

DIVERSE CITY

Magazine

Easter 2018



EASTER CELEBRATION
KITE FLYING ON EASTER
PEPPERPOT CLUB
SIGNS AND SYMBOLS
EYES ON THE SKY PHOTOS



DIVERSE CITY

World Magazine



Celebrating Diverse City Magazine's first anniversary

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Contact:

ALLY Media
 Email: allyproduction@yahoo.com
 Website: www.allymedia.ca
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Diverse City Magazine One year anniversary

We're celebrating our one-year anniversary of the Diverse City Magazine, launched on March 5, 2017, just over a year. While I was on face book in 2017, another magazine which I believe at the time was from California with a similar title was also launched. We also congratulate Calgary for also launch their magazine on diversity later in March 2017.

In the coming months, we look forward to learning more and writing more articles on cultures around the world, celebrating the world's diversity.



I would like to thank everyone that have submitted pictures, wrote articles, read the magazine, and supported us over the past year...Fisal Ally



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SIGNS & SYMBOLS RULE THE WORLD

By F. Ally

Look around and what do you see? Signs and symbols are everywhere, directing us where to go and what to buy. We also send out our own signs and symbols. Some lives by these signs and symbols. Some are even encoded with secret messages that only some understands. Just the other day as I was driving, I became a little distracted by one of those big digital road signs, when I saw a radio station flashing some symbols; many see one meanings in these symbols, and others like myself gets a different message from those same symbols. Signs and symbols certainly do rule us in many ways.

We're under constant surveillance

In this day and age, there are many more signs and symbols that rules us today. Everywhere there are photo radars signs, warning symbols and many others. I have mentioned in the past editions of this magazine that people today and over the past few years have many concerns about us being tracked online by scammers, schemers and plotters as they send out their signs, symbols and messages, scheming to get information to our bank accounts, solicitors scamming us through phone calls, children being lured out of their homes and being brainwashed over the internet to meet with people without their parents permission. I've mentioned over and over that I am also very conserved that people like myself are being targeted and that our work is being stolen as we typed and are being published whether in full or parts before we get to published our work, where the scammers can then have us framed, claiming that we are the ones that's stealing their work, and the scammers can be the ones in three piece suits and in the professional fields, and not just the person scheming and plotting from their rooms.

A short video called, American Satan, showed up on my YouTube and watched it. And in this video, a man was tracking a band. He showed up two more times. But he wanted to make a deal with the band, where the band became famous over night. Similar to this, many of us are being tracked.

The changing times

We are living in a time where major changes are taking place, especially with being under continuous surveillance. Over the past few decades, people have been too preoccupied with their television sets, socializing, partying, hanging out at bars and movie complexes that they have had no time to witness the changes taking place right in front of their eyes. Today many are too busy on their cell phones, texting, surfing the Internet, and spending their lives on Facebook and other mediums that they don't even have a clue as to what's going on in this world, except from what they are being fed. Many are also buying into fake news and not being able to distinguish the difference between facts and fiction.

We are being bombarded with Advertisements

We are drawn by these signs and symbols. For example, as we enter the mall, we look for our favorite signs and symbols for stores, cafes, clothes etc.... And we are under constant surveillance as we shop. The cameras are everywhere. And when you reach home, you start receiving advertisements on products, which you were looking at, even if you had not purchased any nor given out your email.

And if you go to a website accidentally, you will even start receiving ads on products from where you had accidentally visited. And by them sending you these messages, there can also be signs and symbols in hidden messages. For example, your information are being collected without you even knowing it, you are being carted to what they think your needs are. For some or many, this can be considered a form of harassment.

The movie, The Echelon Conspiracy

On around Saturday, March 17, 2018, some relatives came over and I pulled out some movies which I believe I brought from Toronto around the year 2009 and have not watched any of them. One of my relatives picked out the movie called The Echelon Conspiracy. The main character in this movie had received a cell phone from an unknown, and as he used it, he began to receive text messages instructing him on how to win a lot of money. He was being tracked by a system, and it became suspicious to the casino's management, where their cameras can zoom right into his cell phone and saw a message being sent to his cell as he wins. In the movie, Echelon is a software that tracks all phone calls and emails, and this computer was intelligent, spying and tracking people. Isn't this what's happening today.

