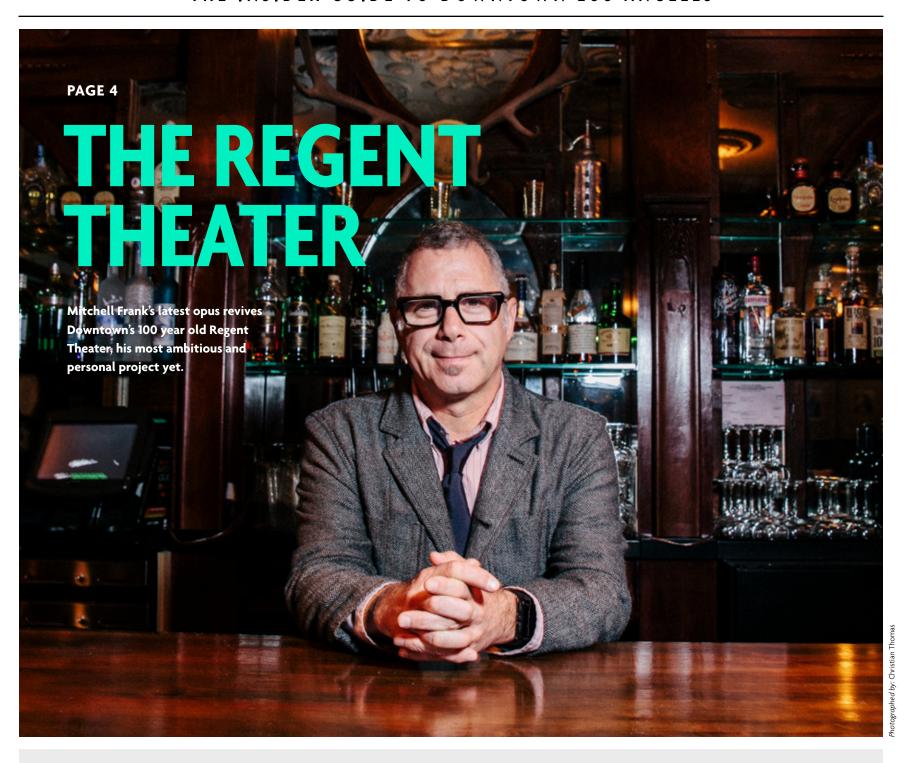
JAN 2015

A ISSUE 5

DOWNTOWNER

THE INSIDER GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES



COCKTAIL ACADEMY

Drinks are carefully stirred with steampunk utensils, spruced with orange zest and poured over geometric ice.

Apartment A is the Cocktail Academy's playground.

PAGE 6

DOWNTOWN MAP

PAGE 8

EVENT CALENDAR

PAGE 15

LITTLE JEWEL

The Little Jewel of New Orleans is a regional deli and grocer located in the heart of Chinatown, an enclave of the French Quarter in our backyard.

PAGE 14

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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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THE REGENT THEATER

Mitchell Frank's latest opus revives Downtown's 100 year old Regent Theater, his most ambitious and personal project yet.

COCKTAIL ACADEMY

Step up the metal staircase into a Jumanji realm where cocktail enthusiasts go to thrive.

10 THE BLUE WHALE

Anything goes and all are welcome in a space that labels themselves "Live Jazz + Art Space."

JACK'S WHOLESALE

\$8 will get you a 4 pound bag of sour gummies and for 6 bucks, 10 boxes of Yan-Yan is all yours.

12 DOWNTOWN **STREET STYLE**

No two streets are alike. Discover the eclectic style of LA Downtowners.

MAP OF **DOWNTOWN**

Food, drinks and things to do — find your next stop.

14 LITTLE JEWEL OF **NEW ORLEANS**

A regional deli and grocer located in the heart of Chinatown, an enclave of the French Quarter in our backyard.

