

THIS IS MADNESS!

Artwork by students of A History of Madness

Presented by:

Danielle Landry and David Reville

School of Disability Studies, Ryerson University

DST 500 A History of Madness is an upper-level liberal arts elective; it is team-taught by Erick Fabris, David Reville, Jijian Voronka and Jim Ward.

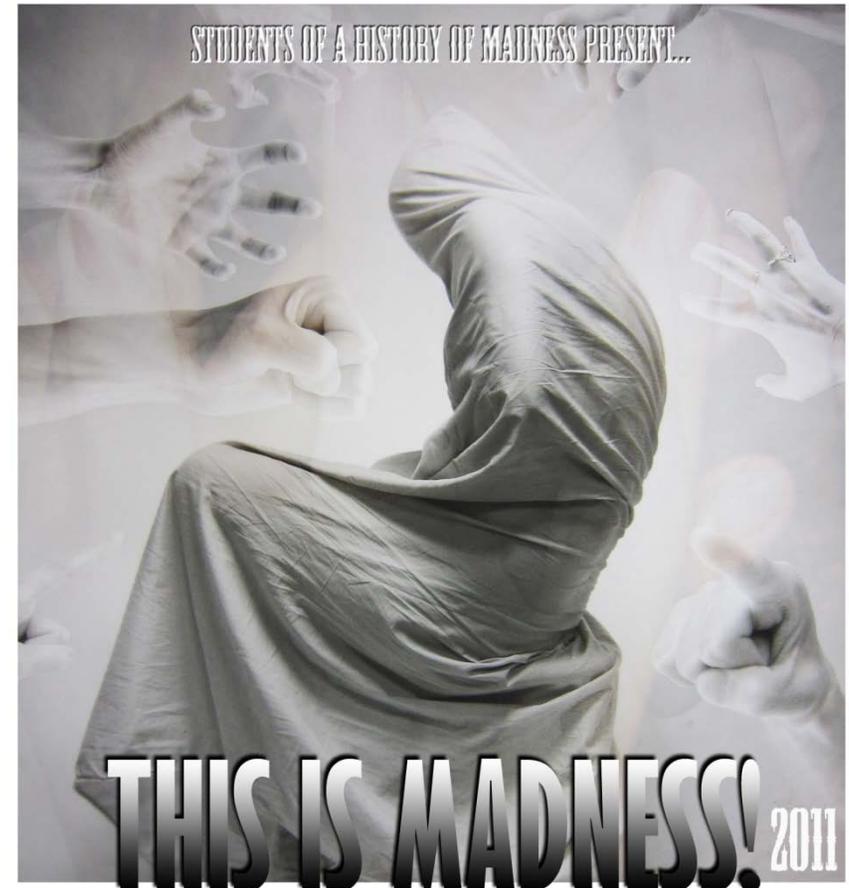
CDST 504 Mad People's History is offered jointly by the School of Disability Studies and the Chang School of Continuing Education; it is taught online by David Reville.

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!

This Is Madness! would like to thank its sponsors: The Faculty of Community Services, Ryerson Student Union, School of Disability Studies, Oakham Café and A-WAY Express Courier, a survivor-run business.

Additional thanks goes to Caitlin Smith, Gillian Reddyhoff, Dean Usha George, Melanie Panitch, Kathryn Church, Paris Master-McRae, Cathy Jones, Marley Reville Brown, Kara Guatto, Caroline Hillyard, Jonathan Watson and the John B. Aird Gallery.

If you are interested in purchasing any of these pieces, please email:
dlandry@ryerson.ca



A STUDENT ART SHOW AT THE OAKHAM CAFE - 63 GOULD ST.
FEBRUARY 1 - 28, 2011

 School of Disability Studies
Ryerson University
Faculty of Community Services

 **RSU** Ryerson Students' Union
Local 24 Canadian Federation of Students

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Toronto's Social Purpose Courier
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THIS IS MADNESS! Feature Artwork



1 a,b,c
Artist: Araxi Arslanian
Title: The Three Phases of (my) Lunacy
Program: Social Work
Medium: Three acrylics on canvas

Artist Statement: After the Fauvists, I use blue to depict the depths of my depression and red to elicit the heat of my mania. The yellow canvas is where I live today. There are touches of red and blue but, mostly, there is dignity. These are the primary colours of madness.



