



# The Drawers - Headbones Gallery

*Contemporary Drawing, Sculpture and Works on Paper*

Daryl Vocat

For Font's Sake

April 5 - May 15, 2007



Commentary by Julie Oakes

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Artist Catalog, 'Daryl Vocat - Headbones Gallery, The Drawers '  
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# Daryl Vocat

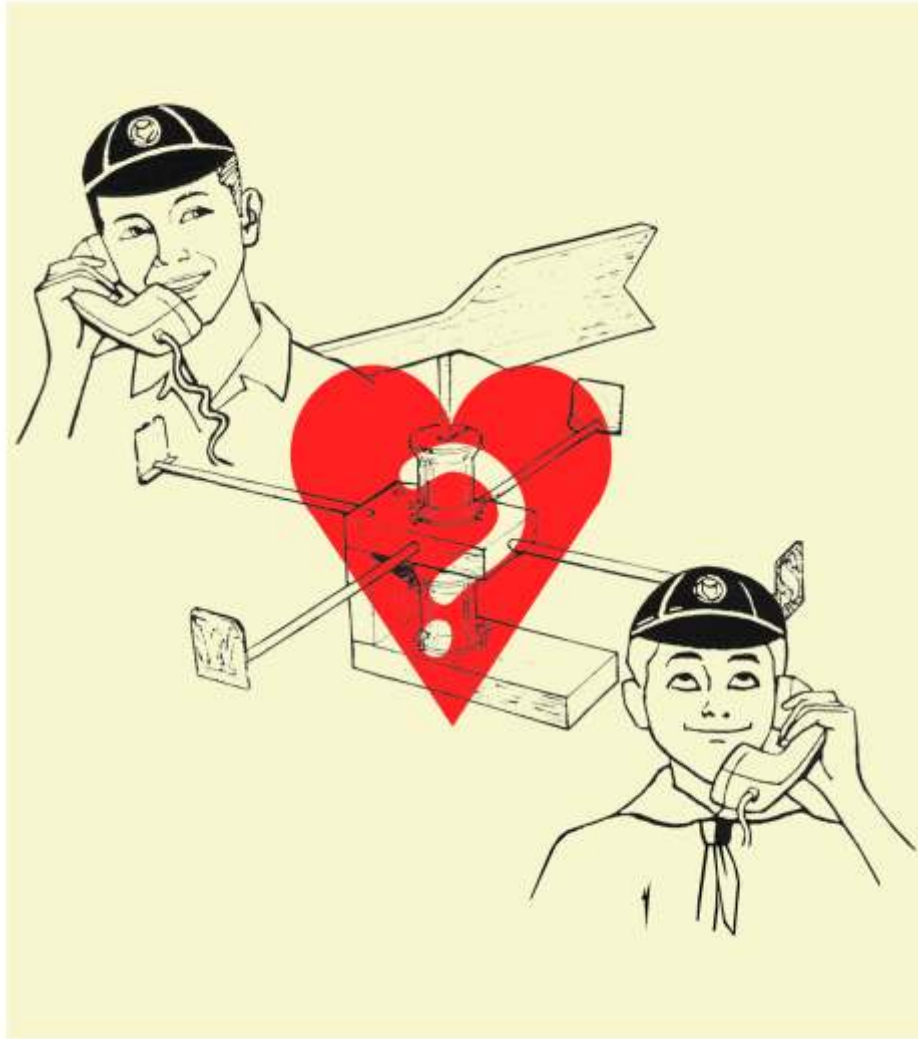
*Julie Oakes*

Memory can make hyperbole of childhood and adolescent impressions that stands out in the mental landscape as larger than life. The script in Daryl Vocat's work is demonstrative of this dynamic, and yet the message is one of vulnerability. Daryl has a mission. He has a message that he wants to get across, and he uses the addition of words in his pictures in order to make sure that there is no mistake as to what he is saying. He leaves no room for confusion.