MARUGAME MONZO

SIMPLY, UDON

Written by Kandice Che & Photographed by Eslee

The restaurant derives its name from Marugame, a town in the Kagawa region in Japan where udon is the traditional noodle. Customarily, the skill of making udon was passed down to women before they were married, but now these wheat noodles have come a long way past culinary inheritance.

Monzo's udon is derived from a recipe has remained the same through the ages: a simple dough of wheat, salt, water, and extremely quick reflexes. They are made-to-order behind a glass wall placed as backdrop for the restaurant, encasing the noodle masters at work in an honest and minimal display of pure artistry; the repetition of stretching, rolling, folding, and precisely cutting the wheat dough is rhythmic — almost spellbinding.

Traditionally, the simplest preparation is the kake udon, which is made of a hot Kakeiru broth of dashi, soy sauce, and mirin, then finished with floating isles of thinly sliced scallions and fried tempura bits. Solely based on their ability to craft exceptional noodles, Monzo could easily stand as a top contender in the udon game with this dish. However, the foodie cult-status of this restaurant arrived with the enthusiasm surrounding their fusion dishes like the udon tossed in a sea urchin cream sauce or the udon carbonara.

Marugame Monzo's approach to udon hangs deliciously in the balance between the old and new; their tireless dedication is an echo of the generations before them, and the creative spirit infuses a modern dexterity in their dishes that simply cannot be matched.

To find out more, call: (213) 346-9762











THE REGENT THEATER

FOR OUR DAILY LOVE OF MUSIC

Written by Scott Meisse & Photographed by Christian Thomas

When Mitchell Frank was looking for a theater venue in 2006, the landscape of downtown, and the mood of investors, was very different from today. It's a lot like when he opened Club Spaceland in Silverlake in '93. "Downtown was basically this oyster ready to be opened, with this amazing pearl inside".

The pearl he found was The Regent, a

100 year old gothic theater that has served as
grindhouse to adult movie theater throughout
the last century. Unlike Spaceland and his other
highly influential ventures, the Echo and sister
club Echoplex, the Regent is a much more
ambitious and personal undertaking. Beyond
the laborious task of refurbishing the beautifully
ancient (in LA years) theater, Frank has expanded
the experience by creating the accompanying
Love Song Bar and Prufrock Pizzeria, both of
which offer a degree of craft and quality unseen
by any LA music venue at this level.

The Regent is flanked by its smaller siblings, with Prufrock Pizzeria on its left. The rustic Italian interior and wood oven is where Tobi Martin-Frank, the Pizza Queen herself, created the menu and developed all its Neapolitan recipes. "I wanted a different experience, there's no reason why it shouldn't be elevated. There's no reason you shouldn't be able to get good pizza and a good drink at a show in LA".

To the right you'll find The Love Song, the western gothic saloon with craft drinks and vinyl only jukebox. A disemboweled piano faces the entrance, its violent beauty draws you closer.

As if recently dusted off and freshly painted,
The Love Song is a wonderfully haunted relic from a bygone era, inviting and eerie all at once.

The theater though, is the belle of ball here. It's downright cozy compared to The Orpheum or Wiltern, offering very close and clear sight lines, plus a groundbreaking new sound system. The back bar woodwork was repurposed from a turn of the century church, the old wood from the remodeling being repurposed and milled into table tops, bars, and beams.

"I WANTED A DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE, THERE'S NO REASON WHY IT SHOULDN'T BE ELEVATED. THERE'S NO REASON YOU SHOULDN'T BE ABLE TO GET GOOD PIZZA AND A GOOD DRINK AT A SHOW IN LA"

"We're in this amazing entertainment zone — the restaurants, bars, and retail... the residents here want their neighborhood to be bad ass." So rather than simply a venue for live music, the Regent plans on other events that lets the locals walk for shopping and cocktails, like the Rock 'n Roll Flea the first Sunday of every month. "We really want to have some fun here, and get the neighbors involved too," says Frank. If that means closing the street for a Sunday afternoon for a record swap meet, so be it. "They shut down the streets for filming all the time, why can't we take ownership of the streets?"

