

# WRUR 88.5

# npr

2018 | SPRING EDITION | [thesting.wrur.org](http://thesting.wrur.org)



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We can't do this without you!



## A Letter From The GMs

*Toby Kashket '18 and Carrie Taschman '18*

Hi everyone!

Happy end of the school year! Thank you for following WRUR's progress and for all of your great feedback. We are happy we can keep you informed about all the great things we are doing as a station!

We've made a lot of progress this year in all of our departments, and we're excited to share this with you. Dozens of new DJs, productions members, engineers, and others have joined WRUR this semester, and we look forward to watching them grow and develop as a station. Our new leaders will be elected in just a few weeks, and we know they'll do amazingly.

We've really enjoyed our time as the general managers of WRUR. We have learned so many useful skills and experience that we plan to bring with us no matter where our careers take us. As many of you know, members of WRUR receive priceless experience that can be applied to so many disciplines. We have also had a lot of fun! It has been really heartwarming to see the new crop of radio kids get involved and fall in love with it just like we did. Being able to help introduce people to a great, creative space like WRUR has been an honor.

As always, feel free to reach out to us at [caroline.taschman@rochester.edu](mailto:caroline.taschman@rochester.edu) or [tkashket@u.rochester.edu](mailto:tkashket@u.rochester.edu) with any questions or comments!

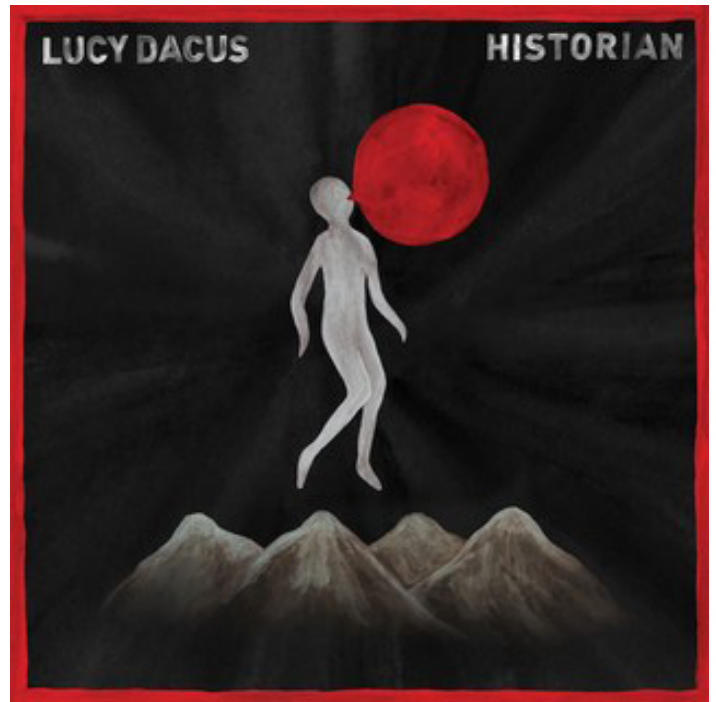
Carrie & Toby



## Album Review: *Historian*

*Molly Robins '20 & Josh Copperman '20*

Lucy Dacus' *Historian* is equal parts an epic poem set to beautiful melodies and a declaration of Dacus' strength as a composer. At the first listen, the smoothness of her voice stands out, along with the overall cleanliness of the sound. Upon a second or even third listen, the necessary details begin to show: the string quartet in "Body to Flame," the quivering organ in "Time-fighter" and "The Shell," and the horn section in "Addictions." Even if these instruments are mixed quietly or only show up for a couple of notes, they are necessary to complete Dacus' ever-so-carefully curated soundscape. The lyrics of *Historian* are worth just as close observation, with lines like "I'm at peace with my death / I can go back to bed" from "Next of Kin" and "In five years I hope these songs feel like covers / dedicated to new lovers" on stand-out opener "Night Shift" alternating between earnest and acerbic. Even when the lyrics are at their bitterest, Dacus sings everything in a warm, deep contralto, making the moments when she bursts out on "Night Shift" and the seven-minute opus "Pillar of Truth" even more dramatic. Highly recommended.



## Sting in the Spring

*Lydia Dake '18*

The Sting has been having a great semester, with 25 shows on air and even a few more in the works for the rest of the school year. Notably, there are two shows that have joined the lineup since last semester's newsletter that seem to be really making an impression!

