

E. LOWNDES COMMANDER

CONTACT:

phone: 843-687-2294

email: lowndescommander@gmail.com

website: www.lowndescommander.net

WRITING PORTFOLIO

Table of Contents

Articles for Atwood Magazine

WISH YOU COULD BE HERE TOO

Write Label

In This Light

Op-Ed Essays on Medium

Interview for the Cellary

About page for Ellie Patterson

Pitch sheet for Jakob Wandel

FAQ for Southbound Film Lab

Edit for Landon Edwards

Bio for Anthony Da Costa

In February of 2020, I became a Contributing Writer for *Atwood Magazine*. Below are snippets from pieces I've written thus far; all articles can be found [here](#).

Living in New York City in your twenties and trying to make your dream work is a feeling Fayetteville, AR's band Brother Moses knows all too well. The second single off of their upcoming record, "What Does It Take?" is 2 minutes and 26 seconds of pure desperation packaged in a pop song with a melody nearly impossible to get out of your head.

*Barely left the house
before the day started breaking
You make it to the train
but then you hear it's running late
Thousand bucks a month to keep
your pillow off the pavement
When's it gonna work?
When's it gonna break?*

The scene is set on a New York morning where nothing seems to be going right, backed by a drum loop that builds slowly into an old fashioned alarm. With the title being a question in itself, "What Does It Take?" is laden with the existential questions anyone who has taken a risk or moved away from home on their own has likely asked themselves:



What Does It Take? - Brother Moses

During our phone conversation, André Allen Anjos told me his "method to writing is really to try everything," which seems to be the foundational element of why his music resonates. Known in the music world for his producer project RAC (Remix Artist Collective), Anjos is a creative force with a penchant for patient experimentation.

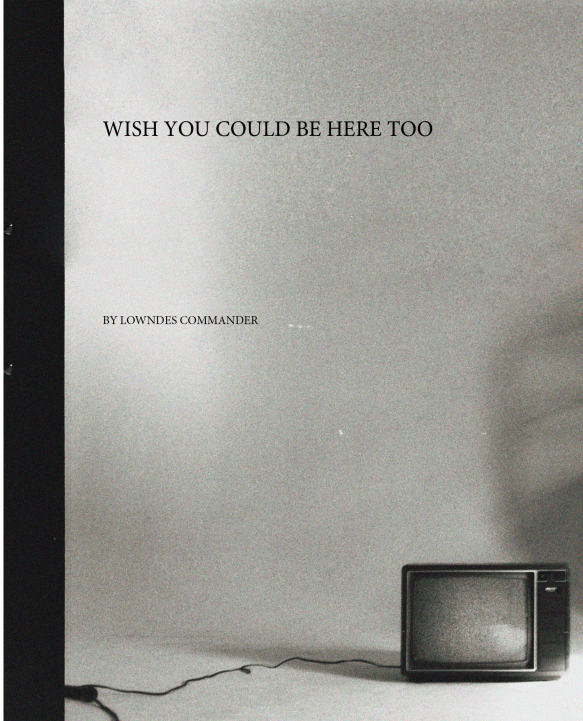
The Portland, OR-based artist has worked on soundtracks, scored a ballet, remixed popular songs, and even won a Grammy; and as RAC, that patient experimentation continually takes shape in the way of collaborative and thoughtful records. These RAC records do not come to life ordinarily, though. Each track features a different artist that Anjos worked with to bring the song to life, either from afar or in the studio side-by-side.

Following Anjos' first two original records, 2014's *Strangers* and 2017's *EGO*, comes **BOY**—a deeply personal reflection on Anjos' unusual upbringing in Porto in Portugal as the son of missionaries with limited access to popular music. In addition to nostalgic depth, *BOY* showcases the token catchiness that makes RAC records so cohesive and exciting.



BOY - RAC

Since late 2018, I've been working on a second self-published book of writing, photos, drawings, and playlists. It's set to release in June 2020, and a spread is below.



