

From the Editor

Possibly a product of the perpetual campus renovations, or maybe a result of the recent presence of the revolutionary Saul Williams, but whatever the reason, the work in this year's LAMBDA art and literature issue builds upon a common theme of reinterpretation. Robert Wells's sonnet directed to Samus Aran, for example, questions the assumption that a "female first" denotes a step in the direction of women's rights. At the same time, Robert plays upon the poetic form's conventions with desire directed toward a video game creation rather than a living person. Like Robert's poem works on poetic convention, Scott Kaplan's poem, "So Simple," reexamines the boundaries of gender, love, and poetry and finds them to be more fluid than they are commonly held to be. Patrice Wright's poem, on the other hand, arcs from one mostly normative set of interpretations to another. Eric Verlade's untitled photo of a window begs us to decide if the circles frame the squares, if the squares frame the circles, or if both are required to form the frame.

A standing pool grows stagnant: art and literature should offer us novel ways to interpret society and give us room to move forward. While it could be said that every LAMBDA issue offers a number of perspectives that stretch societal norms, the visceral engagement that art and literature allow make this issue particularly salient. However, to say LAMBDA stretches traditional boundaries does not mean it lacks foundation; each included work, while stretching ahead, remains firmly grounded in artistic or literary tradition.

As for the publication itself, this year marks the third year of LAMBDA's art and literature issue. We hope you find this issue rich in new or reinterpreted ideas. As you close this publication, keep the works in your thoughts, and may they serve as stepping stones to drop before you as you walk ahead in life.

In Unity,

Daniel Cothran

Mission

LAMBDA IS UNC-CHAPEL HILL'S LESBIAN-, GAY-, BISEXUAL-, TRANSGENDER-, INTERSEX- AND QUEER-AFFIRMING PUBLICATION, PROVIDING A PROGRESSIVE OUTLET FOR NEWS, ANALYSIS, OPINION AND DIALOGUE. AS SUCH, WE ARE INHERENTLY COMMITTED TO A FEMINIST, ANTI-RACIST AND HISTORICALLY CONSCIOUS PERSPECTIVE IN PURSUIT OF SOCIAL JUSTICE FOR ALL PEOPLE.

LAMBDA

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