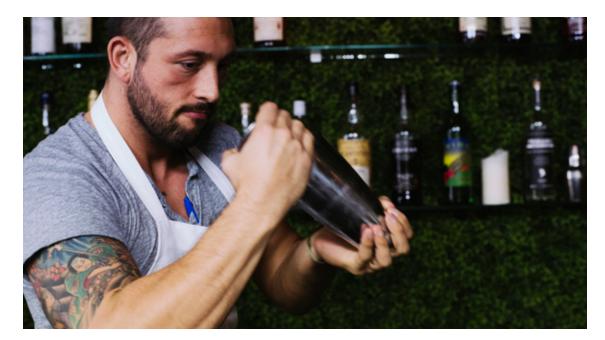
To find out more, go to: theregenttheater.com







LA DOWNTOWNER — January 2015 / Issue 5 WWW.LADOWNTOWNER.COM







COCKTAIL ACADEMY

A NEW SCHOOL TWIST

Written by Janica De Guzman & Photographed by Alyse Gilbert

With it's quaint pockets of uncharted territory, the Arts District never ceases to amaze us. Quiet tree lined streets are hugged by rusty warehouses cracked with despair. But like a book and its cover, don't be quick to pass judgment, as what lies beyond the walls are re-imagined spaces designed to re-love the once abandoned buildings. It's an applauded mash up of grit and charm.

Cocktail Academy's private event space,
Apartment A, is tucked within a loading dock
on Mateo Street. Step up the metal staircase
into a Jumanji realm where cocktail enthusiasts
go to thrive. Sprawling vine, leafy shrubs, and
red brick pave the way towards the cocktail bar
where it is stationed like an altar for grown up
thirst. Drinks are carefully stirred with steampunk
utensils, spruced with orange zest and poured
over geometric ice. Apartment A is the Cocktail
Academy's playground.

With backgrounds in mixology and hospitality, Matt Landes, Analisa Moskus, and Brandyn Tepper formed the Cocktail Academy; a firm providing catered bartending, consulting and development for restaurants and events. They've catered clients like Nike, Pandora, and played the gracious host to private dinners and pop-ups alike. Give them a reason to celebrate and they'll present a tailored cocktail menu to keep the party going.

If party planning isn't in your iCal for the New Year, come by Apartment A to expand your knowledge. Cocktail Academy teaches history, tastings and bartending techniques. Impress your friends, impress yourself — cocktails will always be the center of attention.

To find out more, go to: apartmentala.com

SUGAR HIGH

JACK'S WHOLESALE

Written by Janica De Guzman & Photographed by Alyse Gilbert

Behold a Promised Land for a craving sweet tooth, a super warehouse to challenge all diabetics and a dentist's worst nightmare — it's Jack's Wholesale Candy and Toy Company at Central Avenue and 8th. This 42,000 square foot candy distribution center is open to the public for wholesale candy from childhood past to present pleasures. Towering at 20 feet tall, over 5,000 varieties of American and Mexican confections stock these Sequoia-like shelves to raise blood sugar levels off the chart.

The Ahamed family has been running Jack's for over 30 years; supplying sweet confections for events, vending machines, and piñatas for a sweet beat down. If candy is your drug then Jack's is your dealer. The friendly staff will help guide you through the overwhelming maze of saccharine vices to choose among Hershey bars, jaw breakers, taffies or bulk bags full of red M&M's. Whatever it is you crave, someone will happily lead you to get your fix.

\$8 will get you a 4 pound bag of sour gummies and for 6 bucks, 10 boxes of Yan-Yan is all yours. Prices are 30% cheaper than the average grocery store so you can save your money for other important party needs like soda. But wait a minute, where on earth could you find varieties of soda in excess? Head towards the back of Jack's and find yourself face to face with a wall of fizzy splendor. There are hundreds of cases of drinks from Coca Cola to Jarritos and exotic Aloe Vera juice. Take advantage of the free on site parking. Fill your trunk with goodies, drive away with empty wrappers and sticky fingers. Go forth with your loot, a deal this good qualifies as a steal.