WISH YOU COULD BE HERE TOO

BY LOWNDES COMMANDER

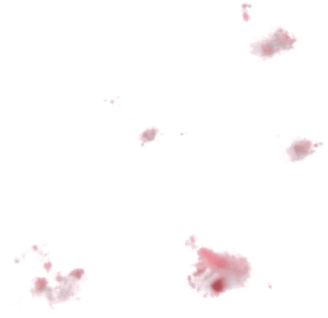
WHO WILL WE BE

morning's here with sun and noise
they're building something new next-door.
"we'll put up a fence," she says
which won't stop the windows from shaking
at the sound of crumbling rock
(a kind intention nonetheless).

the lot was empty last week
so were these rooms.
who will we be when it's over?

NO M(_)
SS

eating with the refrigerator open
careless with my care
to make no mess
leave no trace
save for strawberry stems
tossed into the garbage,
not one miss.



In March 2020, I started working on projects for Write Label, contributing anything from greeting card pitches, to ad campaigns, to scripts for movie promo. Below are some projects I've worked on.

Ideas & Punch Up | Ideation

PAID

Coke Hispanic Pitch

Mar 11, 2020

It could start with a social media campaign set up like a matching game, where families of Hispanic descent are encouraged to share posts involving coke with the hashtag #JuntoConCocaCola, with their last name tacked on to the end of the hashtag. The goal would be to find other individuals/families participating who share your surname, and the more matches you make, the greater chance you have to win the final prize-- which is when iHeart could come in.



The campaign would culminate into a radio-hosted event where the surnames with the most matches are invited to attend, and Coke could sponsor a grand prize give-away with a drawing or with competition between the teams (teams divided by surname).

Ideas & Punch Up | Ideation

PAID

This birthday card knows it's a card!

Mar 18, 2020

A flap card layout (4 sides)



OUTSIDE: I saw birthday card that reminded me of you...

FIRST FLAP: but it reminded another shopper of their friend.

SECOND FLAP: So we duked it out in the aisle in a heated game of rock paper scissors (best two out of three)

INSIDE: ...and she won. So I got this card instead. Happy Birthday-- you rock!

In January 2020, I started writing articles on Medium to get back into the habit of writing longer-form essays, and as an exercise to more readily put words to my opinions. I hope to use this space to keep exploring my own cultural and societal views. Full articles can be found [here](#).



Lowndes Commander
Jan 30 · 6 min read

Can't People Change?: An Op-Ed on Cancel Culture

At 17, I was sitting in the second desk in the second row in my last class of the school day: philosophy. We didn't speak much of Kant or Socrates, but we were asked big questions as our teacher watched the slow-burning chaos of fairly...



Lowndes Commander
Feb 22 · 5 min read ★

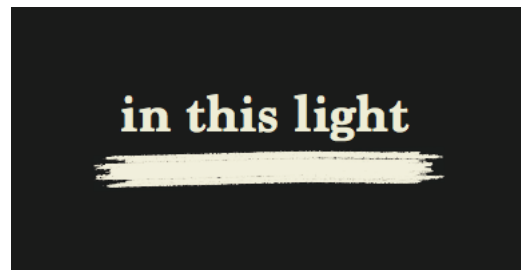


I'm Voting For Elizabeth Warren and This Is Why

At this point, it feels like the Democratic Primary has been in-season for a decade. I've watched more debates, read more twitter threads, and listened to more news podcasts than I care to count, and as the race nears its end, I expected something...



In August of 2018, I self-published my first book: "IN THIS LIGHT." It's a collection of poems and short prose, accompanied by illustrations (done by Erica Griffith), photos I took, and songs I was listening to while I wrote it. Below are two pages from the book; out of 125 copies, there are 9 left.



