THE TURKISH CONNECTION

IS A SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHARTER SCHOOL GROUP FUNNELING MONEY TO AN EFFORT TO OVERTHROW A GOVERNMENT HALF A WORLD AWAY?  BY JASON MCGAHAHAN
# Award Winning Quality

1st Place - Best Personal Vaporizer  
Hempcon San Francisco, January 2016

1st Place - Best New Product 2016  
Local Sesh San Diego, March 2016

1st Place - Best Vape Cartridge 2016  
Potluck Cup, June 2016

*Mention this ad at these locations for a free battery with your purchase!*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Foothill Wellness                 | 7132 Foothill Blvd  
Tujunga | 818-352-3388 |
| Greenhouse Herbal Center          | 5224 Hollywood Blvd  
Little Armenia | 323-666-2591 |
| NNCC DBA New Amsterdam            | 9021 Exposition Blvd  
West Los Angeles | 310-202-6622 |
| Green Love Healing Center         | 6358 Vineland Ave  
North Hollywood | 818-732-7773 |
| Daddy’s Pipes                     | 14430 Ventura Blvd  
Sherman Oaks | 818-917-9517 |
| The Healing Touch                 | 18013 Ventura Blvd  
Encino | 818-881-1462 |
| PureLife Alternative Wellness     | 20751 Marilla St  
Chatsworth | 310-246-9345 |
| LA Wonderland                     | 150 Venice Blvd  
Downtown LA | 818-732-7773 |
| BARC                              | 432 S San Vincente Blvd  
Beverly Grove | 310-227-2420 |
| MM Messengers                     | 112 West 9th St. #526  
Downtown LA | 213-228-2882 |
| California Caregivers Alliance    | 2015 West Sunset Blvd #201  
Silver Lake | 213-353-0100 |
| Reseda Discount Caregivers        | 18448 Oxnard Street  
Reseda | 818-757-0434 |
| VIP LA                            | Delivery Only  
Greater Los Angeles | 323-334-5153 |
| Sticky Medz                       | 6074 Cadillac Ave  
Los Angeles | 310-837-7279 |
| King Kush                        | 5919 S Broadway  
Los Angeles | 323-208-9397 |

Because Quality Matters
Ho! Ho! Ho! This cool “with just the right amount of sweet” cocktail is a wonderfully delicious way to make anyone’s spirits brighter.

**Maker’s Mistletoe**

**Ingredients**

1-1/2 parts Maker’s Mark® Bourbon
3/4 part DeKuyper® Peachtree®
Schnapps Liqueur
2 parts orange juice
Splash of grenadine

**Instructions**

1. Build over ice in a rocks glass.
2. Garnish with a half-moon orange slice on the rim.
FIRST THURSDAYS
DEC 1ST, 2016  6PM - 10PM

UNIT 120 X BOB'S BURGERS POP UP
DEC 1ST - DEC 10TH

CHEGO
KIM CHUY
QIN WEST
LAO TAO TAIWANESE STREET FOOD
SCOOPS
THIEN HUONG
EAST/WEST SHOP
ENDORFFEINE COFFEE BAR
RAMEN CHAMP
HOWLIN' RAY'S

LIVE MUSIC FEATURING:
6PM-8PM JASON ARIMOTO AND JIM DUNCAN

chinatownla.com
facebook.com/losangeleschinatown
twitter.com/lachinatown
Instagram: Lachinatown

- FAR EAST PLAZA  727 N BROADWAY  LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 -
EAT & DRINK...17
Los Angeles chefs share their holiday traditions, from Hanukkah latkes and Indonesian nasi goreng to Japanese New Year treats. BY BESHA RODELL.

GO LA...21
The Nutcracker gets cracking for another year, comedians raise money for Planned Parenthood, John Waters is back with some holiday cheer and more to do and see in L.A. this week.

CULTURE...25
For the gun-toting gays of the Pink Pistols, the election of Donald Trump isn’t necessarily all bad. BY MICHAEL CIRIACO. In ART PICKS, one artist collects clips of black women singing and cracking jokes, while another creates collages from images of relatively well-known white women. In STAGE, two revivals — Martin McDonagh’s The Beauty Queen of Leenane and Jane Wagner’s The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe — feel as pertinent as ever.

