

MAR 2015

LA

ISSUE 7

DOWNTOWNER

THE INSIDER GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES

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GELATERIA ULI

Get a close up of
Downtown's handmade
gelato in the making.
Uli Nasibova serves her
creative passion by
the spoonful.



Photographed by: Alyse Gilbert

ROTELLI CYCLERY

At Rotelli Cyclery, they don't just appreciate the bicycle, they toil and tinker, screw and fasten, undo and redo to construct the ideal ride.

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VILLAIN'S TAVERN

Come by for one drink or stay till last call, you'll be sure to have a delightfully sinful time.

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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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Upcoming events to refill your social calendar.

CASEY'S IRISH PUB

ALL HAIL PICKLEBACK

Written by Rayna Jensen &
Photographed by Eslee

Casey's Irish Pub has been a part of downtown for so long, it's easy to pass by it in the after-office hunt for a good drink. But after almost fifty years, Casey's still stands as a reliable, non-fussy standard. The crowd is packed with regulars. The bartenders wear jeans. It's the opposite of many of the bars in the city, in a good way.

"I've spent a lot of time working at places like Soho House, and my background is in mixology," says bartender Sarah Doyle, "but, you know, I just like it over here."

It's an easy, comfortable place to be — for happy hour, the game, dinner — and surprisingly one of a kind. It's the only Irish pub in Los Angeles, the only remaining one-story building downtown, and source of the city's only Pickleback — a shot of Jameson followed by a shot of unstrained pickle brine. It's an all-around antidote for a case of the Mondays, the 5 PMs, or just about anything (didn't grandma ever tell you to drink a nip of whiskey for your cold?).

Their Pickleback is worth the trek to 6th and Grand in itself. The recipe is a bit of a secret (even the cooks weren't sure of the exact ins and outs of the process), but it has a spicy, bread-and-butter sweetness, which compliments the flavors of the Jameson and cuts through the burn. It's one of those things that's better than it sounds, no matter how you think it sounds.

Casey's offers plenty of Guinness concoctions, and the whiskey-based cocktails, too, are more than easy to drink. Try an Irish Goodbye, which includes a house crafted chamomile-honey simple syrup, fresh lemon juice, and peated Irish whiskey. Or an Irish Hello: Irish coffee, demerara syrup, and Angostura-spiced cream. Plus, with Happy Hour all day Sunday and Monday, you can't go wrong. Even if St. Patrick's Day wasn't just around the corner, there aren't many better places to be. To find out more, go to: 213nightlife.com/caseyirishpub





GELATERIA ULI

TWO SCOOPS OF HAPPINESS

Written by Janica De Guzman & Photographed by Alyse Gilbert

Cold, velvety and exotic, it only takes one spoonful to send shivers across taste buds — Gelateria Uli churns mounds of small batch gelato and sorbetto in-house everyday. Located in the Spring Arcade of the Historic Core, a glass case of 16 colorful flavors beg to be scooped by eager pointing fingers. Softly folded like cashmere sweaters, gelato flavor staples such as Chocolate, Stracciatella and Pistachio sit beside their bolder, more adventurous brethren like Salted Caramel, Saffron and Poblano. Tiny metal spoons carve into the smooth gelato, scoop up a dollop and carefully pass over the counter. It's like witnessing a baton race and excitement increases sample after sample.

“DOWNTOWN HAS A MAGICAL ENERGY ABOUT IT, I AM A PART OF THAT FABRIC AND THIS IS MY CONTRIBUTION.”

Uli Nasibova, owner and fellow Downtowner of 8 years, began churning gelato in her loft kitchen as a creative outlet from her wealth management career. Her hobby quickly developed into passion driven by the desire to give back to her

community. “Downtown has a magical energy about it, I am a part of that fabric and this is my contribution.” Uli and her husband set up shop as one of the first tenants in the recently renovated Spring Arcade; staying true to revitalized Downtown charm, Gelateria Uli kept the Arcade’s 1900s flair while incorporating modern sensibility. The gelateria tilts a nod to European cafés — small tables and chairs surround the shop and invite customers for an intimate gelato date. Production transparency comes into play as a large window allows customers to peer in and witness Uli churn creamy, fruity magic. She mashed ripened bananas into a silky puree and simultaneously worked between cleaning the Compacta 3003 and greeting customers. Her process is a show in itself and the kitchen is her stage.

