



Colleen Ford, in her world.

**BEST WORLD CREATED BY
A VISUAL ARTIST**
Colleen Ford
colleenford.com

One sign of a compelling visual artist is her ability to create her own world, with its own meanings, its own visual language. Fort Collins mixed-media artist Colleen Ford's paintings take you somewhere else. Her world has a hint of Edward Gorey's delightfully morbid children's books, with spooky charcoal blacks and grays hiding behind cute birdies in top hats. Most of her work, however, seems interested in the feeling of looking at a big, strange city from above. What the hell are all those people doing down there? Bright red boxcars

ramble across a crowd of cartoonish, lopsided houses; weird balloons float in the hazy sky above. Ford says she sees her works as "storyboards" that are "in the middle of being final." She invites the observer to put his own stamp on the story. About the blood-red cargo trains that show up in several of her paintings, she says, mysteriously, those cars "could be transporting anything."



Umlaut crew, clockwise from far left: Die Mutter, Frau B., Von C., Frau A., Das Snake, Uldis Heyl.

BEST VISITING INDIE FILMMAKER

Paul Lovelace
Bound to Lose
boundtolose.com

It can seem like all the local fans of avant-garde folk and rock music could fit into one room. And that's okay. Larimer County is not San Francisco. To cry and whine and want it to be is like trying to yank shark powers out of a tuna fish. Still, when Brooklyn filmmaker Paul Lovelace brought his film about Sixties psychedelic-folk misfits the Holy Modal Rounders to the Lyric Cinema Café in Fort Collins for a screening, folkie nerds got all hot and sweaty and red in the face. We watched, beer clutched firmly in hand, as principal Rounders Peter Stampfel and Steve Weber crapped all over the self-congratulatory Greenwich Village folk revival with songs like "Boobs a Lot" and "My Mind Capsized." It might not have been Sundance, but damn was it fun to caress the original Rounders vinyl stowed in the front window of the Lyric.

BEST THING TO DO AFTER 2 A.M.

Watch Channel 22, the Fort Collins Public Access Network
419-3120, fcpan.org

On those late nights when we're not ready for bed (or can't figure out how to get off the couch because it's spinning so wildly), there are few other options as entertaining or eclectic as Channel 22, Fort Collins Public Access Network. Like other public-access channels, FC PAN has its share of homegrown programming and recorded community hearings. But it's the station's rotating community calendar — scrolling through alternately comforting and bizarre bulletins, art, and vintage audio and video — that both calms and tickles our minds. We don't even care if all the announcements are genuine; FC PAN is televised proof of our region's quirky underbelly.

BEST SANDWICH

English Roast Beef Olde World Market
236 Walnut St., Fort Collins, 221-1167

Olde World Market isn't just a sandwich shop, and the store's English Roast Beef isn't just a sandwich. Toasted on a baguette,