

Photo: Eric Brown

## Plastercene music

by Michele Thibeau

The Plastercene Replicas, out of Toronto, played the Flamingo Cafe and Lounge last weekend to a crowd of mellow people. "We sound exactly like REM" says the band, whose music is very guitar oriented. Charlie Salmon, Stephen Stewart, and Brendan Calvin, along with a rotating drummer, made up the band.

Their name's origin is somewhat of a mystery. "We went to Antarctica..." said one band member, while another mentioned something about being "trapped in an elevator". Finally the truth, "it just came about". Pretty clever.

"We're full time musicians — in it for the long haul" the band said. Although they seem to work well together now "we broke up once because of pacing and timing, we follow our own pace." This conflict has been overcome and they informed me that "the tension that arises from trying to quit smoking causes us to be creative". Loks like they'll be writing songs until they die.

On the subject of songwriting, Charlie Salmon said that "songs are solo efforts" and "what makes the band is our arrangement of the song we all add parts." As far

as influences go, they say they have none, none but Elton John. And they do like the Grapes of Wrath.

*Glow*, their first album, was an outlet for all the material they had written. Two singles off *Glow*: "We Can Walk", which is five years old; and "All I See" are being played on College radio and Much Music frequently. Their next single will be "Hot Sand", a great dance tune.

They are planning to go to the New Music Seminar, scheduled for New York this summer, to attract a label. Right now distribution and representation in the U.S. and the U.K. are top priorities, after they finish their tour.

The Replicas put on a go show, seen by the splinters of drum stick flying by the third song. Singing on their tip toes, possibly a sign of how dedicated they are to their music was explained by Stephen Stewart as a result of "our kindergarden singing teacher (who) used to pull our hair". The audience participation song also went over well. Ten people from the dance floor played extra percussion on a "psycho" song each night, which made for happy dances for the end of the set.

## New poets "workshopping"

by Andre Narbonne

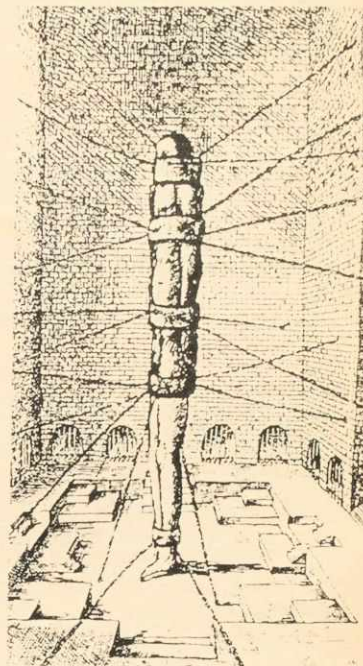
The BS Poetry Society recently began hosting critical workshops at Dalhousie. The workshops offer new writers a chance to discuss their work with like-minded people. "Workshopping" — getting immediate feedback on recent work — can be one of the most vital influences on a new poet.

The BS Poetry Society was first formed in February of 1986, through the Bourbon Street Poetry Workshop. Prior to that time, new writers in Atlantic Canada were working in apparent isolation. There were few opportunities for them to meet with their peers and receive critical feedback, other than annual workshops for high school students and writing competitions sponsored by the Writer's Federation of Nova Scotia. It was this lack of

a sense of community for new writers in Halifax that led to the formation of the group.

Now, at the beginning of its third year, the BS Poetry Society is reputed as being one of the most active chapters of the Canadian Poetry Association. The Society is more than sixty members strong while its magazine, *Poetry Halifax Dartmouth*, is sent monthly to subscribers across Canada, the United States and even to Japan.

The poetry workshops at Dalhousie are open to the general public and admission is free. Future workshops will be hosted on Saturday, February 11, from 1-4 pm in room 318 of the Dalhousie Student Union Building and on Tuesday, February 21, from 7:30-10pm in room 304. Bring multiple copies of poems to be workshopped. For more information call 423-3477.



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Contact the English Department for more information.



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### CKDU Alternative Top 10

compiled by Steven Slater.

Artist	Title
1 Violent Femmes	3
2 Lou Reed	New York
3 Danielle Dax	Dark Adapted Eye
4 Nitzer Ebb	Belief
5 Monty Cantsin	Ahora Neoismus
6 S.N.F.U.	Better Than A Stick In the Eye
7 Sass Jordan	Tell Somebody
8 Henry Threadgill	Easily Slip Into Another World
9 Nomeansno	Small Parts Isolated and Destroyed
10 Mary Margaret O'Hara	Miss America

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