The selection of rotating flavors is steered by the “Suggest a Flavor” program on their website. Every week Uli sifts through 500 submissions and chooses 1 to develop. Contenders are cultural favorites ranging from Ube, Halva, Poppy Seed and Black Sesame. Uli is challenged to perfect the flavors and meet the palate’s expectation.

Come by any day of the week and let Gelateria Uli scoop up some happiness.

To find out more, go to: gelateriauli.com

Designer Week



Designer Week at the LA Mart Design Center

March 29–April 3
9am–5pm

**March 29
Designer Client
Sunday**

Bring your clients to preview and purchase Spring and Summer’s latest designs

**March 31
HOZZ & ASID
Seminars, both
CEU credited**

**March 30–April 3
Furniture Sample Sale
40–70% off sample
furniture and home
accessories**

LA Mart
Design Center
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Los Angeles, CA
90007

lamar.com





ROTELLI CYCLERY

REFURBISHED RIDES

Written by Cleo Tobbi & Photographed by Eslee

Entering Rotelli Cyclery is like stepping into a two-wheeled treasure chest. Bike designs inspired by 1930s English racing bikes, Italian detailing and more sit scattered around the shop. Vintage De Marchi racing jerseys from Italy hang on display for purchase and a corner wall pent up with tools indicates the repair section. Handmade leather satchels, messenger bags, purses and bike seats from various craftsmen garnish the store and offer artisanal accessories for the Downtown cyclist.

“OUR THING IS SITTING DOWN WITH A RIDER AND DESIGNING A BIKE FOR THEM.”

A part of the ever-evolving Arts District, Rotelli Cyclery provides the modern and the vintage, the custom and the classic in the form of a humble bicycle. Since their conception two months ago, owner Robert Rotello has been designing,

refurbishing, and selling custom bicycles to the cycling community in Downtown.

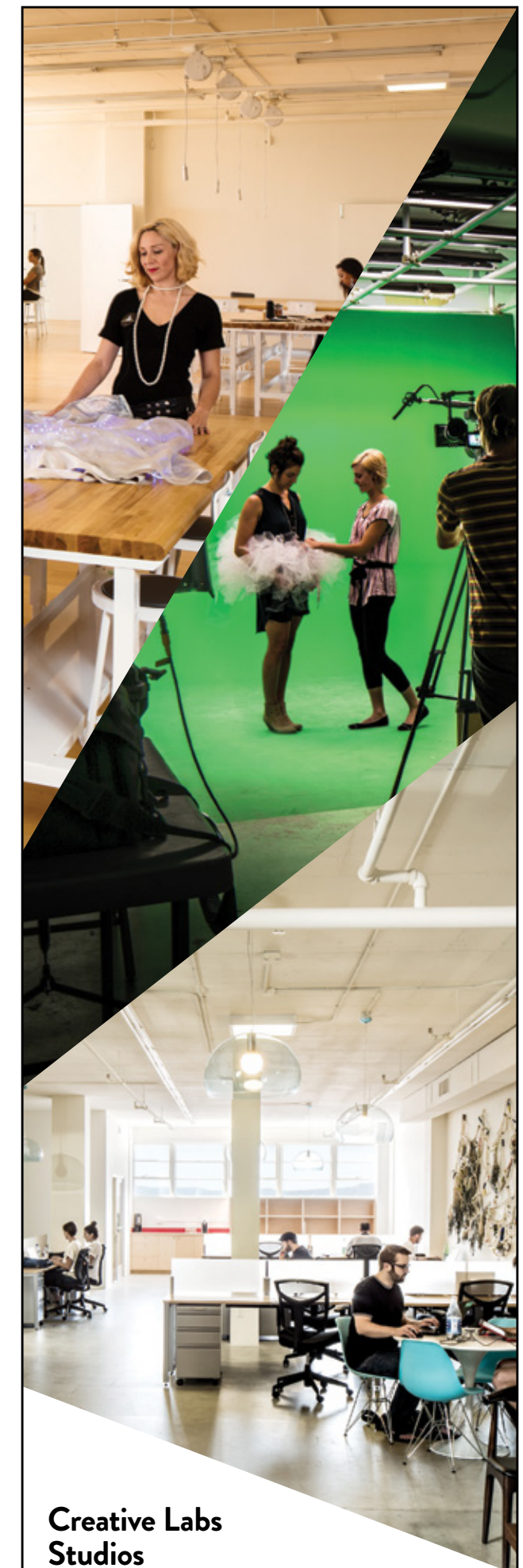
“Our thing is sitting down with a rider and designing a bike for them,” says Rotello.