To find out more, go to: jackscandyandtoy.com













COCKTAIL ACADEMY

652 Mateo St apartmentala.com



THE BLUE WHALE

123 Astronaut E S Onizuka St, #301 bluewhalemusic.com



EAT



LITTLE JEWEL

207 Ord St littlejewel.la



MARUGAME MONZO

329 E 1st St (213) 346-9762





THE REGENT THEATER

448 S Main St theregenttheater.com



JACK'S WHOLESALE

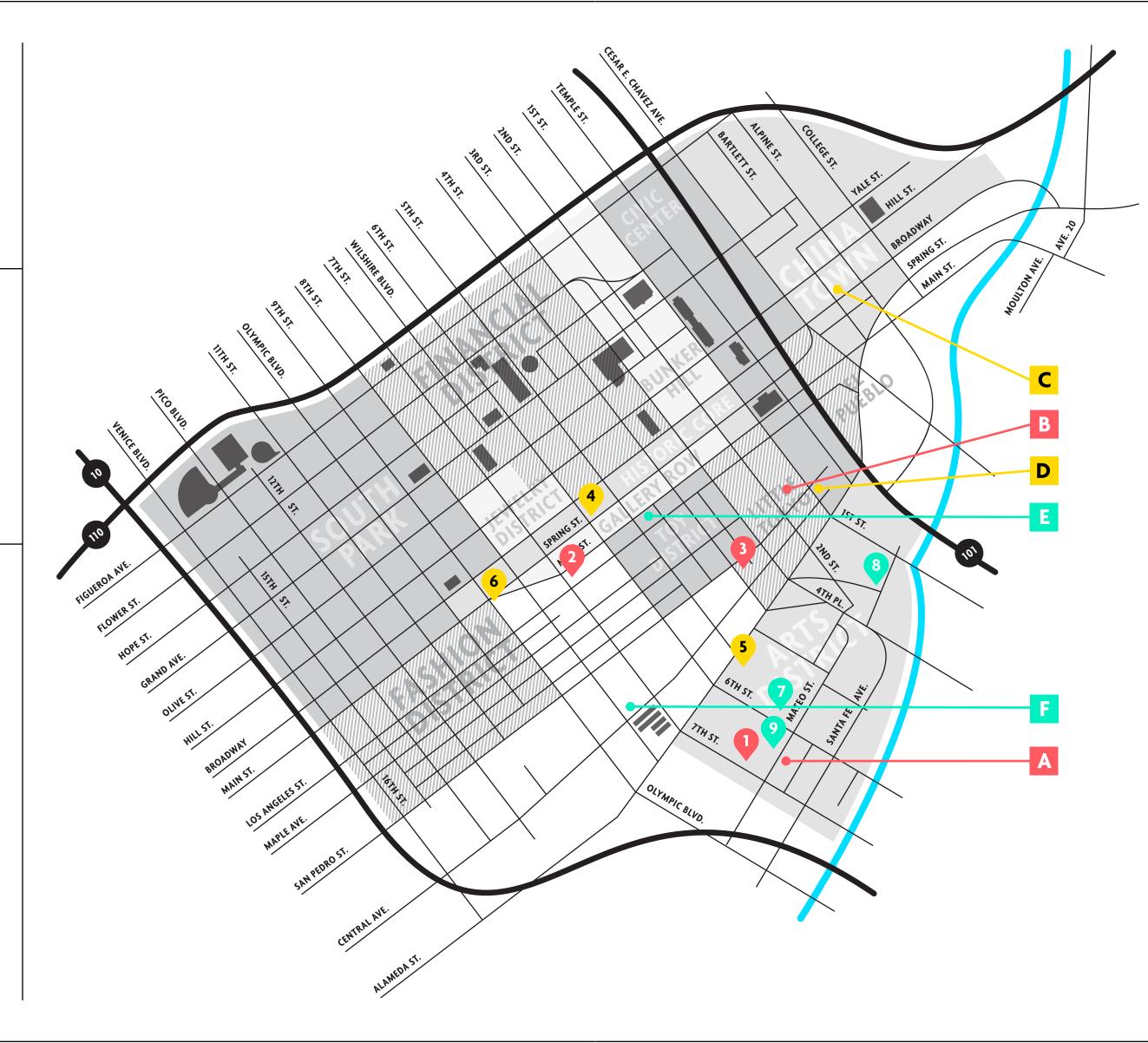
777 S Central Ave jackscandyandtoy.com

CITY STREETS

FREEWAYS

LA RIVER

MAP SIMPLIFIED & NOT TO SCALE



DOWNTOWN FAVORITES



POUR HAUS

1820 Industrial St — pourhauswinebar.com

A low key wine bar challenging all board game aficionados.

Play Cards Against Humanity fueled by a plate of cheese
and a carafe of wine.



WENDELL

656 Main St — (213) 622-7200

Finally, a bar that knows your name. A modest neighborhood bar with a rocker edge. Come here to chill with cheap drinks and good vibes.



ESCONDITE

410 Boyd St — theescondite.com
Find live music, crazy burgers and the occasional lumber
jack at the Escondite. It's a dive bar above all dive bars.



GELATERIA ULI

541 South Spring — gelateriauli.com

Beer is the new vanilla. Get 2 scoops of happiness from

Gelateria Uli where exotic flavors such as beer, beet and
sesame halva is churned for the adventurous sweet tooth.



FACTORY KITCHEN

1300 Factory Pl, Suite 101 — thefactorykitchen.com Fresh pastas kneaded, twisted and pulled for sophisticated, Italian dining. Bring the family or bring a date to the warm and inviting Factory Kitchen.



1810

105 W 9th St — 1810restaurant.com

Classy, modern and meaty - Argentinian cuisine to start
a new craving. The skirt steak and flaky empanadas will
have you coming back for more.



LA BOULDERS

1375 E 6th St, Unit 8 — touchstoneclimbing.com 12,000 square foot bouldering gym. Just \$20 for a day pass to climb and repel like Stallone in Cliffhanger.



