(HONORARY) SENIOR SPOTLIGHT:
Unknown Lady Once Said to be Mary Shelley

It seems that the senior English majors are too busy to talk to the media this week, so we interviewed the oldest English major, the Unknown Lady whose portrait hangs by the staircase in second Laird. She may not like to admit it, research has shown that the painting is not of Mary Shelley, rather, it is a faux portrait. However, she had the department fooled for a couple of years there. This lovely lady may not be a famous novelist, but we still like having her around.

1) If you could take the place of a character in a novel, who would you be and why? Does it have to be a novel? If I could broaden the genre, I would want to be Rosalind in “As You Like It.” She does a better job with pulling off her disguise than I did.

2) What is the single best English class you’ve taken at Carleton and why? I only get a vague sense of the classes since I am stuck in the hall all the time, but I enjoyed it when Susan Jaret-McKinstry’s creative writing class used my portrait to inspire a flash fiction writing exercise.

3) Tell us something that most of the other English majors don’t know about you. You wish. You’re going to have to work a lot harder than that to get my secrets out of me.


5) Six words describing your experience as a Carleton English major: Unknown in life, beloved in likeness.

6) What advice do you have for Carleton English majors? Check the facts in your papers. If the label at the top of my portrait read Mary Shelley and not Mary Bysshe Shelley (Mary did not take Percy’s middle with his last time) I would have had you fooled and this portrait would be worth a lot more than it is.

quote of the week
“One sun rose on us today, kindled over our shores, peeking over the Smokies, greeting the faces of the Great Lakes, spreading a simple truth across the Great Plains, then charging across the Rockies...”

STUDENTS! Call in to ext. 4322 with the author and work these last lines come from. The first person to correctly name the quotation with receive a package of cookies with a faculty signature.
1. Do you know any of the plays you will be seeing already? No. Any rumors involving David Tennant or Jude Law cannot be confirmed.


3. What makes London such a good theater town? Competition. There are over 100 fully-rigged theaters in London, and that doesn't include concert halls, fringe venues, or pubs. And because a lot of people go to a lot of theater, standards are higher. Also: government subsidies.

4. When did you go to London for the first time, did you see any plays there? I was just out of college and I saw Mark Rylance's Hamlet. It blew my mind and changed my life.

5. What is your favorite spot in London? Are you going there on the trip? I'm not telling, but yes, we'll go there.

6. Describe the ideal student for the Carleton Program in London. Big heart, open mind, wakes up every morning excited for the next adventure.

7. What do you think that students will find the most surprising about the trip? I have no idea what their preconceptions are, so I don't know what they'll find surprising. Cars coming at you from the wrong direction is something to watch out for. Mundane things can be surprising, like how chocolate tastes different. Or what it takes for London cab drivers to pass The Knowledge (to start with: they have to memorize 25,000 streets and 20,000 monuments within six miles of Charing Cross). I hope the students will be surprised by how moved they are by things they never expected to be moved by.

8. Anything else to add? Mind the gap.