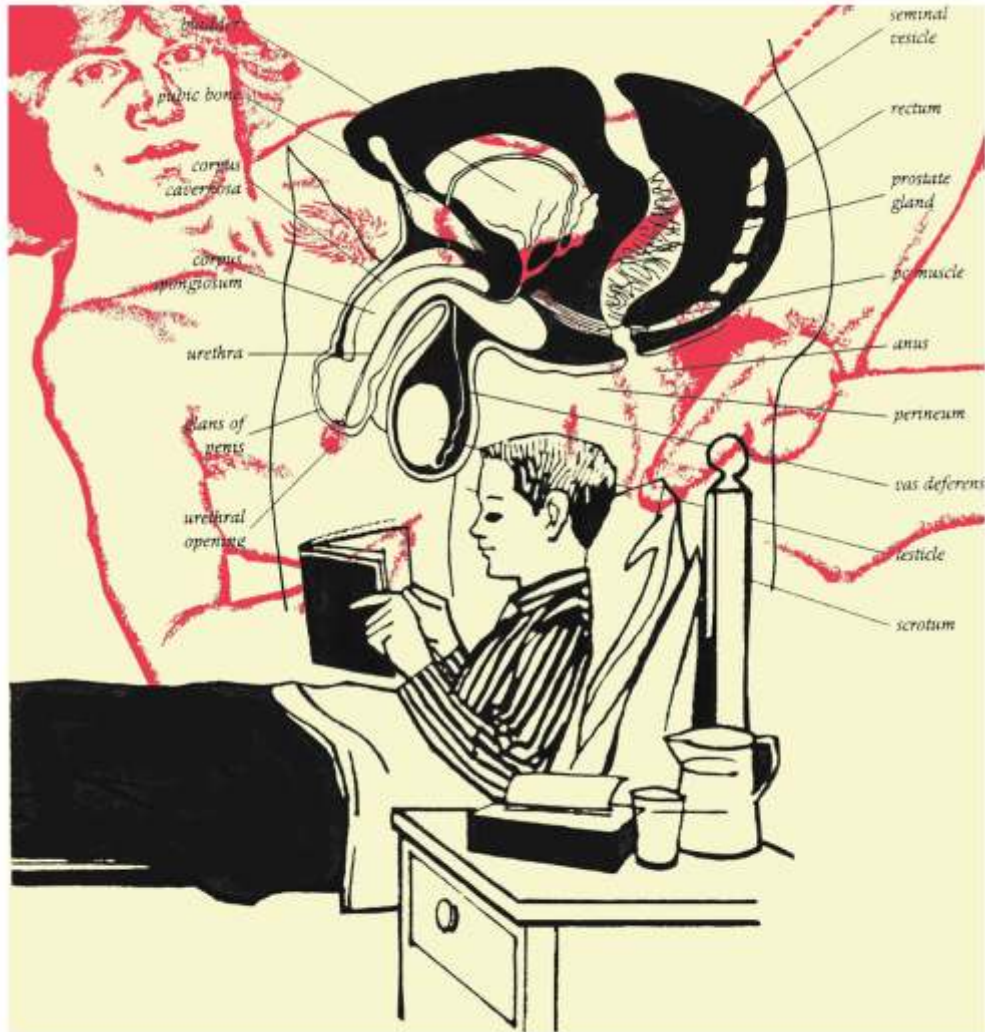
Vocat sets up depictions of boy scouts and lets their thoughts be examined, hearts pulsing secret yearnings for the love of other boys across the page. He adds the innocent badges of honour, the costumes of a mild young military obsession, and then he brings the little boy up to date. The exchange between the vulnerable, trusting nascent love letters and the harsh reality of the gay man (little boy grown) is aptly reinforced by the text and a forthright delineation of gay politics.