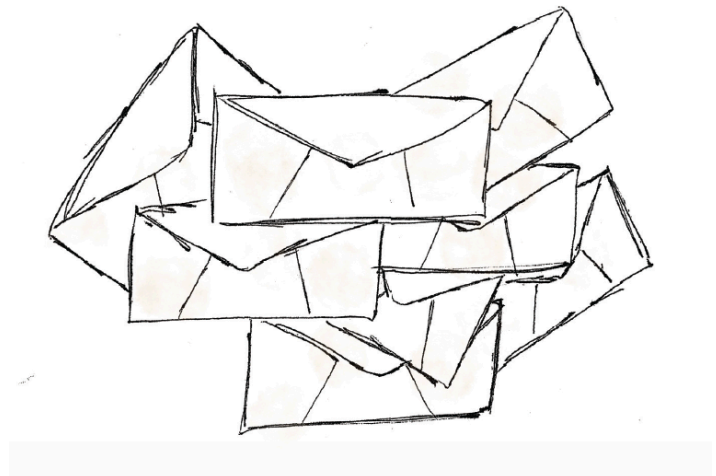
MUSIC IS MATH

one autumn day he told me
music was like mathematics
and i began to press in with
open-ended questions
until deep longing
begged a stop
because what if knowledge
comes at
the cost of
magic?



hey just so you know

hey. just so you know,
i don't peel my peaches anymore. i remember the day
you taught me to hold the knife so it would graze the
fuzzy skin just right. i was grateful. but i don't peel
them anymore. i take bites, like i would an apple.
someone grew that skin, proudly; it feels wrong to toss
it carelessly aside.
and i roll my windows down. you never liked the way
it made your ears feel so i suppose neither did i. now
i like the cool breeze or the warm sun-drenched air to
touch my skin. it reminds me i am alive. i am here, a
vital part of the world.
this hardly scratches the surface of the things we
ought to address. but these are two things. two things
you never asked about, two things i am telling you
anyway. [because at the end of the day, i want you to
know me. and despite the ways my expression falls
short, i want to know you too.]



Room to Grow: An Interview with Sara Regan of Davis



Guest post by Lowndes
Commander

On March 20, 2017, an interview I did with Sara Regan of the band Davis was published on The Cellary, an indie music publication.

The link to the full interview can be found [here](#), but I've included an excerpt below as well.

The first time I heard Davis, I got lost. Lost in my thoughts, in the formative days of my youth and beyond. A good album tends to have that sort of effect.

Davis is comprised of Sara Regan and Bradley Vaught, from Austin, TX. They just released their first LP, *Stills*, and it's filled with deep emotion and hauntingly beautiful vocals. I got the chance to speak with Sara about some of the defining moments during the making of the album, as well as her vision of what's to come.

Lowndes: Along with nostalgia, the album title, *Stills*, feels like pertinent snapshots of a moving frame. And many of your song titles include dates—are those significant?

Sarah: Yeah, absolutely. So many of those songs tie right in with huge moments in my life. And the dates essentially mark the day when the song idea happened—like 'Stills, September 19th,' which is the day when making this record was put into motion. And I wrote the first few lines of 'Katy, September 26th,' In Rocky Mountain National Park on that day.

In the summer of 2017, I helped Ellie Patterson write part of an About Page for her photography business. Below is a screen cap of my words on her [website](#).

Hi I'm Ellie!!

The art of photography can let a moment play on forever, if we let it. I first witnessed this several years ago while walking through the streets of London, and lately, it is what I spend most of my days doing at home in Brooklyn, NY and part time in Nashville, TN.

Through wedding photography, I aim to tell stories—your stories. I believe in taking photographs that instill worth and purpose, that are tangible reminders of moments that matter; and your story is one I would be honored to tell.

Words by Lowndes Commander

In July of 2018, I wrote the bio section of a pitch sheet for Jakob Wandel's photography business. He used these words to send to prospective clients, and since has worked with brands such as Carvana, JW Marriott, and Airstream. Below is the final draft of the pitch sheet bio.

For Jakob Wandel, photography is a form of work that allows him to connect with people, evoke emotion, and experience the world. Whether it's lifestyle, travel, or music, he aims to create photos that are truthful and valuable to him and his clients.