A self-taught — and certified — bike manufacturer, Rotello became engrossed with the industry when his own bike was stolen. “The history is what pulled me into [the industry],” says Robert.

Distinguishing between quality artistry and factory junk quickly took hold of Rotello and his young business marks the beginning of his attempt to add to a growing community of bike riders in the area.

At Rotelli Cyclery, they don’t just appreciate the bicycle, they toil and tinker, screw and fasten, undo and redo to construct the ideal ride. From selling ready-to-ride bikes for \$240 to custom designing old and new bikes for up to \$2,600, Rotelli Cyclery is your one-stop bike shop for the seasoned cyclist and the casual cruiser alike.

To find out more, go to: rotellicyclery.com



Creative Labs Studios Coworking Events

Schedule a tour makercityla.com



DRINK

A **CASEY'S IRISH PUB**
613 S Grand Ave.
213nightlife.com/caseyirishpub

B **VILLAIN'S TAVERN**
1356 Palmetto St.
villainstavern.com

EAT

C **GELATERIA ULI**
541 S Spring St.
gelateriauli.com

D **SHOJIN**
333 S Alameda St. #310
theshojin.com

MOVE

E **ROTELLI CYCLERY**
1133 E 5th St.
rotellicyclery.com

- CITY STREETS
- FREEWAYS
- LA RIVER

MAP SIMPLIFIED & NOT TO SCALE



DOWNTOWN FAVORITES

- 1** **VERANDA POOLSIDE LOUNGE AT HOTEL FIGUEROA**
939 S Figueroa St. — figueroahotel.com
Sip on drinks, munch on tacos and lounge poolside at this Moroccan oasis. Come here after work or for Sunday brunch.
- 2** **VERVE COFFEE ROASTERS**
833 Spring St. — vervecoffee.com
Half coffee house, half juice bar. All beautiful. Chat with friends on the patio or upload a blog post in the corner. This place is too beautiful to avoid.
- 3** **CERVETECA**
923 E 3rd St. #109 — cervetecadtl.com
Bold Latin dishes and margaritas with a kick. Come by with friends for after work dinner and drinks.
- 4** **RAMEN CHAMP**
727 N Broadway — ramenchamp.com
Milky broth, bouncy noodles and tender chashu, Ramen Champ is a knockout with their selection of Ramen and crispy Tako Tots.
- 5** **BRONZED AUSSIE**
714 S Los Angeles St. — bronzedaussie.us
Flaky, savory hand held meat pies, brought to Downtown all the way from down under. It takes one bite to have a g'day!
- 6** **MACCHERONI REPUBLIC**
332 S Broadway — (213) 346-9725
Rich and daring pastas. A variety of black & white, squid ink and star shaped pastas, nothing is priced over \$20.
- 7** **KYOTO GARDENS**
120 S Los Angeles St. — (213) 629-1200
½ acre Japanese garden on a high-rise rooftop. Wander aimlessly and de-stress, it's free therapy.
- 8** **MOCA STORE**
250 South Grand Ave. — mocastore.org
You can look and touch. Purchase museum knickknacks, artist merchandise and unique gifts to show off your good taste.
- 9** **MAKER CITY LA**
1933 S Broadway 11th Floor — makercityla.com
Work space, equipment and inspiration readily available for the creative thinkers of Downtown LA. Soak it all in and create.



