



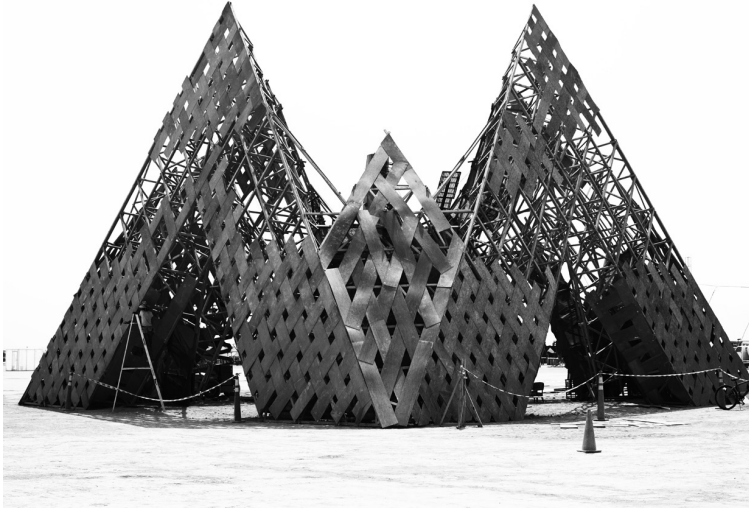
## The cradle that rocks

On trading that last shirt for a thing of beauty

By Zhenya S

If us (humans) were to show somebody out there, an extra-terrestrial species, something we have done and are proud of, what would it be? Weapons? Alcohol? Music? Democracy?

This is the question humans who built the Cradle of Mir, the giant wooden structure out on the Playa with the inter-



The Cradle of Mir. Photo by Kolya D

national space station inside, whose grandeur competes only with the Temple, want visitors to ask themselves. What do we have to show for being humans living on Planet Earth?

If you think you have a good suggestion, leave a message while visiting the installation. The message will be sent when it burns at 9pm on Friday night. Sioma and Sasha, the Cradle's two brain parents, say Dave X, the man reportedly in charge of burning things on the Playa, told them he

liked the project so much he was going to burn it himself.

Here are a few facts about the crew: Sioma and Sasha's team is 27 members strong. Most live in Russia and have never been to Burning Man or the US. Many quit their jobs to be part of it.

After they finished building on Monday afternoon, Sasha said the plan for the rest of the week was to "dissolve into the Burning Man family." That (On to page 3)

## Twelve hours

Entry to Bat Country

By Paul K

It wasn't with weary eyes that had seen it all that my friends and I set out from San Francisco in a pickup truck on Sunday morning, bound for Burning Man. But we weren't naïve about the journey, either. I had been before, as had the driver, Michael. Our friend, Maja, was a virgin, but we tried to keep her expectations of the trip realistic: standard road trip until past Reno and after that, a grueling traffic jam until you're birthed out of the gate onto the playa four hours later. We knew the route could toss surprises our way – we were prepared for the unexpected. We were even prepared that we may not have been entirely prepared – that it may take five hours after Reno. Or six. That was OK, we didn't mind.

It took twelve. It took twelve hours after Reno, plus a toll on our psyche.

I spoke later to Buttercup, a greeter, and Phlapjak, a Gate official. They both said basically the same thing. "Sunday and Monday are peak hours," Buttercup told me. Yes, "Sunday is still a very, very busy day for the gate," said Phlapjak. But they (On to page 2)

## Keeping them worried

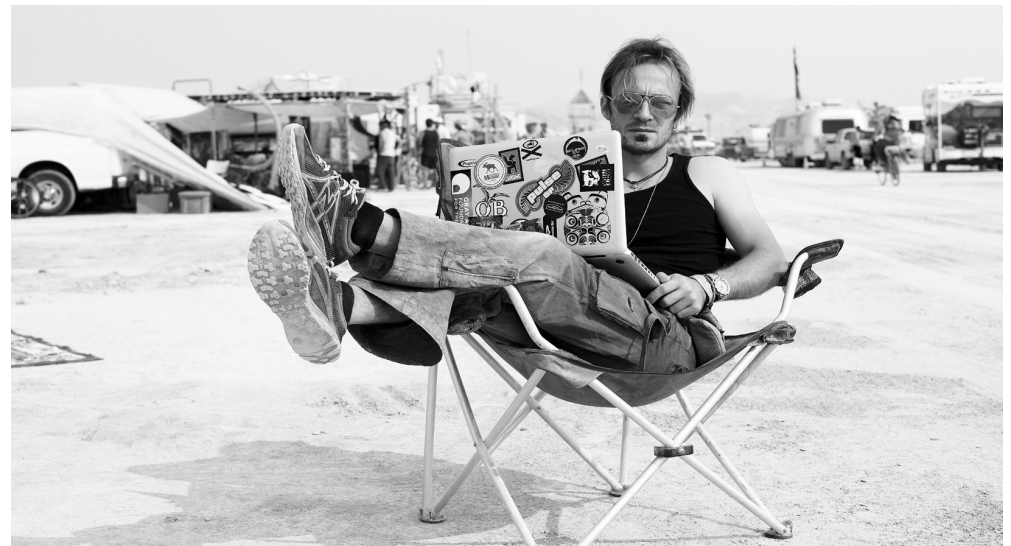
How to make sure people read your blog - By

