

Contra Dancing - IN JP -

Most of us know the basics of square dancing; of how to swing your partner and round them dosey-doe. Contra dance is very much like square dancing, but there is a church hall in Boston where it is a little more radical. Looking at the dancers’ feet you can see how different they are. On Saturday night at the First Church in Jamaica Plain there are high heels, a pair of rainbow stockings, some bare feet. Each song lasts about 10 minutes and that whole time you won’t hear anyone utter the words ‘ladies’ or ‘gents.’

It started as a place for same-sex couples to contra dance– although straight folks have always been welcome as long as they come with an open mind. The official name is “gender free contra dancing” but that really just means that people here are free to pick who they want to dance with. You are also allowed to pick whether you are the leader (traditionally the man’s role) or the follower.

Chris Ricciotti, the founder and one of the organizers of these dances, had the first gender-free contra dance here in the late-80s. This type of community is far from anything Ricciotti could have imagined at 11– when he first realized that he wasn’t quite like the other boys. “I couldn’t deny the fact that I had feelings of being a gay man at a very young age and had absolutely no clue what to do with it,” said Ricciotti. Those early years were stormy. He struggled with intense bouts of depression. But then he found music. “As soon as they put on the square dance music in gym class in first grade, I owned it,” he said. “I thought, ‘Oh, I don’t know what this is but I love it.’” Fast-forward many years later. Chris is out of the closet but still trying to find his niche when a friend told him

about going to a gay rodeo in Denver, followed by square dancing. “As soon as he said that my eyes popped open and I said, ‘You mean a gay square dance?’ It was like these two completely separate areas of my world in that moment just came crashing together and I just knew what I had to do,” said Ricciotti. In traditional contra dancing, gender is a handy way to tell the dancers how to match up. Without boy/girl pairs would the dance fall apart? After some research, Chris went home and tore up a bed sheet. He made armbands out of the fabric. And it works–the only difference is between the ‘bands’ and the ‘bares.’

Letting people pick their partners and choose how they want to express themselves in dance is definitely a political statement, but for some like Chris it is also important that these events are playful. Sometimes he just wears a skirt on the dance floor– not because it says anything about his identity, but because it is fun to twirl in. It is this ability to make connections between so many different people in one place that sets this dance apart. This dance is not about the gay community or the straight community. It’s about community.

Kerstin Egenhofer, WTBU



OPINION: all Our Rights

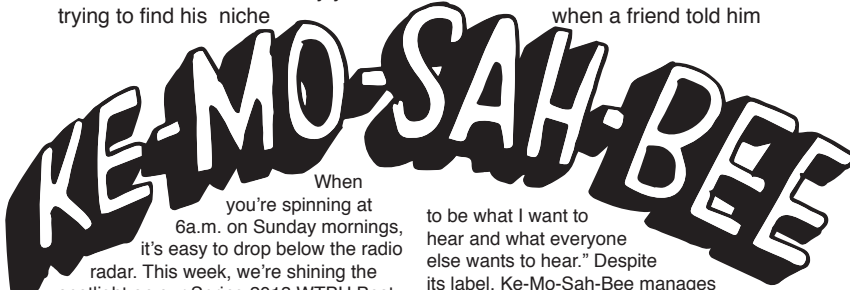
WHY I WANTED TO HIT PEOPLE OVER THE HEAD WITH THE AMERICAN FLAGS THEY WERE WAVING LAST FRIDAY

Let’s get one thing clear: Dzhokhar Tsarnaev is an American citizen. And I’m not saying that what he did wasn’t a big deal or anything – because it was – but it didn’t suddenly make him NOT American. And that means something, as did everything else that surrounded the lockdown of Boston last week. Personally, I can get behind the lockdown. Boston’s a tiny enough city that if some dangerous dude who just set off bombs is running around putting people at an indeterminable risk, it’s reasonable for law enforcement to be like, “Okay how about you stay inside while we catch this guy, okay?” Yeah, I think we should do that. Let’s get out of your way so you can get this dude. I don’t think that’s a particular threat to our Constitutional rights. You know what would’ve been, though? Nailing this guy as an “enemy combatant,” which is what a bunch of congressman

(including ever-vocal Sen. Lindsey Graham) wanted to happen. Treating Tsarnaev as an enemy combatant would mean stripping him of every right he possessed as a citizen, holding and questioning him indefinitely without charge or trial. And why should it bug us that people wanted this to happen?