After serving in the Navy, Jakob is now based in Nashville, TN, still with a passion for travel and storytelling. He hopes to keep finding opportunities to do that through photography, freezing time for the rare and beautiful moments we live everyday.

In August of 2019, I wrote an FAQ page, as well as edited other web copy to increase SEO for Southbound Film Lab. Additionally, I worked at this film lab in its beginning stages; I developed film, sent invoices, and handled customer care as well. Below is a portion of the site's FAQ page. The rest can be found [here](#).

S O U T H B O U N D

F I L M L A B

HOME SERVICES ABOUT FAQ ORDER

F R E Q U E N T L Y A S K E D Q U E S T I O N S

I'm having trouble locating the lab. How do I get there?

We're located at 90 Oceanside Dr, inside WELD. Look for the orange shipping containers! Once you get there, someone at the front desk will let you in and show you where the forms are.

If I drop my film off at the lab, do I need to fill out the online form also?

Nope! The online form is for those of you that plan on sending in your film by mail. If you're dropping your film off in person, there are paper forms for you to fill out at the front desk.

How do I receive my negatives and scans after they've been processed?

If you dropped your film off in person, your negatives will be waiting for you at the lab upon completion of your order. If you do not want your negatives back, please specify on your form. And your scans will be emailed to you via a dropbox link! If you mailed in your film and would like your negatives shipped back to you, just check the box on the order form.

In the fall of 2019, I worked with Landon Edwards to edit the introduction text in his debut photography zine, "*Goldenlands*". Though Edwards wrote the words, I made grammatical and word changes throughout to aide his voice in being clear, conversational, and concise. The words below are on his [website](#), as well as in the sold-out zine.

Traveling outside the little corner of America where I've lived my entire life was significant for me. For as long as I can remember I have romanticized the idea of a beautiful future or place, and I have always longed for beauty and wonder. In my mind, Europe was a physical manifestation of that fantasy. A place that represented something seemingly far away, yet just over the horizon of my dreams.

As I traveled, I did my best to document how it felt to be there, photographing the obviously beautiful and the wonderfully ordinary. My goal was to not come back with a body of work showcasing a vacation I took to Europe. My goal was to create a series of photographs showcasing the reality of being there— from the grand scenes to the small intimate moments.

I normally play things very close to the chest when it comes to art-making. I make photographs for myself and my own enjoyment, and sharing with others is usually a secondary objective. I've been sitting on this body of work for several months, and now I am ready to share it. Thank you for taking the time to read these words, and to explore these goldenlands.

In October of 2019, I wrote a bio for Anthony da Costa, a seasoned and talented musician. The bio was intended to be a refresher, as he is set up to release a solo record later this year. It can be found on his [website](#), as well as below in its entirety.

Anthony da Costa is no stranger to the music world. At age 13 he started writing songs and playing out anywhere he could, and his career as a singer/songwriter never really stopped. In the last decade, he's lived in New York City, Austin, TX and most recently, Nashville, TN, all of which have shaped him as a musician and led to countless opportunities and collaborations.

da Costa has released many albums over the course of his career, most recently a solo LP (*da Costa*) and a collaboration with Adam Levy (*Neighbors*) in 2017, and an EP (*Shadow Love*) in 2019. For the last several years, he's also been consistently touring, sharing bills with bands such as Big Thief, The Milk Carton Kids, and Loretta Lynn, and sharing stages with Joy Williams (The Civil Wars), Sarah Jarosz, Molly Tuttle, and Yola, just to name a few.

During his time as a sideman, da Costa's desire to write and release songs of his own remained steady. Last year he met up with long-time friend and producer Kenneth Pattengale (The Milk Carton Kids), and made what will be his next solo record, called *Feet on the Dashboard*, and in da Costa's words, "it's been a long time coming." A culmination of a sound developed since he was a teenager, *Feet on the Dashboard* is a collection of songs set to be a deliberate reintroduction to who da Costa is, and who he has always been: an earnest songwriter and an artist on his own merit.