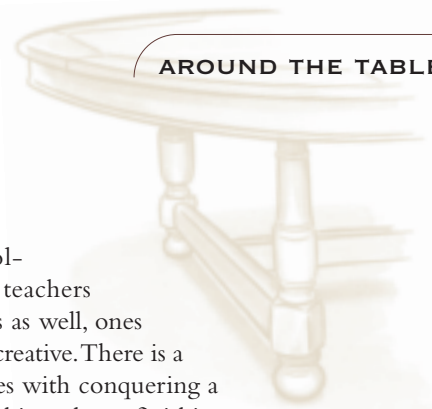


THE 'PENDULUM' AT 50:

PEA'S LITERARY MAGAZINE SEEKS TO INSPIRE ART

BY EXHIBITING IT. | By Paul Capobianco '06 and Kelly Cho '06



Though many Exeter nights are consumed by schoolwork, by research and analysis, teachers realize there must be other nights as well, ones consumed by work that is purely creative. There is a signature Exonian pride that comes with conquering a wave of work, but there is something about finishing a prose poem or a drawing that leaves the creator exhilarated as well as exhausted. Anything that encourages a student to enhance an idea, to taste life twice, to truly revel, is worth our care and attention. Exeter's *Pendulum* is one of these things.

Pendulum is a magazine that seeks to inspire art by exhibiting it. *The Pendulum* was founded in 1955, and since that time Exonians have made sure *Pendulum* bears the best of Exeter's creative efforts. Entirely student run, *The Pendulum* board reviews submissions and determines the magazine's content. Issues vary in length from 60 pages to more than 100,

The Pendulum published its first issue in 1955 (top), and continues to serve as an outlet for student writers and artists today. "There is something about finishing a prose poem or a drawing that leaves the creator exhilarated as well as exhausted," say this year's head editors, Paul Capobianco '06 and Kelly Cho '06.

and feature original works—visual art as well as fiction and poetry—by several dozen student contributors. They sell for \$7 to \$15, and proceeds are used to help fund future issues.

On the first page of each *Pendulum* is a passage from Edgar Allan Poe's short story "The Pit and the Pendulum" (1842): "For the moment, at least, I was free." *The Pendulum's* founders likely recognized the pervasive desire of Exonians to free themselves from the stress of schoolwork, and to give voice to their literary and artistic talents. Poe's narrator frees himself with ingenuity, and *Pendulum* continues to celebrate the liberators of vision and imagination.

Exeter's first literary magazine, The Phillips Exeter Monthly (center), was founded in 1886, and later editors and contributors included the critic Dwight Macdonald '24 and the novelist, essayist and screenwriter James Agee '28.

The Monthly was succeeded by The Review (bottom), and over the years its impressive masthead included novelist Gore Vidal '43 and poet Donald Hall '47.

This year, the intent is to pioneer. To raise *The Pendulum's* profile on campus, the board will host coffee-house-style readings and exhibitions. We also plan to publish an additional "remembrance" issue, reprinting exceptional works from prior issues.

We hope to extend *Pendulum's* reach even further, encouraging alumni/ae to relive those times at Exeter when they experienced the freedom that creative work engenders, and reminding current students that they are part of a long line of talent. The intent is to foster connections, and inspire still more creativity—one of art's great gifts.

Subscriptions to *Pendulum* are now available by emailing either of the magazine's head editors, Paul Capobianco (pcapobianco@exeter.edu) or Kelly Cho (jcho3@exeter.edu). Please specify whether you would like a remembrance issue reserved as well. A more formal subscription notice will be forthcoming.