The Bill of Rights may not have been made exactly with Tsarnaev in mind, but it was made to protect him nonetheless. If our leaders decide that it can just declare someone “not a citizen” and ignore due process (which, to certain extents, is already happening), they’re throwing out a fundamental basis of this country: Justice for all. America didn’t win against some “other” last week. Like it or not, we are a country of immigrants and every citizen is just as American as any other. A city won over one who would do us harm, but we can’t lose sight of the fact that there’s even greater harm to be done here, at the hands of those who would protect us.

Laura Jane Brubaker, bleeding-heart



When you’re spinning at 6a.m. on Sunday mornings, it’s easy to drop below the radio radar. This week, we’re shining the spotlight on our Spring 2013 WTBU Best Hip Hop/Urban show award winner Ke-Mo-Sah-Bee.

DJ Danny Schepps says he does radio “for the love of music,” which is evident in his dedication. When he’s in the studio, most listeners have barely begun to shake the sleep from their systems. Schepps had always wanted to be in radio, and got his start on WTBU’s world music show Music Without Borders. “Radio exposes you to so much music that you’d never heard of before. It opens up your world,” says Schepps.

Ke-Mo-Sah-Bee: what is it and where did it come from? If you ask Schepps, he’ll tell you “I asked my boy and the first thing he said was ‘high-ho silver ride.’” While a reference to the American TV classic “The Lone Ranger,” broadcasting before sunup is not as lonely as it seems. According to Schepps, Ke-Mo-Sah-Bee has an interesting first hour. He explains, “I get a lot of people who have been up all night at concerts and from around the world.”

The early morning hours don’t keep Ke-Mo-Sah-Bee from spreading good vibes. “I definitely like gangster rap early in the morning,” Schepps says, “It seems

to be what I want to hear and what everyone else wants to hear.” Despite its label, Ke-Mo-Sah-Bee manages to span multiple genres and uses radio as a music sharing platform. Schepps explains, radio has “introduced me to new things, and I like sharing that experience with other people.” Schepp’s current playlist includes artists as varied as Pavement, Gang Starr, and the experimental 70s German rock band Can.

Scouring the web for songs, this DJ lives for the magic moment of finding music that really speaks to listeners. “Great music is out there; you just gotta listen for it,” he says. While sites like Pandora and 8tracks are great resources, Youtube is a trove of b sides, demos, alternates and live recordings, Schepps explains. The WTBU DJ’s go-to leads on song searches are his favorite artists. “I like to see what [they] listen to. It’ll give you an insight into other stuff you might like,” he says.

For a taste of something good and something different during breakfast, tune into Ke-Mo-Sah-Bee Sundays at 6 a.m. Or as DJ Danny Schepps will tell you, “Wake up, it’s worth it fam.” - Madeline Walsh, WTBU



FREE THE UNIVERSE MAJOR LAZER

This “could be the future of EDM,” the HuffPo yelled last week. Well I freaking hope so. Rife with reggae influence and danceable, booty-ful beats, this latest outpouring of musical awesomesauce can make even a 40° April day feel like summer. Diplo got all sorts of rad folk together for this piece, including what’s-her-face from the Dirty Projectors for the lead single “Get Free.” Don’t knock it til you try it. Do dagger it, though.



MOSQUITO YEAH YEAH YEAHS

So first off, Mosquito is not the Yeah Yeah Yeahs’ best record. With that said, the album has its high points: “Sacrilege” is a kick-ass single, “Subway” is one of the most interesting and affecting of the bands’ ballads, and “Wedding Song” is a lovely closer. These tracks prove that the band hasn’t lost any of their excellent songcraft. They also make Mosquito well worth a listen.



SOLEMNS EP THE MARQUIS DE TREN AND BONNY BILLY

Will Oldham’s been pretty busy this year, and we’re not complaining. In this gear-up for the forthcoming Solemn’s full-length, Oldham (aka Bonny “Prince” Billy) teams with the Dirty Three’s Mick Turner (Marquis) for three Psalms-fully inspired indie/folk hymns, all sweet and haunting and fulfilling. There’s a lot of room in these songs, airy in sound and wide-open for interpretation. Give it a few spins, see what you get.



THE MOMENT MIA DYSON

Australian blues lady Mia Dyson totally nails it in this, her 4th studio album, which FINALLY made it out in the US this month. With riotous high points and poignant, affecting lows, The Moment is a brilliantly crafted ride through one woman’s world of blues-rock. Praised be the gods for all the hard work everyone’s been doing to make this genre not suck anymore. For a really good time, give a listen to the title track, also the lead single for the album. Man, it’ll stir you up inside.

