

JUNE 2015

LA

ISSUE 10

DOWNTOWNER

THE INSIDER GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

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EAST SIDE MOTO BABES

Meet the women who ride LA's perilous roads on the meanest machines in town.



Photographed by: Kort Havens & Logan Havens

FISHERMAN'S OUTLET

A marketplace for seafood enthusiasts who don't hold back when getting down and dirty with finger lickin' goodness.

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The bar seems to have struck a balance between its predecessors: the 80s dance club, the skid row dive, the speakeasy.

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LONG LIVE DOWNTOWN

THE INSIDER'S VIEW OF DOWNTOWN CULTURE, FOOD, DRINKS, FASHION & THE PEOPLE WHO SHAPE IT.

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FROM THE EDITOR

Yo Santosa



Last July, the team from Ferroconcrete and I were drinking at the Golden Gopher, like we do most Friday nights. A few drinks in and we started professing our love for Downtown LA.

My love affair with Downtown started 12 years ago when I moved into a loft on Main Street. I've lived in Indonesia, Singapore, Ohio, and Pasadena. These places never felt like home, they felt transient. Downtown has been good to me. I started my first company Ferroconcrete here — then früute, a cookie company and next came Commodity, a fragrance company.

That night at the Golden Gopher we wanted to come up with a project that would allow us to play a part and make a contribution to shaping the new Downtown. It was a eureka moment. Let's create a publication that celebrates the culture, food, drinks, fashion and the people who shape this new Metropolis. An insider's guide for the growing number of people who, like us have decided to make Downtown our home. We named it the LA Downtowner and it became our passion project for the summer of 2014. Two months later our first printed issue hit the streets in conjunction with the launch the LA Downtowner website.

I think of the publication as a love letter to Downtown LA.

Today I rarely leave Downtown. Everything I need is right here. But when I do venture out, heading back I would abandon my GPS, drive towards the brightly lit tall buildings and they will guide me home. This would be my favorite moment, when the city welcomes me back.

yosantosa.com

TYPE DOWNTOWN

PAINT THE TOWN

Written & Photographed By Rachel Elnar, TypeEd

Sonny Mouneu understands paint. "I started off painting motorcycles, doing custom paint on Harleys and choppers, custom cars," says Sonny.

With the busy sounds of Main Street going by, the sign painter, better known as *Sonny Boy Paint*, stands in front of the Prufrock Pizzeria restaurant at the Regent Theater, giving the storefront a facelift.

Neighborhood shops, restaurants and bars in the area are attracting downtown types with a look that's bringing back to life LA's golden age from the 1920s.

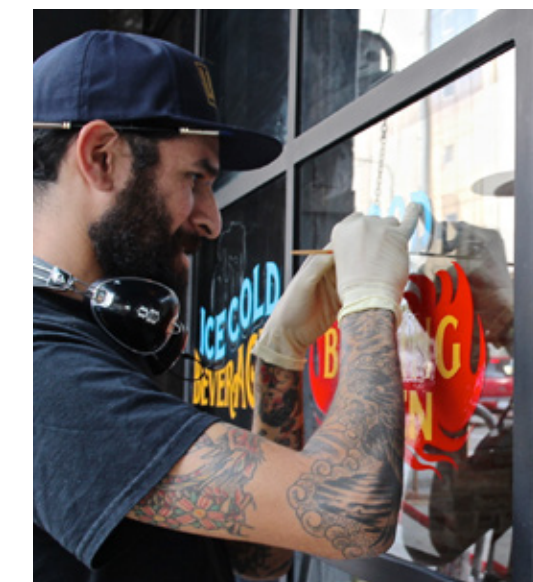
"Prufrock wanted vintage phrases on their shop windows, like what pharmacies and markets used to do. Little sayings to catch people's attention." Sonny designed the three sayings together as one piece to make sure it looks cohesive. "Paul, Prufrock's interior designer, sent me a lot of reference to feed my research. This old 1920s style, I have an eye for. Look all around downtown LA, you'll see the ghost signs still exist on the site of buildings. The style wasn't super crazy, just solid colors with drop shadows."

Sonny Boy got his start in Whittier and learned from Dennis Jones. "Dennis is from Los Angeles Trade Tech College. When I was 12, I watched him pin stripe bikes. My dad used him a lot, and I got to watch him." Sonny then began lettering, which he learned from watching others. "I'm more interested in the letterforms and spacing."

A few of his downtown projects include The Regent Theater, Love Song Bar, Ledlow and the old Pete's Cafe, Verve Coffee, Juice Served Here, Secret Headquarters and Orsa and Winston.

"There's a lot of improvising on this one. This is going to get a drop shadow. And I'm going to add orange in the flames so it isn't so flat. I'm trying to give it some life, make it catchy."

FIND MORE HERE:
sonnyboypaint.blogspot.com





EAST SIDE MOTO BABES

SISTERS OF THE STREET

Written By Scott Meisse
& Photographed By Kort Havens & Logan Havens

The East Side Moto Babes, an all-female motorcycle club, are not trailblazers. "Women have always ridden motorcycles, it's nothing new," says Stacie B. London, the club's founder. The former exhibition designer for MOCA didn't grow up wrenching bikes but, "It was always something I wanted to do, always been a part of my imagination."

On this day, the Moto Babes ride from Glendale to MOCA, where riders trade stories, talk shop, and talk life. "There's a certain intimacy, camaraderie among riders. I wanted that," says London. She founded the club a year after she bought her first bike, a 1969 BMW R60US, no less. "It's constantly evolving. We're always planning, trying to bring people together."

The ESMB are always mixing it up, seeking



Photo by: Scott Pommer for The Selvedge 'ard

out new locations for rides, though LA's streets and maintaining a vintage bike are certainly challenges. "It's intimidating," says London, "but it's become the building block to tackle other challenges in my life. These are skills you use in other parts of your life: balancing relationships, challenging situations. It's invaluable, all the things I've learned from this club."

"Riding downtown at night is fun to see the architecture in a different way, the buildings lit up at night. The 2nd street tunnel is a favorite, also the loop of The Music Center, Disney Concert Hall and how 4th street is lit up, pretty magical. Approaching downtown from the North, seeing the skyline from the bridges, entering China Town is so dramatic and awe inspiring." While the ranks of the East Side MotoBabes continue to swell, the club welcomes more women to join. "I feel like I'm just getting started", says London. For many DTLA women, the East Side Moto Babes might just be the start of a life once only left to the imagination.

