

staff picks

Best Place to Get Lost

Downtown Eugene. Our fair city's claim to fame (aside from once having downgraded itself from the "World's Greatest City for Arts and Outdoors" to merely "Great") is that it was Oregon's first city to have one-way streets. Really? What the hell were the planners thinking? "Hey, if we get people stuck down here driving up and down, lost, maybe they will stay and shop?"

Best Way to Practice Your "People Skills"

Running down the sidewalk to the place you left your car parked for just 5 minutes past the two-hour limit and trying to breathe and simultaneously convince the parking person in that golf-cartmobile not to finish writing you that ticket. If you are fast and nice, sometimes they let you off the hook. It's an exercise in patience and just plain exercise, all in one.

Best Way to Hide Your Conservative Wingnut Agenda:

Switch your party affiliation from Libertarian to Republican or Republican to Independent.

Best Gallery

1. **The Voyeur** (closed)
 2. **OPUS VII** 22 W. 7th Ave.
393-0743. www.opusvii.com
 3. **White Lotus** 767 Willamette St.
345-3276. www.wlotus.com
- Mo Bowen's homegrown DIY masterpiece that was The Voyeur gallery was an authentic landmark in the Eugene art scene. Known for having the freshest work from new artists, The Voyeur was the artist's art gallery of Eugene, located in the cultural hub of the Whiteaker neighborhood. The Voyeur was a gallery founded on the principles of persistence and determination, geared towards the elevation of local arts. Perhaps most importantly, The Voyeur also hosted art critiques and art talks — events that promoted the necessary ongoing dialogue of artistic contribution and strengthened the visual arts community of Eugene.



PHOTO COURTESY MO BOWEN

Best Performing Arts Group

1. **Red Raven Follies**
 2. **No Shame Eugene**
 3. **Lord Leebrick**
- Since their formation in 2009, the Red Raven Follies have grown from performing at the one-off variety show and occasional neighborhood event (such as Whiteaker Block Party) to their recent WOW Hall debut in early October. "Not a lot would happen in between our performances, but now we're working

a lot more than we ever have," says coordinator Rachel Pietila, aka Golden Delicious. For their new show, every act corresponds to a tarot card. For instance, the Ace of Wands is portrayed in comedic fashion — "a giant hand of God comes out from the stage and shoots out things at each one of the girls," Pietila says — but with the meaning that gifts that are bestowed upon you and you have the tools to fulfill your destiny. Clearly, it's a message well-received by Eugene audiences.

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