-Nate Fairchild and Laura Jane Brubaker, Music Directors



BEST BUILT-IN ALARM CLOCK

The T braking just outside my window at 6 AM

BEST POPULATION-SUSTENANCE ON ONLY CARDBOARD

The mice in my closet, apparently

BEST AT NOT DRINKING THEIR MILK BEFORE IT GOES BAD

My roommates

BEST BUGS

The bathtub

AWARDS FOR MY Apartment

BEST ARCHITECTURAL ANOMALY three-way tie between the world’s narrowest hallway, the crooked window frames in the living room, and the window/wooden sill combo in the shower



THE BYNARS SINGLE RELEASE SHOW

The Bynars show at Great Scott on April 24 was a night full of firsts and lasts. It marked the first release of the band’s new single, “All I Wanna Do Is Have Some Fun Tonight,” the first off-campus WTBU live event of the semester, and the first time I got to see any of the bands perform. Unfortunately, this show also marked the last time The Bynars’ keyboardist, Ben Mettey, performed with the band. Going in with high expectations based on the recordings I heard, I left with a feeling of fulfillment that only comes from seeing a great show.

ATM took the stage first, filling Great Scott with catchy rap delivered between sampled throwback jams. Crowds always tend to be a bit low energy during the first act, but by the end of his set, all heads in the room were bopping along. Between his fun, upbeat rhymes and contagious dance moves, ATM made sure that everyone else was having as good a time as he was.

André Obin followed, giving a performance of an entirely different nature. After turning the lights on the stage off and setting up two projectors that looped colored static over the band, Obin started his set of ambient electronic tunes. The perfect combination of eerily serene static projections and distorted vocals over repetitive beats established a



Jacqlene Boening, WTBU

SICK CONCERTS

4/28

THEE MIGHTY FEVERS (japan), THE MON-SIEURS, FUNERAL CONE, WHITE PAGES Garage punk 5ever @RADIO DOWNSTAIRS 7:30 \$8

4/29

ALLSTON PUDDING Presents: NICE GUYS, MERLIN'S MAGIC MUSIC BOX (nh), SILKIES ~garage rockin poppy jams~ @CHARLIE'S KITCHEN 8pm \$5 21+

PILE, FLORIDA = DEATH, FAT HISTORY MONTH, GRASS IS GREEN Rock n punk n good old roll @GREAT SCOTT 9pm \$8 18+

4/30

TREAT YO SELF: BOSTON BENEFIT EDITION Rad tunes and free food and live art. This week features CREATUROS, KID MOUNTAIN, ABADABAD, and others with all proceeds going to One Fund Boston @GREAT SCOTT 9pm ~pay what you can~ 18+

5/1

MAX GARCIA CONOVER CD RELEASE Lovely and sweet tunes for mending or breaking your heart @CHURCH 8pm \$5 21+

PRETTY & NICE, PATTERN IS MOVEMENT (philly), KAL MARKS Indie rock for good times only + some free beer if you're early @GREAT SCOTT 9pm \$9 18+

5/3

BU SCHOOL OF VISUAL ARTS SENIOR THESIS SHOW Senior works from painting, graphic design, and sculpture. Also "probably" wine and cheese @808 GALLERY 6-8pm

BLACK PUS (pvd), GUERILLA TOSS, DESIGNER, FRKSE Punk and good punk too @DEMOCRACY CENTER 7pm All Ages

TAN VAMPIRES, OLD ABRAM BROWN (EP RELEASE), PARKS, RUBY ROSE FOX It's just good music, okay? Look em up. @TT THE BEAR'S 9pm \$8 18+

5/4

WAKE UP THE EARTH FESTIVAL JP's awesome community fest is rife with good food, cool crafts, rad tunes, and hippies. @STONYBROOK T STOP 12pm