VILLAIN'S TAVERN

VAUDEVILLIAN TERROR

Written by Janica De Guzman & Photographed by Eslee

At the edge of the Arts District and just kissing the LA River, rests Villain's Tavern — a bar marked with vaudevillian terror. Gothic wooden arches and hundreds of glass potion bottles fill the window as if they're proudly displaying the dismay of mixologists gone mad. Five years ago Villain's Tavern was the only bar in the neighborhood to offer refuge to Arts District night crawlers. Today, it has proven to serve as the Arts District no-fuss-watering-hole, night after night.

Villain's Tavern is dark, dingy, obscure — just the way we like it. Every night of the week, the outdoor patio transforms into a honkytonk stage where feet stomp to the rhythm of hillbilly bluegrass or barbershop quartets. When the stage isn't set, the patio acts like a loud neighbor's backyard — pétanque tournaments, shrimp boils and smoky BBQs are regularly held for all to get rowdy with.

Drinks here are stirred and shaken with grit. Pay respect and keep those pinkies down — manhandle that Mason jar and pound. Try the Belladonna, a glass full of Maker's Mark, mint, citrus and bitters. It's tart, tangy and goes down all too nicely. New meaning is given to double fisting because for \$10, the beer and shot combo is the best deal on the menu. For the hungry drunk in all of us, the kitchen stays open late — Greek style hot dogs and chicken skewers aim to soak up the fun.

Be wary of the weekend line and head to Villain's Tavern during the week when the crowd temperature is just right. Come by for one drink or stay all night, you'll be sure to have a delightfully sinful time.

To find out more, go to: villainstavern.com

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 @BLOMST_DTLA
 @AMEE.JPG
 @LIEFJE
 @JOANNEPIO
 @ONETHIRTEEN
 @MIKE.PAYNE
 @WHIMSCAROL
 @ADRIANAS
 @PUNODOSTRES
 @DAVIDMENDOZAIII
 @DANCINGFREEMAN

DOWNTOWN STREET STYLE

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



Photographed by
Janica De Guzman



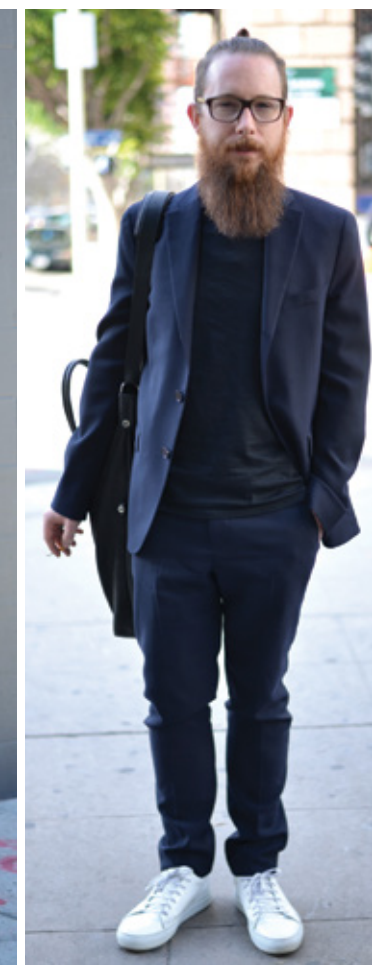
MAIN STREET
Rachel



8TH STREET
Ariel



ARTS DISTRICT
Philip



HILL STREET
Robert



BROADWAY
Colby & Jasmine



MAIN STREET
Laura & Lauren

Veranda
**SUNDAY
BRUNCH**
at
*Hotel
Figueroa*
11 am - 2:30 pm

Live Music
Bottomless
Mimosas
&
Bloody
Marys

\$30.00 per person
tax & gratuity not included

939 S. Figueroa Street
Los Angeles, CA 90015
213-627-8971
figueroahotel.com



SHOJIN

DEVOTION CUISINE

Written by Kandice Che &
Photographed by Alyse Gilbert and Shojin

Tucked away on the third floor of an indoor mall in Little Tokyo is Shojin, a restaurant swathed in heavy curtains at the entrance. Behind this unremarkable front is home to an intimate fine-dining experience serving a hybrid of vegan-Japanese cuisine pioneered by Chef Tsuguhiro.