Joel Mackzum '21, Laurette McNabb '21, and Erin Dietrick '21 host "The Chronicles", Thursdays from 7-8 p.m., where they tell stories of their college experiences (which they appropriately also call their "chronicles") with some of their favorite music interspersed throughout the hour. These charming DJs pull impressive audiences every week and are currently the most listened-to show for the 2017-2018 school year. Their show is laid-back and fun and clearly worth a listen, given how many loyal fans they've garnered!

Sophomores Matty Savich '20 and Maddie Rose '20 host "Queer Talks", Fridays from 3-4 p.m., in which they discuss topics relating to the LGBT+ community and share music from queer artists. These DJs are thoughtful and funny, and they have fantastic chemistry on-air—likely why they've created almost as big of an audience as "The Chronicles" has! This isn't a very common topic on The Sting, so tune in for an interesting, thought-provoking, and fun discussion with these great DJs!

Of course, the many other shows on The Sting have a diverse range of music and discussion, so if you are interested in tuning in to any of our shows, you can check out the whole schedule at [thesting.wrur.org/schedule!](http://thesting.wrur.org/schedule!)

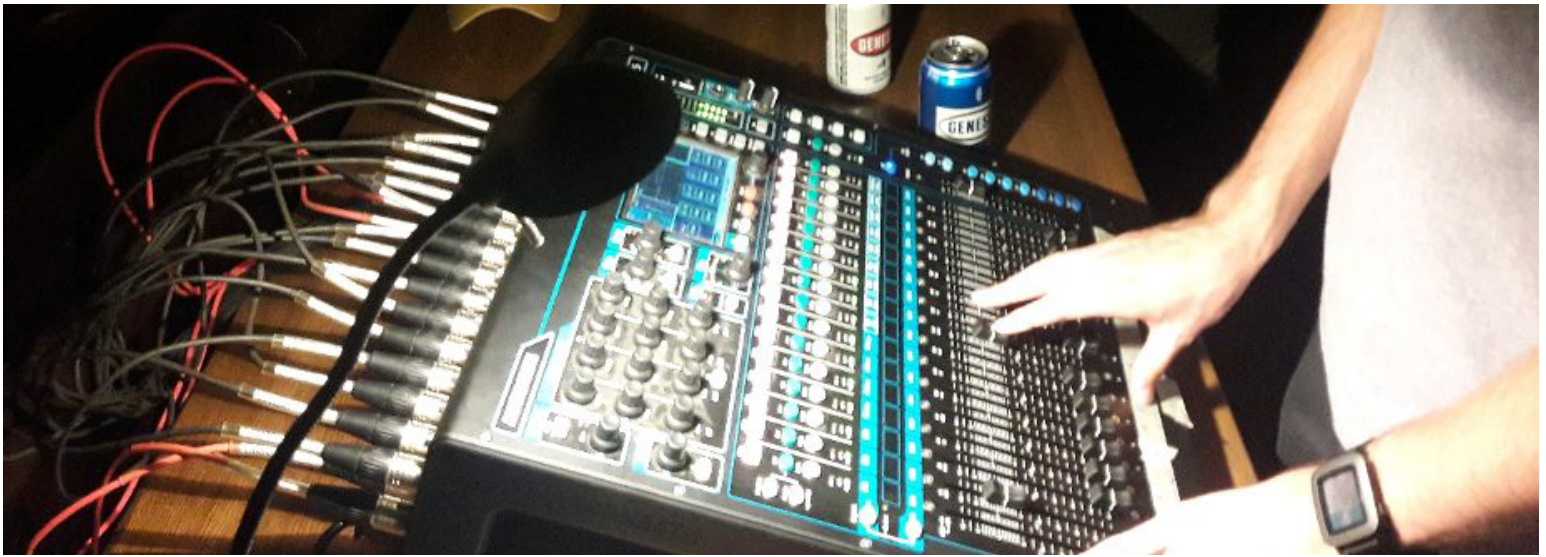


Abi Milner '19

## TV for You and Me

*Jorge Vázquez González '20*

The TV department is always looking for new and meaningful ways to connect with the University community, and our latest venture involves teaming up with student-run newspaper *Campus Times* in what will soon become a weekly student news program! Articles, campus updates, stories, and more will be discussed on the program with the idea of connecting to more students in a way that hasn't been done before. Keep an eye out on our Facebook page and YouTube channel as well as on the *Campus Times* for the new program, starting late this semester or by the beginning of the new school year in the fall!