Aaron L

Black Rock City ain't only on the playa these days. It's gone virtual. We miss this place so much we read all kinds of shit about it online during the rest of the year and post about it on Facebook and whatnot. We caught up with and asked a few questions of Amar Terroir, the author of them.burners – a popular Burning Man-related blog.

DP: So what made you start a blog?

AT: I wanted to make sure that burners on and off playa had something to talk about. A lot of the time, especially during hot Black Rock City siestas, whole (On to page 3)



Amar Terroir - the man who worries. Photo by Kolya D

## 12 hours (from Page 1)

didn't mention that anything was out of the ordinary this year. "So far, it's working very, very well," Phlapjak told me. And maybe we were in an unlucky batch of Burners that rolled in to the 45-mile mark outside of Black Rock City at 7:30pm on Sunday evening, not having yet reached Empire, only to wait for an hour and a half to be allowed to proceed, then again being stopped inexplicably for another hour ten miles later.

Ten hours later and finally within four cars of the gate, at 5:30am, we waited another hour as a shift change took place. Bad luck, for sure – our sleep-deprived, delirious minds having to contemplate how we could have possibly expected to reach our camp by midnight the previous night – how could we have been so foolish? Living in our truck was the new normal – indeed, we'd get married, have children and die in this truck. Our families would remember nothing of our lives before this truck for this was all that mattered now – sitting in this line at hour twelve or thirteen of what should have been an eight hour trip at most from San Francisco.

This is to say nothing of the con-



Virgin taking her first dust bath. Photo by Kolya D

spiracy theories of Burners in the line as we were stopped the first time. Aliens! Infiltrators! Extreme Police Action! (That last one being fairly plausible considering we observed a chopper some ten miles away conducting a spot light search of a mountain side, assisted by a heavy police escort, for over two hours.)

None of it was true, of course, or at least unconnected to our wait. Phlapjak told me the flaggers from Exodus and Traffic – a separate arm of Gate, Perimeter, and Access

– were likely responsible for the experience I described, but that he was unaware of any inward pulsing. This traffic pulsing grows and shrinks at different times. It doesn't explain why we got trapped in it so extremely – again, bad luck is likely the only explanation – but once we saw the sunrise as we approached the gate, and certainly once we set up our structures and settled in, the traffic fiasco fell away as so much of the default world experience tends to do here at Burning Man.

## How many cocks have you seen?

...or Anthony Wiener's wet dream - By Zhenya

La is high in the running for the woman who's seen the most penises and vaginas in the world. The amount of vaginas she's seen may only be trumped by a career gynecologist. Peniswise, well, she says she's seen about as many.

We're talking hundreds. Collectively, photographers in her camp, called the Genital Portrait Studio (4:15 and Extraterrestrial), have laid their lenses onto thousands and thousands of cocks, pussies, butts and boobies.

Going strong for about 13 years, GPS is a Burning Man establishment. They'll shoot your junk and turn it into a shiny laminated photo ID that works at every bar on the Playa. Guaranteed!

Has Anthony Wiener swung by? Not yet, and that is a crying shame. "It's totally like up his alley," La says. "He'd be like, 'Hey, why didn't I think of that?'"

As a pro, Wiener probably would



Gender alchemy flower - by Katia G

not have the shrinkage problem I had when I pulled my pants down to get my ID made. La says the presence of the camera does not

usually have the cold-water effect, but it certainly did in my case, despite the incredibly hot couple that did a penetration shot before me in line.

Oh, well. I'll have to do another take sometime later in the week, maybe even take advantage of one of the two fluffers on hand at GPS. "Sometimes you want to look your best, so we help you out with that," La says. Naturally, you wonder whether the fluffers have ever fluffed each other. The answer is "NO." The closest they got so far is having been fluffed in proximity of each other.

