



## Art on Track: The CTA Gets Artistic :: Part 2



Killswitch brings you part two of our interview covering [Art On Track](#). If you haven't had a chance to read part one, [click here](#) for "Art On Track: The CTA Gets Artistic :: Part 1." After interviewing Tristan Hummel and Ben Koditschek, we were able to talk with this year's participating artists, [3 Blondes and a Bald Guy](#). The group consists of Stephen DeSantis, Haley Nagy, Erin Cramer, and Jackie Capozzoli. They were able to tell us a little bit about themselves and their role in the Art On Track Event.

### Tell us a little bit about 3 Blondes & A Bald Guy, anything we would be surprised to know?

In person, we are exactly that: 3 different shades of blondes and a bald guy. We came together as a group mostly because we are all alumni and a current grad student at Columbia College Chicago. Would it surprise you to know that it was the bald guy, and not the blondes, who came up with the name of our group? When we first met with Tristan after our proposal was accepted, Stephen told Tristan that he should look for the guy with the three blondes, and it stuck!

### I can imagine collaborating with different artists is a stimulating and fun experience! Does 3 Blondes & A Bald Guy use a little bit of each artist's individual style and how has that affected the group as an entity?

Collaborations can be a very personally and professionally rewarding experience, especially when the group has good chemistry. Each of our members have talents and individual backgrounds that act as a strong catalyst for creativity. Between the four of us we have a wide range of artistic, marketing, collaborative and fundraising experience. So far, coming together as a group with all these different skills has been great! (Another surprise: each of us contributed our thoughts to form the collaborative answers to your questions!)

We work amazingly well as a team. Erin is casting handmade paper of home fixtures, Haley is making encaustic silk curtains and I (Jackie) am making watercolor paintings and coordinating performers. Stephen, well, he is coordinating all of us! So, all of our individual unique talents are coming together quite naturally in a successful blending of our different mediums, talents and unique approaches to art making.

### How did 3 Blondes & A Bald Guy get involved with Art on Track and SALVO?

The group came together when [Columbia College Chicago](#) announced the opportunity to participate in Art on Track with their sponsorship. I (Stephen) immediately contacted artists I knew: Erin who I studied and have previously collaborated with, Haley who is studying in the same graduate program I did, and Jackie who's performances and paintings I had seen on campus. I pitched my initial idea and, after email input from everyone, the final Art on Track proposal came together.

### The title "Encroachment" is interesting. One of the meanings of encroachment is to advance beyond the usual limits. Was this part of your inspiration for the exhibit? Seeing as having interactive art in an L car is very unusual.

Yes. We were thinking about how the home and train spaces encroach into each other, at least in our minds and how each of us carries that with us. This idea of encroachment was inspired by each of our own personal experiences riding the [CTA](#). The train, as a "home away from home," is a concept that we believe will be familiar to anyone who takes public transportation. However, we also wanted our installation to be more than a mere gallery on wheels. Our ultimate goal is to make an interactive installation that pushes the boundaries of what you should expect to see.

### Art is a huge part of our lives whether it's in the form of illustrations, installations, music, entertainment, fashion, etc. How do you guys think art impacts the community in general or more specifically, the Chicago community?

If you look past the galleries and museums, Chicago has a very active alternative art scene. We have found that social commentary and art activism are the common threads between many of these alternative art groups and venues. Something about the Chicago community seems to attract a diverse group of artists who are passionate about their causes and who endeavor to make a difference in the world, starting at a local level. They are creating works that are sometimes more accessible to more people than traditional art venues so their message can go further.

Everyone is an artist and almost anything can be art -- a public sculpture, graffiti, architecture, performance, a Chicago blizzard -- the things that catch each of our attention and, even if for just the briefest moment, get us to stop and think about the visual world around us and how that affects our lives.

### Lastly, does 3 Blondes & A Bald Guy have any events coming up after Art on Track that we should all be on the look out for?

Right now we are focused on the successful completion of our Art on Track installation! After that, you should check [www.threeblondesandabaldguy.com](http://www.threeblondesandabaldguy.com) regularly for announcements about upcoming events.

### Exhibition Information

SALVO NFP Presents: Art on Track  
Saturday August 7th, 2010, 5-10pm  
CTA Train - Elevated Loop Track Entrances at Adams/Wabash and Washington/Wells CTA platforms

\*\*There is a handicap entrance at Washington/Wells

Tickets are on sale online for \$10.00 general admission. You can buy tickets by going to <http://www.artontrack.com> or buy them at the door.

A behind the scenes video: <http://fearnoartchicago.com/>



LAUREN BOURDAGES /



AMANDA WOOD / 03 Aug 2010 / Interviews

### CATEGORIES

DESIGN (4)  
DEVELOPMENT (40)  
INTERVIEWS (6)  
PERSPECTIVES (20)  
RESEARCH (5)

### ARCHIVES

August 2010  
July 2010  
May 2010  
April 2010

### BOOKMARKED

[www.techcrunch.com](http://www.techcrunch.com)  
[www.gapersblock.com](http://www.gapersblock.com)  
[www.cpluv.com](http://www.cpluv.com)  
[www.qbn.com](http://www.qbn.com)  
[script.aculo.us](http://script.aculo.us)  
[www.addedbytes.com](http://www.addedbytes.com)  
[www.railscasts.com](http://www.railscasts.com)  
[www.alistapart.com](http://www.alistapart.com)  
[www.coudal.com](http://www.coudal.com)  
[www.segura-inc.com](http://www.segura-inc.com)  
[www.cartype.com](http://www.cartype.com)  
[www.37signals.com/svn/](http://www.37signals.com/svn/)  
[www.twitter.com/KSCollective](http://www.twitter.com/KSCollective)