## Productions

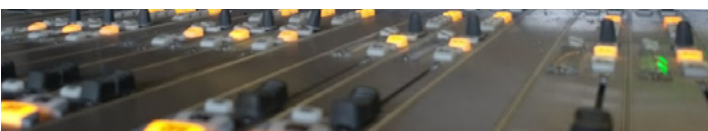
*John Pinto '20*

The bleak midwinter tends to be an admittedly slow time for the WRUR Productions Department, as third-party organizations understandably do not ask us to provide live sound for outdoor events when said outdoors have gone downright arctic. This semester, however, the department has been very busy, pursuing entirely new projects as well as reinvesting in older ones.

Friday Night Live, a weekly ECM-hosted concert held in the Wilson Commons Starbucks from 10 p.m. to 12 a.m., is once again being broadcasted live on The Sting, thanks to a joint effort between Productions, The Sting, and Engineering. The project has been invaluable in exposing Productions members to the inner-workings of our fellow departments, promoting unity amongst WRUR's various disciplines.

The Productions Department has also, for the first time, expanded its live sound support to No Jackets Required (NJR), the University's rock and pop ensemble. The department stepped in to work live sound for NJR's recent "Vinyl Show", a tribute to the hits of the '60s, '70s, and '80s. Productions also had a great time doing sound again for ADP's long-running "Eastman on Campus" concert earlier this semester.

Finally, we are still working away at one of our oldest projects, renovating the Meat Locker, WRUR's in-house recording studio. Thanks to continuous efforts by Facilities and recently increased involvement from station alumni, we hope to restore the Meat Locker to its former glory soon.



## Engineering

*Teddy Reiss '18*

This year has been very exciting for WRUR Engineering. We have been working on upgrades to various systems and new projects. Some of the highlights include:

- A soon-to-be-published intuitive Now Playing system
- A new Sting streaming server
- Upgrades to the inventory and real-time monitoring system
- An RFID inventory tracking system
- Temperature and humidity monitoring for the Engineering Department
- Working light switches in the Pre-record Studio/Studio B and soon to be working light switches in the Sting Studio and CD Library
- A studio-in-use/on-air lighting system to show which studio is on the air

Dan Luna '88 visited us recently to help on projects and share his knowledge and insight on how everything in the station worked (and works). With his help, we were able to fix the light switch in the Pre-record Studio (Studio B) and soon will be fixing the light switches in the Sting Studio and CD Library. Additionally, following his recommendation and in collaboration with the Productions Department, we are temporarily moving the Meat Locker studios while we begin renovating them. The FM Studio, when not in use for FM broadcasting, will serve as a control room and the Pre-record Studio (Studio B) will serve as the live room.

Upcoming Projects:

- A new user interface for the monitoring system
- Temporary space for the Meat Locker
- A music cataloging system that is even easier for the Music Department than the current one
- TV broadcasting on Channel 3.2 and online (live and automated)

## Music In The Tunnels 2018

*David VanderMeer '18*

Musicians were called for to perform short sets in high traffic areas of the University of Rochester tunnel system between classes on Wednesday, March 7, for crowds of students and faculty going by. The acts included NJR's acoustic ensemble, some musically gifted members of WRUR such as John Pinto '20 (Lake Saint Helens), and Joshua Copperman '20 (Fell from the Tree). The event was received very positively by the community and went off without a hitch. The Art and Music Library welcomed piano performers who played on the benches by its entrance. Snippets of each act's performance were filmed and will be made into a compilation video by the TV Department. Look for it to be released soon!



*Dannie Marsella '20 and Daniel Fine '19 putting bad album covers to good use.*

## Fundraising Note

The University of Rochester's radio station WRUR serves the campus with programming aimed at University of Rochester students, faculty, and staff, and provides quality public radio programming that enriches the greater Rochester area. In addition to providing a public media service, WRUR also gives students leadership and radio operation opportunities. Tune in for music selected by our very own students, news about campus events and activities, live broadcasts of club and sporting events (hockey is especially popular!), and much much more.

We can't do this without your support! This year, we're especially in need of a new console for our FM studio - and in order to pay for it, we require funding. Please help us by contributing to our organization and becoming a Friend of WRUR. You can donate using the following link:

<http://uofr.us/RochesterMT>

The University's online giving form allows you to quickly conveniently and securely make a gift online.

**FOLLOW THESE EASY STEPS:**

1) Choose an amount to give under

### **Gift Information**

2) From the drop down list titled **Please designate my gift**, select **Other (please specify)**

3) In the **Other gift designation** box, write **WRUR**

4) You will receive an official receipt from the University and your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law

***We thank you from the bottoms of our FM hearts!***

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## Contact Us

Comments, questions, or feedback?

Contact the Creative Director

directly at the email listed above.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram at @wrur for more updates!