I skipped the fluffers but still had to settle on a pose. If you've got a penis, you can do a slightly-sideways shot, a symmetrical flaunt-your-cock-like-you-have-one kind of a deal, or an advanced-level option where you bend over and present the backside of your scrotum, your asshole and, of course, the thick blue vein running down the back of your cock.

Short story short, if you're ever going to get a portrait of your genies, the best way to do it is to visit GPS at 4:15 and E.

## Cradle (from Page 1)

came off unintentionally coy. They came to the Burning Man pathos themselves before they ever knew it was a Burning Man pathos.

It came out of their experience at the Empty Hills (Poostiye Holmy) festival in Russia. It is a music and free-expression festival (free of charge) on a river. It attracts 50,000-60,000 people each year. Sasha says they came for a few years just to party and eventually realized they wanted to do more than just hang. So they started building bridges.

Empty Hills takes place on both sides of a river, you see. Across that river they built bridges 30-40 meters long simply because simply had gotten a bit boring.

Building things at festivals became their thing. A big chunk of the Cradle was funded by Sasha, Sioma and company building cafes at different outdoor events around Russia and selling food and drinks. They did get an official BM grant for the Cradle but that only covered the materials, so they successfully Kickstarted some cash and the rest was paid for by the crew's own lifeblood.

They say they want to assimilate into the family. I'd say they were part of this family long before they stepped foot onto the Playa.

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## How many is too many?

By Tanya H

Camp - large or small? A tight bunch of friends or a huge crowd of strangers to meet? Lauren, of camp Panda, says their camp started off as six people, and they had a blast. Every evening, they had dinner together, watched out for each other and all that good community stuff.

A couple from Camp pendant that met on the Playa back then is getting married at this burn! Yay! So the next year they had a camp of 15, and then of 24. It does not feel as intimate anymore, but hey, you get to meet more people that way and do more stuff - like handing out bloody Mary shots and playing grateful dead.

Lauren thinks 15 is optimal, yet you can scale up even further to hundred-people camps like Disorient. Huge camps are more stable to all sorts of mishaps, so they have more options for fun playa gifting.

Page 3

## This will happen to you

THE DAILY PLAYA WHOROSCOPE

**Aries:** A stranger by the port-o-potties, will give you that bolt you need to finish your chill-out dome construction.

**Taurus:** Ice cream at French Quarter Bakery will run out, just as you get there! >\_<

**Gemini:** That giant rubber ducky is trying to eat you!

**Cancer:** When you see a unicorn, you have to ride it!

**Leo:** Find Bat Country, you'll feel better. ;)

**Virgo:** Your birthday is coming up. Our gift to you is playa dust all over your house.

**Libra:** That weight gain you're worried about is just a layer of playa dust.

**Scorpio:** Pace yourself, there is still half a camp you haven't slept with!

**Sagittarius:** Just because it's Burning Man, doesn't mean it has to burn when you pee, man!!

**Capricorn:** You will see the most amazing abstract installation. When you remember it later, you will realize it was a penis!

**Aquarius:** Calm down, you brought enough water.

**Pieces:** A spiritual awakening comes with lack of sleep.



Don't MOOP this paper - BURN IT!

## Terroir (from Page 1)

groups of people sit around just gazing blankly into space. Nothing to talk about. And that's a problem I was really looking to solve with them.burners. That and the problem of not getting enough views on my website.

**DP:** How has the response to your work been so far?

**AT:** It's good, man. People repost my stuff all over their Facebook and whatnot.

**DP:** That's great, what makes them repost it?

**AT:** Well, basically, it's gotta have a good headline. That's a start. And then, of course, it's gotta get people real emotional. Het up, you know? You gotta have a punchy piece that hits people somewhere sensitive.

**DP:** What do you mean?

**AT:** For example, you might tell people their favorite underwear is going to be set on fire by a very particular sociopath. Or that their favorite city is under threat of invasion of locusts. Stuff like that.

**DP:** Wow! That's intense stuff, man. Don't you think people might get scared?

**AT:** Oh, yeah, sure. But let me tell you something about fear, man. Fear. Is. Good. It keeps us safe. It keeps us concerned about our safety. It prevents accidents. The world is a dangerous place. And we want to be safe. And for that we need to be afraid. All the time. Also, fear makes people repost my articles on Facebook and whatnot.

**DP:** I'd be concerned about spreading panic, aren't you?

**AT:** Yeah, man, I get concerned about that. I just took two hits of acid and the rabid desert spiders are comin' at me. From the inside, ya know? But it's cool, man, because I had two hundred thousand eunuchs read my article about the incoming sharknado that's about to hit Burning Man. Have you heard about this?