The rendition is illustrational, but it has been given the distance and safety of a style from the fifties or sixties, before Vocat was even born. It harkens back to a more covert age in gay politics where closeted emotions were the source of stress, and open declarations of a queer sexual preference were shunned. This atmosphere, executed within the clarity of outlines, cliches and mottos (fag, gay, be prepared) loses focus as the boys become men. *Boy to Man* juxtaposes a graphic rendition of a scout leader paired with a scout and a vague, held-back version of two men, one mounting the other, or at least the positioning of the two figures suggests that this is the case. The wide-eyed belief in childhood infatuations with other boys seems to have developed into a more overt explanation of male, same-sex love.

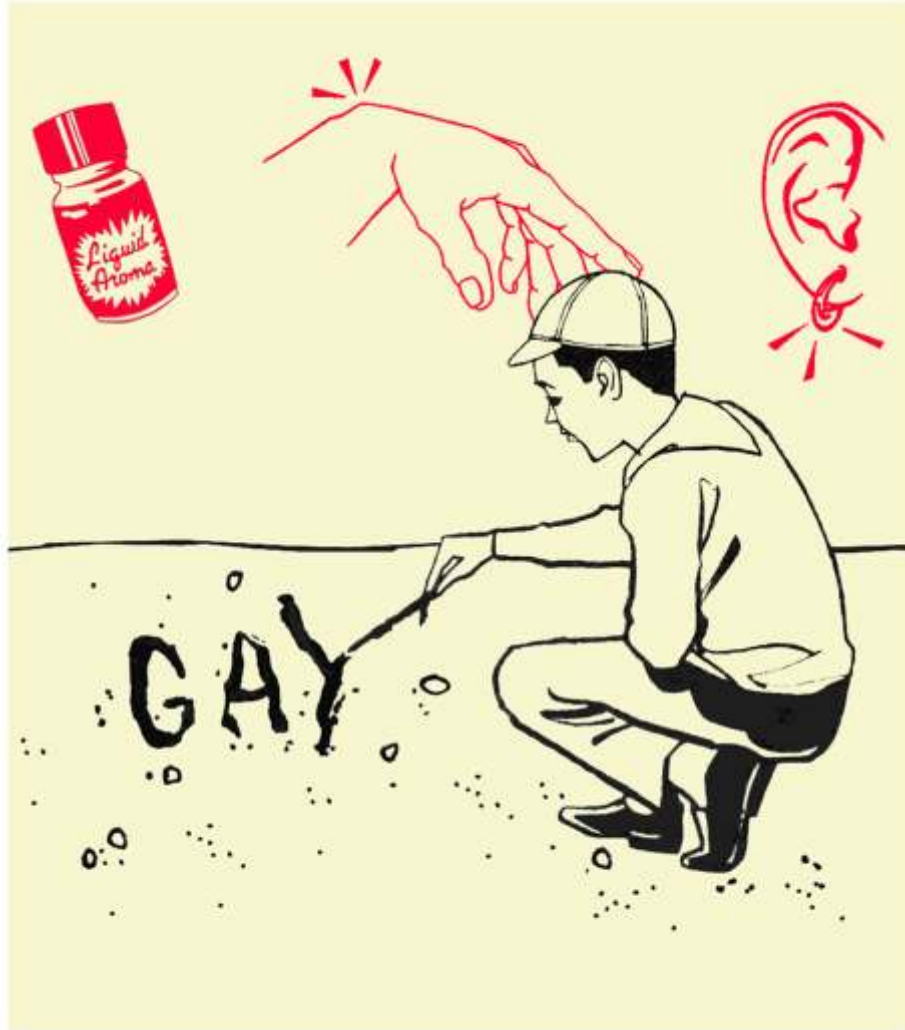
*In Indoor Field Day*, Vocat depicts a boy lying in bed. The visuals in the background suggest that he is reading a medical book. This print lends the nuance of fantasy and young imaginings to the perusal of biological material. There is the insinuation that eroticism is spurred by the wonder of his anatomy, although there is nothing overt to reinforce this suspicion. There is also a similar eroticism at work in the viewing of Daryl Vocat's work. There is something coy and sexy in play, blurred as it is in the patina of times past or set up within his tasteful colorings and formats. It is the kind of work that may arouse, for the pieces themselves are seductively attractive.



