

JULY 2016

LA

ISSUE 23

DOWNTOWNER[®]

THE INSIDER GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

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EVERSON ROYCE BAR

“Alcohol first, food second, no fluff, no judgement.” Although the mantra is straightforward, Everson Royce Bar offers customers a drink and food menu to ignite curiosity.



Photographed by: Rozette Rago

CINDY SHERMAN AT THE BROAD

The Broad's first special exhibition features the work of Cindy Sherman; photographer, model, and one of the most meaningful artists of our time.

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REDBIRD

Chef Neal Fraser brings a diverse menu to a divine setting. We sat with the acclaimed chef to discuss LA and its influence on his culinary creations.

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LADTR

LONG LIVE DOWNTOWN

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

A FERROCONCRETE PUBLICATION

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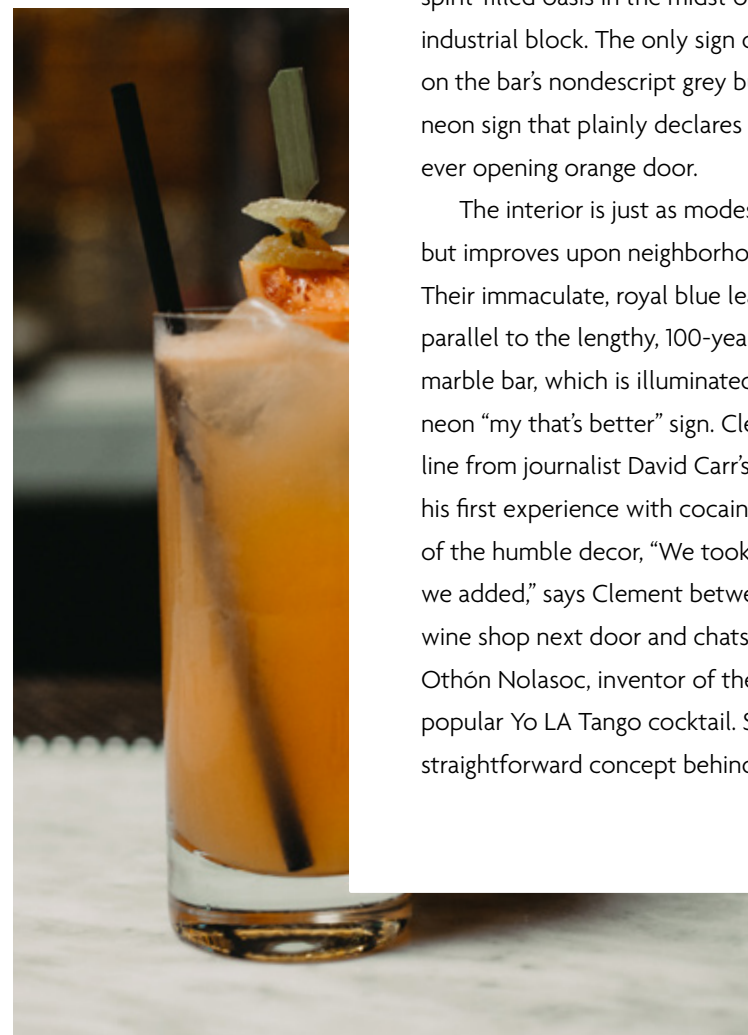

EVERSON ROYCE BAR

SETTING THE BAR

Written By Lucy Rogers-Ciaffa
Photographed By Rozette Rago

You wouldn't expect a father of six-year-old twins to be inspired by a writer snorting cocaine, but then again, Randy Clement is anything but traditional. "We have no interest in being predictable," remarks Clement about his recently opened Everson Royce Bar, a welcoming wine and spirit-filled oasis in the midst of a mostly quiet, industrial block. The only sign of occupation on the bar's nondescript grey building is a bright neon sign that plainly declares "BAR" above its ever opening orange door.

The interior is just as modestly furnished, but improves upon neighborhood bar classics. Their immaculate, royal blue leather booth runs parallel to the lengthy, 100-year-old original marble bar, which is illuminated by the glow of a neon "my that's better" sign. Clement lifted the line from journalist David Carr's description of his first experience with cocaine. As for the rest of the humble decor, "We took away more than we added," says Clement between runs to his wine shop next door and chats with bar manager Othón Nolasoc, inventor of the immensely popular Yo LA Tango cocktail. Such is the straightforward concept behind E.R.B.: "Alcohol

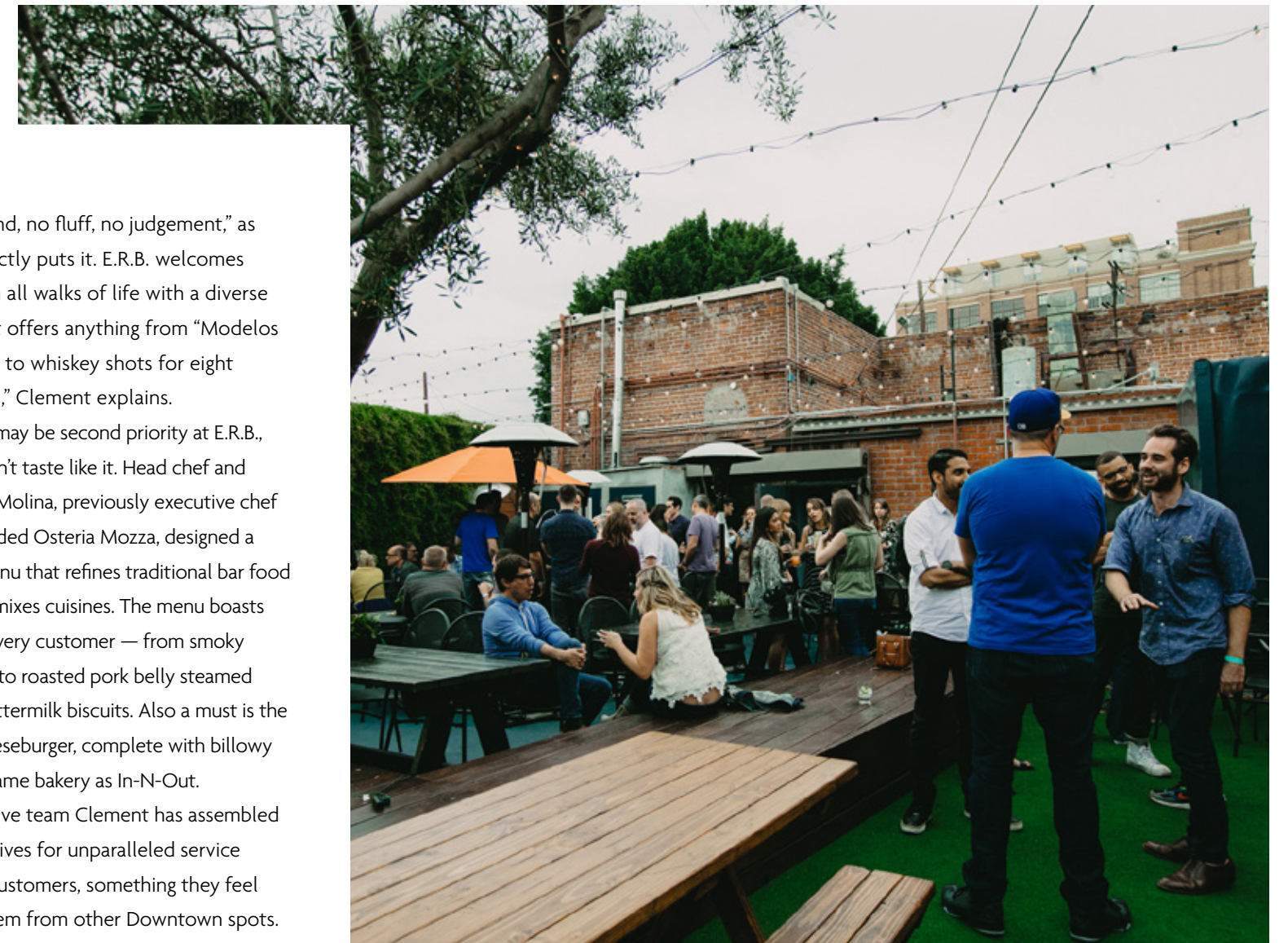


first, food second, no fluff, no judgement," as Clement succinctly puts it. E.R.B. welcomes customers from all walks of life with a diverse drink menu that offers anything from "Modelos for four dollars, to whiskey shots for eight hundred dollars," Clement explains.

While food may be second priority at E.R.B., it certainly doesn't taste like it. Head chef and co-owner Matt Molina, previously executive chef at the highly lauded Osteria Mozza, designed a finger-licking menu that refines traditional bar food and seamlessly mixes cuisines. The menu boasts something for every customer — from smoky potato taquitos to roasted pork belly steamed buns to flaky buttermilk biscuits. Also a must is the bar's classic cheeseburger, complete with billowy buns from the same bakery as In-N-Out.

The impressive team Clement has assembled behind E.R.B. strives for unparalleled service for all of their customers, something they feel distinguishes them from other Downtown spots. "We know what it's like to get off from work late and have nowhere to eat, and what it's like to be in your early twenties when people don't give you the time of day," says Clement, which is why the kitchen is open until 1 AM, and why the kids are "treated like kings." E.R.B. ultimately stands as a trendy yet unassuming Cheers, known for reliable hospitality and quality. Nestled between the Silverlake Wine store with its string-lit outdoor patio, and a roomy parking lot on East 7th Street, Everson Royce Bar is the perfect place to decompress after a long day and revive yourself for the night ahead. After a sip of their silver tequila infused Infante and a bite into their burger, you'll be signing, *my, that's better.*