FILM...29
APRIL WOLFE praises the inventive biopic Jackie and its star, Natalie Portman, as well as the thriller Always Shine, plus Things to Come and other movies OPENING THIS WEEK, and YOUR WEEKLY MOVIE TO-DO LIST.

MUSIC...37
The Bangles open up to BRETT CALLWOOD about getting back to their pre-“Manic Monday” roots, and JEFF WEISS talks to Ras Kass about the legacy of his 20-year-old debut album, Soul on Ice. Plus: HENRY ROLLINS: THE COLUMN!, listings for ROCK & POP, JAZZ & CLASSICAL and more.

THE TURKISH CONNECTION...7
Is a Southern California charter school group funneling money to an effort to overthrow a government half a world away? BY JASON MCGAHAN.

ADVERTISING
CLASSIFIED...54
EMPLOYMENT...54
REAL ESTATE/RENTALS...54
BULLETIN BOARD...55

ON THE COVER: ILLUSTRATION BY DARRICK RAINNEY

L.A. WEEKLY (ISSN#0192-1940 & USPS 461-3701) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY LA WEEKLY LP 3861 SEPULVEDA BLVD, CULVER CITY, CA 90230. PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT LOS ANGELES, CA. DOMESTIC SUBSCRIPTIONS: $55 FOR SIX MONTHS & $90 PER YEAR. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO LA WEEKLY PO. BOX 5052, CULVER CITY, CA 90231. LA WEEKLY IS AVAILABLE FREE OF CHARGE IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY, LIMITED TO ONE COPY PER READER, ADDITIONAL COPIES OF THE CURRENT ISSUE OF LA WEEKLY MAY BE PURCHASED FOR $1, PAYABLE IN ADVANCE AT THE LA WEEKLY OFFICE. OUTSIDE LOS ANGELES COUNTY, THE SINGLE-COPY COST OF LA WEEKLY IS $5. LA WEEKLY IS AVAILABLE ONLY BY LA WEEKLY’S AUTHORIZED INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS OR LA WEEKLY’S AUTHORIZED DISTRIBUTORS. NO PERSON MAY, WITHOUT PRIOR WRITTEN PERMISSION OF LA WEEKLY, TAKE MORE THAN ONE COPY OF EACH LA WEEKLY WEEKLY ISSUE FOR BACK ISSUE INFORMATION CALL 310/574-7100. THE ENTIRE CONTENTS OF LA WEEKLY ARE COPYRIGHT 2014 BY LA WEEKLY LP. NO PORTION MAY BE REPRODUCED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY ANY MEANS, INCLUDING ELECTRONIC RETRIEVAL SYSTEMS, WITHOUT THE EXPRESS WRITTEN PERMISSION OF THE PUBLISHER, LA WEEKLY, 3861 SEPULVEDA BLVD, CULVER CITY, CA 90230.
10 screenings featuring Q&As with filmmakers and actors at the Hammer Museum

Hammer Museum
Wilshire & Westwood

For more screenings and special guests visit hammer.ucla.edu

This film program is organized by The Museum of Modern Art, New York. The Museum's presentation is made possible by The Billy and Audrey L. Wilder Foundation.
More than a dozen times in a single year, Yunus Avcu, a 31-year-old man from Turkey, boarded a commercial flight to John Wayne Airport in Santa Ana carrying a laptop case loaded with cash — between $5,000 and $10,000, he claims. The story of how the money ended up in the bag is complicated, but Avcu says his role in it was simple. At the time, in 2013, Avcu worked as the business manager for the Lotus School for Excellence, a charter school in Aurora, Colorado, with an academic focus on science, math and technology. He says he booked the flights on the school’s credit card and flew to Orange County about once a month, to drive the money to an office park in Westminster, which was the West Coast headquarters of what he refers to as simply “the organization.”

The name on the lease at the office park was the Accord Institute for Education Research, a nonprofit that advertises itself as a provider of management and education services to charter schools throughout the Western United States. Avcu says going to the organization was like going home. Turkish men occupied every seat in the conference room. The seats were filled by executives from the Accord Institute, as well as superintendents, principals and business managers from the charter schools that contracted Accord’s services. Representatives from the various charters’ boards had pooled together to found the Accord Institute, to build on and improve the academic model the charters had developed.

