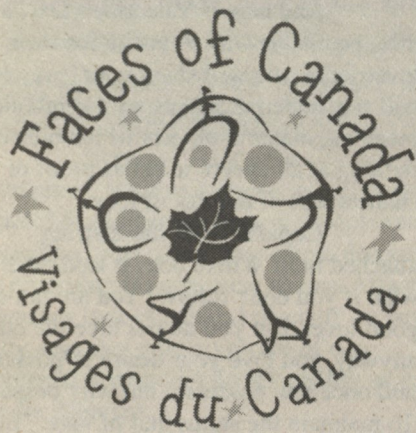
 A presentation of the Confederation Centre of the Arts



Experience Canada's rich multicultural diversity at **FACES OF CANADA**, an exciting 4-day festival presented by the Confederation Centre of the Arts in partnership with the Government of Canada and the P.E.I. Multicultural Council.

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JOIN US FEBRUARY 27 - MARCH 2
FOR 4 DAYS OF MUSIC, DANCE, FOOD & FUN

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27
7 pm, Mainstage

WAVE IN CONCERT

Popular Canadian pop music band Wave, famous for the hit song California, will rock the Mainstage!
Tickets: \$24

8 pm, Art Gallery

MIR

Featuring the acclaimed pop band Mir in a rare, intimate, "unplugged" cabaret-style setting. Tickets: \$12 plus taxes
Licensed 19 years +.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28

9 pm, Memorial Hall

REGGAE NIGHT WITH AFRO-MUSICA

Sponsored by Patterson Palmer
Gather up your friends and join us for the hottest night of the year!
Tickets: \$10. Licensed 19 years +

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

2 pm, Mainstage

VINOK WORLDANCE

Experience dazzling costumes and high-spirited international dances! Tickets: \$8 adults, \$4 seniors, students & children

SATURDAY, MARCH 1

8 pm, Mainstage

NATALIE MACMASTER

Sponsored by Delta Prince Edward
This world-class fiddler and entertainer will bring down the house!
Tickets: \$24-35 (\$2 discount for students and seniors)

10 pm, Memorial Hall

BOIS - JOLI

Licensed 19 years +
Dance the night away to the great Acadian beat of Bois-Joli.
Tickets: \$10, \$2 discount with Natalie MacMaster ticket stub.

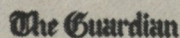
SUNDAY, MARCH 2

FREE FUN DAY!

11:30 am - 3:30 pm

Multicultural Brunch/Bazaar featuring foods and crafts from over 15 different countries in Memorial Hall (nominal fee for culinary delights!); Free Performance of the play "The New Canadian Kid" in the Studio Theatre. Join us!!

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Underground Bomb Shelter

By Jon DEAGLE

It seems that intelligently-crafted music is now a minority. It could be that there are more artists today than there were in the past – however this should not be an excuse. Today's artists have less talent, but ironically make more money than artists of the past. Of course, a band with talent can be respected, even if a person doesn't like their music. The current trend seems intent on filling the music-consuming community with untalented "upstarts". Besides musical talent these newly created stars lack one crucial feature—the ability to smile.

Although sad songs have been around since human emotions were converted to music, never before have they been so bleak-sounding. The idea of touching songs about lost love, loneliness, etc. used to be commonplace. Now, the line between a sad song and an upbeat one is blurred by an "angst"-ridden melancholy. As a result, there are no "happy" songs. They have been replaced by vapid, formulaic, popular music. As it turns out, this "pop music" is worse than the negatively charged "angst rock" of today's mainstream. These two musical genre fiascoes have simultaneously given music a heart extraction and a lobotomy.

If these two styles destroyed music's heart and mind, rap has stolen its soul. Somewhat distanced from the other two genres, yet on a downward spiral of its own, rap has managed to pollute itself with repetitive message of sex, easy living, and drugs. This genre has potential, of all

music styles: it is closest to prose. Although most of its power is defused by endless references to senseless violence, rap music maintains its popularity. Its fans claim that rap "tells it like it is". This begs the question: Is having a cynical opinion really equivalent of truth? Or is it just another point of view, opposite to the much-despised "optimistic" standpoint?

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Perhaps the answer to this question lies in the musical underground. Ironically, the term describes music that is far superior to "popular" music. Similar to Plato's theory of a two-levelled reality, there are two realms of musical existence. Just as popular music signifies the mundane, the underground represents the sublime. It seems there are refreshingly perfect forms of every genre within the underground: rap songs with a message, sad songs without pretentious brooding, and upbeat, intelligent antitheses to "pop" music. The underground music scene is definitely a haven for those who are scorned, or are confused by, the mainstream.

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