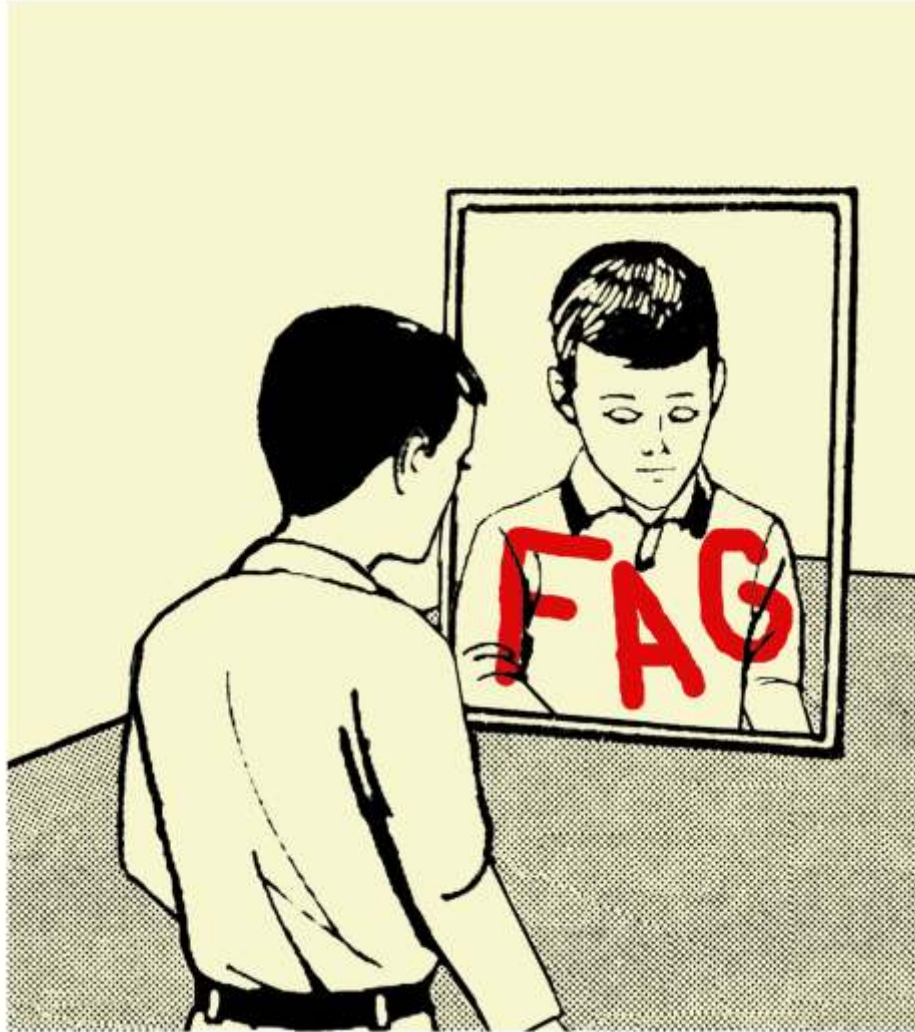
Part of A Happy Life  
screen print, (3/5), 34 x 26 inches  
2001