FIND THEM HERE:
facebook.com/eastsidemotobabes

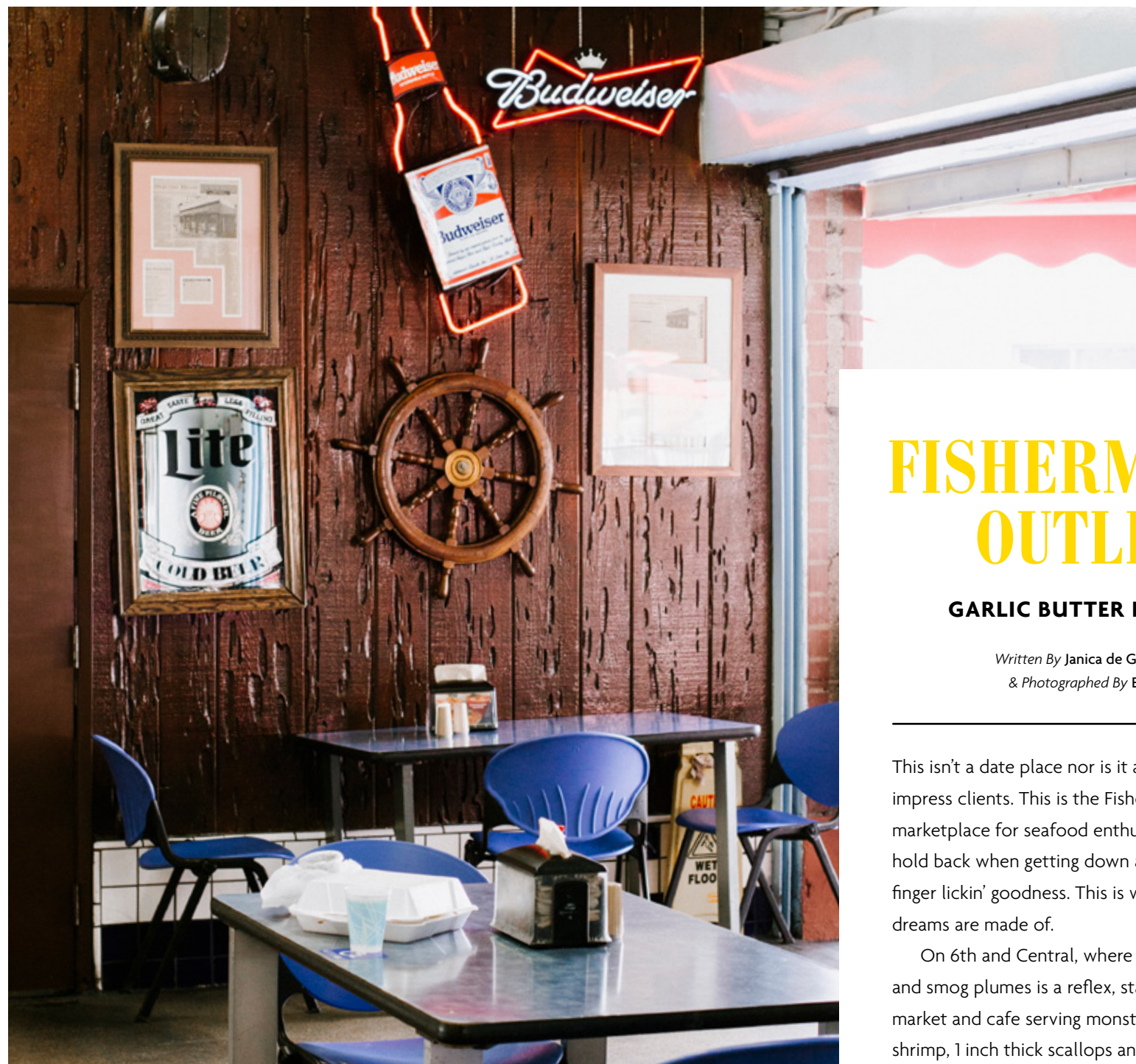
AND WATCH THE FEATURETTE:
ladowntowner.com/moto-babes



Photo by: Scott Pommer for The Selvedge 'ard



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Los Angeles, CA 90015
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figueroahotel.com