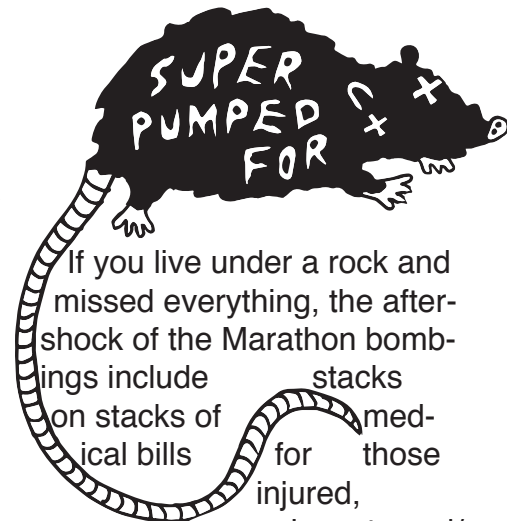
5/7

FOXYGEN w/ CRUMBS 60s emulated in indierock and it's nice @BRIGHTON MUSIC HALL 9pm \$12 18+

5/8

OSAKA STREET CUTTER, WE AVALANCHE, JASON ZAVALA, MIKE SIMONELLI I dated that kid once he's pretty good at music @O'BRIEN'S 8pm 21+

(and hit up the Boston Countercultural Compass for rad DIY happenings)



If you live under a rock and missed everything, the after-shock of the Marathon bombings include stacks on stacks of medical bills for those injured, repair costs and/or a week of lost customers for a whole load of Boylston shops, and plenty of other costs to boot. To help everyone out, the rad folks at Allston Pudding put up a 130-track mixtape full of local jams AND THEY'VE RAISED OVER \$7,500 for One Fund Boston. So we're pretty pumped! If you haven't yet, point your rear end over to allstonpudding.bandcamp.com and support that ish!



Do you like your evenings with a side CRAZY WEIRD?! Do you like CANADA REFERENCES?? Then you probably want to see OF MONTREAL perform with WILD MOCASSINS at the PARADISE on 5/21 for CHEAP AS FREE (means free). Just send a picture of you doing something crazy weird or maybe Canadian I dunno just send us a picture of something to thebeat@wtburadio.org and we'll hook you up.

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In the beginning Guglielmo Marconi created the heavens and the earth. And then the radio. Radio begat college radio. Many moons after college radio cameth WTBU: The Beat of Boston University.* WTBU was established as a training field for BU's patriarch/matriarch WBUR warriors, but lo and behold the day came when they hath risen to serve an underground local music, news, and sports scene (mainly underground sports).

And God said "Let there be light," but because radio is not TV, WTBU achieved only sound. The University, ye of little faith in radio, placed WTBU headquarters beneatheth thy Student Union, then for no apparent reason, to Myles Hall, The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s dormitorium of old. T'was here that our lord and savior Howard Stern blossomed into the DJ we henceforth came to know. Within weeks, WTBU terminated his show for the defamatory sin and poop jokes it produced.

T'was vengeance from the spirit of Stern that brought down heavy rainfall and flooded the station. Thus, on what may have been the fourth night of Hannukah in 1979, torrential flooding tested the tenacity of the DJs. To escape the seventh plague, as they traveled past the mountains, beyond the skyscrapers, past a burning bush shouting "Help! I'm on fire!," they established camp at Myles Annex in 1982.

However, they were not safe there. Someone-We-Don't-Know-The-Name-Of moveth thine headquarters from thy sacred dorms to the abandoned third floor in the College of Communication sometime later. And thus, 1999 cometh.

HISTORY OF WTBU

ISSUE #6
APR 29
MAY 3

The Internet/New Messiah/Apocalypse dawned. WTBU becameth the first college radio station to spread its good will acrosseth the bandwidth, thus begetting www.wtburaudio.org. WTBU becameth the first institution to do so, as reported in Ye Olde New Yorke Times.

WTBU hence hath interviewed many important leaders of our land, such as Jimmy Fallon, Presidential Candidates, but have yet to achieve its quest of landing an interview with his Lord, Howard Stern. It is this hope for contact that DJs march forth (and the kickass local music).

In 2012, bestowed upon the blessed WTBU waseeth the College Music Journal's Station of the Year award. Hark! Glory! That award beget recognition... and nothing else. To this day, WTBU wanders the 40 seas searching for funds.

2013. The dawn of a new era. T'was a dark and stormy night when The Phoenix perished lo these 40 days and 40 nights ago. In thine honor, WTBU: The Beat of Boston University begat "The Beat." Which bringeth us here. To what you art holding in thine hands. Amen.

*Earliest forms of written records begin in 1950.**
Nobody's sure on any year since this article is based on oral history, Wikipedia, and myth.***Mainly myth.

Fact: Lindsay Lohan, celebrity, could have gone to Boston University and DJed on WTBU if she applied.

Beth Anonymous, WTBU

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WWW.WTBURADIO.ORG