FIND THEM HERE:
1936 E 7th St.
erbla.com





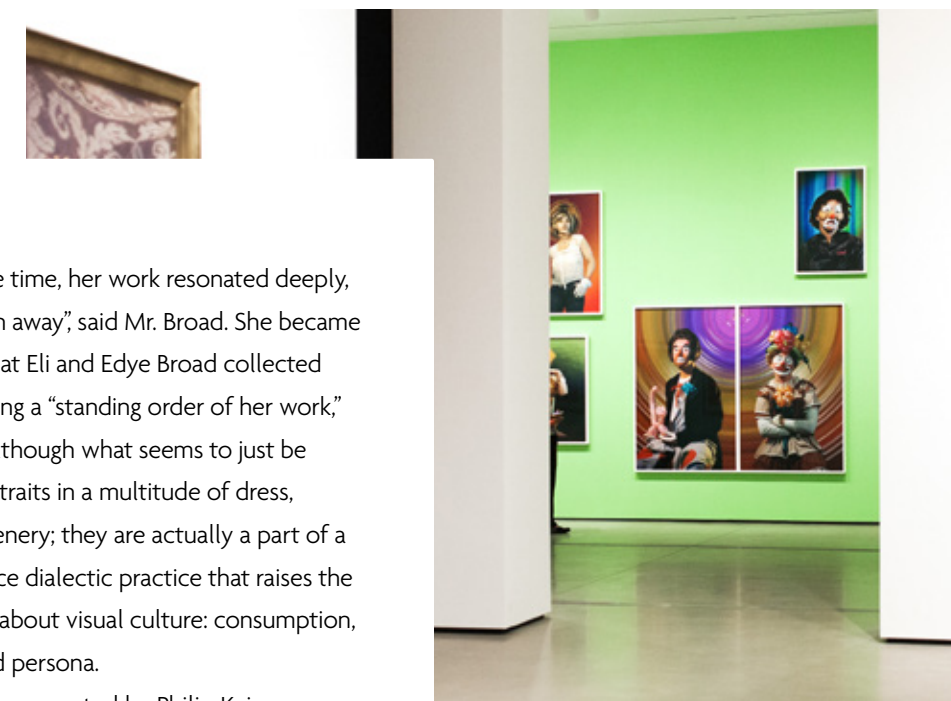
CINDY SHERMAN AT THE BROAD

SELFIE QUEEN

Written By Alix Fournier
Photographed By Jack Strutz

Since the inception of the first permanent image in 1826, and the subsequent domination of portraiture as its subject, photography has become an extension of ourselves in ways that could never have been imagined by Nadar, the first famed portraitist. One wonders if this was also as illusive to Cindy Sherman in 1975, when her work simultaneously plunged into and helped define postmodernist responses to popular culture. It's now over 40 years later, and "Imitation of Life," The Broad's first special exhibition, highlights the artist's astute ability to remain not just relevant and an exceptional social commentator, but resolutely one of the most meaningful artists of our time. "We are defined by images. Cindy is both the photographer and the model, and that's a very powerful role to take on, especially in the early days of mass media images and particularly of a woman," Joanne Heyler, Founding Director, remarks. Although not intended, this exhibition, happening adjacent to a historically significant time in our political and popular culture, is part of the many reasons why it's remarkable and synergistic.

"Imitation of Life," Cindy Sherman's first Los Angeles show in almost 20 years, came to The Broad first, as the result of their love of her work. It was 1982 and although they were not photography

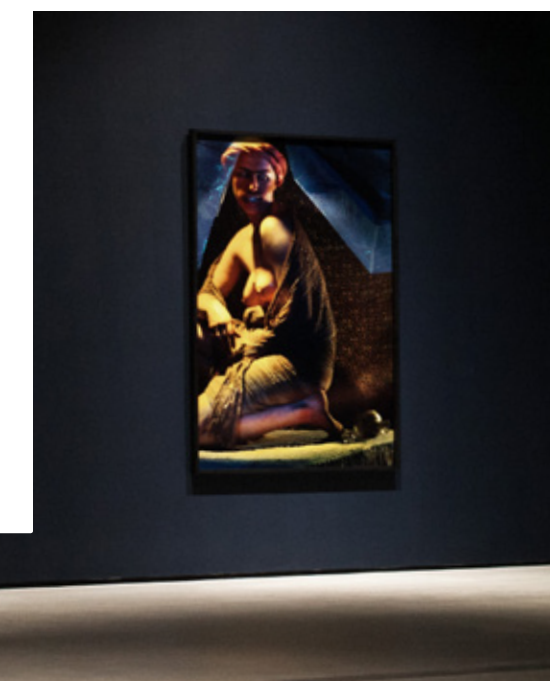


collectors at the time, her work resonated deeply, "We were blown away," said Mr. Broad. She became the first artist that Eli and Edye Broad collected in depth, including a "standing order of her work," Heyler states. Although what seems to just be provocative portraits in a multitude of dress, makeup, and scenery; they are actually a part of a solo performance dialectic practice that raises the deep questions about visual culture: consumption, stereotypes, and persona.

This exhibition, curated by Philip Kaiser, was crafted for Los Angeles, furthering the layered nature of work. As it's still being made, it intersects, interprets, and folds into this city's deep history of image-making and performance art. He says, "In this way, the imitation of cinema and the imitation of life blur beyond recognition." Pervasive in her approach, according to Heyler, is "her willingness to work with popular media while embracing it." The accompanying audio tour through The Broad free mobile app allows the viewer to connect to the work through responses from other groundbreaking artists and "Hollywood notables," mostly woman, lending more elegance to Sherman's choice (partially) to the title, based on Douglas Sirk's ingénue identity crisis melodrama of the same name.

Adjunct programming such as Nonobject(ive): Summer Happenings at The Broad will feature performance and multi-media based on the many forms Cindy has taken over the decades. Every other Thursday night in the Oculus Hall, the Doll Parts film series, will inventively interchange influences to her work with those influenced by, in presentation of films, music videos, and artist's tapes.

SEE THE SHOW:
221 S Grand Ave.
thebroad.org



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REDBIRD

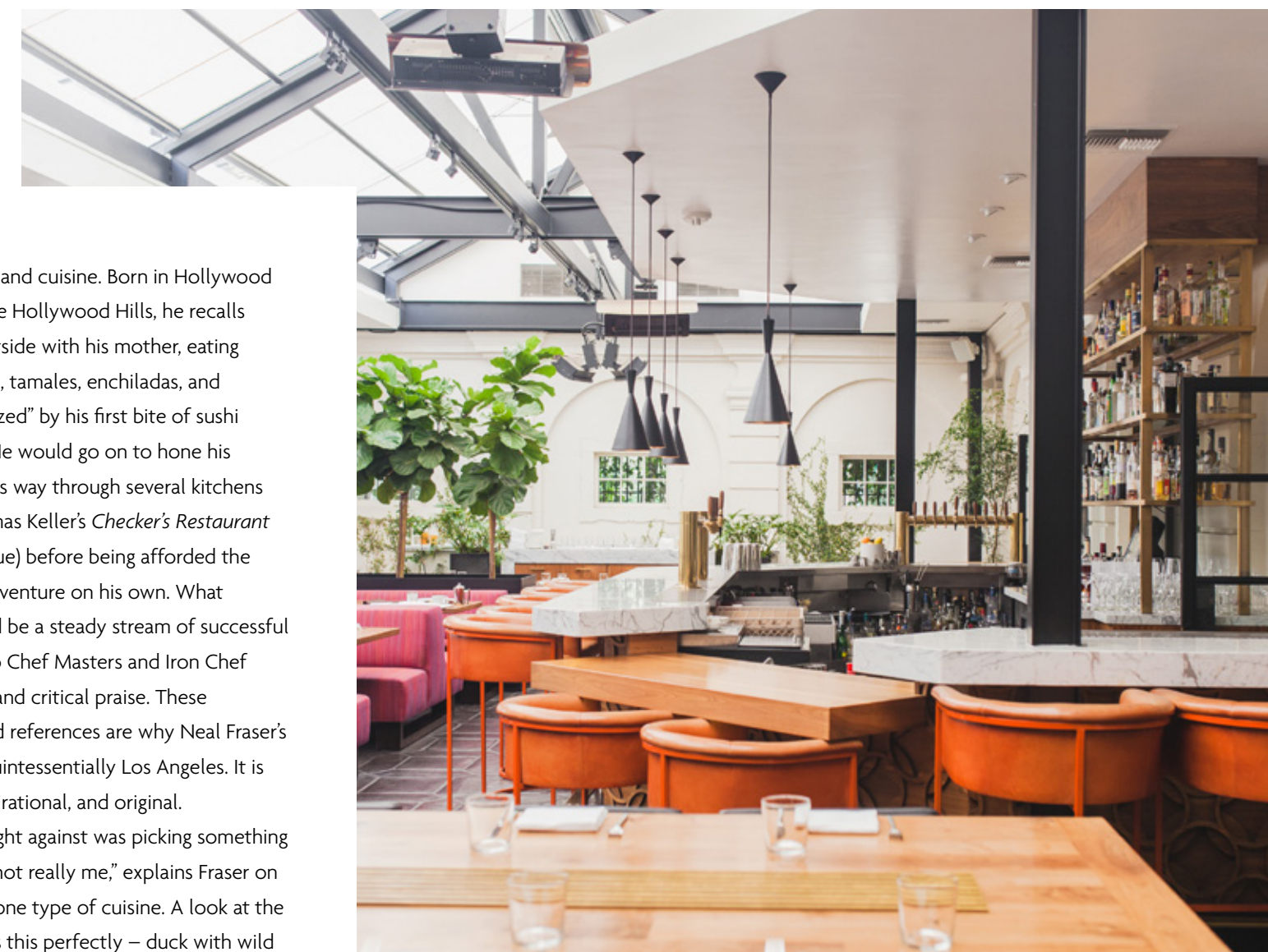
TASTE OF LA, LOOK OF LOVE

Written By Ivan Navarro
Photographed By Oriana Koren

To sit and talk with Chef Neal Fraser about his culinary gem — the lauded Redbird, which opened in 2014 to much acclaim — is to understand Los Angeles through his cooking. Set inside the city's first Archdiocese Catholic cathedral, Redbird is literally carved from LA history, occupying the former rectory of Vibiana and deriving its namesake from that red little bird, the cardinal. "I think the main reason we sold our other restaurants and moved down here was because we finally found something that was bigger than ourselves," says Fraser who opened Redbird with wife and partner, Amy Knoll Fraser.

And big it is. The six year construction project was designed by the couple's friend Robert Weimer and features two bustling dining rooms, a 24 person bar, private dining rooms and serves as the in-house caterer for Vibiana. "It's about Amy and myself. It's about what we thought Los Angeles needed, which was an adult restaurant that was not pretentious, that was not the loudest restaurant in the world," explains Chef Neal. And while the final result is as opulent as you'd imagine a restaurant in a former cathedral to be, the menu is what drives Redbird.

