The Temple is Coming

By Shipwreck

A well known artist on the Playa, David Best, has returned this year with a fantastic temple structure. Each year our community showcases art which is larger than life. Best’s temples included. When Best was asked where he thinks this is all going, he said, “In some ways we are getting caught up in what the cities got caught up in, building higher and higher. I would like to build a five foot temple.” Yet Best’s temple is larger than life in more than just physical scale. The belief behind this year’s Temple of Honor is permeating and powerful to the soul. It is the belief of forgiveness.

“Honor belongs to all people, it is honorable to stand-up for your views, resisting is honorable, the temple is about dishonor,” Best said. Although the white script on black backdrops may lead some to think that the exhibit is referencing current events and politics, Best said, “it has nothing to do with the War in the Middle East, Bush, or patriotism.” The temple was a place to be forgiven, he said. “We’re compromising our dishonor.”

It has not been all fun and games for Best. Delays have begged down the Temple of Honor project since its inception. Confidential sources told the BRG the BRG’s task is to fabricate the Temple of Honor was originally fabricated by the La Fiesta Pinata Factory operating out of Chula Vista, Calif. The source mentioned that the reason for choosing this factory was that the total cost of materials was $700, with a $200 delivery cost to Petaluma. From Petaluma, it only cost Best $45 to move all materials and crew to the playa. Truly beyond belief and under budget.

The ‘Anti-Cult’ speaks out

By How Weird and Liene Gabora

We have with us an intergalactically acclaimed expert on cults, who for reasons pertaining to his discretion, wallflower nature — not to mention fears of persecution shall be known by the psychonym “Funkydude.” Our acclaimed expert says, “The real cults are punies when it comes to individual freedom. When it comes to individual freedom, it is everything I have to say on the topic.”

But not quite. What is the difference between a group of people who are genuinely interested in what they are doing, and a group of people involved in a cult? The test to determine whether a group is a cult, Funkydude says, is to see what happens when members decide to leave. If the group accepts the will of the individual and allows the wayward being to continue down his or her unique and merry path, then no worries. But if the group tries to pull the wayward being back, watch out! For a cult will pressure you to bend your belief system into the group groove, Funkydude says, distorting you from your true path, your reason for being, and your inner nature. Your soul is captured.

Funkydude also describes a cult as being about the dichotomy between survival of the individual versus survival of the group. “It is the realm of the damned,” he says. And I should know, for I am Funkydude, man of the Anti-Cult.”

With his eyes glazed over in disdain, Funkydude notes the presence of cults in our midst, including the fashion-fixated Costume Cult, the Turnip Head Cult (not available for interview), and the nipple torture cult headed by Nipple Girl, who will lure you to suckle her tortured nipples — only to put you under a heady spell, leaving you lying in a puddle of playa dust in a state of breathless exhilaration.

Dog Gone Confused?

By PlayaFrog

If Burning Man does not allow dogs any more, are there still dogs on the playa? The exceptions are the dogs that reside with Department of Public Works members and other Burning Man staff — who spend weeks or months building, setting up, maintaining and removing Black Rock City from the desert. These folks work long weeks in the sun and dust to secure the infrastructure of our beautiful city.

Some staff members do not have a permanent address, or have no choice but to have their dog with them at all times. One week in a kennel in Reno may cost $100, and two weeks or more can bring the cost to an unreasonable amount. Additionally, most of these dogs have attended Burning Man in the past and their companion people are fully aware of their dogs’ needs and are competent to take care of them. As always, the companion person of a dog is responsible for picking up poop (dog poop) and ensuring proper care of the animal in the desert.

Making sure that our core staff members are good dog people is fairly easy. Trying to ensure the same of thousands of unknown participants is impossible. If any dog or cat (there are rumors of two fish swimming on the playa this year) should be lost or found, or there is an animal emergency, report it to Playa Info. Ask them to radio PlayaFrog.

Playa Shoes — Necessity, personal belief system or cult?

By Lord Foufypamns

Playa Shoes Whore is back and asking, “Is playa footwear all about performance or presentation?” Clearly, Black Rock City life demands galectically than life in unified well known artist on the Playa, David Best, has returned this year with a fantastic temple structure. Each year our community showcases art which is larger than life. Best’s temples included. When Best was asked where he thinks this is all going, he said, “In some ways we are getting caught up in what the cities got caught up in, building higher and higher. I would like to build a five foot temple.” Yet Best’s temple is larger than life in more than just physical scale. The belief behind this year’s Temple of Honor is permeating and powerful to the soul. It is the belief of forgiveness.

“Honor belongs to all people, it is honorable to stand-up for your views, resisting is honorable, the temple is about dishonor,” Best said. Although the white script on black backdrops may lead some to think that the exhibit is referencing current events and politics, Best said, “it has nothing to do with the War in the Middle East, Bush, or patriotism.” The temple was a place to be forgiven, he said. “We’re compromising our dishonor.”

It has not been all fun and games for Best. Delays have begged down the Temple of Honor project since its inception. Confidential sources told the BRG the BRG’s task is to fabricate the Temple of Honor was originally fabricated by the La Fiesta Pinata Factory operating out of Chula Vista, Calif. The source mentioned that the reason for choosing this factory was that the total cost of materials was $700, with a $200 delivery cost to Petaluma. From Petaluma, it only cost Best $45 to move all materials and crew to the playa. Truly beyond belief and under budget.

According to the source, difficulty arose in the construction of the temple because of the instructions shipped along with the materials. Since the workers at the La Fiesta facility are mostly Korean, and the factory is located in close proximity to Tijuana, they were written in Koreish, a cross between Korean and Spanish. It seems it is taking longer than anticipated to decipher them.

The source went on to tell the BRG that La Fiesta could have filled the bulbous globes of the Temple with candy for only $545 over and above the cost of the structure. However, this was rejected by the Best team due to the seri-