The schools paid hundreds of thousands of taxpayer dollars to Accord for curriculum development and training, as well as administrative services, such as accounting, fiscal planning and grants management. Avcu says that the executives and officers at the Accord Institute weren’t exactly forthcoming with him about what the money he dropped off was for. But he says that, at the meetings, Turkey always seemed to him the overriding concern — trips to Turkey for American dignitaries, Turkish cultural dinners for local officials, and the guarantee that Turkish majorities on the charter schools’ boards would hire Turkish principals, who would in turn sponsor the H1B visas for Turkish teachers to come to the United States to work — and, according to Avcu, to make the all-important donations from their salaries to the organization.

According to Avcu, that was the source of the cash he carried. He says that the 11 Turkish teachers and administrators at the Lotus school were obliged to hand it over to him the first week of every month. Avcu says these payments weren’t voluntary; he says the organization also obligated him to return about 40 percent of his own salary every month. He says Accord executives made an Excel spreadsheet at the start of the school year with the salary of every Turkish employee at every school in one column and the amount of money each would owe in another. Avcu says executives determined the amount each Turkish teacher had to return to the organization, based on the employee’s seniority, education level, marital status and number of children. “The organization was taking the money from the people,” Avcu says. “If you don’t pay this money, they don’t employ you. If you reject or refuse to pay this, you have to go back to Turkey.”

According to Avcu, the cash funded the worldwide organization of Fethullah Gülen, a controversial Turkish preacher living in self-exile in the United States. Avcu is not the first employee to make such an allegation. According to 60 Minutes, Mary Addi was fired from a school in Dayton, Ohio, that was part of a Gülen-inspired chain of 27 charter schools in the Midwest. Addi went to law enforcement after learning that her husband, a Turkish teacher who also worked at the school, had to turn over 40 percent of his salary — in cash, every pay period — to a secret fund used by the Gülen organization.

Gülen is perhaps Turkey’s most famous and influential religious personality, and its most controversial. As recently as 2012, the Gülen movement was the most powerful social force in Turkey outside of the ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP). This past summer, the Republic of Turkey accused Gülen and his followers of orchestrating an attempted military coup that nearly toppled the Turkish government and claimed hundreds of lives.

The unrest in Turkey has drawn attention to the worldwide network of more than 1,000 schools that Gülen has established in more than 100 countries, the largest number of which, outside Turkey, is in the United States. These schools are believed to fund Gülen’s operation — and they are alleged to have helped fund the coup attempt. Within days of the foiled coup, the government of Turkey asked education officials in Texas, California and Ohio to
investigate publicly funded charter schools in those states, alleging that they misused public funds and funneled money to Gülen’s movement.

The inspector general of the Los Angeles Unified School District alleges that a California charter school group, the Magnolia Educational and Research Foundation, is among the more than 160 U.S. charter groups with ties to Gülen. Magnolia operates charter schools on 10 campuses in California, including eight in L.A. It also happened to be headquartered in the same office space as the Accord Institute.

“They were working all together,” Avcu says. “It’s supposed to be a separate company, but they were all together.” He says the person who relie8ved him of the money from the teachers at nearly every meeting was the then-business manager of Magnolia Public Schools.

Since before the coup attempt, a Canadian international lawyer representing the Republic of Turkey has been pressuring state and local authorities to conduct a full investigation of Magnolia, alleging the foundation is part of the nationwide network of charter schools illegally funneling taxpayer dollars to fund political machinations half a world away. Those allegations come at a time when the L.A. Unified School District is deepening its own two-year probe into alleged financial mismanagement at Magnolia — including the blurred lines between Magnolia and the Accord Institute. In August, the California Department of Education launched a separate probe into allegations of financial mismanagement at Magnolia.

The CEO at Magnolia Public Schools, Ca-price Young, denies any formal or financial affiliation with Gülen or the Gülen movement; she does, however, acknowledge that certain current and former directors of the foundation are believers in Gülen’s teachings. “Some of our founding principals had ties to Gülen,” Young tells L.A. Weekly, but she says those founders are no longer part of Magnolia.

William M. Nassar, the attorney for Magnolia in charge of responding to LAUSD’s ongoing audit requests, says the depth and scope of the probe are extraordinary. He calls it “a fishing expedition” through dozens of banker’s boxes of personnel files, visa applications and payroll and enrollment records, all dating to the period from 2009 to 2014. “They’re trying to tie us in to the Turkish movement, the Gülen movement,” Nassar says. “They’re trying to find money going over there, which doesn’t exist.”