Fraser's approach to food is heavily influenced by the unique variety of Los Angeles'

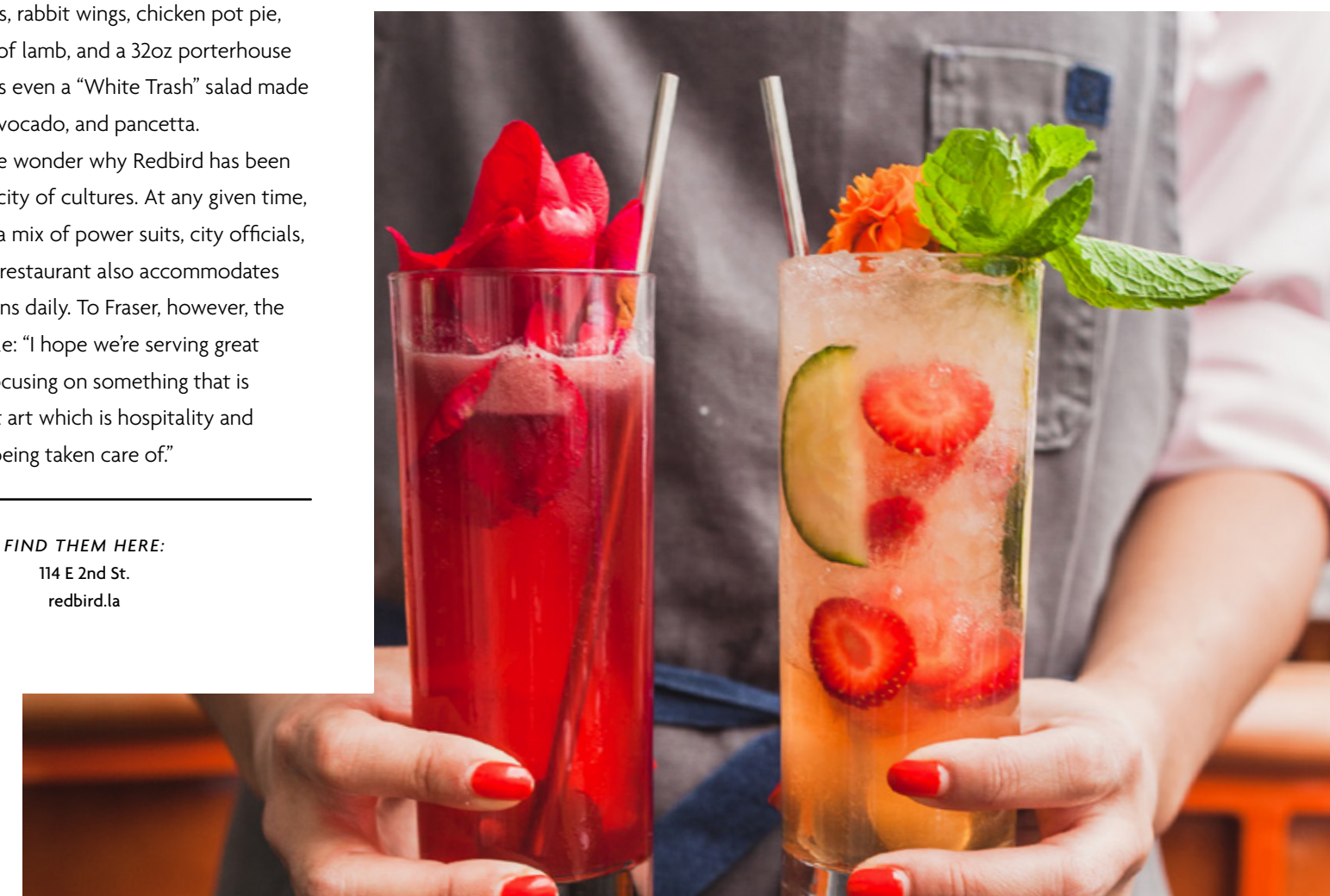


neighborhoods and cuisine. Born in Hollywood and raised in the Hollywood Hills, he recalls trips to the Eastside with his mother, eating hard shell tacos, tamales, enchiladas, and being "mesmerized" by his first bite of sushi in Chinatown. He would go on to hone his skills working his way through several kitchens (including Thomas Keller's *Checker's Restaurant* on Grand Avenue) before being afforded the opportunity to venture on his own. What followed would be a steady stream of successful restaurants, Top Chef Masters and Iron Chef America titles, and critical praise. These experiences and references are why Neal Fraser's cooking is so quintessentially Los Angeles. It is sought out, aspirational, and original.

"What I fought against was picking something specific. That's not really me," explains Fraser on not sticking to one type of cuisine. A look at the menu illustrates this perfectly — duck with wild rice and cherries, rabbit wings, chicken pot pie, Australian rack of lamb, and a 32oz porterhouse for two. There is even a "White Trash" salad made of little gems, avocado, and pancetta.

It's with little wonder why Redbird has been embraced by a city of cultures. At any given time, the clientele is a mix of power suits, city officials, and locals. The restaurant also accommodates up to 150 walk-ins daily. To Fraser, however, the formula is simple: "I hope we're serving great food. We are focusing on something that is becoming a lost art which is hospitality and service. You're being taken care of."

FIND THEM HERE:
114 E 2nd St.
redbird.la





GARÇONS DE CAFÉ

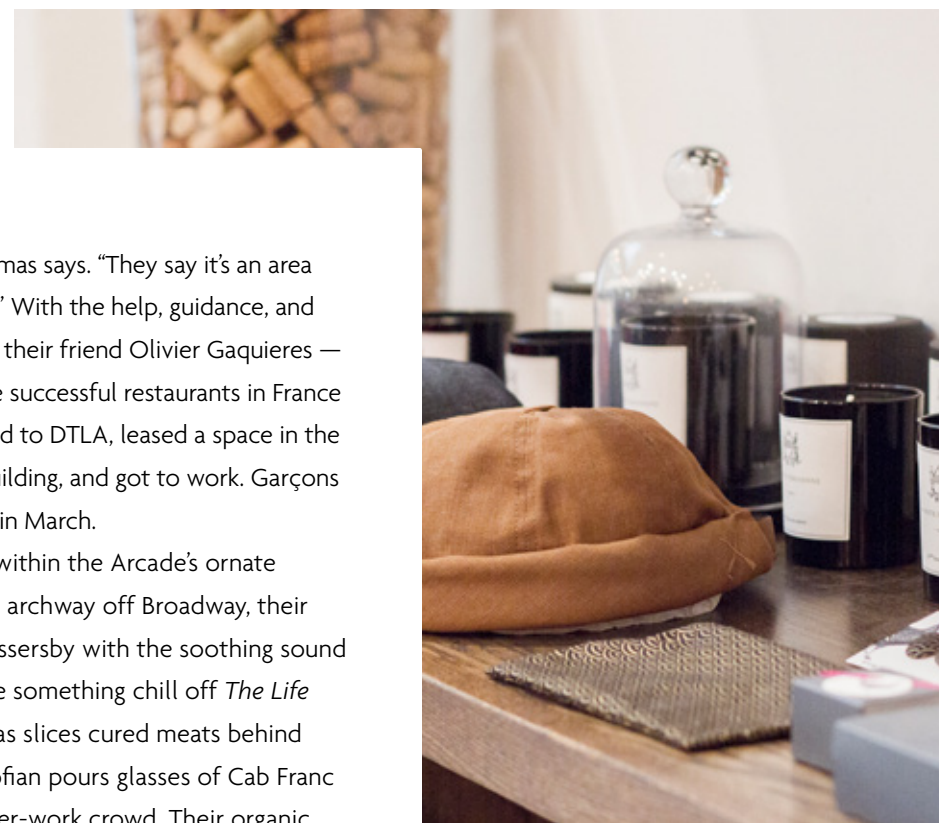
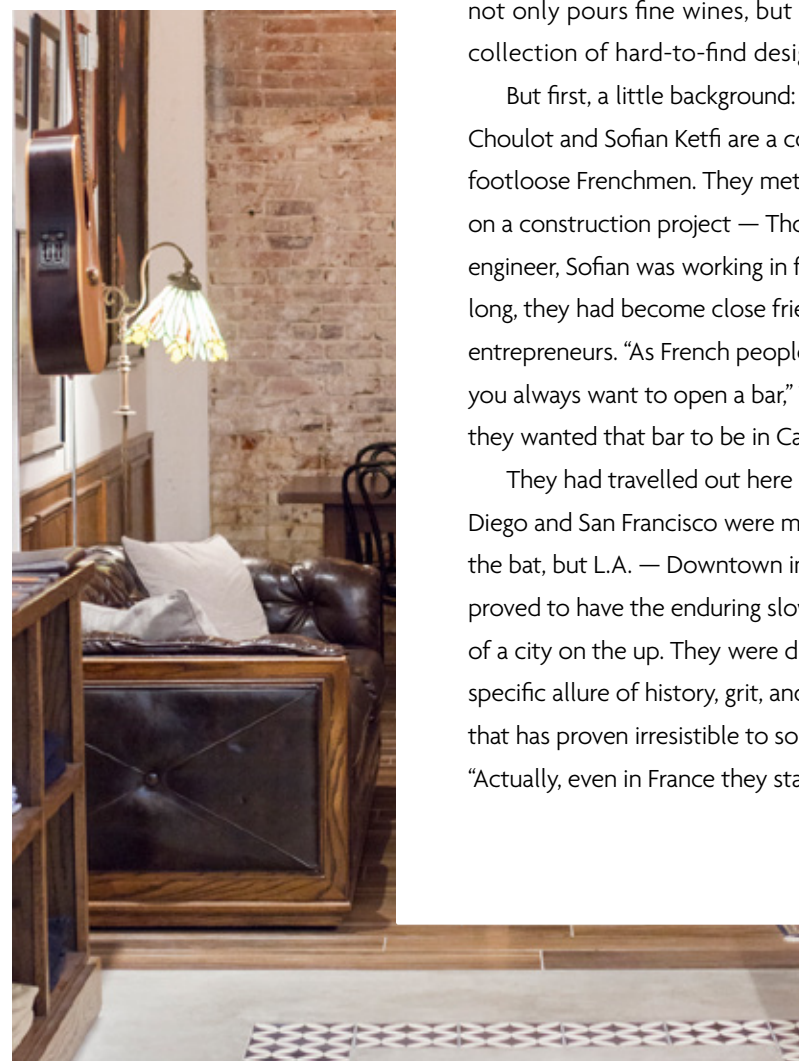
A LITTLE PIECE OF PARIS

Written By Thomas Harlander
Photographed By Matt Daniels & Kort Havens

Perhaps you've seen them — the hats. Part cap, part beanie, they're an homage to the classic sailor's watch cap in canvas and denim. They're designed by Parisian label Béton Ciré and are nearly impossible to find anywhere west of New York's Dover Street market — anywhere, that is, except a small DTLA wine bar in the Spring Arcade Building. That's right, Garçons de Café, Downtown's newest enological venture, not only pours fine wines, but is home to a collection of hard-to-find designer goods.