HAMMER AND SPEAR

255 S Santa Fe Ave, Ste 101 hammerandspear.com Collector items to furnish an enviable apartment. Discover industrial style furniture or vintage odds and ends at this one of a kind shop.



DOWNTOWN DESIGN LEAGUE

1855 Industrial St — downtowndesignleague.com Sophisticated retail space featuring handcrafted luxury leather goods and accessories. Covet a leather moto helmet or lambskin jacket.

LA DOWNTOWNER — January 2015 / Issue 5 WWW.LADOWNTOWNER.COM

11



10









THE BLUE WHALE

LIVE JAZZ + ART SPACE

Written by Cleo Tobbi & Photographed by Tessa Neustadt

The word "captivating" does not begin to describe the atmosphere at Blue Whale in Little Tokyo.

Away from the hustle and bustle of Main Street or the Arts District, Little Tokyo tends to wind down a bit earlier than other parts of Downtown.

When the Weller Court Shopping Center begins to turn in, Blue Whale wakes up and welcomes the city's stragglers to round off, or rev up, their evening with tunes that tantalize.

Crowds here "range from twenty-four to forty-four," says manager Rob Gaudet as he tries to speak over the sounds of dancers tapping to Bossa Zuzu's Brazilian jazz in the background. That's right, tap dancers and international artists. Anything goes and all are welcome in a space that labels themselves "Live Jazz + Art Space."

The gravity of Blue Whale draws in the downtowner and refuses to let go. Tucked in the corner on the third floor of the square shopping center, Blue Whale has been calling all lovers of music for the last five years — a lifetime in jazz bar years, Gaudet informs.

Bossa Zuzu continues on and the room quickly grows warm as the music fills the packed space. No one minds rubbing elbows and everyone seems to bond with each other over the talent in front of them.