Shojin is an immersion into an experiential cuisine, serving up a moment of dining that interrupts the senses with a welcome ease; the effortless blend of servers who sweep you inside like their most distinguished guest creates an experience that is buoyant with the energy of devotion to its patrons.

Most Americans aren't familiar with shōjin ryōri (devotion cuisine), the vegan or vegetarian Buddhist diet eaten in Japan from which Shojin derives its name and philosophy from. This cuisine aims to purify the body and mind through a vegetarian lifestyle.

Which is why the flavors at Shojin are thoughtfully curated to flatter the organic produce, creating pairings that are deliciously inventive; from the house-made tempeh and avocado roll with soft, fried eggplant lightly drizzled with sweet miso, to the pan-fried seitan generously seasoned with garlic, tamari, and soy sauce, the menu is filled with mouthwatering offerings of pure devotion.

Though it is a departure from the meat-and-fish intensive fare that has taken over Los Angeles by storm, what you will experience at Shojin allows you to taste, see, and feel their commitment to the possibility of cultivating a cuisine that not only nourishes, but also sustains.

To find out more, go to:
theshojin.com

DOWNTOWN EVENT CALENDAR

MARCH 2015

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 ROCK AND ROLL FLEA MARKET Regent Theater 488 Main St. 10AM Vinyl, music and booze — thrift like a rock star.	2 HARDCORE HOME MOVIES Redcat 631 2nd St. 8:30PM Collection of punk and queer films. Grab some popcorn and open your mind.	3 GRAND PARK FARMER'S MARKET Grand Park 200 N Grand Ave. 10AM — 2PM Fresh produce and food trucks that's locally grown and rightfully consumed.	4 TUXEDO ALBUM RELEASE PARTY The Regent 448 S Main St. 8PM Celebrate the debut of Tuxedo. Special guests Peanut Butter Wolf and Dam-Funk.	5 VAGABOND CHEESE Robert Reynolds Gallery 408 S Spring St. 7PM — 9PM Come for an evening to celebrate the holy trinity: cheese, wine and art.	6 TEASE IF YOU PLEASE Bar Fedora 710 West 1st St. 9:30PM Experience an evening of tasteful teasing with Downtown's finest burlesque.	7 BRUNCH AT THE ESCONDITE Escondite 410 Boyd St. 11AM — 4PM \$4 bloody marys for a bloody good time.
8 SUNDAY SOUL Villain's Tavern 1356 Palmetto St. 3PM — 9PM Soul music and BBQ in the patio. Save Sunday rest for later.	9 JAZZ JAM The Falls 626 S Spring St. 9PM Toot your own horn or sit back & relax. Weekly jazz jam equipped with a late night kitchen.	10 GREEN UMBRELLA: DUDAMEL CONDUCTS Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Ave. 8PM Dudamel teams with violinist Jennifer Koh for an evening of harmonic richness.	11 F/W '15 FASHION Maker City LA 1933 S Broadway, 11th floor 12PM — 5PM 3 days of first peeks into LA's Fall/Winter fashion. Hosted by the LA Fashion Council.	12 ART WALK 634 S Spring St. 6PM Stroll the streets for a hunt of Downtown's newest art.	13 PRHYME The Regent Theater 448 S Main St. 8PM Hip hop lyricists Royce Da 5'9" and DJ Premier on stage for a night of head bobbing beats.	14 VOX FEMINA: FORBIDDEN VOICES Colburn School 200 S Grand Ave. 8PM Nonconforming authors, artists and poets are celebrated by the voices of women.
15 VERANDA SUNDAY BRUNCH Figueroa Hotel 939 Figueroa St. 11AM — 2:30PM Bottoms up poolside for bottomless mimosas.	16 THANK GOD IT'S MONDAY Honey Cut 819 S Flower St. 10PM Dance away the lingering weekend energy to 90s jams. (weekly)	17 ST. PATRICK'S DAY Casey's Irish Pub 613 S Grand Ave. 11:30AM — CLOSE It would be blasphemous to celebrate elsewhere. Let green beer flow like water.	18 ANI DIFRANCO Orpheum Theatre 842 Broadway 8PM Re-live 90s folk rock with this righteous babe.	19 LATIDO THURSDAYS Caña Rum Bar 714 Olympic Blvd. 9PM Cumbia, Dub, Afrobeat and just about anything with unrelenting bass.	20 THE SOUND EDITION Ebanos' Crossing 200 S Hill St. 8PM Vibrations + Libations + Celebrations.	21 HERBIE HANCOCK AND CHICK COREA Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Ave. 8PM Legendary jazz duo reunites for an unforgettable night of improvisation and artistry.
22 WILLIAM POPE. L. TRINKET MOCA 250 S Grand Ave. 11AM — 5PM Blow your minds with large scale installation and sculpture work by William Pope. L	23 ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR The Escondite 410 Boyd St. 5PM — Close With nothing priced over \$5, the case of the Mondays is instantly cured.	24 THE MAKERS Seven Grand 515 7th St. 10PM — 1AM Improvised jazz and unrelenting whiskies.	25 WORKING WOMEN'S CLUB Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 11AM — 5PM Weekly gathering for creative, working women. Get together, be inspired and do work.	26 LUNCH A LA PARK Olive Court at Grand Park 200 Grand Ave. 11AM — 2PM The food truck's hangout spot. Come meet them here.	27 THE TIMES Ace Hotel 939 S Broadway 8:30PM A diverse group of artists, musicians and writers share their favorite musical gems.	28 PINK FLOYD EXPERIENCE Orpheum Theater 1111 S Figueroa St. 8PM Psychedelic combination of rock n roll and mesmerizing lights.
29 PETANQUE TOURNAMENT Villain's Tavern 1356 Palmetto St. 10PM Wind up your arms and take a victory shot. It's a neighborhood petanque tournament fueled by stiff drinks.	30 MUSTACHE MONDAYS La Cita Bar 336 S Hill St. 9PM — 2AM Quirky local flavor and LGBTQ talent? It's going to be a late night. (weekly)	31 TACO TRIVIA TUESDAY Angel City Brewery 216 S Alameda St. 7PM — 9PM Pull up a chair for good eats and quick thinking.	1 SPEAKEASY COMEDY Ebanos' Crossing 200 S Hill St. 8PM Everything is funnier with alcohol. Ebanos' has LA's best comics to prove it.	2 MILES DAVIS/ GIL EVAN: STILL AHEAD Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Ave. 8PM Celebrate the sounds of the legendary trumpeter with the Still Ahead Orchestra	3 VERANDA BAR Figueroa Hotel 939 Figueroa St. 4PM — 7PM Happy hour till 7pm and DJs all night to keep the party going.	4 INCEPTION Exchange LA 618 Spring St. 9PM Dance the night to chest pounding beats.



