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**MULTI-MEDIA  
 MONSTER BASH!**  
**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>**  
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Sept 24 Thurs \$7 A presentation of the Halifax Gaelic Cultural Association, featuring fiddlers Buddy & Natalie MacMaster, Wendy MacIssac, Gaelic singer Jeff MacDonald and Gaelic step-dancers.

**SLOAN**

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Sept 25-26 Fri-Sat \$6 Root beer-bubblegum flavoured noisy pop from Halifax's own Gelfen recording artists SLOAN, plus Toronto's quintessential power-pop quartet Change of Heart & Moncton's Eric's Trip.

**LAVA HAY**

Sept 28 Monday \$5 Vancouver's blond duo featuring angelic harmonies, quiet acoustic folk-rock & acid-drenched psychedelia. "Lava Hay harmonize with the blissful purity of a couple of Woodstock-bound coffee house veterans" - The Georgia Straight.

Barrington at Spring Garden • info 420-1061

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*The Dalhousie Student Union is once again running a co-op style book exchange for the students of Dalhousie.*

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**Sept. 25, 26, 28 & 29th.**

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# Kings n' Concubines

by Michael Sean Morris

Two very different movies lit the screen at Wormwood's last week: *Edward II* and *Raise The Red Lantern*.

*Edward II* is English filmmaker Derek Jarman's modern-dress redux of a Christopher Marlowe play written in 1593. The full horror of Edward II is simple: this could happen today. This DOES happen today. Edward, his lover Piers Gaveston, and all those who support them, are brutally murdered. This actually happened in the 1290s, when a homosexual actually ruled England (not the first, and not the last). History swept their story under the rug, and made Isabella, his wife, the pitiful victim. Isabella was in fact known by the people as the "She-Wolf of France", and was widely considered to be a vampire.

Derek Jarman has brought their story vividly to life, in ghastly detail, vivid colour, and even audacious wit. All the while keeping Marlowe's Elizabethan speech intact. Jarman's clear point: this WILL NOT happen again. In your face queer politics has

advanced to the state where the feeling is, if we cannot live together, we will die together. Edward, like anyone, was not prepared to live without the person he loved, much in the way Edward VIII marched his way into history, to marry "the woman I love". While the Duke of Windsor's life after abdication may not have been a bed of English roses, he was not brutally tortured and left to die in agony.

*Raise The Red Lantern* is as different as can be. Zhang Yimou's brutally honest glimpse into the life of the four wives of a Chinese noble in the 1920s is almost too brutal. But it's not gory like *Edward II* can be. Instead, the psychological horror of the lives of Songlian, Meishan, Zhyoyun, and a fourth elder wife suffices brilliantly. So brilliantly, in fact, that Wormwood's must bow to public demand and bring this film back.

This film presents grim contemplation, on the difficulties of being a woman in China, and it's voyeuristic camera angles all make *Raise The Red Lantern* a must-see film for anyone. My only regret, as with all subtitled

movies, is the loss of much of the dialogue because someone didn't, or couldn't translate a passage into English.

Vividly beautiful in story, action, acting, cinematography, as well as in the affect it has on its audiences, *Raise The Red Lantern* is undoubtedly one of the finest movies ever made anywhere. Gong Li, the leading actress (Songlian), is the only actress I can name. All others are merely names, and not listed by character. But that is enough, for Gong Li must surely be the most talented actress this side of Britain, for her ability to remain restrained despite the underlying urge she can feel to rebel against all that oppresses her. That feeling is palpable even unto the audience by the end of the film, when the life of being a rich man's concubine slowly drives her insane. And no, that is not giving away the ending. Unlike most American films, it would take thousands of words to even begin to explain the plot of *Raise The Red Lantern*.

## SOAR TOWARDS THE FUTURE

For many students, the first career move is the most important. Choose well, and the sky is the limit. Here's what recent CAs have to say about coming on board Doane Raymond Pannell:



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*Faye McCann, CA - Professional CA Program, Alberta*

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