I stopped watching TV, stopped listening to the radio, and do not have a cell phone

As I have stated over and over, since 2011, I have witnessed my music and literature being used by others without my written contract and without a lawyer involved, and I couldn't do anything about it. Very often as soon as I put out my song lyrics, the unique ideas start appearing on mainstream commercials and music. I had other people listen to some of the music and lyrics and they surely claim that those are from my original work. Around June 2017 I stopped watching TV and I rarely listened to the radio, except that sometimes relatives would come over and put on the TV, or the radio alarm will go off for a short time. I also do not have a cell phone. I had escaped the ads from the TV set and radio, but then suddenly, the ads start showing up while I'm watching YouTube videos, and often they are related to something I was doing or talking about, similar to like when you enter a mall and go shopping and suddenly all kinds of ads start showing up in your email or while you are surfing the internet. Then I began to notice similar things to what I'm doing on the big bulletin boards on the paths I regularly take while driving my car; I gave an example below.

But what are those signs and symbols I've been receiving

In the February / March edition of the Diverse City Magazine, I had mentioned the empty DVD case which I found with the heading 'Your Fear Is Their Desire' as I returned home on Thursday, January 19, 2018 around 4:30pm, the day for garbage pickup. The empty DVD case was for the movie, The Flock. I have been speaking out and writing about my original music (parts of my songs, melodies and lyrics) and literature being used by others, and I wondered if this is a sign to instill fear in me about speaking out. It's not only me, there are millions of victims out there that are being victimized in many ways through schemes and plots.



The back cover says,
**'Your Fear is their
desire.'**

The front cover says: **How will you recognize the evil you cannot see, and a part of the description on the back says: ...his unorthodox approach has rubbed his superiors the wrong way and he is being forced out of his job...**The words made me wonder about this.



Then two weeks later, this box with a brown bear was left at the same spot where I had placed the garbage and recycling box. I did not immediately take a picture, but a day later, I re-enacted the place and spot. I wondered about the signs and symbols. Was this message for me?



Another week passed and I placed the box with the brown bear into the recycling box, and that same day on or around Feb 15, 2018, I found a new box that says 'Super squeeze' at the same spot. When I looked around, there are no other garbage around the neighborhood. Is there a message in all of this? Imagine what the neighborhood would look like if a box or something were dropped at everyone's home in the area? The following week, I place the box into the recycling bin and since then I had not received anything else.



But on Good Friday, March 30, 2018, in the morning I looked out the window and there was this yellow bag with what looked like dog waste out on the sidewalk in front of the house. The following day, I went to have a look, but it was frozen hard and could not be removed. Was this another sign?

Signs on bulletin boards

On a Saturday in March 2017, someone was telling me about a friend from the past. A few days later, the company this person works for showed up on the big bulletin board right on the main road from where I live. And more began to show up mainly on the few roads I take all the time. There are other similar examples.

Language

I've recently pulled out a book to pay more attention to a language, which I've been learning, and on March 29, 2018 as I went to watch a you tube video, an ad with that same language began to play.

It's as if we are being tracked and spied on - continuous surveillance, and everyday we are being bombarded by signs and symbols that rules our lives and our societies.

**“Signs and Symbols rule the world, not Rules and Laws” -
Confucius**

EASTER CELEBRATION

by F. Ally



Although practices vary, in general many Christians across the lands had celebrated the rising of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday, April 1, 2018. Prior to this celebration, for Lent, many had fasted for forty days abstaining from certain foods, habits and temptations for the forty days, not counting Sundays. Lent does not have a fix date and is calculated each year based on Easter Sunday, and thus this year Lent had begun on February 14, 2018, which was also Ash Wednesday, and which also happened to be the fixed valentines date. After Lent, on Good Friday, tens of millions of Christians across the globe had attended churches.

In streets across the lands, in places such as the Philippines, Spain and Guatemala, the celebrations were grand where there were reenactments of the crucifixion with people carrying the cross and reenactments of being whipped to show the brutally Jesus had endured.