2
Artist: Atefeh Ayati
Title: The Crazy Soul
Program: Sociology
Medium: Poetry on distressed paper, in box
Artist Statement: This is a collection of poetic reflections on the material covered in A History of Madness. My hope is that it brings a measure of

justice to people persecuted because of their madness.

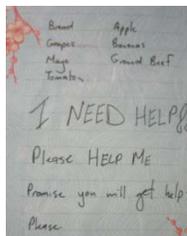


3
Artist: Clare Critchley
Title: Stigma
Program: Image Arts - Photography
Medium: Photograph
Artist Statement: This photograph symbolizes and aims to embody the vast social stigmas that are apparent in all cultures and societies. These can be stigmas against people with mental or physical disabilities, people of different sexual orientations

(which is sometimes seen as a mental disorder), people of different ethnicities and beliefs, and anything else one can imagine.



32
Artist: Amanda Van Dongen
Title: Madness in the Media
Program: Social Work
Medium: Scrapbook
Artist Statement: Mad pop stars, Celebrity Rehab, lyrics from Stars and Johnny Cash, a mother who killed her children, Columbine, Marilyn Manson on Columbine: madness is everywhere in the media.



33
Artist: Joanne Yap
Title: Studying Madness - Reading between the lines
Program: Business Management
Medium: Scrapbook
Artist Statement: This mini journal contains little snippets from a friend who was going through a depression. Her only comfort was her pen. My friend let me use a few of her "soft-core" writings for this assignment. "~~I can't do anymore. This is too hard.~~"



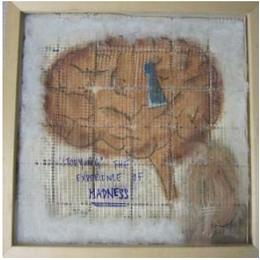
34
Artist: Anne Zbitnew**
Title: Fresh Start: A photo documentary
Program: Disability Studies
Medium: Scrapbook
Artist Statement: A photo essay about Fresh Start Cleaning and Maintenance, a business run by people with mental health histories.

** These pieces were created by students of Mad People's History (CDST504).

THIS IS MADNESS! Opening Night Film

The following student film will also be screened during the Opening Night Launch Event on February 1st

Title: Mars Project: Redux
Filmmaker: Jonathan Balazs
Program: Image Arts – Film Studies



28

Artist: Janette Ly

Title: Storying the experience of madness

Program: Collaborative Nursing

Medium: Mixed media

Artist Statement: There's a keyhole in my brain. I sit, knees drawn up, head down, the key on the floor. I wonder if the key fits.



29

Artist: Karla Ng

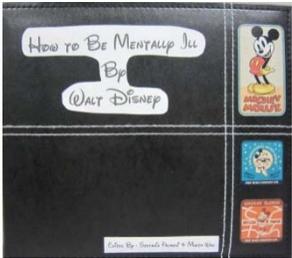
Title: Madness Magazine

Program: Info. Tech. Management

Medium: Mock Magazine

Artist Statement: In *Madness Magazine*, Lady of Madness responds to letters about Internet Addiction, Shyness, Compulsive Buying, Apathy,

and Binge Eating in a spoof of medicine's tendency to turn normal behaviour into illness.



30

Artists: Stephania Palmeri and Mukta Wad

Title: How to be Mentally Ill by Walt Disney

Program: Nutrition and Food

Medium: Scrapbook

Artist Statement: In today's society, individualism and uniqueness are simultaneously encouraged and frowned upon, particularly when behaviours extend outside of 'normalcy'. Even in children's

animated films, we find these prejudices apparent. This artwork was created to examine the ways in which our society propagates stereotypes of the mentally ill.



31

Artist: Iuliana Radulescu

Title: Collective Madness: The G20 Protests

Program: Psychology

Medium: Scrapbook

Artist Statement: were the G20 protests "an extreme case of a group of people's collective identity gone wild"? Gupta, D.K. (2001) Path to

Collective Madness: a study in social order and political pathology.



4

Artist: Michelle Fong

Title: This way around

Program: Civil Engineering

Medium: Acrylic on canvas

Artist Statement: Evoking M.C. Escher, this painting expresses the experiences of mental illness: contrasting the bright lights outside with the darkness inside and the entrance with the seemingly impossible exits into diagnosis.