Fethullah Gülen is a fascinating contradiction, a religious ascetic whose net worth is estimated at $5 billion. The Islamic preacher from Turkey is in his late 70s and in poor health, living in seclusion in two tiny rooms from Turkey is in his late 70s and in poor health, living in seclusion in two tiny rooms abroad. Those allegations come at a time when the L.A. Unified School District is deepening its own two-year probe into alleged financial mismanagement at Magnolia — including the blurred lines between Magnolia and the Accord Institute. In August, the California Department of Education launched a separate probe into allegations of financial mismanagement at Magnolia.

The CEO at Magnolia Public Schools, Ca-price Young, denies any formal or financial affiliation with Gülen or the Gülen movement; she does, however, acknowledge that certain current and former directors of the foundation are believers in Gülen’s teachings. “Some of our founding principals had ties to Gülen,” Young tells L.A. Weekly, but she says those founders are no longer part of Magnolia.

William M. Nassar, the attorney for Magnolia in charge of responding to LAUSD’s ongoing audit requests, says the depth and scope of the probe are extraordinary. He calls it “a fishing expedition” through dozens of banker’s boxes of personnel files, visa applications and payroll and enrollment records, all dating to the period from 2009 to 2014. “They’re trying to tie us in to the Turkish movement, the Gülen movement,” Nassar says. “They’re trying to find money going over there, which doesn’t exist.”

Fethullah Gülen is a fascinating contradiction, a religious ascetic whose net worth is estimated at $5 billion. The Islamic preacher from Turkey is in his late 70s and in poor health, living in seclusion in two tiny rooms abroad. Those allegations come at a time when the L.A. Unified School District is deepening its own two-year probe into alleged financial mismanagement at Magnolia — including the blurred lines between Magnolia and the Accord Institute. In August, the California Department of Education launched a separate probe into allegations of financial mismanagement at Magnolia.

The CEO at Magnolia Public Schools, Ca-price Young, denies any formal or financial affiliation with Gülen or the Gülen movement; she does, however, acknowledge that certain current and former directors of the foundation are believers in Gülen’s teachings. “Some of our founding principals had ties to Gülen,” Young tells L.A. Weekly, but she says those founders are no longer part of Magnolia.

William M. Nassar, the attorney for Magnolia in charge of responding to LAUSD’s ongoing audit requests, says the depth and scope of the probe are extraordinary. He calls it “a fishing expedition” through dozens of banker’s boxes of personnel files, visa applications and payroll and enrollment records, all dating to the period from 2009 to 2014. “They’re trying to tie us in to the Turkish movement, the Gülen movement,” Nassar says. “They’re trying to find money going over there, which doesn’t exist.”

Fethullah Gülen is a religious community leader who’s both the symbolic and operating figurehead of the largest and most influential Islamic community in Turkey of the past 40 years,” says Joshua Hendrick, a professor of sociology at Loyola University and author of the book Gülen: The Ambiguous Politics of Market Islam in Turkey and the World.

As Dexter Filkins wrote in a recent article for The New Yorker, Gülen’s religious teachings emphasize the compatibility of Islam with reason and scientific inquiry. “While many Islamists espouse anti-Western, anti-capitalist and anti-Semitic views,” Filkins wrote, “Gülen’s sermons were pro-business, pro-science and — virtually unheard of in the Muslim world — conciliatory toward Israel.”

Gülen reported that late on the night of July 15, officers in the Turkish military gave orders to block major roads, detain senior military leaders and seize crucial institutions as part of an attempt to overthrow the government. Some of the coup plotters shot demonstrators, and F-16s piloted by men loyal to the conspiracy bombed the Turkish Parliament. More than 260 people were killed and thousands wounded. Even so, the attempt was haphazard and ultimately defeated by porters in Turkey and began targeting the worldwide network of organizations tied to Gülen, including some 180 charter schools in the United States, which, he alleges, are tied to the repressivechner.

Within a day of the coup’s defeat in Turkey, President Erdoğan issued a televised appeal to President Obama: “Extradite this man in Pennsylvania to Turkey! If we are strategic partners or model partners, do what is necessary.”