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Easter 2018

Throughout history, many new traditions had surfaced, especially the ones with the Easter Bunny and eating and exchanging chocolate and hard-boiled colored Easter eggs. Some nations celebrated with parades, drumming, and made cakes. In Guyana, South America, although Easter is Christian celebration, there's a kite flying Easter tradition which is celebrated by people of all faiths, races and colors, which some say the rising of the kite symbolizes the rising of Christ, but for many during Easter, kite flying is one of Guyana's biggest tradition.

EDMONTON'S 1st ANNUAL EASTER KITE FLYING FESTIVAL

by Arooka

Edmonton Multicultural Artist Group

To prepare for the 1st Annual Easter Kite Flying Festival, members of the Edmonton Multicultural Artist Group (<http://equusdraco.com/emag/>) have been busy preparing kite kits of a variety of styles. Of course since the whole event was inspired by the Guyanese tradition of kite-flying during Easter. And it certainly was fun getting out and flying a kite, regardless of the snow and cold.

The traditional Guyanese kite, the Singing Engine kite, was shown as an example to our artists, and the creativity kicked in. We used 'plastic' on top of the frame, and not the traditional 'kite paper' used in Guyana. We have put together and put into action...Arooka

THE EASTER KITE TRADITION

by Faisal Ally

Arooka, president of the Edmonton Multicultural Artist Group and I, Faisal (Brian) Ally had met before Easter at one of our favorite cafes, Café Sorrentino, Italian Coffee Co., in West Edmonton Mall to discuss kite flying and we also brought along our smallest kites. Arooka, a prolific writer of over eighty books, including a series of books on kites has been busy with the Multicultural Artist Group in some kite building seminars, where they have attempted to make the Guyanese traditional kite known as the 'Singing Engine' without any instructions to see what they would create, as its always fun creating something new. I had supplied Arooka with some light pieces of wood that comes from coconut tree branches to see what he can create as he himself is also an inventor.

The Pepperpot Club

As for myself and the Pepperpot club, about a months leading up to Easter, I had gotten into the spirit of the Guyanese kite tradition, where the kite flying Easter tradition is celebrated by all faiths, races and colors, and it's a great time for everyone to put their differences aside and celebrate and just have fun. I headed down to Michaels, a store that carries arts and crafts items and bought four sets of light woods to make two-foot Singing engine kites. I then went back and bought some twine, glue and what we call 'kite paper' in Guyana. The first kite I made was out of the fine woods from the coconut tree branches, as I have not made a kite since I had left Guyana as a boy. Because of the continuous snow this year, we did not go out to the acreage, as the kite paper would quickly get ruined once get wet, punching holes into the kites and destroying the kites.

Some members from Alberta Friends of Guyana Association had kept up the Guyanese Kite flying tradition

However, over the years, some members from the Guyana Association in Edmonton have made kites and flew them out on the acreages, keeping up the Guyanese kite flying tradition in Canada.

An acreage booked for kite flying over the Easter weekend in Edmonton

Our plans were to go out and fly kites at an acreage, where I had already made arrangements to meet up with a few from the Fijian culture, who are also very big into kite flying. But we already had already foreseen some problems with the continuous know and that the weather would most likely prevent us from flying our kites in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada for Easter, else we would have been flying kites for over forty years in Edmonton. In Guyana the competitions are fierce and the kites are high up in the air and some times breaks away over the magnificent Atlantic Ocean. Our goals were really to build the kites while Guyanese were busy building the kites, as I believe this kite flying during Easter will become an Easter world tradition, a 'Guyana invention.' On or around Guyana's independence day if the weather permits we will fly our kites, else we have all summer to still enjoy the sport of kite flying. In the February / March edition of the Diverse City Magazine, I had demonstrated some techniques in kite building to assist others.

CANADA'S 1st ANNUAL EASTER KITE FLYING FESTIVAL

KITE FLYING IN THE HEART OF THE AMAZON

by F. Ally

Colorful kites soar the sky on Easter

In Guyana, the small South American country, Easter is not only a celebration for Christians, but its also a Guyanese tradition, where people of all faiths, races and colors celebrated Easter with kite flying, as colorful kites soar the skies about the exotic Atlantic Ocean, the seawall, 63 beach and across the land.