5

Artist: Amanda Hickey

Title: Behind the wall at the Asylum for the Insane Toronto

Program: Disability Studies

Medium: Collage

Artist Statement: For almost 40 years, Matilda, a patient at the Toronto Lunatic Asylum, worked every day in the hospital laundry and dining room. This image is

accompanied by a short story about Matilda's life.



6 a,b,c

Artist: Nicole Hoppe

Title: The Biology of a Social Disease

Program: Interior Design

Medium: Triptych digital collage

Artist Statement: A digital collage of hand-drawn elements, found images and photography, this triptych calls out for a re-examination of medicine's role in the "cure" of mental illness and the repair of society's

structural problems. It reminds us that a CT scan can't show labelling, poverty and neglect.



7 a,b,c,d

Artist: Samantha Keay

Title: Untitled

Program: Image Arts - Photography

Medium: Four digital images

Artist Statement: Each photograph represents madness with a combination of found images and

layering.



8

Artist: Monica Kisielewicz
Title: The Twilight Madness
Program: Fashion Design
Medium: Printed graphic
Artist Statement: Are you part of the Twilight

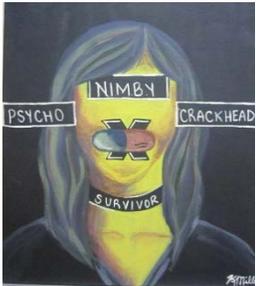
Madness frenzy? The facebook group has 5 million members and counting. Is this an example of collective madness?



9

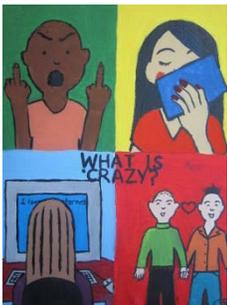
Artist: Jeanine Middleton
Title: Wolf and Rabbit
Program: Occupational and Public Safety
Medium: Board game
Artist Statement: "The strong get stronger by

devouring the weak...the rabbits accept their role in the ritual and recognize the wolf as the strong...he most certainly doesn't challenge the wolf to combat. Now, would that be wise, would it?" Ken Kesey, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (1964)



10

Artist: Kasheema Miller
Title: The Release of a Mad Person into the Community
Program: Nursing
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Artist Statement: The painting uses "hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil" as its starting point. It references the stigma that mad people carry. The neckband suggests the resistance of stigma.



11

Artist: Anh-tu Nguyen
Title: What is Crazy?
Program: Nursing
Medium: Acrylic on canvas
Artist Statement: When we understand mental illness through science, we deny the social context of mental illness. If we see an angry person, we might label him/her "crazy". But what if we knew that the person had just almost been run over by a reckless driver?



25

Artist: Jessica Houston**
Title: P.S. I'm Crazy
Program: Disability Studies
Medium: Scrapbook

Artist Statement: I wanted to give people with mental illness an opportunity to express themselves and their experience. This project has

also been expanded into a website, www.psimcrazy.com. Please visit and contribute!



26

Artist: Nadia Ismail
Title: The Portrait of a Female Schizophrenic: maybe the world needs a little art therapy?
Program: Performance production
Medium: Mixed media surrealist sculpture
Artist Statement: Art therapy has now become a more positive and effective treatment of mental illness, commonly using surrealist expression to communicate. For this (surrealist) portrait, the artist became the "patient" and the "doctor" is the world. The hope is that societies at large will become more aware and have a

better understanding of Schizophrenia and the history of treatment. It is therefore art therapy for the world...



27

Artist: Rebecca Liu
Title: Unlock the Mysteries of Madness
Program: Nursing
Medium: 3D Construction
Artist Statement: The causes of madness are in the box; the cures are the keys. There's a disconnect. There's still a disconnect today. Will a student artist in 2050 put our approach

in the box or on the wall?



22
Artist: Maayan Ziv
Title: Spot the Madness
Medium: Photograph
 Program: Radio & Television Arts
Artist Statement: Ignorance is what created stigma. Awareness can take down a wall or two. Amongst all the clutter in our world, I offer a simple image with a simple question: Which of these people is mad?



12
Artist: Morgan Nichol
Title: Diagnosis – INSANE
Program: Nursing
Medium: Photograph
Artist Statement: If a person were too short, liked only red balls and was always happy, the diagnosis would surely be: INSANE

The Opening Night Launch Event on February 1st will feature exclusive additional artwork on display for one night only!