But first, a little background: Thomas Choulot and Sofian Ketfi are a couple of footloose Frenchmen. They met in Chad while on a construction project — Thomas was an engineer, Sofian was working in finance. Before long, they had become close friends and aspiring entrepreneurs. "As French people, at some point you always want to open a bar," Thomas says. And they wanted that bar to be in California.

They had travelled out here before; San Diego and San Francisco were more exciting off the bat, but L.A. — Downtown in particular — proved to have the enduring slow-burn appeal of a city on the up. They were drawn by that specific allure of history, grit, and potential that has proven irresistible to so many of us. "Actually, even in France they start to talk about



Downtown," Thomas says. "They say it's an area that's interesting." With the help, guidance, and co-ownership of their friend Olivier Gaquieres — he's started three successful restaurants in France — the two moved to DTLA, leased a space in the Spring Arcade Building, and got to work. Garçons de Café opened in March.

A few steps within the Arcade's ornate Spanish Baroque archway off Broadway, their café beckons passersby with the soothing sound of jazz (or maybe something chill off *The Life of Pablo*). Thomas slices cured meats behind the bar, while Sofian pours glasses of Cab Franc for a mellow after-work crowd. Their organic and biodynamic offerings are some of the best France has to offer, Sofian says, so it's good news they do wine flights.

Before, after, or while you sip a glass of Syrah, you can peruse a selection of gorgeous handcrafted skateboards, leather bags, candles, and paper goods — plus the French edition of GQ. Even better is their small but oh-so-impeccably curated assortment of clothing, biodegradable sunglasses, and those Béton Ciré beanie caps — they're called mikis, by the way — that are selling like crazy. Their products are exclusively shipped in from young French designers whose influence in the states hasn't seeped beyond the East Coast.

Their unique blend of bar and boutique is perfectly executed, a self-contained evening out. "Personally, I like to go to the same place and find everything I want in the same atmosphere," Sofian says of their array of products. "And there's wine because everyone loves wine."

FIND THEM HERE:
541 S Spring St. #114
garcons-de-cafe.com

WATCH THE VIDEO FEATURETTE:
ladowntowner.com/garcons-de-cafe



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TEASE, IF YOU PLEASE!

BURLESQUE'S REDUX

Written By Rayna Jensen
Photographed By Frank Maldonado

A lot of souls have passed through the Globe Theatre. Since its opening over a century ago, it's been a movie theater, a newsreel theater, a playhouse, a swap meet, and it's been resurrected after sitting empty for years. Now, a year after re-opening its doors, the theater finally has a beating heart again, and someone to give it a good feather-dusting.

Donna Hood's wildly successful burlesque show "Tease, if You Please!", which was once inconspicuously located in a tiny restaurant between a Subway and a yoga studio, now calls the Globe Theatre home. Tease is the first recurring show the Broadway District has seen in decades, and even the show's bi-monthly performances alone are enough to breathe life back into the whole neighborhood. Even for the most seasoned audience, there is no burlesque act quite like Tease.

The show is a mix of neo-burlesque and traditional burlesque, combining the classic feathers, sparkles, and music with more modern storytelling. Each show is a surprise: Donna and her dancers perform their own acts, and no two shows are the same. It's equally likely that someone could come out in cowboy boots or in stilettos, that someone might drench themselves in a bottle of champagne or light their pasties on fire like a pair of swinging torchlights. There might be a strip tease from a very handsome Cuban man. There's no telling.

"Everybody here has something special, that thing that makes you want to keep watching," Hood says of her dancers. "There are different styles, different body types, different tastes in music. Everyone is here for a reason."

Each dancer has an undeniable spark, and the Globe, with all its history and old-LA magic, is a venue that does each of them justice. When Hood first walked through the theater, she was reminded of the scene in *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* when Jessica Rabbit slinks down the catwalk in her sparkling dress, and the patrons at the surrounding tables ogle and drool as she caresses a man's face with her foot. "Tease, If You Please!" is like that — at once sultry and funny, intimate and theatrical, and impossible to look away from.

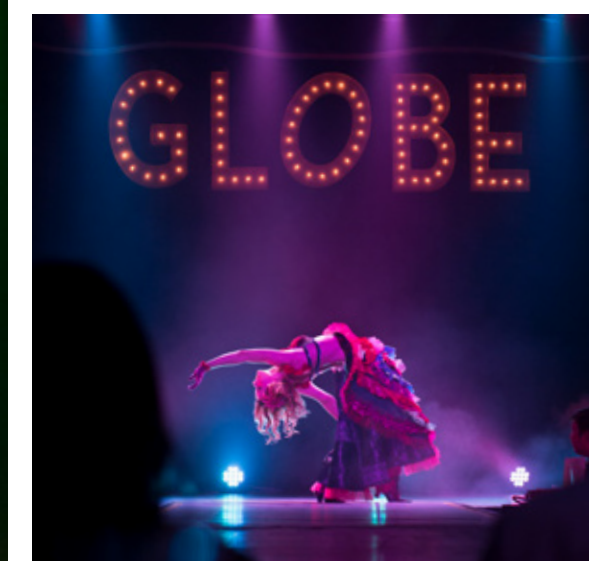
"It was a dream coming to life here," Hood says about ultimately choosing the Globe. "This just felt right."

It had the components Hood was looking for: the catwalk that extends into the audience, and the floor space for the surrounding tables provide the movement and intimacy that's lacking in a typical theatrical setting. Entering the space before a show is like stepping into a 1930's cabaret, where the air is hazy with smoke and chandelier light, and there's still an atmosphere of temptation, surprise, and the forbidden that no longer exists anywhere else. Tease seamlessly marries tradition to forward momentum, and in this way, it's the perfect show to finally breathe life back into the old soul of the Broadway District.

"Tease, if You Please!" runs every other Friday at 8:30 PM, and tickets are available through the show's website.

SEE THE SHOW:
Globe Theatre — 740 S Broadway
teaseifyouplease.com

WATCH THE VIDEO FEATURETTE:
ladowntowner.com/tease-globe-theatre





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garcons-de-cafe.com
- C** **TOKYO BEAT**
319 E 2nd St. #205
(213) 625-5708



EAT

- D** **REDBIRD**
114 E 2nd St.
redbird.la
- E** **HOWLIN' RAY'S**
727 N Broadway #128
howlinrays.com
- F** **GUERO'S COCINA MEXICANA**
737 S Los Angeles St.
guerosla.com



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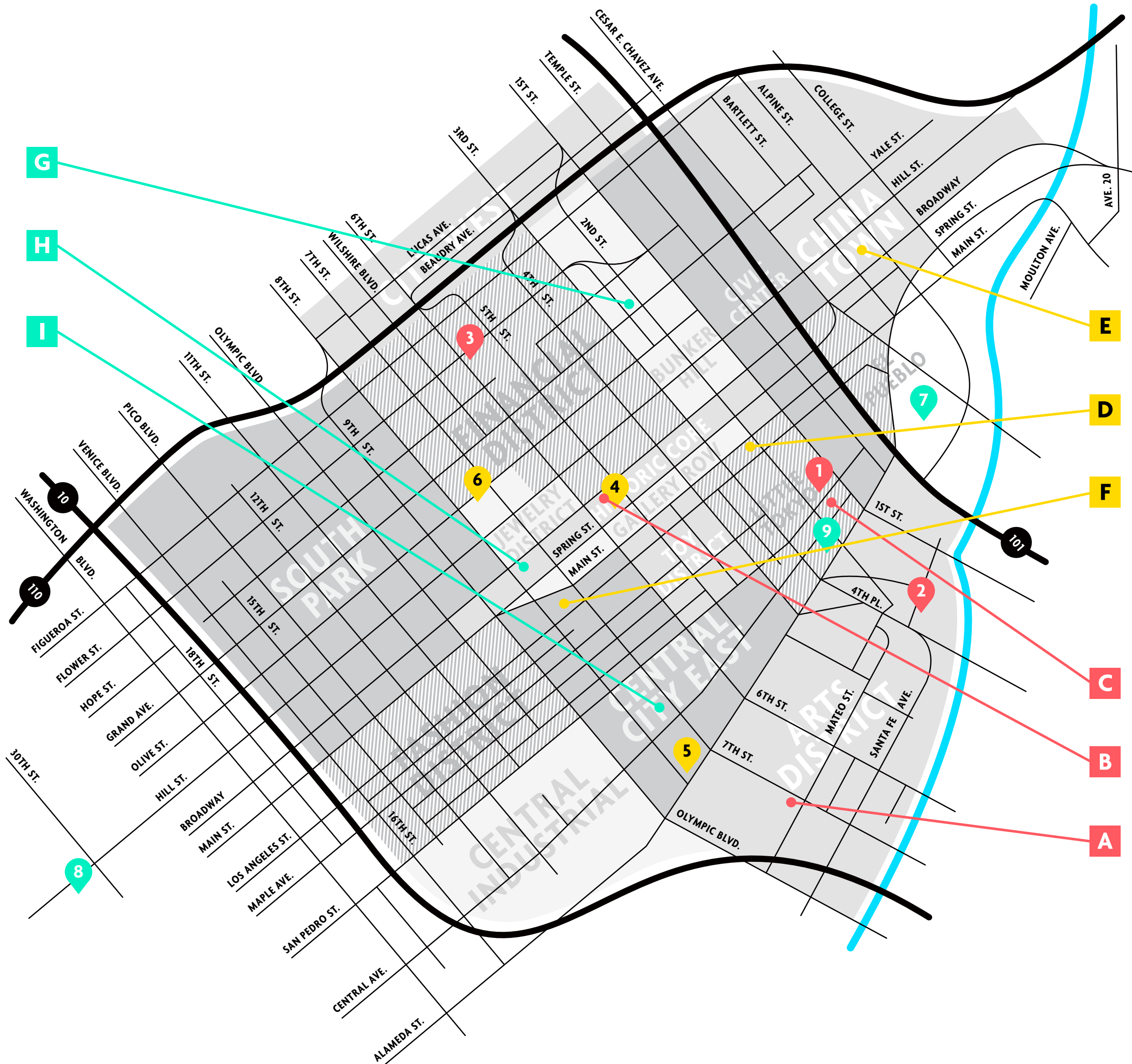
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221 S Grand Ave.
thebroad.org
- H** **TEASE, IF YOU PLEASE!**
Globe Theater — 740 S Broadway
teaseifyouplease.com
- I** **INNER-CITY ARTS**
720 Kohler St.
inner-cityarts.org

