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VOLUME 4 ISSUE 2

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IGNITE PLAYLIST

Listen along while you read!

1. WE DIDN'T START THE FIRE

Billie Joel

2. BURN

Ellie Goulding

3. DYNAMITE

Taio Cruz

4. FIREWORK

Katy Perry

5. FIREBALL

Pitbull, John Ryan

6. FIREFLIES

Owl City

7. TEMPERATURE

Sean Paul

8. FIRE BURNING

Sean Kingston

9. CHASING THE SUN

The Wanted

10. FUEGO

Juanes

11. LIGHT IT ON FIRE

Cowboy Mouth

12. MELT IN THE SUN

Small Fools

13. KISS OF FIRE

Hugh Laurie

14. SUNNY

Boney M.

15. LA CHICA DE HUMO

Emmanuel

16. THIS FFFIRE

Franz Ferdinand

17. I'M ON FIRE

Bruce Springsteen

18. FIRE ON THE MOUNTAIN

Grateful Dead

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Dear Reader,

Each piece this semester reflects just one aspect of how fire, both metaphorically and tangibly, has shaped and continues to shape the course of humanity. This issue is marked by the investigation of fire's historical relevance in folk myth and archaeological history as well as the vigorous energy behind societal evolution. Historically, fire has served as an accelerant to the technological advancement and social change that propels societies forward. Our last issue, *Ripple*, focused on the ways in which seemingly innocuous events and ideas cause subtle alterations in the fabric of humanity over the course of generations. *Ignite*, *Ripple's* antithesis, endeavors to explore what "sparks" humanity: forces that demand immediate reckoning.

The meaning behind ignition today is perhaps more relevant in Western societies than it has been for the last thirty years. As you read through this issue, our hope is that you confront not only the ideas presented in our work, but also those that permeate our TV screens, news articles, and social media feeds. What is it that moves us towards advancement—economically, technologically, and socially? More importantly, what is it that sets us back? We aim to challenge the way you think about fire—not just as a powerful physical force, but as the flame behind societal shifts.

As has become somewhat of a "Letter from the Editor's Desk tradition," it would be remiss to omit a reflection of *Emic's* inner core. What is the flame burning behind our publication? Is it the staff? The interdisciplinary nature of the 'zine? I'd argue that while these are highly influential facets of the 'zine and its production, the spark behind each issue lies within the true nature of the *Emic* itself. Our staff comes and goes, themes change, and 'zine structure shifts. However, one idea has remained constant for the last three years. We've always ventured to answer one question: What does it mean to be human? The essence of this question—and the depth behind it—is what accelerates us forward, not just as a staff, but as members of the human race. It is this exploration that we hope to translate through our writing and design.

As my time with *Emic* comes to an end, I am filled with an overwhelming sense of gratitude for all this magazine has ignited in me. Working alongside our staff to produce issues we're proud of has propelled me to continue my studies and passion projects with renewed vigor and inspiration. Thank you to the amazing staff and faculty who made my time in *Emic* not only impactful, but just pure, unadulterated fun. Most of all, thank you to our readers that continue to amaze me with your support. I'm beyond excited to see what *Emic's* future holds as embers of its past continue to embed themselves in its present.

Anna C. Planco

Editor-in-Chief
Emic Magazine

MEET THE STAFF



EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
ANNA OLINA BLANCO

Pronouns:
She/Her

Major:
Economics

Fun Fact: I'm actually not a huge fan of donuts!

Pronouns:
She/Her

Major:
Anthropology

Fun Fact: I keep The Pirate Movie (1982) soundtrack on repeat



DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
KATE HENRY



CREATIVE DIRECTOR
DYLAN SPEICHER

Pronouns:
She/Her

Major:
Graphic Design

Fun Fact: My favorite movie is *Treasure Planet*

Pronouns:
She/Her

Major:
English/Marketing

Fun Fact: I love the *Discworld* series



EDITORIAL TEAM
VERONICA KERR



DESIGN TEAM
SADIE HART

Pronouns:
She/Her

Major:
Graphic Design

Fun Fact: I collect bread tags!

Pronouns:
They/Them

Major:
Anthropology

Fun Fact: My house is haunted.



EDITORIAL TEAM
BRANDY SUMNER

Pronouns:
He/Him

Major:
Graphic Design

Fun Fact: Snoopy is my spirit animal.



DESIGN TEAM
JAKE VELAZQUEZ



EDITORIAL TEAM
ANASOFIA GIRARDOT

Pronouns:
They/Them

Major:
Anthropology B.S./
Classics Minor

Fun Fact: I'm two people away from JFK!

Pronouns:
He/Him

Major:
Anthropology

Fun Fact: I met GothamChess at UF!



EDITORIAL TEAM
ANDREI NIEBRES



DESIGN TEAM
MARY K. EVANS

Pronouns:
She/Her

Major:
Graphic Design

Fun Fact: My favorite place I've traveled to is Quebec, Canada!

Pronouns:
He/Him

Major:
Graphic Design

Fun Fact: I collect bird themed decor and clothing!



DESIGN TEAM
OSKAR GARCIA




DESIGN TEAM
JOSH REIMER

Pronouns: He/Him

Major:
Graphic Design/
Marketing

Fun Fact: I keep a copy of *Great Expectations* in my glove compartment.





UNDER PRESSURE

By Veronica Kerr and Brandy Sumner

Every day we wake to a world on fire.

Climate change. Culture clashes. The weight of ongoing war. In a burning world, it can feel as though we're running on fumes. Life can be exhausting—almost pressing enough to extinguish the sparks of our spirits. But here's the thing about fire: it's not that easy to put out. That's true for both the flames of destruction and the flames that keep us going.

Tolkien once wrote, "Oft hope is born when all is forlorn." We think he was right. If one human principle has stayed true throughout history, it is that we do our best work under pressure. Some of the greatest heroes, creations, and acts of kindness have come about while the world burned. *Ignite* explores human resilience, creativity, and passion—but even then, we barely scratch the surface. There is a lot to fear. There is a lot to fight for. We have survived the flames before.

Let's get started.