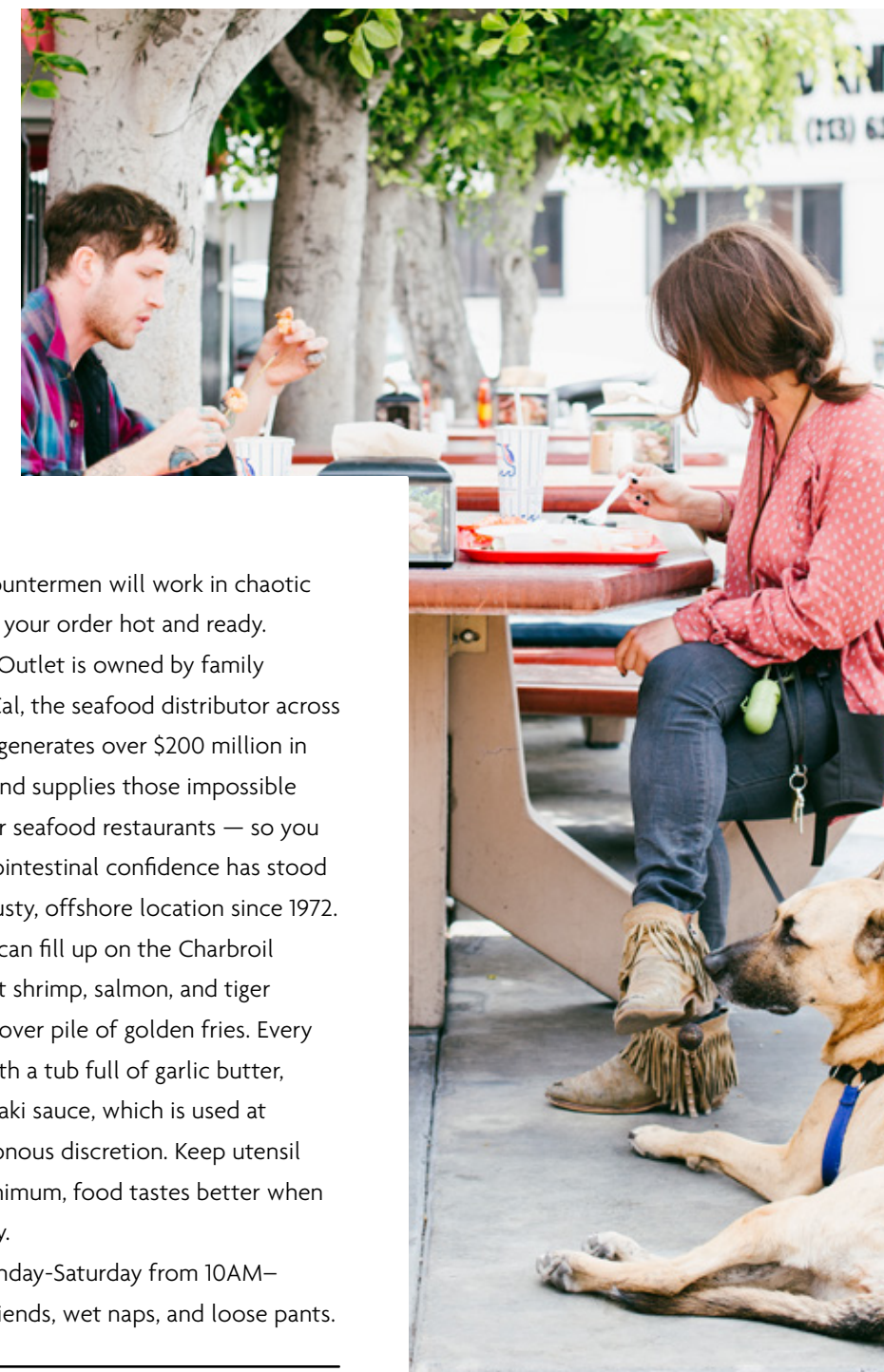
FISHERMAN'S OUTLET

GARLIC BUTTER DREAMS

Written By Janica de Guzman
& Photographed By Eslee

This isn't a date place nor is it a place to impress clients. This is the Fisherman's Outlet, a marketplace for seafood enthusiasts who don't hold back when getting down and dirty with finger lickin' goodness. This is what garlic butter dreams are made of.

On 6th and Central, where dodging big rigs and smog plumes is a reflex, stands a seafood market and cafe serving monstrous meaty shrimp, 1 inch thick scallops and melt in your mouth fresh fish. Get in line and with the same rage during prison chow time, shout above the clamor and order your seafood to be fried, charred, and served over a pile of fries, rice



or salad. The counter men will work in chaotic harmony to get your order hot and ready. Fisherman's Outlet is owned by family operated Ore-Cal, the seafood distributor across the street who generates over \$200 million in sales annually and supplies those impossible to reserve 5-star seafood restaurants — so you can relax, gastrointestinal confidence has stood strong at this dusty, offshore location since 1972.

For \$16 you can fill up on the Charbroil Sampler — giant shrimp, salmon, and tiger shrimp seeping over pile of golden fries. Every order comes with a tub full of garlic butter, Cajun, and teriyaki sauce, which is used at your own gluttonous discretion. Keep utensil etiquette at minimum, food tastes better when things get messy.

Stop by Monday-Saturday from 10AM-3:30PM. Bring friends, wet naps, and loose pants.

FIND THEM HERE:
529 S Central Ave.
fishermansoutlet.net



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KING EDDY SALOON

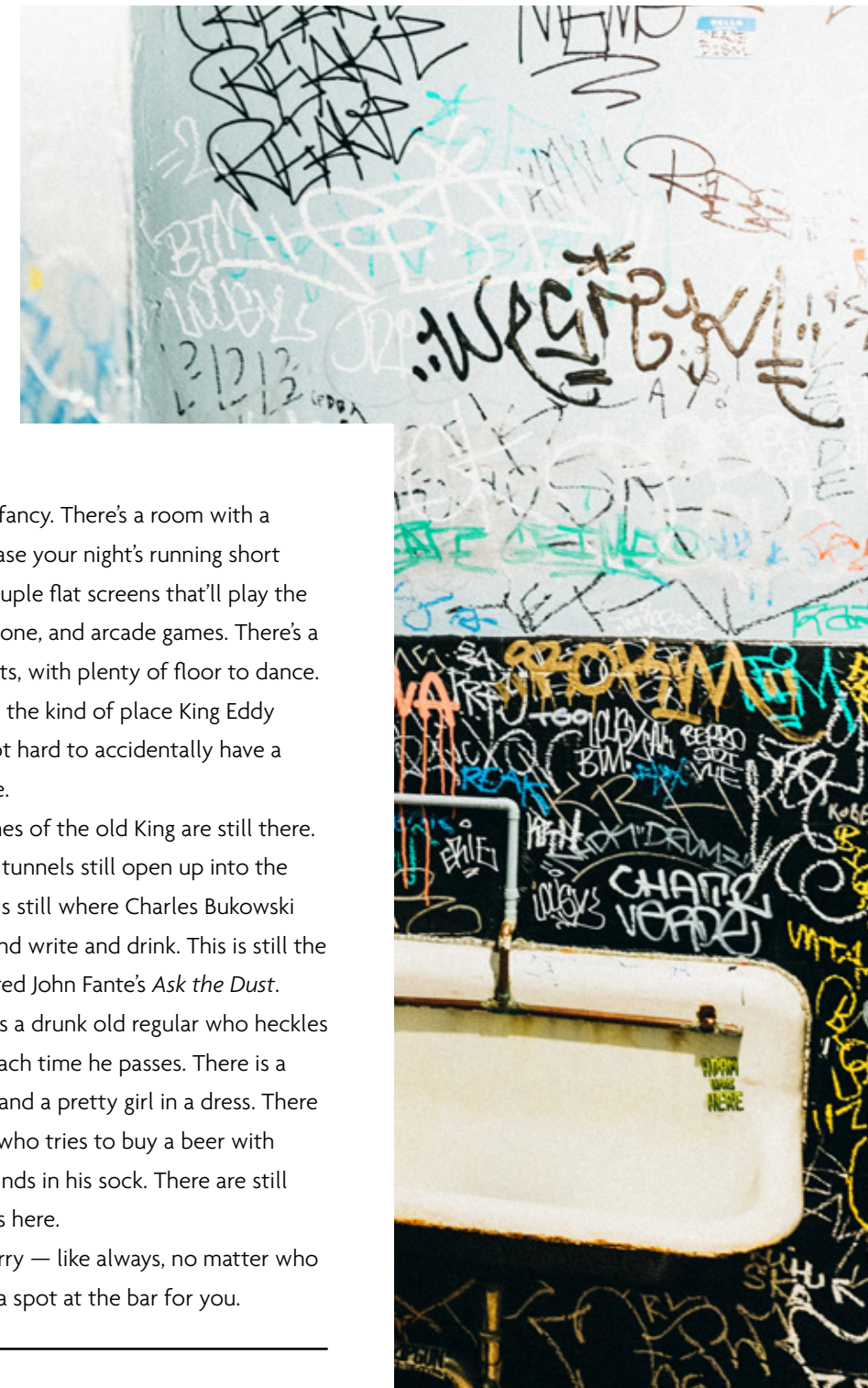
THE ROYAL DIVE

Written By Rayna Jensen
& Photographed By Christian Thomas

After suffering a near disco-death experience, the King is on the road to recovery. The century-old bar is currently on its third manager since its 2013 reopening, and things have been changing. The disco ball is gone. The neon signs are gone. The drunken chalk graffiti is gone.

