, peppery, floral and minty. They are low in bitterness and high in aroma. In the United States, most of our hops are grown in the Yakima Valley in Washington. We also grow them prolifically in Idaho and Oregon. American hops have flavors that range from piney, resinous, catty, or tropical fruit. Hops are also grown in Czech Republic, Belgium, Slovenia, Britain, Poland, Japan, France, China, New Zealand, and Australia.

If you would like to explore more locally, stop in at Carolina Malt House in Cleveland, NC. They supply North Carolina brewers with locally made malt. Our state also has a few hop farms that are worth a day trip for. Fool's Errand Farm is owned by Charlotte residents and they are located in Laurel Springs, NC.

Follow Amanda Dickinson at [ABabelnBeerLand.com](http://ABabelnBeerLand.com) and go say hello to her at Lupie's Cafe on Monroe Road.



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# Brian Carpenter: Double Door Rings

words by Ellen Gurley  
Double Door & Ring Photography by Justin Driscoll



Once locally famous front man of a popular band, Five Times Down, Brian Carpenter is now making a name for himself in another way. Carpenter has been in the trade of his surname for over twenty years now and has done very well for himself with residential and commercial renovations, custom decks and pergolas, and other one-of-a-kind home furnishings.

While his nine to five is the bread and butter, he still finds time to create more artistic pieces and, as one of the most resourceful people I know, Carpenter recently acquired parts of the now closed Double Door Inn. He has crafted rings from the wood and they are not only gorgeous and stylish, but they are a way that so many Charlotteans have been able to physically hold onto their beloved venue. He has literally preserved history forever.

The call to action is, of course, for you to obtain one of these rings. They are less than a hundred dollars a pop and each come in their own collectible box with a photo of the fallen venue by Justin Driscoll upon it. However, he will only have these particular

rings while supplies last. He will always make exotic wooden rings (from petrified trees, mahogany, cedar, rosewood, curly maple, and purpleheart, walnut, canary wood) and still has a great stash of Double Door wood. That being said, we all look forward to what he comes up with next. Always with new ideas, these Double Door rings are just going to be a drop in the bucket that is Carpenter's bottomless creative pool. My City Magazine promises to keep up with him and there are rumours of a microphone in his hands again in the near future.

- To obtain a DOUBLE DOOR INN RING or obtain a consultation regarding an upcoming commission, contact Brian Carpenter today at 704-345-7506 or [foundfab@gmail.com](mailto:foundfab@gmail.com).



# Micro Monsters

by Martin Barry





# Sarah Pollock

words by Ellen Gurley  
headshot by Joey Emanuel

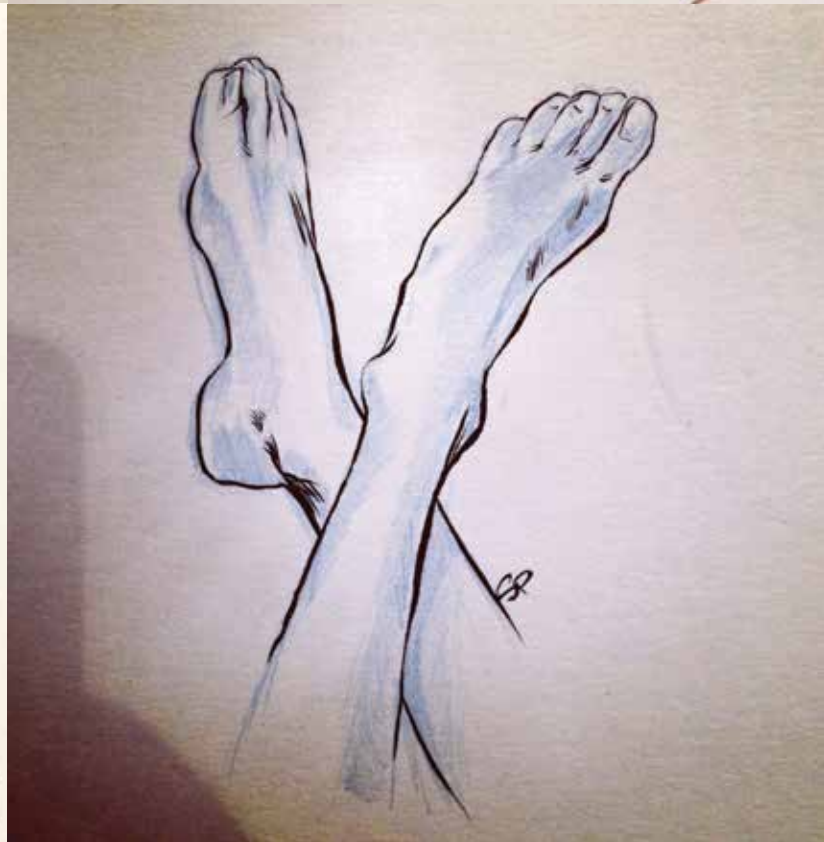
Sarah Pollock is one of many local artists that don't get a lot of press. This is not the case without a really good reason. Pollock is humble and self-promotion is not her most beloved task on the planet. She is much better at telling you what her friends are doing or about an event she is promoting. You probably don't even know that she runs the ONLY free figure drawing class in town. Well, now you do. Generally speaking, you have to be a student on a campus or shell out upwards of thirty bucks to participate in one of these classes, but Pollock has it available to you for free with sponsorship support from Cheap Joe's Art Stuff.



The Goodyear Arts building is in perpetual state of getting ready to be torn down yet currently still has rotating art exhibits that are very interesting. This is the home for the free figure drawing class at present, but it is subject to change at any point. Formerly at Twenty-Two, the class has been running for about six years, is BYOB, and is now Pollock's baby and labour of love. Whether you are an artist who wants to expand your own comfort zone or you are an individual who is just looking for a new hobby, this event is the place for you. It is every Monday night from 7 to 9pm right in the heart of uptown Charlotte at 516 North College Street. Bring your own art supplies and come enjoy without any sign-ups needed.

Sarah Pollock is available for pet, home, and family illustrations, caricatures, pieces for any group art gallery shows, murals, graphic design projects, and any lettering needs you have (her personal favourite). Her strength is her line quality and variation. This is what sets her illustration style apart from others.

Also feel free to contact her regarding any questions you may have regarding the figure drawing or the new home of the Goodyear Arts. Contact her at [sarahpollockart@gmail.com](mailto:sarahpollockart@gmail.com) or join the Facebook group for updates at [facebook.com/groups/222853141507672?tsid=0.06550182099454105](https://facebook.com/groups/222853141507672?tsid=0.06550182099454105) or just search for Go Figure Drawing Sessions on Facebook.











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