CITY STREETS

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135 S San Pedro St. — cafedemitasse.com
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- 2** **WESTBOUND**
300 S Santa Fe Ave. — westbounddta.com
Classy and romantic bar in the Arts District, serving specialty craft cocktails and a menu to make one smile. Try the Boxcar Cobbler with Hidalgo oloroso and celery bitters alongside the beef tartare. Take a date and take 'em home.
- 3** **THE ROOFTOP AT THE STANDARD**
550 S Flower St. — standardhotel.com
Summer rooftop pool spot to drink, tan, and get nasty at. Spend the whole day and night looking at the DTLA skyline, throwing back shots of Patron or chugging beers at the mini biergarten nestled within. Take a break from the outdoors and smack some balls in the indoor ping pong room.
- 4** **OKIPOKI**
507 S Spring St. — okipokila.com
The problem with sushi is you can never have enough of it. Okipoki serves giant versions of popular rolls as handheld sushi burritos and crafty flavors like Inferno, spicy tuna and hot cheetos. If you're still feeling the poke fever, choose from traditional hawaiian style or Truffle Trouble, salmon and scallion ginger truffle sauce.
- 5** **LA SMORGASBURG**
Alameda & Bay St. — la.smorgasburg.com
The beloved Brooklyn Smorgasburg is finally making it's way to LA for a weekly Sunday market of food and all things delicious. From 10am-6pm eat your way through the site with vendors like Amazebowls, Sticky Rice, and Pizzanista.
- 6** **CHICAS TACOS**
728 S Olive St. — chicastacos.com
Newest taco stand to hit Downtown serving explosions of flavor through steak, chicken, pork, fish, and veggie tacos. Try the beer-battered fish taco with a watermelon cinnamon agua fresca, you'll reconsider replacing your favorite taco joint.
- 7** **UNION STATION'S BEST**
800 N Alameda St. — unionstationsbest.com
For over 30 years, Marco Ramirez has been shining shoes at Union Station giving Downtowners a spiffy pep in their step. For 6 bucks a shine, he takes commuters out of their rush and revives a tired shoe.
- 8** **CITY OF ANGELS BOXING**
3000 S. Hill St. — cityofangelsboxing.com
A boxing gym that'll make you hurt so good. Less intimidating than other gyms, pick through 5 classes daily and train to get in shape, protect yourself, or get crazy for no good reason.
- 9** **X LANES**
333 S Alameda St. Ste 300 — xlanesla.com
Bowling, pool, karaoke, arcade games, and a full bar. This is childhood dreams made for the irresponsible adults we all are. Crowds get busy on weekends so be sure to reserve a bowling lane ahead of time.



HOWLIN' RAY'S

NOT YOUR COLONEL'S CHICKEN

Written By Sophie He
Photographed By Caleb Thal

Like all good tales, it started with revenge. A scorned lover decided to teach her husband a lesson by dousing his chicken dinner with a heaping handful of hot peppers. Little did she know that her burning act of subterfuge would result in the birth of Nashville hot chicken, an addictive country staple that's been lashing tongues in the South and beyond. Now, the regional dish has come to LA, courtesy of Howlin' Ray's, a newly-arrived force of nature adjacent to *Pok Pok Phat Thai*, located in Chinatown's Far East Plaza.

"I'm not a creator," says chef Johnny Ray Zone, an LA native who has worked under the likes of Gordon Ramsay, Nobu Matsuhisa, and Thomas Keller. "I didn't invent hot chicken, and I'm not from Nashville. But it's something I fell in love with so much, and that's the reason why I'm doing it. It blew my mind."

Falling in love with chicken makes you do questionable things. Sometimes, that involves leaving a steady restaurant gig at *La Poubelle* to stage for a week in the South, pledging allegiance to the Fraternal Order of Hot Chicken, drinking Pepto Bismol with your coffee, and maxing out all your credit cards to start up a hot chicken food truck, and then, a brick-and-mortar. With his mind sufficiently blown, Zone opened up Howlin' Ray's,



its name an homage to both blues singer Howlin' Wolf and Zone's late father, Ray Zone.

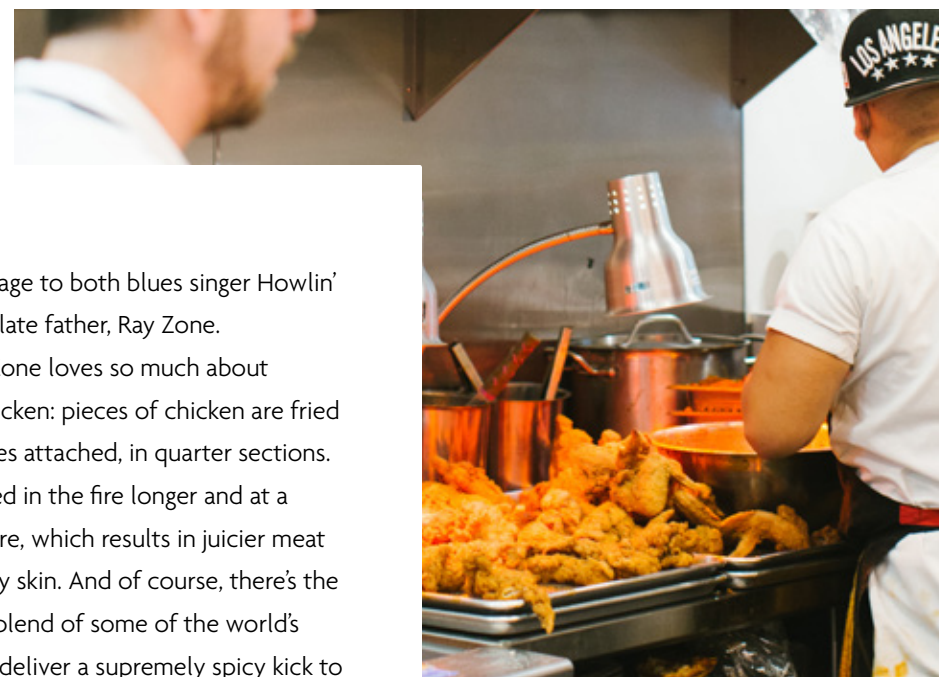
Here's what Zone loves so much about Nashville hot chicken: pieces of chicken are fried whole, with bones attached, in quarter sections. The bird is cooked in the fire longer and at a lower temperature, which results in juicier meat and ultra-crunchy skin. And of course, there's the hot, hot heat. A blend of some of the world's hottest peppers deliver a supremely spicy kick to the mouth. For his recipe, Zone uses habaneros, ghost peppers, Trinidad scorpions, the dreaded Carolina Reaper, and of course, a healthy dose of cayenne. Top it off with some pickles and serve with a slice of white bread.

So far, volume has been the biggest challenge for Howlin' Ray's. "As soon as we open at 11, there's no looking back until 5:30," says Zone. "I can't step off the line, so I need to be ready to go, especially since it's an open kitchen. We have very little room for error."

The 500 square-foot eatery serves up nearly a thousand pounds of chicken per week to an obscenely long line that's been wrapping around the corner of Far East Plaza since the beginning, and so far, it doesn't look like business is going to be losing steam anytime soon. Customers ask about extending the restaurant's limited hours, but for now, Zone and his team are devoted to prepping for the next day's battle, perfecting operations, and getting stronger everyday.

"It's gonna be a constant challenge, as long as we're blessed with the same amount of customers," says Zone. "I thought it would die down by now, but it's been growing. And it's been crazy."

FIND THEM HERE:
727 N Broadway #128
howlinrays.com



Nonobject(ive): SUMMER
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Downtown Los Angeles



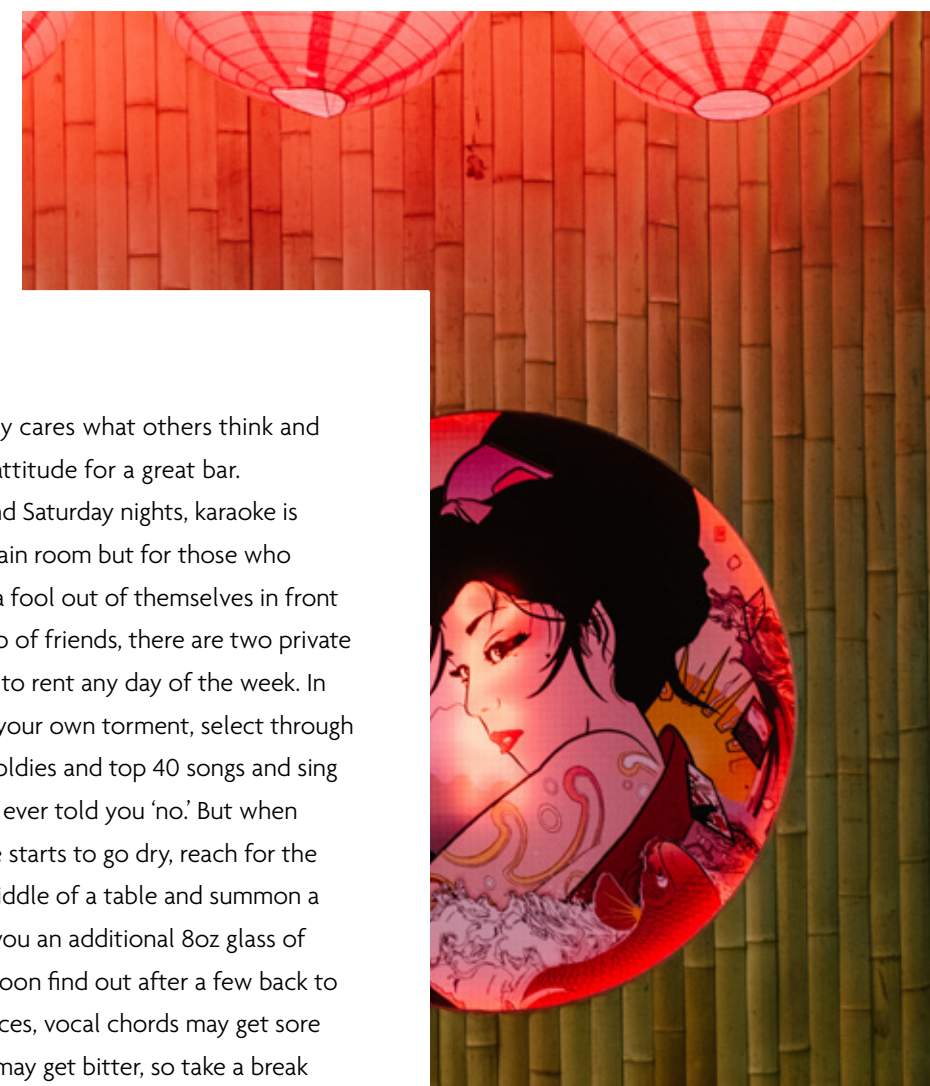
TOKYO BEAT

PASS THE MIC

Written By Janica de Guzman
Photographed By Eric Cacioppo

“Let’s go sing karaoke” is a phrase that’s never commanded before 7PM — it’s a late night afterthought fueled by cheap sake and several liters of Sapporo. It’s an idea that pleases a slim audience, but when blood alcohol levels rise and inhibitions are lost, a gaggle of off-key enthusiasts can be found making its way toward Tokyo Beat.