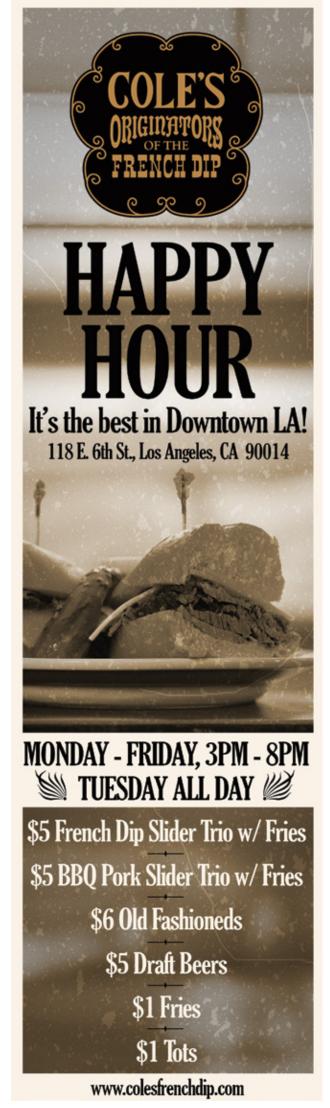
Haifez's words from "A Great Need" dress
Blue Whale's asymmetrical ceiling. To Haifez, the
"great need" is love; for patrons at Blue Whale,
it's music. In most bars around Downtown, live
jazz bands come to fill a void rather than pull a
crowd. The opposite is true at Blue Whale, where
downtowners prefer to get drunk on sound
instead of the happy hour special.

Blue Whale makes a cozy location even cozier with the scores of bands they have playing throughout any given week. Local big-bands like Ethio Cali and Canadian musicians like Joanna Borromeo perform in the center of the room, surrounded by patrons swaying in their seats in the dark.

There is something ethereal about this place.

The backlighting transitions from blue to pink to yellow to green behind the musicians set up on the white stage while they play music that seems to set the world at ease.

To find out more, go to: bluewhalemusic.com



LA DOWNTOWNER — January 2015 / Issue 5







13







BROADWAY Ari & lan

Shaq

9TH STREET Josh









8TH STREET Alia

Edwin

LOS ANGELES STREET Jackson

LOS ANGELES STREET Ola

1









THE LITTLE JEWEL OF NEW ORLEANS

FROM THE NOLA TO DTLA

Written by Kenny Ng & Photographed by Eslee

The Little Jewel of New Orleans is a regional deli and grocer located in the heart of Chinatown, an enclave of the French Quarter in our backyard.

When asked if the choice was deliberate to ground his Southern tradition in the ethnic neighborhood, avuncular head chef and owner Marcus Christiana-Beniger says, without missing a beat, "Oh, 100 percent, absolutely."

The space previously owned by Hoy King also doubles as a logistical convenience, as they inherited the smokers needed for sausage already in place from all those years of peking duck. The Andouille, Chaurice, Boudin, Tasso, and Louisiana Hot Links are all made in-house, as well as their dressings and desserts, like the NOLA-style bread pudding with whiskey sauce.

Though it's been in the neighborhood only a few months, home-grown New Orleans fare stock the dense aisles, like Zapp's Cajun Dill Gator-Tators, Crystal hot sauce, and CoolBrew cold-drip coffee, right next to general store staples for the community as well, like the corner neighborhood bodega. The cochon de lait po'boy is a tasty dip in the local pool — the cajun pulled pork cooked over low heat for twelve hours in a convection oven melts prettily into the creole slaw and pickles that balance the sandwich so well.

The muffuletta, a NOLA-deli staple consisting of Sicilian-sliced meat, three cheeses, and house-made olive salad, is served on a sesame-seeded loaf toasted just enough that resembled a nice, chewy New York bagel.