Gülen has denied involvement in the attempted coup and maintains that the plotters did not act under his orders, though he acknowledged in an interview with CNN’s Fareed Zakaria that “there might have been some sympathetic people among them.” President Obama and Secretary of State John Kerry have pledged U.S. support for investigations to determine who was responsible for the attempted coup.

A senior State Department official recently told the Associated Press that Turkey’s contention that Gülen and his followers were involved in the failed coup attempt may have some merit. The story, published Oct. 31, quotes the official as saying that charity and educational organizations run by Gülen have a suspicious structure and financing and look “a lot like the ways in which organized crime sets itself up of folks who are trying to hide money for money laundering” rather than a “benign religious movement.”

Since 2011, the FBI has raided charter schools with ties to Gülen in Louisiana, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. A New York audit found three schools engaged in bid-rigging to vendors with ties to Gülen. A New York audit found one charter school had leased its building in a way that netted millions of dollars for a New Jersey company with ties to Turkey. In Utah, authorities revoked the charter of a school tied to Gülen after an audit uncovered financial mismanagement. In Illinois, a charter group tied to Gülen is under federal investigation for funneling more than $5 million in federal grant money to insiders and away from the charter schools’ fund intended to extend Internet access to schools with low-income students.

“This is something that has been happening all over the country,” Hendrick says. He says the external audits are driven by very similar grievances, “which highlight financial governance and mismanagement issues.”

The Accord Institute first reached the radar of financial auditors during a 2014 investigation of Magnolia Public Schools by the LAUSD. There was one transaction in particular that caught the attention of district auditors, who had been investigating mismanagement of funds. Suleyman Bahceci, a scientist and educator from Turkey who helped found the Accord Institute in 2007, was Magnolia’s CEO from 2009 to 2012. In 2011, Bahceci awarded a $756,000 contract for education and management services to the Accord Institute. By comparison, the total budgeted revenue for Magnolia’s charter management organization was $2.2 million that year.

A year later, Bahceci was back at Accord, as its CEO. Prompted by the potential conflict of interest, LAUSD auditors began to examine the relationship between Magnolia and Accord. Not only did they find that Magnolia and Accord shared a lease in an office building in Westminster but they also examined records that showed the charter management organization paid Accord an average of $600,000 a year between 2009 and 2014 — more than $3 million in total. In fact, Magnolia was paying around 25 percent of its total expenditures every year to Accord, at a time when the report concluded, the charter organization was $1.66 million in the red.

When auditors tried to investigate further, they found that Magnolia’s business office hadn’t kept records on exactly how the money was spent. The auditors were at a loss. “This lack of accountability over the contract does not allow for an assessment of whether the fees associated with this contract are fair and/or reasonable,” according to the LAUSD report on the audit, issued in June 2014.

The sheer array of services that Accord provided Magnolia, from education to financial management, aroused further suspicion among the LAUSD auditors. “It is very unusual to have an outside vendor (Accord) with such an active management role in so many activities,” the report states. “This close relationship causes concern around the ability to be independent in relationship to offering both management

"THEY’RE TRYING TO TIE US INTO THE TURKISH MOVEMENT, THE GÜLEN MOVEMENT. THEY’RE TRYING TO FIND MONEY GOING OVER THERE, WHICH DOESN’T EXIST.” — WILLIAM M. NASSAR, AN ATTORNEY FOR MAGNOLIA CHARTER SCHOOLS

Turkish exile Fethullah Gülen preaches a moderate form of Islam based on a message of tolerance; his teachings have inspired more than 1,000 schools in 100 countries.
OPEN ENROLLMENT IS HERE ONCE AGAIN. MAKE SURE YOU HAVE COVERAGE FOR CEDARS-SINAI.

If you purchase your own health insurance directly, or through Covered California, it's important to make sure your plan covers Cedars-Sinai. We'll help you review your options to make sure you have coverage at L.A.'s most preferred hospital.