Indoor Field Day  
screen print, (2/5), 34 x 26 inches  
2001



Crossing The Gap  
screen print, (A/P), 34 x 26 inches  
2001



Personal Measurements  
screen print, (A/P), 34 x 26 inches  
2001





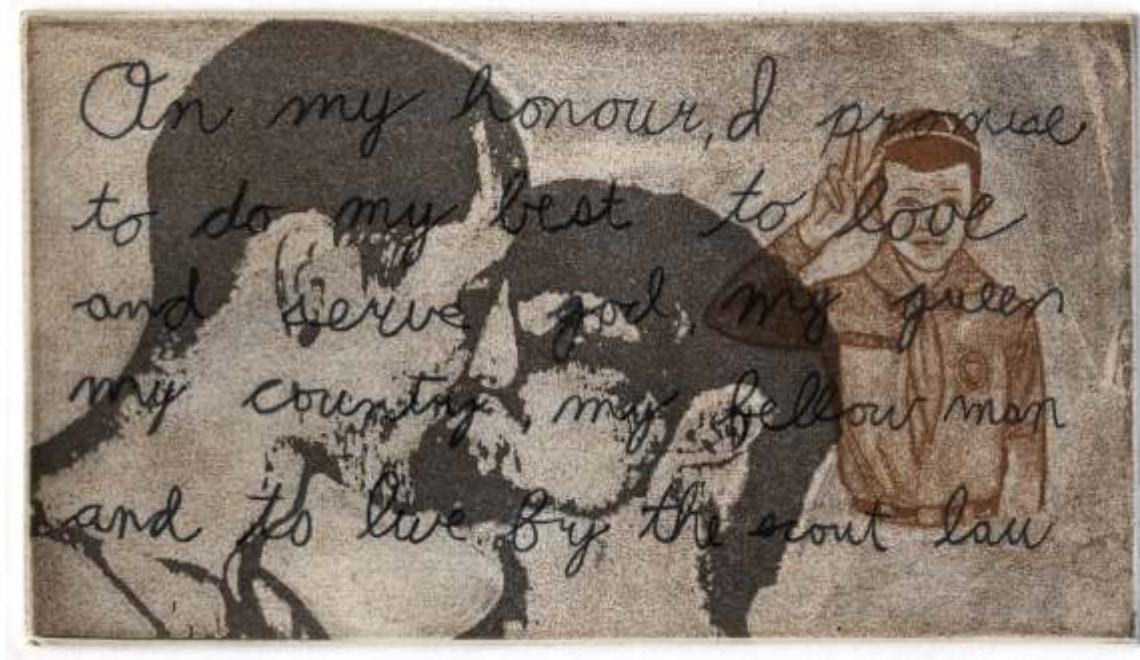
This Formula Works Wonders  
screen print, (2/6), 22 x 30 inches  
2004



Blindfold Feeding  
etching, (A/P), 14x14.5 inches  
1999



The Motto  
etching, (A/P), 14x14.5 inches  
1999



The Promise  
etching/monoprint, (9/10), 14x14.5 inches  
1999





A Process of Change  
etching, (A/P), 14x14.5 inches  
1999



Does This Make Any Sense?  
screen print, (2/6), 30 x 42 inches  
2004

# Daryl Vocat

## Education

- 2001 Master of Fine Arts, York University, North York, ON.
- 1999 Bachelor of Fine Arts, University of Regina, Regina, SK.

## Solo Exhibitions

- 2005 Practical Associations, Open Studio Sales Gallery, Open Studio, Toronto, ON.  
Practical Associations, James K. Bartleman Art Gallery, White Mountain Academy, Elliot Lake, ON.  
A Boy's Will, Art Metropole, Toronto, ON.
- 2003 Perfectly Normal, SNAP (Society of Northern Alberta Printmakers,) Edmonton, AB.  
Another Fun Idea, Gallery X, Toronto, ON.
- 2002 Perfectly Normal, Pleasure Box, Pridevision TV, Toronto, ON.  
Rules of the Playground, Open Studio, Toronto, ON.
- 2001 Perfectly Normal, MFA Thesis Exhibition, West Wing Art Space, Toronto, ON.
- 1999 Scout, A collection of prints, Gay and Lesbian Community Centre, Regina, SK.  
Queer-ish, an installation of new work, Neutral Ground Artist Run Centre, Regina, SK.  
Dummy Up, BFA Graduating Exhibition, MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina, SK.