"People will ask, 'Where is your bread sourced?' and I just — get outta here — the reason the bread is so good is cause it's processed," lamenting the scrounging nature of certain subsets of LA eaters. "That's why you're eating arugula hoagie-bun po'boys," Marcus says, letting out a big bear laugh that breaks up the bayou jazz playing overhead. There's a gum to the bite of the bread that's shipped direct from Louisiana's Leidenheimer Baking Company, with an egg-wash crust that holds up under the weight of braised meats and Blue Plate mayonnaise. "People from Texas will tell you it's just a regional thing, that Hellman's (Best Foods) is just as good, but they're wrong." There was no hint of pretension in Christiana-Beniger's voice, who's lived downtown for eighteen years; only the polite, but straight-shooting Southern respect for family and tradition you'd expect New Orleans to be all about.

To find out more, go to: littlejewel.la

DOWNTOWN EVENT CALENDAR

JANUARY 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
CHINATOWN NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP Chinatown Central Plaza 943 N Broadway 12PM - 3PM	FLOSSTRADAMUS Shrine Expo Hall 665 W Jefferson Blvd 9PM Rock the Electro Mosh Pit as DJ's J2K and Autobot	MUTT & MINGLE Pussy & Pooch 564 S Main Street 6PM - 8PM Join us for our monthly mixer and enjoy special	COUNTDOWN TO 2015 Grand Park 210 North Grand Avenue 7PM - Midnight Ring in the New Year with	LATIDO THURSDAYS Caña Rum Bar 714 W Olympic Blvd 9PM KCRW's Anthony Valadez spins Cumbia, Dub, Afrobeat,	JUKE NIGHT The Monty Bar 1222 W 7th Street 10PM Friday juke night with Jumping Boogie Blues,	NEW YEARS RACE 7th & Grand Avenue 6PM Get your New Year's resolution started. Participate or stand on
Grab gloves, shape up the neighborhood, then reward yourself with food and beer at Angel City Brewery!	take the stage. Part of OMFG NYEI, presented by Goldenvoice.	treats, toasts, and plenty of in-store tail-wagging. (last Tuesday of every month)	a unique civic gathering that brings Angelenos, their family and friends together in DTLA.	and just about anything else with heavy, unrelenting bass. Bring your dancing shoes. (weekly)	Greasy RnB, come on and shake it.	the sidelines for this ½ marathon. Show Christmas dinner who's boss.
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
DUBLAB VIBING TIME Ace Hotel Rooftop Bar 929 S Broadway	SPEAKEASY / OPEN MIC NIGHT The Last Bookstore 453 S Spring Street	SCREENING: UNDER THE SKIN The Regent Theater 448 S Main Street	FARMERS MARKET Pershing Square 532 S Olive Street 11AM — 2PM	LOS ANGELES FILMFORUM MOCA 250 S Grand Avenue	ANGRY HOUR La Cita Bar 336 S Hill Street 4PM — 9PM	EARTHQUAKE Million Dollar Theater 307 S Broadway 8PM
1PM Rooftop DJ sets every Sunday-funday. Oh, and it's free. (weekly)	8PM First Mondays of the month come by to share your new material. It's all applause and support here.	6:30PM & 10:30PM Shows Visual and audio harmony - catch a screening of Under the Skin with live orchestra by Mica Levi.	Stock your pantry with organic fruits and veggies – get started on that New Year juice cleanse. (weekly)	7PM A program of short films by female filmmakers that include collage animations, delirious landscapes, and hallucinatory dance cinema.	Punk Rock, Cheap Booze, and Bad vibes! \$5 cover and free pizza. (weekly)	Sit back with one of the classics in this downtown landmark, one of the oldest preserved movie palaces. Feat. Kenneth Turan of LA Weekly.
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
ORGAN RECITAL: ANTHONY NEWMAN Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Avenue 7:30PM	THANK GOD IT'S MONDAY Honey Cut 819 S Flower	CULTURE CLASH Mark Taper Auditorium 630 W 5th Street 7:15PM	RUN THE JEWELS The Regent Theater 448 S Main Street 7:30PM	LOS ANGELES PHOTOGRAPHIC ART EXPOSITION The Reef at LA Mart 1933 S Broadway	ROBIN SCHULZ The Exchange 618 Spring Street 10PM — 3AM	UNFICTIONAL LIVE The Regent Theater 448 S Main Street 7:30PM