Up on the second floor of the Japanese Village Plaza in Little Tokyo, Tokyo Beat is a karaoke bar where Star Search dreams are reawakened and moments of social suicide never go unnoticed. At any given moment the mic can be found gripped within the palm of a singer — in passion or in fear — as he or she bellows the illuminated lyrics on screen. For a small bar, these performances are intimate, exclusive, and sometimes off-putting. The crowd can react with an applaud or in an uproar at the helm of every crescendo — and the volatility is enchanting. Patrons who take the mic give it their best and sing like nothing matters, eyes closed and wide stance, because in that



moment nobody cares what others think and that’s the right attitude for a great bar.

On Friday and Saturday nights, karaoke is hosted in the main room but for those who prefer to make a fool out of themselves in front of a select group of friends, there are two private rooms available to rent any day of the week. In the comfort of your own torment, select through a binder full of oldies and top 40 songs and sing like nobody has ever told you ‘no.’ But when your confidence starts to go dry, reach for the button in the middle of a table and summon a waiter to bring you an additional 8oz glass of courage. You’ll soon find out after a few back to back performances, vocal chords may get sore and spectators may get bitter, so take a break and soothe yourself with a bowl of steaming hot ramen prepared fresh from the kitchen. Let the sodium kick in and queue up another song.

DJs turn up the main room Sunday-Thursday and comedy night on Mondays. With a dance floor so modest, it just takes a couple people to get the crowd going. There will be B-boys, there will be shuffling, and there will be attempts at The Sprinkler. All sweat, no blood. Open daily from 8:30pm-3am, Tokyo Beat isn’t necessarily a group effort. Roll in solo and enjoy the free entertainment. After all, the American Idol auditions were the best part of the show.

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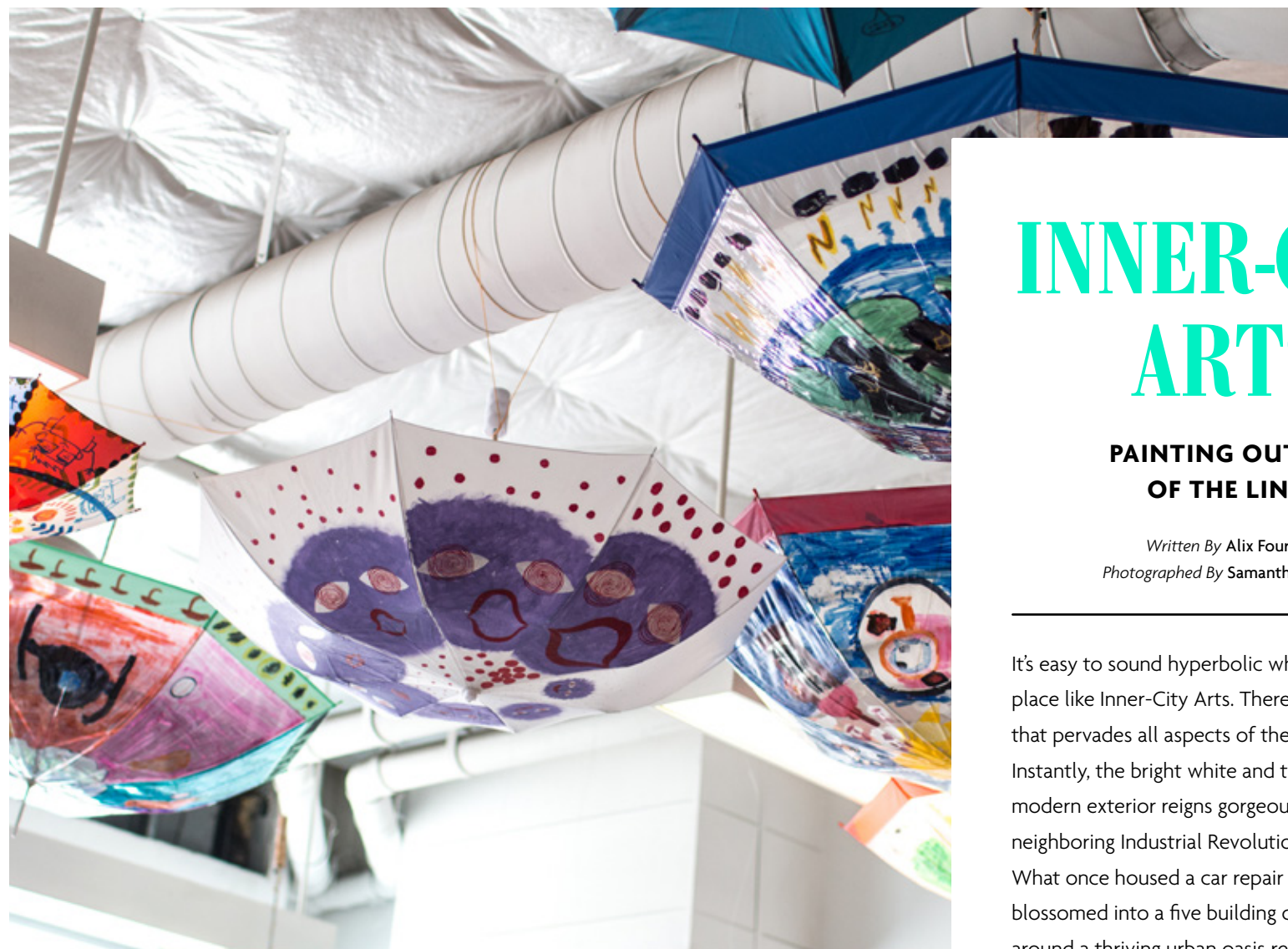
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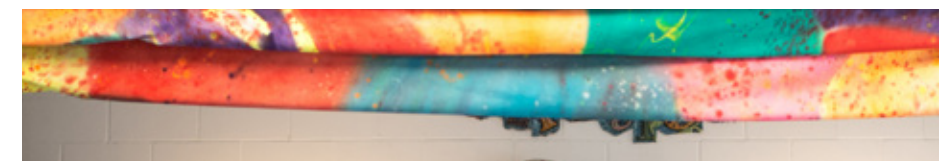
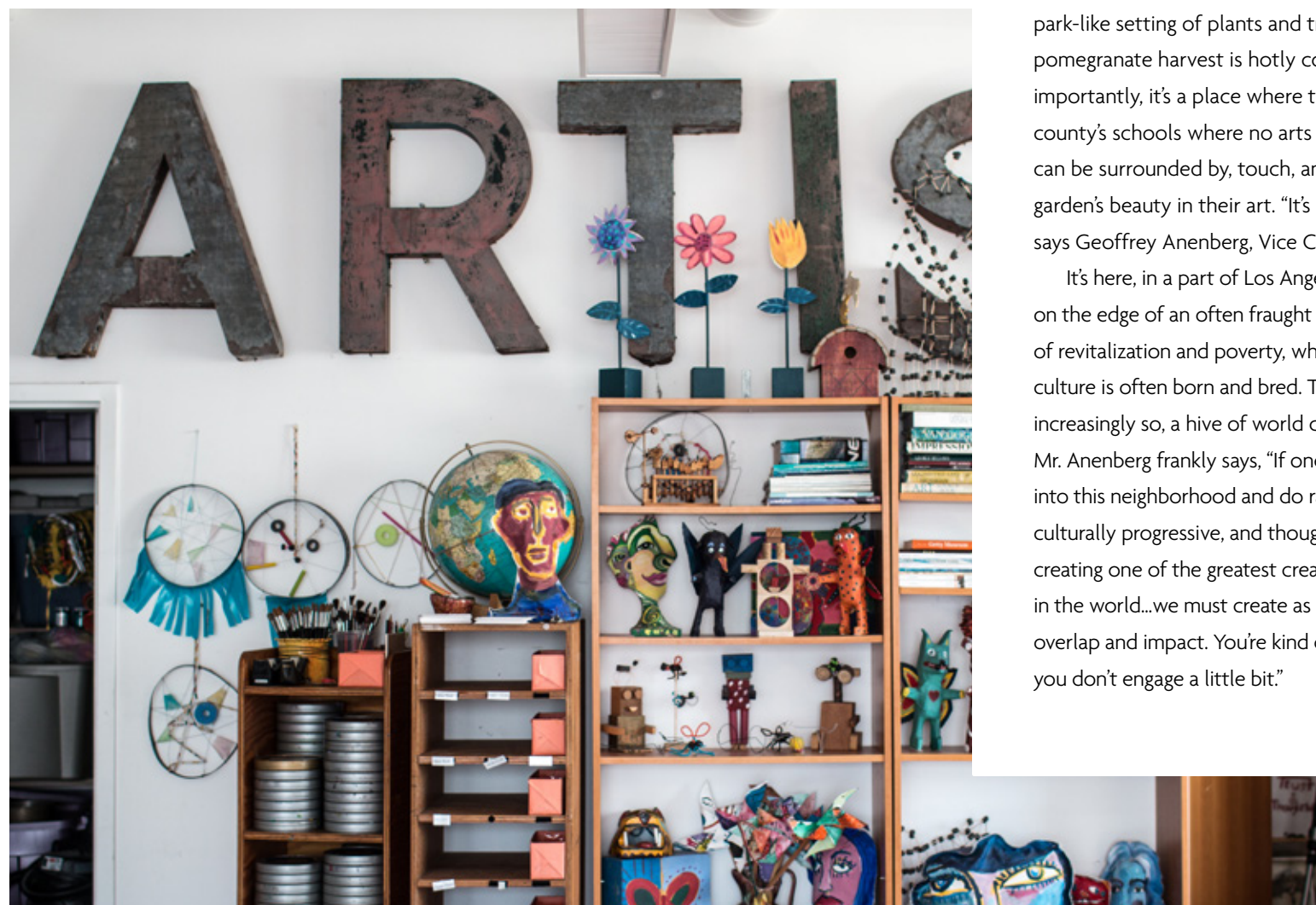
INNER-CITY ARTS

PAINTING OUTSIDE OF THE LINES

Written By Alix Fournier
Photographed By Samantha Romero

It's easy to sound hyperbolic when explaining a place like Inner-City Arts. There's a specialness that pervades all aspects of the organization. Instantly, the bright white and thoroughly modern exterior reigns gorgeously amongst the neighboring Industrial Revolution architecture. What once housed a car repair garage, has blossomed into a five building campus nestled around a thriving urban oasis replete with a park-like setting of plants and trees; where a pomegranate harvest is hotly coveted. Most importantly, it's a place where the children of the county's schools where no arts programs exist can be surrounded by, touch, and incorporate the garden's beauty in their art. "It's here for them," says Geoffrey Anenberg, Vice Chair of the board.