This Easter tradition is a family event and children and adults of all ages with cheerful faces was already gearing up weeks before for this kite festival, where many people from abroad had arrived for the kite festival, the Annual Rodeo and other events, soaking in the tropical sun as the skies over the Atlantic Ocean and everywhere across Guyana were inundated with colorful kites of many sizes and shapes, singing and dancing with long swirling tails and ears flapping, as the sun gleams down and the Atlantic ocean breeze blows throughout the land.

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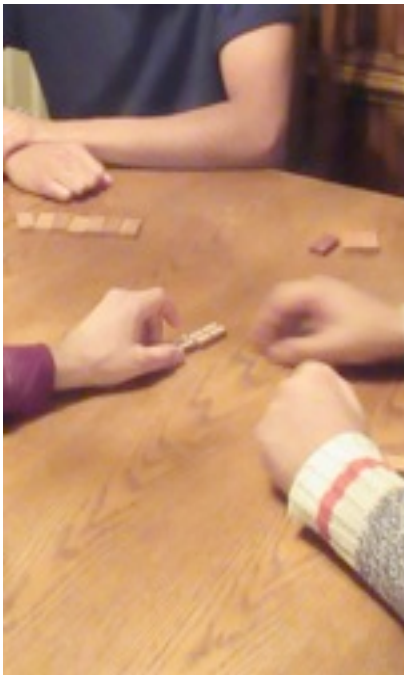
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(LOCATION: EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA)

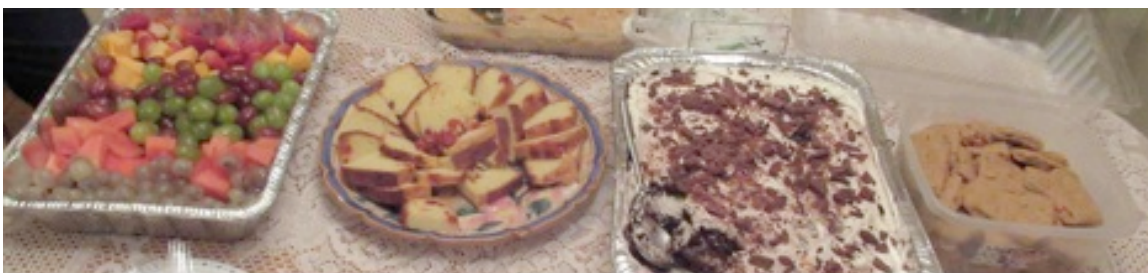
UPCOMING DOMINO TOURNAMENT, COOKOUT AND KITE BUILDING COMPETITION

On Saturday, May 26, 2018, the Pepperpot Club in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada will be having its pepperpot cookout and domino tournament. One may choose to cook something other than pepperpot during the cookout, as the Guyanese tradition is rich in tastes, flavors and cuisines. Like in Guyana, this may take place in backyards, people's homes or at a hall, keeping the Guyanese traditions alive.

The Chinese laborers of Guyana have made kite flying popular in Guyana at Easter. To enter our

KITE BUILDING COMPETITION, please forward an email to allyproduction@yahoo.com

A CHINESE CHECKERS AND CARD COMPETITION may also be included.



*The Guyana Canadian Pepperpot Club,
The Pepperpot Book Club
The Pepperpot Domino Club
The Pepperpot Arts and Sowing Club*

**Pepperpot
Arts & Craft**



a) Prayer coat designed and sown by Faisal Ally.



b) Purse was made by Rene.

a) Faisal's prayer coat was made from a black flexible material which does not wrinkle. It has 5 buttons. It can be taken in a car or in a bag and then put on when ready for prayers. Photo, March 27, 2018.

b) This purse had taken Rene 3 hours to make



c) Hand knitted decoration of swans and flowers over 45 years ago by Naz (Neisha)

c) This decoration was knitted by Naz (Neisha) over 45 years ago in Guyana, and was brought to Canada. Looks complicated and time consuming? Not for Naz. Not only does Naz like cooking, but she has a talent for making clothes, knitting and making decorations.



An older style sowing machine used for making clothes



A new sowing machine used for making clothes

EYES ON THE SKY PHOTOS - WINTER SKY 2018



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Contact email: allyproduction@yahoo.com

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Diverse City Magazine



Photo copyright by Arooka

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