The bar seems to have struck a balance between its predecessors: the 80s dance club, the skid row dive, the speakeasy. This King Eddy is just like the old King Eddy, only with a close shave and a new suit and tie. He's just as honest, and just as welcoming.

Drinks are easy: beers come in cans and liquor pours heavy. Everything is under \$10.



There's nothing fancy. There's a room with a dart board (in case your night's running short on danger), a couple flat screens that'll play the game if there is one, and arcade games. There's a DJ on most nights, with plenty of floor to dance. Even if you miss the kind of place King Eddy once was, it's not hard to accidentally have a really good time.

And the bones of the old King are still there. The prohibition tunnels still open up into the basement. This is still where Charles Bukowski came to drink and write and drink. This is still the place that inspired John Fante's *Ask the Dust*.

Now, there is a drunk old regular who heckles the bartender each time he passes. There is a man in a blazer and a pretty girl in a dress. There is another man who tries to buy a beer with a damp bill he finds in his sock. There are still plenty of stories here.

So don't worry — like always, no matter who you are, there's a spot at the bar for you.

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131 E 5th St.
kingeddysaloon.com



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DRINK

A

KING EDDY SALOON

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B

CAÑA RUM BAR

714 W Olympic Blvd.
213nightlife.com/canarumbar



EAT

C

FISHERMAN'S OUTLET

529 S Central Ave.
fishermansoutlet.net

D

AUNTIE EM'S KITCHENETTE

116 E 5th St.
auntieemskitchen.com



MOVE

E

FORT

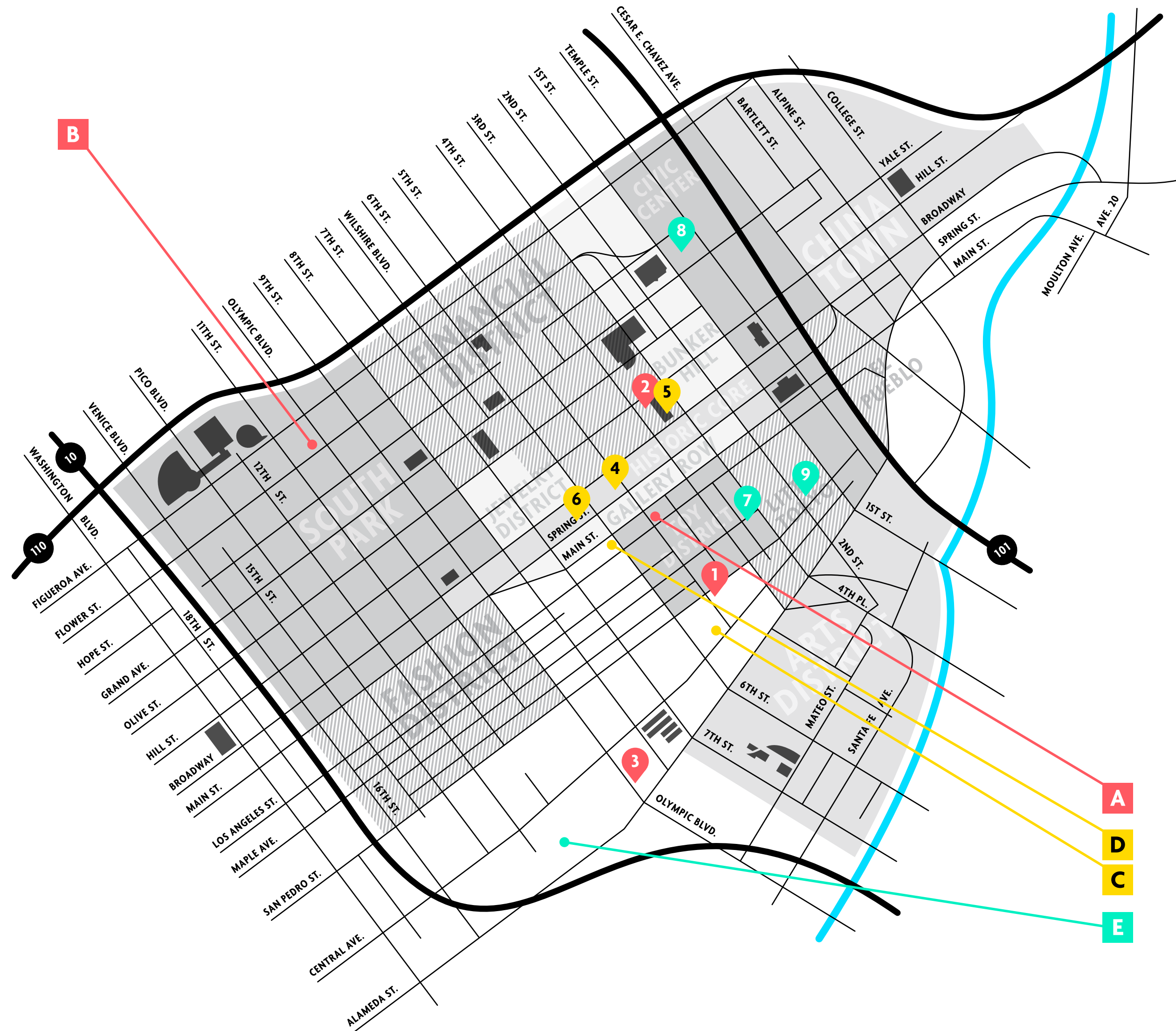
1250 Long Beach Ave.
fortgoods.com

CITY STREETS

FREEWAYS

LA RIVER

MAP SIMPLIFIED & NOT TO SCALE



DOWNTOWN FAVORITES

1

MADE BY DWC CAFE & GIFT BOUTIQUE
438 S San Pedro St. — madebydwc.org
Cafe and gift shop serving organic coffees and teas operated by the Downtown Women's Center. Every sip brings hope to homelessness.

2

LA CITA
336 S Hill St. — lacitybar.com
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3

SAM'S HOFBRAU
1751 E Olympic Blvd. — samshofbrau.com
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4

TWO BITS MARKET
210 W 5th St. — twobitsmarket.com
Your body's a temple, treat it like one. Neighborhood grocer for healthy, organic and responsible food products.

5

MADCAPRA
317 S Broadway — madcapra.com
Falafel wraps stuffed with robust flavors to be served quick and easy. Take a healthy lunch to go.

6

UNDERGROUND KITCHEN
615 S Spring St. — (310) 720-7427
Inside Spring Street Market is neighborhood deli that serves curry chicken sandwich, tarragon tuna, and chicken andalusia. You'll be back.

7

THESE DAYS
118 Winston St. 2nd Floor — thesedaysla.com
Gaze, take home, adore. Gallery and shop of emerging artists, collectible books, and design products.