It's here, in a part of Los Angeles that sits on the edge of an often fraught dichotomy of revitalization and poverty, where creative culture is often born and bred. This is, and will be increasingly so, a hive of world changing output. As Mr. Anenberg frankly says, "If one is going to come into this neighborhood and do radically high-end, culturally progressive, and thoughtful stuff while creating one of the greatest creative economies in the world...we must create as many points of overlap and impact. You're kind of an asshole if you don't engage a little bit."



This is an organization whose reach to some 50+ elementary schools within a six mile radius is amazing alone, "It is the only one of its kind in the country," says Anenberg. In 1989, professional artist and juggernaut Bob Bates, along with co-founder Irwin Jaeger, opened the first iteration of Inner-City Arts at 9th Street Elementary school. By then, art education programs had been decimated in California, so a non-profit organization whose sole purpose was to bring arts to school children in a marginalized environment was sorely needed. Later, due to a sizable grant from the Mark Taper Foundation, they moved to the dedicated campus on Kohler Street. The need has never diminished, so the facilities continue to grow. Recently, supported by The Walt Disney Company, The Creativity Lab was born. Imagineers regularly come for "world building" sessions with the kids. "It's all about creativity. It's all about exploration. Making things. Building things," Bob explains with excitement. "They are learning how to make mistakes and improve and be successful."

Now, Inner-City serves up to 7,000 children annually. This is done by coordinating bussing during the school day to the facility with the Los Angeles Unified School District. Students receive in-depth instruction twice a week for 14-16 week sessions in the visual arts (including media), dance, music, and theatre. "The place is electric when those kids get off that bus," beamed Anenberg. There are after-school and weekend programs for middle and high school students as well. There are teacher professional development series, art workshops for adults, and family weekend institutes. These are all taught by professional teaching artists in enviable studio spaces. The ceramics studio includes strategically placed wheels along a floor-to-waist window so those using them will

have the garden as a background to their work. The media arts studio offers digital photography, graphic design, film production and animation.

They do this with no endowment and no major government funding whatsoever, and they do it extraordinarily well. So well, in fact, that partnerships from all of the city have developed in response. Community theater organizations such as the Watt's Theatre Company utilize the space, even the newly opened Broad museum has started a partnership with the elementary program. In collaboration with CalArts Community Arts Partnership, a two-semester animation workshop is offered for high school students. A training kitchen was established for a vocational training partnership with Tender Greens for foster kids. The magnanimity seems endless!

This is all funded by individual and institutional donors who recognize that this as a jewel of an organization connecting, adapting, and catalyzing for the needs of a dynamic community. To raise both awareness and funds, ICA hosts world class events like the upcoming 10th Annual Summer on Seventh, on Saturday, July 16. Anenberg describes it, "The concert will house somewhere around 1,500 people. Partnerships are offering the best of the food, art, and music scene that's happening on the east side. Where people of all ages and culturally engaged can come hang out, feel the energy of this campus for themselves. When you're here that night, having a killer time, and realize all the amazing things that go on here, you can't help but open your wallets because every penny goes right back into programming, teaching staff supplies, and more fundraising."

FIND THEM HERE:
720 Kohler St.
inner-cityarts.org



GUERO'S COCINA MEXICANA

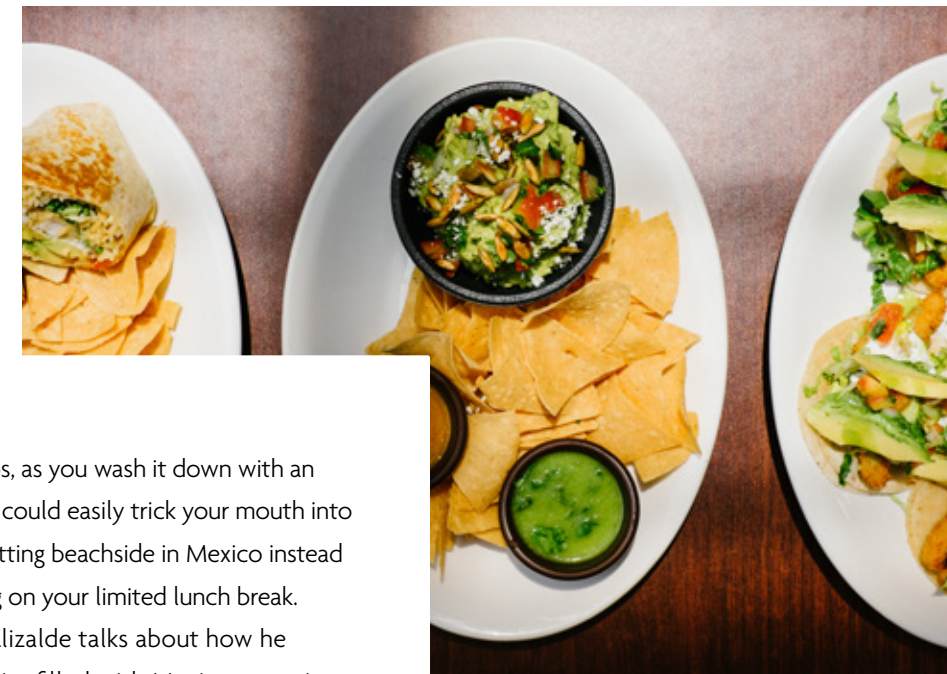
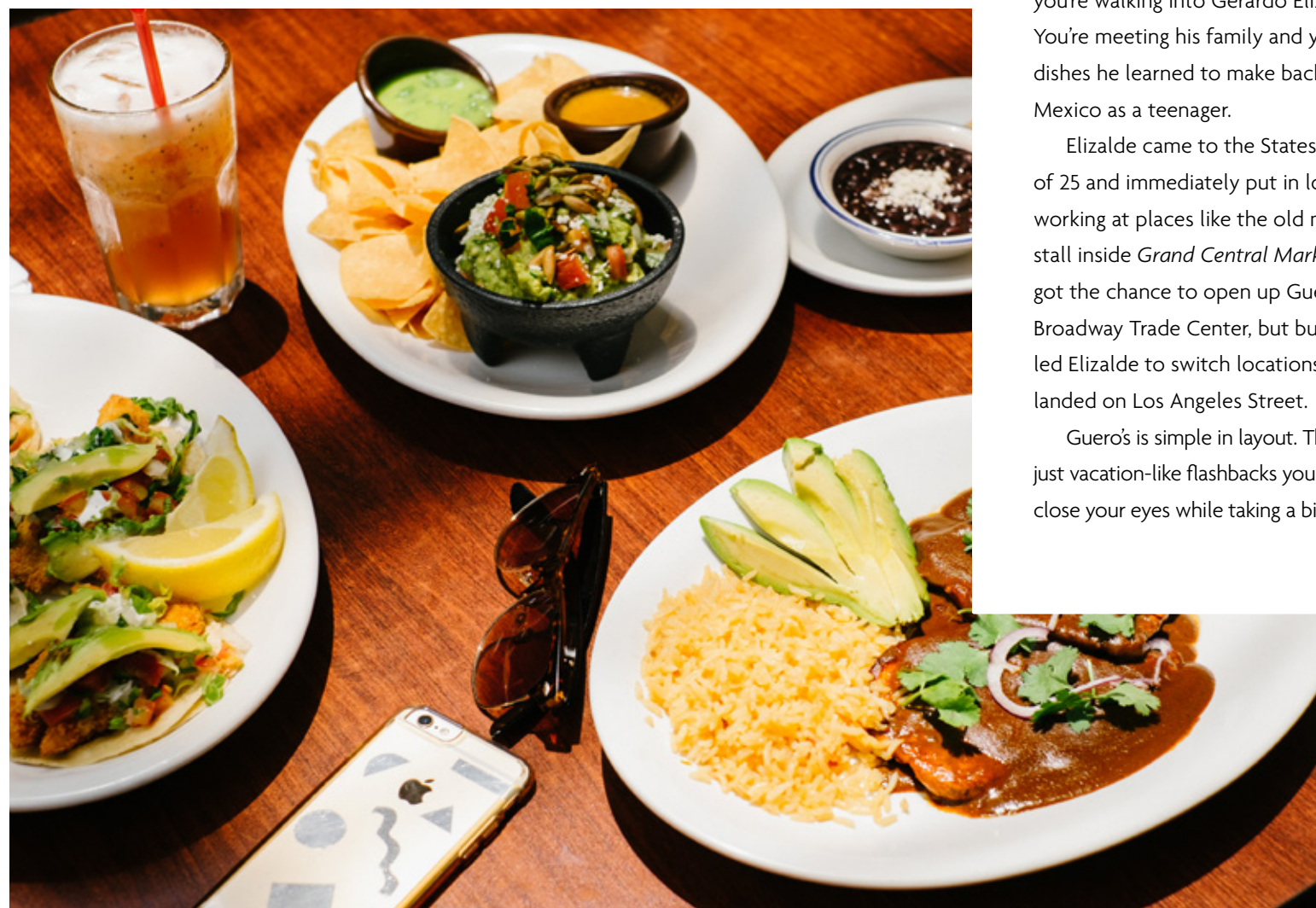
SINALOA'S SOUL

Written By Linda Hosmer
Photographed By Eric Cacioppo

When you walk into Guero's Cocina Mexicana, you're walking into Gerardo Elizalde's home. You're meeting his family and you're eating dishes he learned to make back in Sinaloa, Mexico as a teenager.

Elizalde came to the States in 1989 at the age of 25 and immediately put in long kitchen hours working at places like the old mariscos (seafood) stall inside *Grand Central Market*. He then got the chance to open up Guero's inside the Broadway Trade Center, but building buyouts led Elizalde to switch locations and in 2014 he landed on Los Angeles Street.

Guero's is simple in layout. There's no flash, just vacation-like flashbacks you can access if you close your eyes while taking a bite of one of his



famous fish tacos, as you wash it down with an agua fresca. You could easily trick your mouth into thinking it was sitting beachside in Mexico instead of actually being on your limited lunch break.