Anthony Newman brings three of his own works along with organ classics and Baroque fanfares.	Dance away the lingering weekend energy to 90s Jams and \$1 Mini Fernets with any drink. (weekly)	Listen to a panel of creative thinkers and doers who examine the roots of a creative crisis that has put booksellers, indie musicians, architects and graphic designers out of work.	EL-P + Killer Mike = Run The Jewels. Two celebrated names in a rap come together to bump beats in a historic theater.	The international photographic art exposition photo la returns for its 24th year. Showcasing 19th Century works to contemporary and innovative photography.	Dance to chest pounding beats by German electro DJ.	Get ready to laugh till your cheeks hurt. LA's Alternative Comedy Festival comes to the Regent.
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
ARTISTS & FLEAS 647 Mateo Street 11AM — 5PM	ACOUSTIC NIGHT Salvage Bar 717 W 7th Street 7PM	CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Avenue	TRIVIA AT THE STANDARD The Standard Hotel 550 S Flower Street	EVENING @ THE ROSSLYN HOTEL The Rosslyn Hotel 112 W 5th Street	AWAKENING The Exchange 618 Spring Street	ARTS DISTRICT FLEA MARKET 453 Colyton Street 11AM — 7PM
Brooklyn flair in an LA Flea. This New York market rocks DTLA with a mash-up of vintage dealers, fresh designers, and deep eats.	Fill your melodic soul with the acoustics. Happy hour until 8pm. (weekly)	8PM The Chamber Music Society celebrates two musical titans, Mozart and Beethoven, in this intimate performance featuring special guest Emanuel	9PM Let your Rolodex of random facts be the talk of the night. (weekly)	6PM SRO Housing celebrates 30 years of service to develop a thriving urban community. Food, entertainment and tours of the historic hotel.	Insomniac presents trance and progressive music every Friday at the Exchange. Prepare to dance and sweat.	Etsy in real life! (Open Friday, Saturday, & Sunday weekly)
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
BOCK FEST 2015 Millenium Biltmore Hotel 506 S Grand 1PM - 5PM	MUSTACHE MONDAYS La Cita Bar 336 S Hill Street	TRIBUTE TO SOUL Grammy Museum 800 W Olympic Blvd 11AM	FARMERS MARKET 532 S Olive Street 11AM — 2PM	JANUARY JAZZ Coldburn School 200 S Grand Avenue 6PM	AN EVENING WITH PATTI SMITH The Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway	MASTER CHORALE: BACH Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Avenue
Beer lovers rejoice as some of the worlds unique brewers come together in Los Angeles for a Beer Festival.	9PM — 2AM Quirky local flavor and LGBTQ talent? It's going to be a late night. (weekly)	Historians will demonstrate how classic soul, gospel and, later, Motown was the catalyst for contemporary musicians such as John Legend, Jill Scott, Joss Stone and more.	Stock your pantry with organic fruits and veggies – get started on that New Year juice cleanse. (weekly)	Avoid traffic and wind down your Thursdays with a glass of wine and the world's most beautiful music.	8:30PM Because the night belongs to lovers. Patti Smith, high priestess of rock and roll, sayer of dirt-black sooth, comes to The Theatre for two nights.	2PM Bach's St. Matthew Passion is a towering masterpiece representing the ultimate expression of redemption and transcendence.









LAST CHANCE TO SEE

ANDY WARHOL: SHADOWS



SEPTEMBER 20, 2014 – FEBRUARY 15, 2015

INSTALLATION VIEW OF ANDY WARHOL: SHADOWS, SEPTEMBER 20, 2014-FEBRUARY 15, 2015 AT MOCA GRAND AVENUE, THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART. PHOTO BY BRIAN FORREST. © 2014 THE ANDY WARHOL FOUNDATION FOR THE VISUAL ARTS, INC./ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY (ARS), NEW YORK.



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