8

FRIDAYS AT THE MUSIC CENTER
135 N Grand Ave. — musiccenter.org
Weekly dance parties all summer long — because the world needs more spontaneous dance moves. #BYODM

9

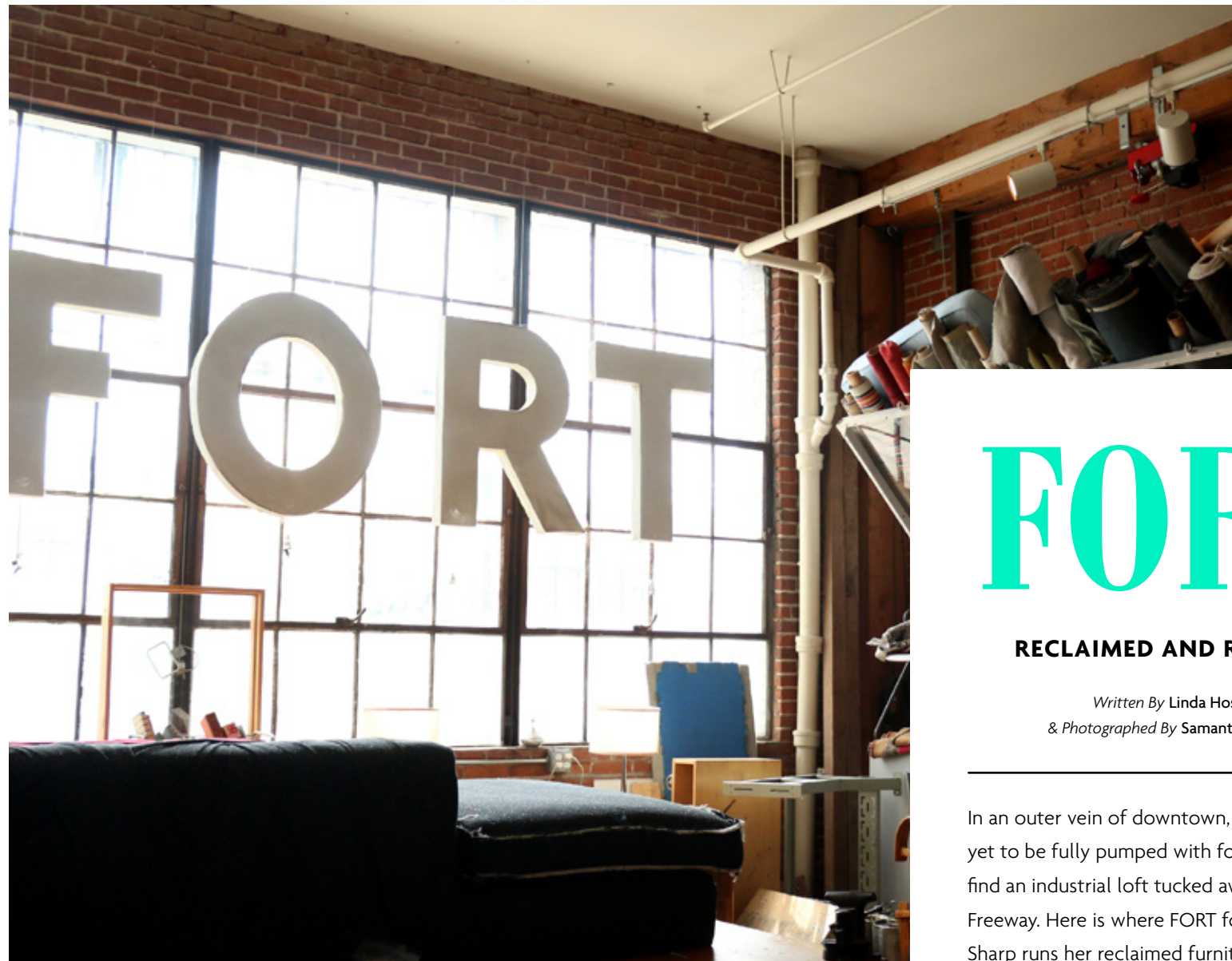
Q POP SHOP
128 Astronaut E S Onizuka St — qpopshop.com
Japanese pop art and knick knacks. Stop by and it'll bring the kid out in you.

A

D

C

E



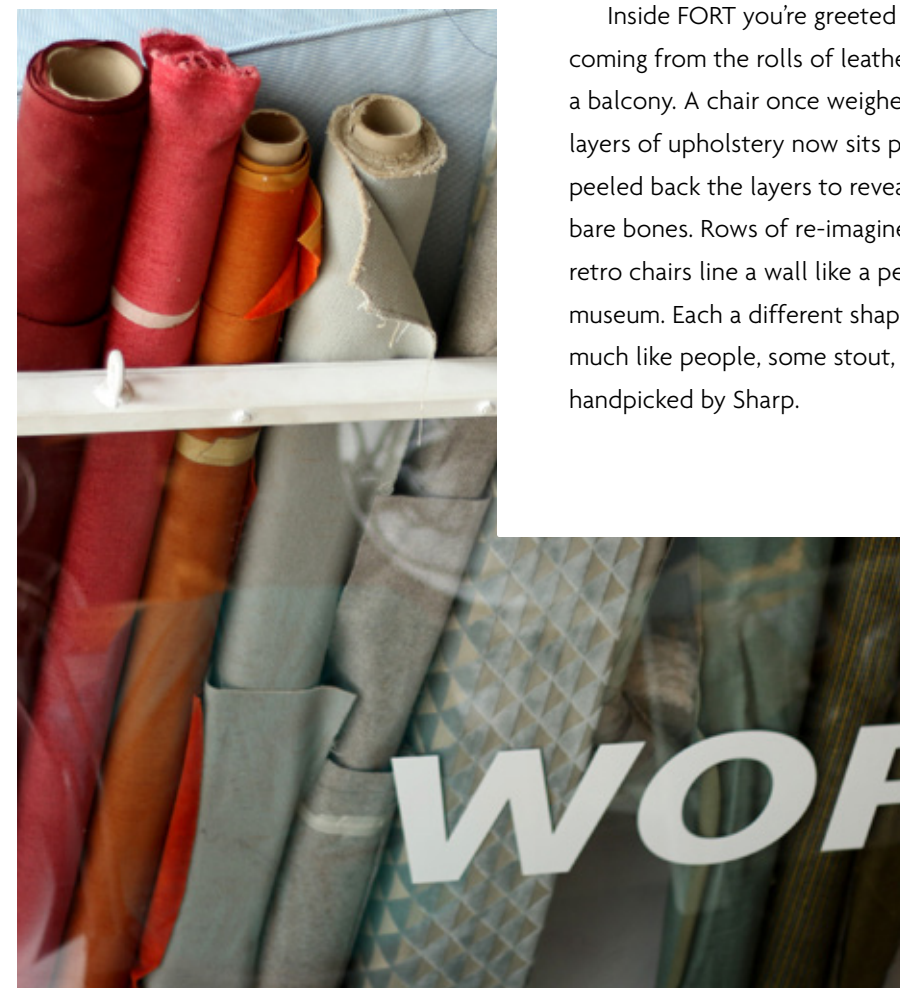
FORT

RECLAIMED AND RE-LOVED

Written By Linda Hosmer
& Photographed By Samantha Romero

In an outer vein of downtown, one that has yet to be fully pumped with foot traffic, you'll find an industrial loft tucked away near the 10 Freeway. Here is where FORT founder Jacqueline Sharp runs her reclaimed furniture shop.