THIS IS MADNESS!
Opening Night Artwork



13
Artist: Jessica Noskiewicz
Title: Breaking News
Program: Sociology
Medium: Collage
Artist Statement: This piece was designed to emphasize the way in which media (Print news, popular culture, etc.) sensationalizes mental illness and, in doing so, perpetuates the stigma that goes along with such labels as "psycho".



23
Artist: Beverly Atkin**
Title: Memorial Wall Plaque Unveiling, September 25, 2010
Program: Disability Studies
Medium: Photographs in a scrapbook
Artist Statement: A photo essay of the unveiling ceremony of wall plaques dedicated to patient labourers past. 150 years ago, patients constructed a wall around the Provincial Lunatic Asylum. Ironic, isn't it.



14
Artist: Ann Ohama
Title: Untitled
Program: Nursing
Medium: Clay and paper maché 3D sculpture
Artist Statement: The face is rejecting popular treatments for depression. It's pale because treatment has erased light and individuality. It's a symbol of top-down treatment and the lack of control felt by the person being treated. The faint colours represent Hippocrates' four humours, the foundation of modern medicine.



24
Artist: Daniella Guida
Title: CAMH Redevelopment Community Tree Proposal
Medium: Booklet
Artist Statement: A proposal for a public art installation to symbolize the integration of the new CAMH facility into the neighbourhood. Patients are finally growing out of the institution into a welcoming community.



15 a,b,c,d
Artist: Vanessa Paxton
Title: Untitled
Program: Image Arts - Photography
Medium: Four photographs
Artist Statement: A tribute to John Nash (A Beautiful Mind); a bipolar clown; a woman whose sleep paralysis absolutely fries her brain; the artist, an emetophobe, waiting, hoping, "the blue blanket falling away representing the depression...leaving her body." Emetophobia is characterized by an irrational fear of illness.



16

Artist: Manveer Randhawa

Title: Freak in a box

Program: Business Management - Econ. & Mgt. Sci.

Medium: Clay figure in a plexiglass box

Artist Statement: This person is unhappy, not because of his/her mental health but because of being labelled a "freak". The freak is in a box, not to be fed, not to be loved. We know it and so does the freak. We put the freak in the box and the freak won't break out because the freak knows its place.



17

Artist: Lindsay Spindler

Title: Fears for Spears

Program: Fashion Design

Medium: Mock Magazine Article

Artist Statement: Building on Voronka's "Making Bipolar Britney: proliferating psychiatric diagnoses

through tabloid media" Radical Psychology 7.2, I have constructed a tabloid in an attempt to show the way "the tabs" teach us about mental illness and may even contribute to the lifting of the stigma associated with it.



18

Artist: Helen Tran

Title: Madness of School

Program: Civil Engineering

Medium: Digital image

Artist Statement: Praying for success to come their way, students give up most of their social life

for school. Sacrificing sleep, meals, parties, fun, family and friends, they focus all their attention on school. They are trapped inside a tornado of books and equations.



19 a,b

Artist: Devlyn van Loon

Title: Untitled

Program: Fashion Design

Medium: Textile (dress) and conceptual drawing

Artist Statement: Fabrics and textures mimic the layers in "The Yellow Wallpaper" by Charlotte Perkins Gilman. A fitted bodice reflects the corseted style of the period, raw hems the deterioration of the narrator, extended panels the ripping of the wallpaper. The dress exists in the present as do many of the issues in the story.

* Devlyn van Loon's dress will be modelled by Marley Reville Brown at the Opening Night Launch Event February 1, 2011.



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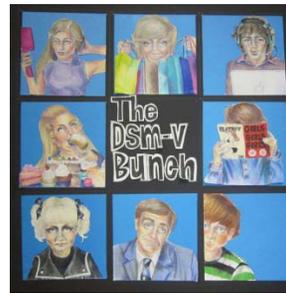
Artist: Brooke Wilkinson

Title: DSM Bot

Program: Journalism

Medium: Chalk drawing

Artist Statement: The DSM Bot is coming- take cover! Diagnosing with a vengeance, this robot labels everyone in its path.



21

Artist: Michaelia Young

Title: Normalcy Syndicated

Program: Fashion Communication

Medium: Pencil Crayon on poster board

Artist Statement: The purpose of this piece is to draw attention to how previously normal behaviours are now being labelled as disorders by the DSM. It is speculated that apathy, binge eating, internet addiction, compulsive buying and shyness, are all possible contenders for the DSM-V.