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2005 Imaging A Lover's Discourse, Toronto Free Gallery, Toronto, ON.  
Making History, 125 King St. E., Toronto, ON.  
Queer in the Headlights, NOW Lounge, Toronto, ON.  
The Man Show, Cream Gallery, Winnipeg, MB.  
Modern Day Myths, Case Studies Vitrites, Harbourfront Centre, Toronto, ON.  
Paper Politics: An exhibition of politically and socially engaged printmaking, Phinney Center Gallery, Seattle, WA. USA.  
Love 2005, Cream Gallery, Winnipeg, MB.
- 2004 Propagandista: The Manufacturing & Dissemination of Propaganda, Toronto Free Gallery, Toronto ON.  
Panorama, S.P.I.N. Gallery, Toronto, ON.  
The Bookmark Project, The Koffler Gallery, Toronto, ON.  
X-Folder, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College Art Gallery, Corner Brook, NL.  
100 Prints, Open Studio, Toronto, ON.

- 2003 The Michael Jackson Project, Zsa Zsa Gallery, Toronto, ON.  
100 Prints, Open Studio, Toronto, ON.  
Toronto Outdoor Art Exhibition, Nathan Phillips Square, Toronto City Hall, Toronto, ON.  
Drawing Attention, S.P.I.N. Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2002 Crafts! Crafts! Crafts! Artist's craft show, Zsa Zsa Gallery, Toronto, ON.  
Squirrel Project, participant, curated by Peter Kingstone, various public spaces in Toronto, ON.  
Tongue in Chic, S.P.I.N. Gallery, Toronto, ON.
- 2001 I Believe In The Good of Life, Closing exhibition, West Wing Art Space, Toronto, ON.  
60 Minutes, MFA group show, The Gallery, North York, ON.  
Backstabber, Ides of March Show, Art Metropole, Toronto, ON.
- 2000 Cigar Box Show, Neutral Ground Artist Run Centre, Regina, SK.  
Miracle, Religious Fanatic Art Party, West Wing Art Space, Toronto, ON.  
Minimum Wage Kinky, Art Party, West Wing Art Space, Toronto, ON.  
Homosaic 3, Third Annual Queer Pride Week Art Show, Neutral Ground Artist Centre, Regina, SK.  
The Inaugural Ball, Gallery launch, West Wing Art Space, Toronto, ON.  
Redline Auction, A Silent Auction Exhibition, the antechamber, Regina, SK.  
Generation Next(1), Works From the Next Generation of Regina Artists, Rosemont Art Gallery, Regina, SK.  
Delineating Space, MFA group show, IDA Gallery, North York, ON.
- 1999 Homosaic, The Second Annual Pride Week Art Show, Neutral Ground Artist Centre, Regina, SK.  
Generation Q, The First International Queer Youth Art Expo, Queer Arts Resource, San Francisco, CA. USA.  
BFA Convocation Show, works from the graduating class, Fifth Parallel Gallery, Regina, SK.  
Members Excess, an exhibition of new work by Neutral Ground's membership, Neutral Ground Artist Run Centre, Regina, SK.

#### Reviews and Press Coverage

- 2005 Scouting New Meaning, by RM Vaughan, National Post: Toronto, Sat. Oct. 8, 2005, Toronto, ON.
- 2004 The Hot List, OUT Magazine, June 2004, Los Angeles, CA.
- 2003 Artist Profile: Daryl Vocat, by Andrea Raymond, Surface & Symbol: A publication of the Scarborough Arts Council, Volume 15, No. 7, September 2003, Scarborough, ON.  
Another Fun Idea Shotgun Review, by Ian McNulty, Lola 16, Summer 2003, Toronto, ON.  
Scout's Honour, by Agnieszka Matejko, Vue Weekly, April 3-10, 2003, Edmonton, AB  
Vivid Imagery Employed by Daryl and Daryl Blurs Artistic Lines, by Gilbert Bouchard, Edmonton