Inside FORT you're greeted by the rich smell coming from the rolls of leather dripping over a balcony. A chair once weighed down by 5 layers of upholstery now sits pretty after Sharp peeled back the layers to reveal its gorgeous bare bones. Rows of re-imagined and reclaimed retro chairs line a wall like a perfectly curated museum. Each a different shape and size much like people, some stout, others lanky, all handpicked by Sharp.

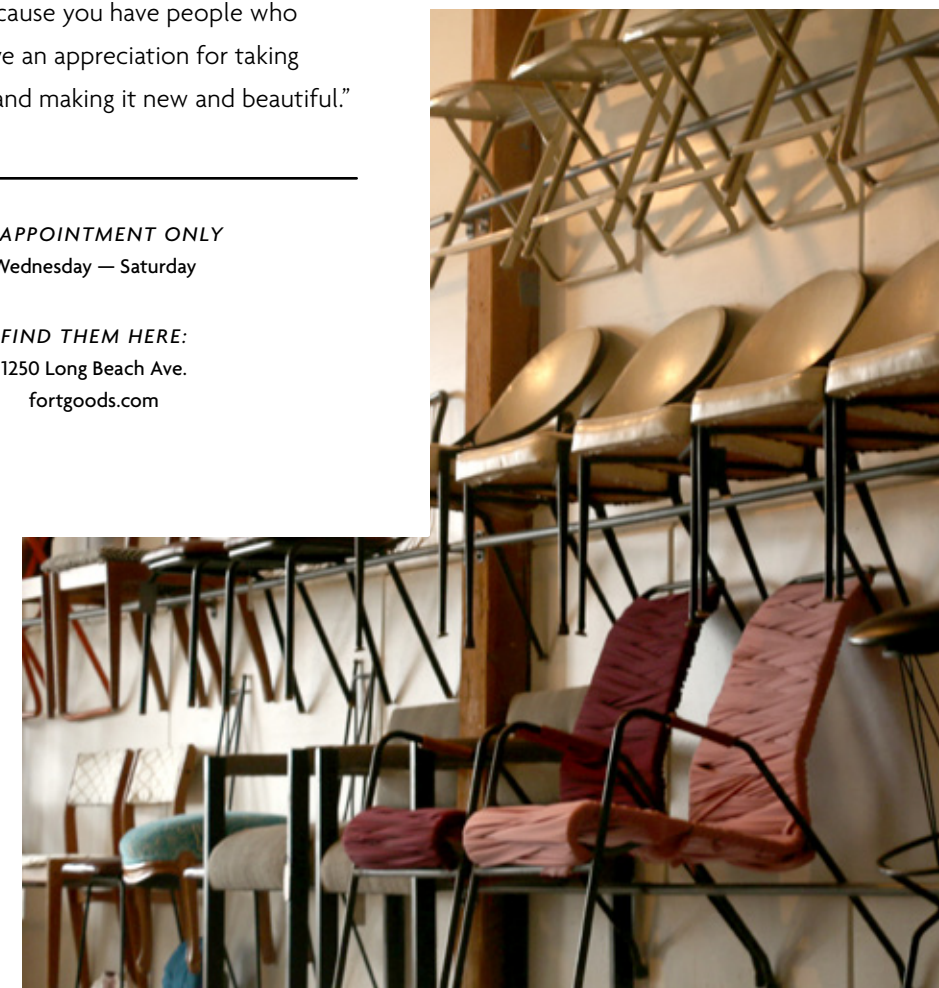


FORT got its start when Sharp moved to LA with a tight budget and the need to furnish her home. She got resourceful, hit up Craigslist for some reclaimed wood, and a \$50 table saw. She ended up filling the house with handmade furniture or estate sale pieces she freshened up, "I love that this was a rocking chair that a grandmother used to read stories to her grandkids in."

For those looking to learn, FORT hosts \$30-\$45 workshops. Sharp insists people bring their own tired throwaways to resuscitate with new life. These second chances are Sharp's sweet reward. She set her sights on this developing part of downtown after a friend helped her see past the rough exterior, "This is exactly where I need to be because you have people who are going to have an appreciation for taking something old and making it new and beautiful."

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967 East 12th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90021

