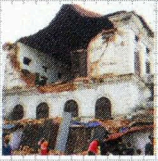


# THE APPROVAL MATRIX

Our deliberately oversimplified guide to who falls where on our taste hierarchies.

## HIGHBROW



The **human tragedy** of Nepal extends to hundreds of years' worth of destroyed monuments to human civilization.

Justice Alito's **daffy** what-if questions during the gay-marriage arguments: Could siblings get hitched? What about a group of four people? What if they are four lawyers?



The Italian curators of Kenya's pavilion at the Venice Biennale only chose **one Kenyan** for it (the rest of the artists are Chinese and Italian).



Joyce Carol Oates, Rick Moody, and more than 30 other writers **denounce** PEN's decision to honor *Charlie Hebdo*.



The New York Museum of Biblical Art is **smote** by the vengeful god of the real-estate market.

Rand Paul, leader: "I came through the train on Baltimore last night, I'm glad the train **didn't stop**."



Courtney "I made my bed I lie in it" Love and her memoir's co-writer, Anthony Bozza, could **end up in court**.



*Living on Love* mercifully **didn't live** that long on Broadway.

According to the *WSJ*, everybody who is anybody pays **\$40 million** for a truly fancy home these days.

*The Daily Show's* deft dissection of the Baltimore media coverage: **This is why we'll miss Jon Stewart**.



Dancer Michiko Takemasa's **haunting** performance as Eliza in *The King and I* at Lincoln Center Theater.



Married couple Lisa Grunwald and Stephen Adler's anthology *The Marriage Book* marries scholarship and **irresistible ephemera**.

Josh Karp's propulsive chronicle of the **botched production** of Orson Welles's last movie.



The new Whitney's installation of its collection tells all sorts of fun visual **jokes**, if you pay close attention.



The 1918 Bush Terminal building on West 42nd Street is getting restored to its **Gothic splendor**.

Anne Hathaway **flies high** in Julie Taymor's *Grounded*.

Claire Danes performed an **"egg ceremony"** (a kind of blessing) on Mandy Patinkin at the P.S. 122 gala (she had the egg in her purse).



The unsettling **gender algorithms** of Alex Garland's *Ex Machina*.

The guy who, inspired by his middle-school teacher, gave his waitress a **\$3,000 tip**.

DESPICABLE

Twitter keeps **flapping** its wings as hard as it can, but keeps losing money.



CBS **never asked** David Letterman for input on who should replace him.

The gay owners of the gay **Out Hotel** hosted anti-gay Senator Ted Cruz for a dinner at their home.

Abercrombie & Fitch is going wholesome with its new marketing materials, which is a great disappointment to **aging perverts** too old to be shopping there anyway.



Public School's Dao-Yi Chow and Maxwell Osborne were appointed creative directors at DKNY. Now they'll get into even **better colleges**.



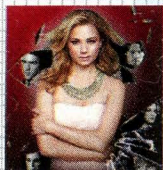
Amy Schumer's belly laugh of a boy-band parody ("You are great **except your face, girl!** So don't take off your makeup").

**Darling!** The *Ab Fab* movie is officially happening!

The Prancing Elites Project finally makes good use of reality-TV **realness**.



That ABC's **nonsensical** Hamptons soap *Revenge* lasted so long.



Have you ever tried to listen to **Shawn Mendes** sing for longer than six seconds?



The inspiring 90-year-old Welsh tortoise Mrs. T gets prosthetic wheels after a **rat ate her legs** ...



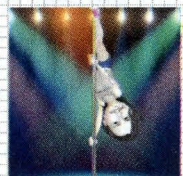
... Unrelated: *Ratscalibur*, a children's book about a boy who turns into a rat with a **mystical rat-destiny** (not involving eating elderly turtle legs).



Lianne La Havas's **heavenly**, heartwarming "Unstoppable."



"Postcard #17," the **latest** in Jens Lekman's song-of-the-week series.



James Franco's **pole-dancing** Myldol.

Greedy New York landlords now renting out **adult dorm rooms** and calling it "communal living."

Another reason to get **hungry** for outdoor-dining season: Alta Linea, coming soon to the High Line Hotel's courtyard.

Todrick Hall's **four-minute, 70-plus-song** Beyoncé-tribute medley.



**More-naked-than-usual** Cuba Gooding Jr. in *Big Time in Hollywood, FL*.



## LOWBROW

BRILLIANT

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