VIEW OUR FULL CALENDAR AT
LADOWNTOWNER.COM/CALENDAR

MOCA IS PLEASED TO SHARE HIGHLIGHTS
FROM ITS UPCOMING EXHIBITION SCHEDULE

**BERNHARD WILLHELM 3000:
WHEN FASHION SHOWS THE DANGER
THEN FASHION IS THE DANGER**
FEBRUARY 7 – MAY 17, 2015
MOCA PACIFIC DESIGN CENTER

WILLIAM POPE.L: TRINKET
MARCH 20 – JUNE 28, 2015

STURTEVANT: DOUBLE TROUBLE
MARCH 20 – JULY 27, 2015

KAHLIL JOSEPH: DOUBLE CONSCIENCE
MARCH 20 – JULY 27, 2015

**MATTHEW BARNEY:
RIVER OF FUNDAMENT**
SEPTEMBER 13, 2015 – JANUARY 18, 2016

PERMANENT COLLECTION
Installation by MOCA Chief Curator Helen Molesworth
FALL 2015 – FALL 2016

R.H. QUAYTMAN
FALL 2016

WILLIAM POPE.L, *TRINKET* (2008). INSTALLATION IN THE EXHIBITION HALL OF THE MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM, KANSAS CITY, MO.,
HOSTED BY GRAND ARTS. PHOTO: E.G. SEMPFF. IMAGE COURTESY OF THE ARTIST.

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