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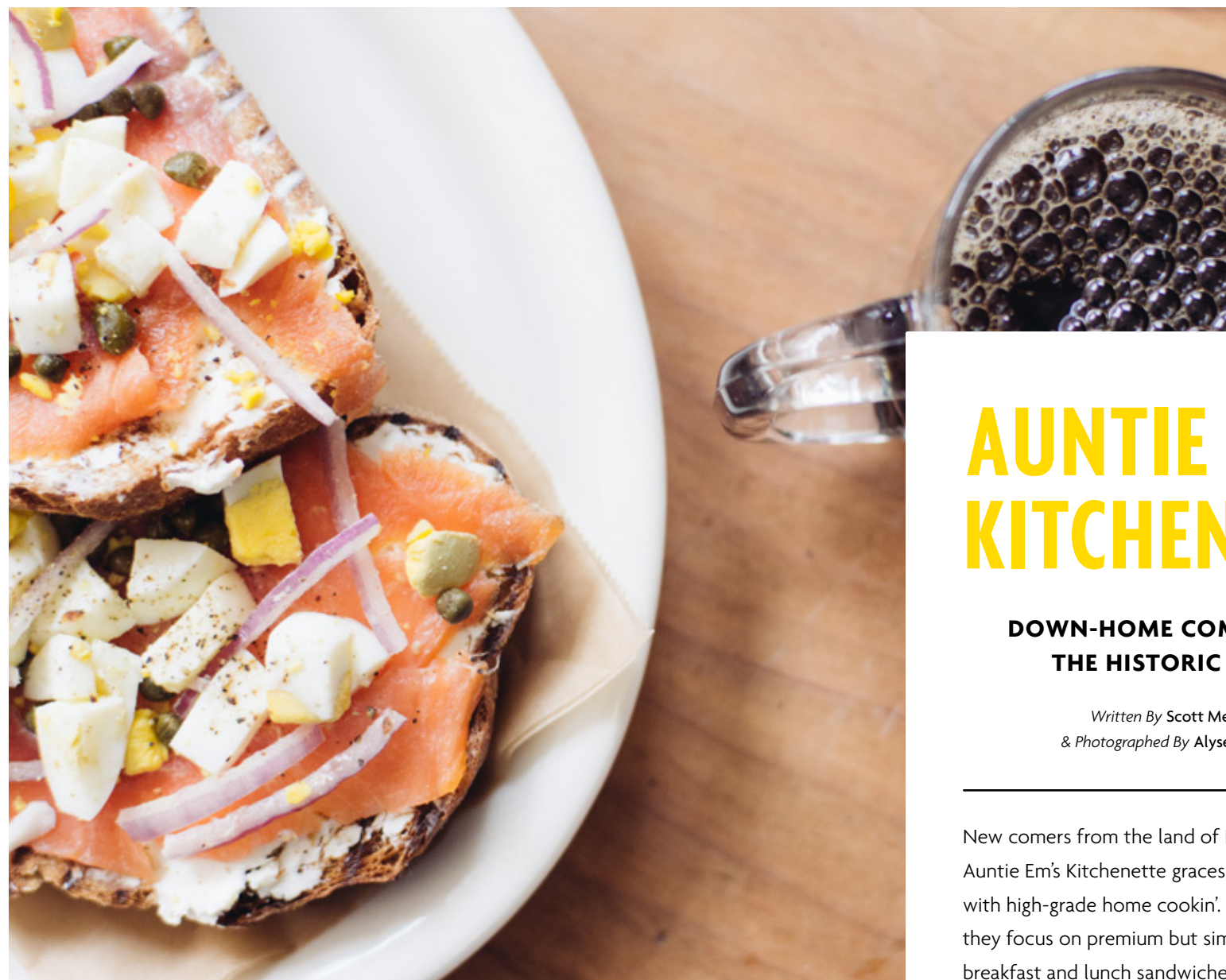


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AUNTIE EM'S KITCHENETTE

DOWN-HOME COMFORT IN THE HISTORIC CORE

Written By Scott Meisse
& Photographed By Alyse Gilbert

New comers from the land of Eagle Rock, Auntie Em's Kitchenette graces the Historic Core with high-grade home cookin'. Simpler fare here, they focus on premium but simple comfort — breakfast and lunch sandwiches. Downtown delivery via motorcycle is available, but go see the space founder Terri Wahl has created. Rustic and raw, the Americana-esque interior pairs well with her handcrafted desserts. Sounds of roots rock to Ty Segall hang in the air, emanating from the 1970's living room record player.

"I wish I lived on a farm. Definitely not a total city girl, but I love being down here. I love the people", Terri says. She decided to set up shop in the Historic Core, once co-founder Brandi Lazano found the perfect spot. You might



Photo by: Mike Payne

know Brandi from Two Bits Market. Terri you might *(should)* recognize from Red Aunts, a punk rock band who spent the 90s blowing the sails off the headlining act's ship. But all good things move toward their end, so we welcome the new the era of Terri's creativity.

The Avocado Toast is sublime, with beautiful beet hummus and super fresh carrots, the bagel-like roll has the perfect bite. The tender braised short rib is smothered in gooey cheese and sandwiched between fresh baked bread — rough around the edges and a squishy middle. The savory flavor balanced by spicy pickles is heavenly. Surrounded by pie and cupcakes, it's impossible not to start planning dessert before deciding what to start with. It's hard not to like it here.

Auntie Em's delivers organic produce throughout LA, so add a bit of Auntie Em's at home. The Kitchenette offers jams, coffee, and cookbooks (look for Terri's), furthering the genuine, down-home feel of the menu. Denizens of the Core now have a new home for homemade.



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auntieemskitchen.com



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STREET STYLE

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WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE HANG-OUTS IN DOWNTOWN?

I'm really loving the Springs Downtown right now. My go to for lunch is the ACE Hotel but my absolute favorite bar is Villian's Tavern.

WHAT ABOUT DOWNTOWN DO YOU LOVE MOST?

I love the feeling I get when I venture downtown. It's unlike any other areas of Los Angeles & if you are on the right street at the right time of day, it has a very Brooklyn vibe to it which I love.

WHAT BEST REPRESENTS THE STYLE OF DOWNTOWN?

Rough around the edges. I love downtown style because it's very free but without trying too hard. There is a certain authenticity to downtown style that you won't find in Silver Lake or Venice.



Photos courtesy of damselindior.com



HOPE STREET
Arthur



SPRING STREET
Jordan



SPRING STREET
Jacob

Photographed by Janica de Guzman



9TH STREET
Ted



GRAND AVENUE
Kirstin

Photographed by Janica de Guzman

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CAÑA RUM BAR

TIME FLIES WHEN YOU'RE HAVING RUM

Written By Cleo Tobbi & Photographed By Michael De La Madrid

Tucked away in the bottom floor of one of Downtown's many unassuming stone buildings of a certain age, Caña is anything but the kitschy tourist trap one might expect. Instead, the bar exudes all the elegance and understated class that is the dominant motif of every bar in the 213 Group. Though unlike its siblings, Caña is mildly more exclusive, requiring an annual membership for a mere \$20. Aside from a warm and convivial atmosphere conducive to conversation, Caña also shares with bars like Seven Grand and Las Perlas that most important trait: a dedication to classic mixology, and the creativity to turn those drinks into novel cocktails that never depart too far from tradition.

Take, for instance, Caña's interpretation of the classic tiki cocktail The Zombie, or as they like to call it: "28 Days Later." The classic Zombie is a dangerously drinkable mixture of citrus and fruit juices, spiced simple syrup and various rums. Caña plays with this basic template, adding, among other unexpected ingredients, a healthy dose of mezcal, which imparts its characteristic smokiness.

The results of this and other experimentation are invariably delicious: balanced, nuanced cocktails that make one reconsider a class of cocktails unfairly associated with sickeningly sweet, over-the-top assaults on the tastebuds. As with the drinks, Caña itself likewise refrains from an unfortunate history of tackiness in favor of an urbane elegance befitting its Downtown locale — and the results simply have to be experience firsthand.