**DP:** Eunuchs? What? And what the fuck is a sharknado?

**AT:** Eunuch visitors. And a sharknado's shark-infested tornado, of course. My blog has helpful tips about the best type of spear to bring to the playa. You have your spear with you, right?

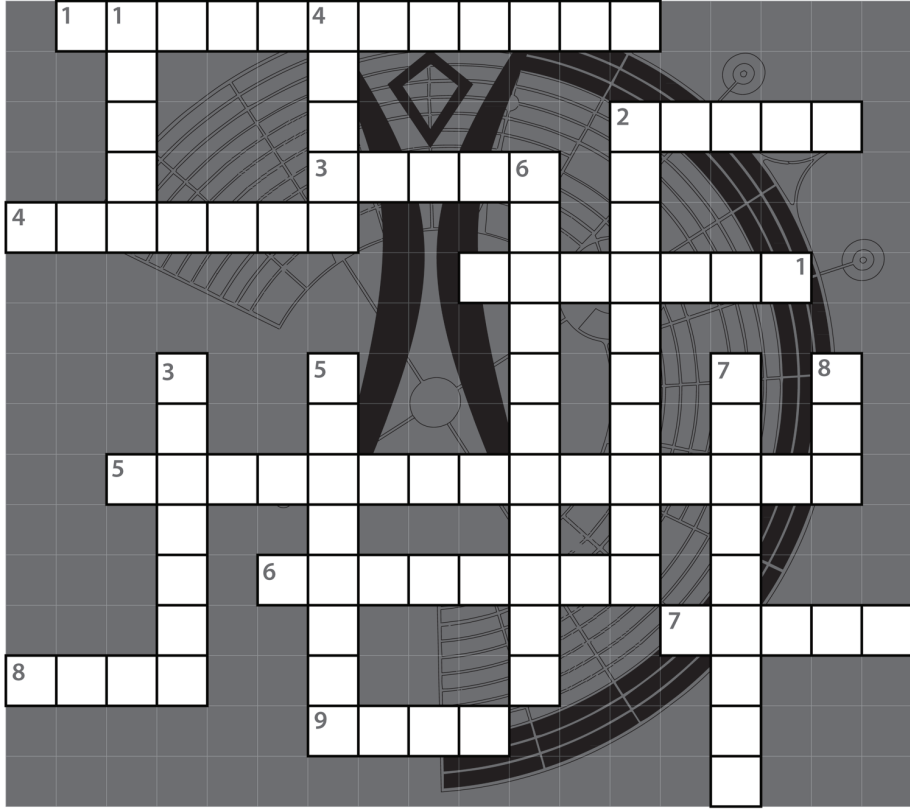
**DP:** What? No.

**AT:** See, this is what I'm talking about. Safety, safety, safety!

**DP:** Well, thank you for that interview. Goodbye.

The Daily Playa - 7:15 and B

**First to bring solved crossword to Daily Playa @ 7:15 & B gets their photo and a quote published in the Friday issue.**



**Left to right:**

- 1. worse for a man than being naked
- 2. color of the playa
- 3. he burnt the man on wednesday
- 4. crusty feet's best friend
- 5. PBR @ 9:00 plaza
- 6. unicorns' shit
- 7. keeps BRC from blowing away
- 8. creates, destroys and makes everything better
- 9. playa hates it

**Down:**

- 1. most common race on the playa
- 2. best defense against citation or arrest
- 3. in the air when temple burns
- 4. color of your piss
- 5. causes you to rub vinegar on your ass
- 6. a shiny thing you really want to ride
- 7. daily playa had for dinner on monday
- 8. space station at 5:30 and playa

**Right to left:**

- 1. the principles?

**PRIVATE ART TOUR ON BIKES**

Bring your bike, curiosity and learn about art on the Playa.

Hosting in English with an occasional Russian joke (you probably won't get it, but we try).

Meet Tuesday at 4pm in front of two hands (Central Camp). Look for a tri-cycle and a polka-dot umbrella.



**MAGIC SHOW!!!!!!**

Fire, beautiful girls and OTHER magic  
Come get tricked by Vlad! Guaranteed!  
I guarantee it cuz is seen it. Consider mind blown

Dust Circus (7:45@I)  
Tuesday, Thursday, Friday  
4, 7, 10pm

**ATTENTION!**

Come get some juggling, tight-rope and poi skills at the Misfit Circus at 7:15 and B. Stop by any time to get entertained and educated.



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