- Journal, March 28, 2003, Edmonton, AB.  
 Drawing Attention Shotgun Review, by Bill Clarke, Lola 15, Spring 2003, Toronto, ON.  
 Drawing Attention Shotgun Review, by Jennifer Matotek, Lola 15, Spring 2003, Toronto, ON.  
 2002 Unplugged Art: Daryl Vocat, by Deirdre Hanna, Universe Vol 1, No 3, December 2002, Toronto,  
 Daryl Vocat, Rules Of The Playground, by Andrew Paterson, Lola 14, Winter 2002-3, Toronto, ON.  
 Daryl Vocat: Open Studio, by Ed Sinclair, www.hivezine.com, Toronto, ON.  
 2001 Always Be Prepared, Xtra!, April, Toronto, ON.  
 Best Bets, Eye, April Toronto, ON.  
 2000 Homosaic 3 Has Positivist, Inclusive Agenda, by Jack Anderson, The Leader-Post, Regina, SK.  
 Generation Next. By Greg Beatty, The Prairie Dog, February, Regina, SK.  
 Queer Art and Culture on the Internet, San Francisco Bay Times, San Francisco, CA. USA.  
 1999 What's In A Name?, By Greg Beatty, The Prairie Dog, June, Regina, SK.  
 Queer Arts resource Features Generation Q, San Francisco Bay Times, San Francisco, CA. USA.

#### Published Writings

- 2004 Weaving Spells (Kai Chan), Xtra!, #523, Nov 11, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 The Dark Abyss (Shary Boyle), Xtra!, #521, Oct 14, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Get Stacked (Toronto Public Library), Xtra!, #521, Oct 14, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Girl Nerd Free-For-All (Ladyfest Toronto), Xtra!, #520, Sep 30, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Intimacy Shrouded (John Monteith), Xtra!, #519, Sep 16, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Piecing It Together (John Oswald/Andrew Morrow), Xtra!, #519, Sep 16, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 In Divine Shadows (Daniel Barrow), Xtra!, #518, Sep2, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Brittle Masculinity (Lex Vaughn, Xtra!, #517, Aug 19, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Inside Out Makes A Commitment To Development, Xtra!, # 510, May 13, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Give a Squeeze (Queer Zine Fair), Xtra!, #508, April 15, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Threatened Innocence (Michael Caines), Xtra!, #506, March 18, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Under Pressure (Luis Jacob), Xtra!, #505, March 4, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Slippery Queers (Art Gallery of York University), Xtra!, #504, February 19, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Hey, Good Buddy (Andrew Hardwood), Xtra!, #504, February 19, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 Warped & Deft (Carl Stewart), Xtra!, #503, February 5, 2004, Toronto, ON.  
 1998-04 HeartattaCk fanzine, Regular Columnist, Goleta, CA. USA.  
 2003 In The Gallery: Perfectly Normal, Snapline, SNAP Newsletter, Spring 2003  
 2002 Lisa Deanne Smith, Vegetarian Gravy, Facials, Shotgun Reviews, Lola 14, Winter 20022003,  
 Toronto, ON.

- 2001 Limp Wrist Recruits, Xtra!, #439, August 23, 2001, Toronto, ON.  
Not Without A Fight, CD Compilation, Hegerstown, MD. USA.
- 2000 Shotgun Review, Minimum Wage Kinky, Lola No. 8 Winter 2000-2001, Toronto, ON.
- 1999 S.Y.F.M. Fanzine, Issue 2, Minneapolis, MN. USA.
- 1998 Queer Like Me, The Prairie Dog, October, Regina, SK.
- 1995-98 Eightfold Path fanzine, Issue 1-5, Regina, SK.

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