FIND THEM HERE:
714 W Olympic Blvd.
213nightlife.com/canarumbar

DOWNTOWN EVENT CALENDAR

JUNE 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>31</p> <p>UNIVERSITY OF MMA Club Nokia 800 W Olympic Blvd. 5PM</p> <p>Amateur fighters duke it out for respect in the octagon.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>MONDAY MAYHEM Angel City Brewery 216 Alameda St. 7 – 9PM</p> <p>Beers, games & miscellaneous mayhem. Free to play & special prizes awarded each week.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>THE KIDS IN THE HALL Theatre at Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 8PM</p> <p>90s comedy troupe return to the stage for nostalgic laughs.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>SUFJAN STEVENS Dorothy Chandler Pavilion 135 N Grand Ave. 8PM</p> <p>Delicate and melodic, Sufjan Stevens celebrates the release of his forthcoming album</p>	<p>4</p> <p>LATIDO THURSDAYS Caña Rum Bar 714 Olympic Blvd. 9PM</p> <p>Cumbia, dub and Afrobeat and just about anything with unrelenting bass.</p>	<p>5</p> <p>DANCE DOWNTOWN The Music Center Plaza 135 N Grand Ave. 7 – 11PM</p> <p>Live music, open dance floor and salsa vibes. The world needs more spontaneous dance moves.</p>	<p>6</p> <p>AVAILABLE LIGHT Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Ave. 8PM</p> <p>For the first time in 30 years Frank Gehry, John Adams and Lucinda Childs come together for a post modern performance.</p>
<p>7</p> <p>LA BREAD FESTIVAL Grand Central Market 317 Broadway. First ever, 2 day celebration of carbs. Feast on eclectic bread offerings.</p>	<p>8</p> <p>LIVE JAZZ PIANO The Varnish 118 E 6th St. 9PM</p> <p>Classic cocktails and classic sounds found behind this hidden bar.</p>	<p>9</p> <p>MARKET TUESDAYS LA Mart 1933 Broadway 9AM – 5PM</p> <p>Shop showroom specials</p>	<p>10</p> <p>PSYCHO Million Dollar Theatre 307 S Broadway 8PM</p> <p>Oh the horror! The 1960 classic revived.</p>	<p>11</p> <p>LA FILM FESTIVAL Regal Cinemas 1000 W Olympic Blvd. 10AM</p> <p>Celebrations of LA's independent and international cinema.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>EIFMAN BALLET OF ST. PETERSBURG'S: RODIN Dorothy Chandler Pavilion 135 N Grand Ave. 7:30PM</p> <p>Their passion and paranoia revived, Rodin and Claudel as told by the Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg.</p>	<p>13</p> <p>LA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA: WALT DISNEY ANIMATION STUDIOS The Theatre at the Ace Hotel 939 Broadway 7PM</p> <p>Live orchestra in conjunction with cartoons from the Walt Disney vault.</p>
<p>14</p> <p>THE LEGEND OF ZELDA: SYMPHONY OF THE GODDESSES Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Ave. 8PM</p> <p>Scores accompanied by new gameplay imagery. Gamers, brace yourselves.</p>	<p>15</p> <p>DOG DAYS Redcat 631 2nd St. 8PM</p> <p>Mixed between classical vocalism and dark heavy metal influences, it's opera in raw form.</p>	<p>16</p> <p>80'S ON BROADWAY Broadway Bar 830 S Broadway. 9:30PM</p> <p>Jam out to your favorite 80s music every Tuesday.</p>	<p>17</p> <p>SPEAKEASY COMEDY Ebanos Crossing 200 S Hill St Laugh till you spit your drink out.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>THEATER UNDER THE STARS Grand Park 200 S Grand Ave. 8 – 10:30PM</p> <p>Nothing speaks summer like Shakespeare in the park.</p>	<p>19</p> <p>GRAND PERFORMANCES: GASLAMP KILLER 350 S Grand Ave. 8PM</p> <p>Psychedelic sound accompanied by a crushing 10-piece band. Best of all, it's free.</p>	<p>20</p> <p>THE BIG LEBOWSKI Electric Dusk Drive-In 1000 San Julian St. 8:30PM</p> <p>Pull up to witness The Dude on the outdoor screen.</p>
<p>21</p> <p>SUNDAY POOL PARTY Hotel Figueroa 939 S Figueroa St. 3 – 8PM</p> <p>Dip your toes and sip on cocktails. Sundays were meant for this.</p>	<p>22</p> <p>JAZZ JAM The Falls 626 Spring St. 8:30PM</p> <p>Bring your instruments, we'll bring kudos.</p>	<p>23</p> <p>GRAND PARK MARKETPLACE Grand Park 200 S Grand Ave. 10AM – 2PM</p> <p>Farmers market with locally grown produce and food vendors. Shop, eat and be merry.</p>	<p>24</p> <p>WILLY WONKA & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY Orpheum Theatre 842 S Broadway 8PM</p> <p>One word: Scrumdillyumptious.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>KEVIN HART Staples Center 1111 S Figueroa St. 8PM</p> <p>Witness the Grown Little Man deliver big laughs.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>TEASE IF YOU PLEASE Bar Fedora 710 W 1st St. 9:30PM</p> <p>Burlesque to fulfill your most elegant desires.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>CHINATOWN SUMMER NIGHTS Central Plaza N Broadway & W College St. 5PM – 12AM</p> <p>Food trucks, beer garden and KCRW DJs. This is why summer has our heart.</p>
<p>28</p> <p>SUNDAY SOUL BBQ Villains Tavern 1356 Palmetto St. 4PM – 9PM</p> <p>Soul, Motown and finger lickin' goodness.</p>	<p>29</p> <p>JAZ COLEMAN Regent Theatre 448 S Main St. 8PM</p> <p>Renaissance principles for the 21st century.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>TACO TEQUILA TUESDAYS Escondite 410 Boyd St. 9PM</p> <p>\$2 tacos, \$3 tequila and a night full of good times.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>OFF THE WAGON Villains Tavern 1356 Palmetto St. 4PM – 9PM</p> <p>Enjoy a night of vaudevillian debauchery</p>	<p>2</p> <p>JAZZ THURSDAYS Standard Hotel 550 S Flower. 5 – 8PM</p> <p>Have a sultry city night with roof top jazz.</p>	<p>3</p> <p>HAPPY HOUR AT VERANDA BAR Hotel Figueroa 939 S Figueroa St. 4 – 7PM</p> <p>\$4 beers and \$5 drinks. Just another reason to love Fridays.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>4TH OF JULY BLOCK PARTY Grand Park 200 N Grand Ave. 4 – 9PM</p> <p>Celebrate your freedom with the biggest rooftop firework display.</p>



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THE GEFKEN CONTEMPORARY AT MOCA | MARCH 20-JUNE 28, 2015

William Pope.L

TRINKET



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INSTALLATION VIEW OF WILLIAM POPE.L: TRINKET, MARCH 20-JUNE 28, 2015 AT THE GEFKEN CONTEMPORARY AT MOCA, COURTESY OF THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, LOS ANGELES, PHOTO BY BRIAN FORREST

MOCA GRAND AVENUE | MARCH 20-JULY 27, 2015

STURTEVANT

DOUBLE TROUBLE



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