In Spanish, Elizalde talks about how he competes in a city filled with Mexican eateries. He identifies his menu as a culinary crossroads combining Sinaloa's love of seafood with dishes like the ceviche and a hearty tilapia soup, alongside dishes representing his wife Mirna's Oaxacan roots like the flavor-packed sweet and spicy mole. If you were in Mexico you'd have to drive more than 20 hours to experience the eats in both these regions, but at Guero's you'll get a taste in mere minutes.

"Sazón (that means the magic touch in Spanish) that's what they have," says a repeat customer who goes by the name Charles Bronson. "A lot of our customers eat here 4-5 times a week," says Elizalde's 25-year-old daughter Krystal Cordova. Cordova helps her dad juggle the loyal lunch crowd while also helping out with the technical side of the business.

At the end of a long day Elizalde says he aims to serve up more than just delicious and authentic Mexican food, "We love to treat our customers like friends and that's why they come back."

FIND THEM HERE:
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guerosla.com



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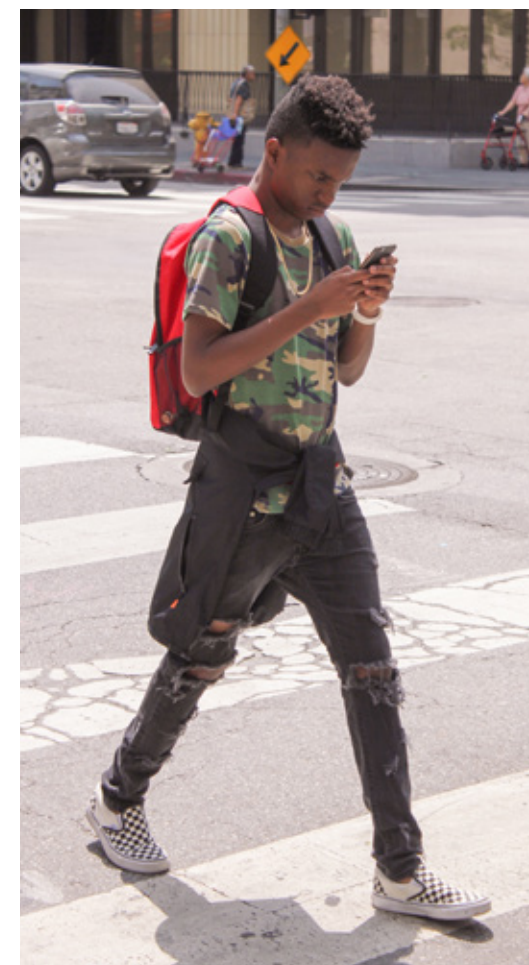


Photographed by
Steve Day

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DOWNTOWN EVENT CALENDAR

JULY 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>26 HISTORIC CORE FARMER'S MARKET 5th & Spring 9AM – 2PM</p> <p>Walk around the picturesque Historic Core and check out some local artisans and farmers produce, between Broadway & Spring.</p>	<p>27 MONDAY MAYHEM GAME NIGHT Angel City Brewery 216 S Alameda St. 7 – 9PM</p> <p>15+ Board Games, 8+ Beers on Tap, 3-Round Cornhole Tournament and 1 Geeky Host.</p>	<p>28 TRIVIA TUESDAYS Grand Central Market 317 S Broadway 8PM</p> <p>Team up to test your knowledge and compete for fun prizes!</p>	<p>29 LOW END THEORY The Airliner 2419 N Broadway 9:30PM – 1AM</p> <p>Weekly experimental hip hop and electronic music. Bring ear plugs.</p>	<p>30 GUERRILLA TACOS Blue Bottle Arts District 582 Mateo St. 10AM – 2PM</p> <p>The freshest food truck filling stomachs downtown. The Guerrillas use fresh, seasonal produce and their menu, like location, is prone to change on the daily</p>	<p>1 FRIDAY NIGHT FIREWORKS Dodger Stadium 1000 Vin Scully Ave. 7:10PM</p> <p>The Rockies are in town for a three-game series to start the month. Come for the baseball, stay for the firework display (you can sit out on the left field grass to watch the show).</p>	<p>2 HOWIE PYRO Upstairs at Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 2PM</p> <p>DJ set of ultra rare Soul, Surf, Greasy Rhythm & Blues, Early Rock & Roll on original 45s</p>
<p>3 LA SMORGASBURG Alameda Produce Market 746 Market Ct.</p> <p>The first LA Smorgasburg of the month! The list of vendors is so impressive that this is an absolute must-attend event for all Downtowners.</p>	<p>4 4TH OF JULY BLOCK PARTY Grand Park 200 N Grand Ave. 2 – 8:30PM</p> <p>Celebrate with music, food, incredible fireworks, and thousands of Downtowners.</p>	<p>5 THE MAKERS Seven Grand 515 W 7th St. 10PM</p> <p>Smooth, improvised jazz and even smoother whiskey, upstairs.</p>	<p>6 GEEKS WHO DRINK TRIVIA NIGHT Iron Triangle Brewing 1581 Industrial St. 7:30PM</p> <p>We take two things very seriously on a Wednesday night: beer and trivia.</p>	<p>7 FIRST THURSDAYS Far East Plaza 727 N Broadway 5 – 9PM</p> <p>On the first Thursday of every month, Chinatown's hottest property becomes a hotbed of culinary innovation, as chefs and friends take over!</p>	<p>8 LA FOOD FEST KICK-OFF PARTY Exposition Park 700 Exposition Park Drive 7PM</p> <p>Throughout the weekend, eat your face off from over 100 food, beer, and wine vendors! Stretchy pants required. Starts 11am on Sat & Sun.</p>	<p>9 FLYGRLS PARTY The Regent Theater 448 S Main St. 9PM – 2AM</p> <p>With a mission to support & celebrate female artists, brands, and organizations, like Peace Over Violence, Flygrls serve as a platform for female artists to network & get inspired.</p>
<p>10 RENEGADE CRAFT FAIR Grand Park 200 N Grand Ave. 11AM – 6PM</p> <p>Renegade returns to the majestic Grand Park this July! Come out for a fun summer weekend of the best in handmade goods from 275+ talented makers and artisans.</p>	<p>11 101 PIANISTS Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Ave. 2PM</p> <p>A performance that aims to inspire the next generation of music lovers by engaging 100 young pianists in a unique social musical event with Lang Lang</p>	<p>12 TACOS & TRIVIA TUESDAYS Angel City Brewery 216 S Alameda St. 7PM</p> <p>Taqueria El Severo will be serving up their grilled tacos outside, while inside will be an ongoing game of trivia from King Trivia.</p>	<p>13 MOVIES ON THE PATIO: BEVERLY HILLS COP Grand Central Market 317 S Broadway 8PM</p> <p>Come enjoy an outdoor screening on the Horse Thief BBQ patio at Grand Central Market</p>	<p>14 DOWNTOWN ART WALK 634 Spring St. 12 – 10PM</p> <p>Downtown's free, self-guided, public art phenomenon. Grab a friend and start walking.</p>	<p>15 HALSEY Shrine Expo Hall 665 W Jefferson Blvd. 8PM</p> <p>A better combination of lovable pop and provocative grunge could not have been better engineered in a lab. Tonight will be fun!</p>	<p>16 SUMMER ON SEVENTH FESTIVAL Inner-City Arts 720 Kohler St. 6PM – LATE</p> <p>Enjoy amazing food trucks, drinks, art installations, and a Rooftop concert from The Gaslamp Killer & J Rocc — all to support a great cause!</p>
<p>17 LITTLE TOKYO CONCERT SERIES: WONDEM James Irvine Japanese Garden 244 S San Pedro St.</p> <p>The Japanese garden is a tranquil urban oasis, with a lovely creek running through it — a perfectly intimate natural setting to experience good music up close. Tonight, enjoy the East-African Soul of Wondem.</p>	<p>18 MONDAY MOVIE NIGHTS: HOWARD THE DUCK Upstairs at Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 8:30PM</p> <p>One of the weirdest and razziest movies of the decade, Howard The Duck, shown at the Rooftop Bar.</p>	<p>19 TRIVIA TUESDAYS Grand Central Market 317 S Broadway 8PM</p> <p>Team up to test your knowledge and compete for fun prizes!</p>	<p>20 WINE WEDNESDAYS Everson Royce Bar 1936 E 7th St. 5 – 8PM</p> <p>Enjoy a \$25 flight of three wines with culinary creations by chef Matt Molina in one of the Arts District's finest outdoor areas.</p>	<p>21 BLACK RABBIT KABARET The Regent Theater 448 S Main St. 9PM</p> <p>This unforgettable evening entails three sets of live performances, and projection art, combining live music, and precise Crazy Horse Paris-style choreography.</p>	<p>22 TEASE, IF YOU PLEASE! Globe Theatre 740 S Broadway 8:30PM</p> <p>Oh, Miss Donna Hood! Your burlesque shows are too much for us, but we just can't live without them...</p>	<p>23 LOW END THEORY FESTIVAL Shrine Expo Hall & Grounds 665 W Jefferson Blvd. 2PM</p> <p>The All-Ages Festival features Ghostface Killah & Raekwon, Invisibl Skratch Piklz, Hippie Sabotage and more.</p>
<p>24 CRYSTAL 101 WORKSHOP Place 8 Healing 120 E 8th St, Suite 902 1 – 6PM</p> <p>Sign up online and learn about the best way to cleanse, work with, and connect with your crystals.</p>	<p>25 MOIST MONDAYS La Cita Bar 336 S Hill St. 10PM – 2AM</p> <p>Your weekly Monday night moistening, join the crew inside or out back on El Patio for a stiff drink or four.</p>	<p>26 THE BRIAN SWARTZ QUARTET Perch 448 S Hill St. 7 – 10PM</p> <p>Oh, to be listening to music above the rooftops, and among the stars.</p>	<p>27 SPIN THE BOTTLE Bar Mattachine 221 W 7th St. 9PM – 2AM</p> <p>Join the amazing Jackie Beat as she spins her big wheel of song parodies and performs them live. And YOU get to spin to Lip-Synch For Your Drink!</p>	<p>28 ESCORT The Regent Theater 448 S Main St. 8:30PM</p> <p>A seamless blending of deep house beats and disco glitter.</p>	<p>29 LE BAL: A DRAG EXTRAVAGANZA The Theatre at Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 9PM</p> <p>If you've made it this far without seeing drag outside of your tv, it's time to get your whole life, darling.</p>	<p>30 SUMMER HAPPENINGS The Broad 221 S Grand Ave. 8:30PM</p> <p>Summer series featuring late-night music, performance, and spoken word.</p>



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