OPEN ENROLLMENT ENDS JANUARY 31.
1-800-CEDARS-1 | CEDARS-SINAI.EDU/INSURANCE

© 2016 Cedars-Sinai
**Add Some Holiday Magic This Season**

**COOL GIFTS • SPIRITUAL KITSCH**
**CURIOUS GOODS • TOYS FOR THE SOUL**

Objets d’Art & Spirit
7529 Sunset Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90046
323.436.5238
WWW.OBJETSARTANDSPIRIT.COM

Store Hours
Mon - Sat: 10:30am - 9pm
Sun: 10:30am-5pm

---

**BREAST AUGMENTATION**
MIRA MIST TECHNIQUE®
»JUST $2900
MINIMALLY INVASIVE • FASTER RECOVERY
MINIMAL PAIN • NO HIDDEN COST

**LIPOSCULPTURING**
UPPER & LOWER ABDOMEN
»JUST $2900
COMPLETE • NO HIDDEN COSTS

**BRAZILIAN BUTT LIFT**
»JUST $3900
COMPLETE • NO HIDDEN COSTS

---

**TUMMY TUCK**
STARTING AT $3900

**FULLER LIPS**
RESTYLANE/JUVEDERM
$385

**PERMANENT LIP AUGMENTATION**
$499 PER LIP

**SCLEROTHERAPY**
$99 PER AREA

**BOTOX**
$99 PER AREA

---

MIRA AESTHETIC MEDICAL CENTER
2901 Wilshire Blvd, Ste. 206, Santa Monica 90403 | 714.544.8678
LOCATIONS IN OC & BEVERLY HILLS | YOUNGERLOOK.COM

---

**BE THE CHANGE**

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
AND MULTIPLE CITY LOCATIONS NATIONWIDE

EDUCATION INNOVATION SERVICE COMMUNITY

THECHICAGOSCHOOL.EDU

A NONPROFIT INSTITUTION

888-852-1419
In August 2014, the Joint Committee on Legislative Audit, which investigates public entities such as schools, ordered the state auditor to examine the allegations in the LAUSD probe. The state auditor would conclude that Bahceci’s conduct while he was Magnolia’s CEO had not violated California law, since the one-year contract he signed with Accord was no longer in effect when he became Accord’s CEO the following year. Nonetheless, both LAUSD and state auditors agreed his conduct conformed to a pattern of “insufficient separation” between the staff at Magnolia and Accord.

Young says she began working at Magnolia as a consultant in late 2014. Her personal connection to Magnolia dates back to 2001, when, as school board president, she voted to approve Magnolia’s first charter school, Magnolia Science Academy 1 in Reseda. She says she has fond memories of the eight Turkish scientists, businessmen and educators who founded the school; the news clipping that commemorates the school’s founding is framed and displayed on the wall of Magnolia’s conference room.

The eight charter schools operated by the Magnolia foundation in L.A. — in Van Nuys, Carson, Venice, Palms, Northridge, Bell and Reseda — received a collective $26 million in local, state and federal funds in fiscal year 2014, according to audited financial statements. The schools enroll a collective 2,600 students, the vast majority of them from disadvantaged families, school officials say. Eighty percent of Magnolia students are eligible for the school lunch program, and a similar proportion of them are low-income and students of color. Generally the Magnolia charters outperform their public school peers, but not across the board.

Young says she had her work cut out for her. “When I got here,” she says of Magnolia, “they were running a $30 million network on QuickBooks.”

She is credited with implementing the terms of the legal settlement that kept open Magnolia Science Academies 6 and 7. A Superior Court judge required Magnolia to sever ties with Accord, and Young permitted Accord’s contract to lapse in July 2015. Bahceci stepped down as Accord’s CEO the same month; he was hired as vice president of student affairs at Virginia International University in Fairfax, a private college inspired by Gülen.

Young denies that Magnolia has any affiliation with Gülen or the Gülen movement. “We don’t give them any money,” Young says.

She does, however, acknowledge that some of Magnolia’s founders and key executives are adherents to Gülen’s religious teachings. Magnolia’s CEO for its first seven years, Huseyin Hurmali, left in 2009 and became vice president of the Journalists and Writers Foundation, an NGO that boasts Gülen as its honorary president. Umit Yapanal, the current board president at Magnolia, told the Los Angeles Times that Gülen “inspired me to serve.” Young mentions that she was part of a charter-school delegation that traveled to Turkey in 2007 with the Pacifica Institute, a Turkish cultural center in Westwood, whose honorary president is Gülen. Young says it was common, before the coup, for public officials and dignitaries to go on such trips, and that Pacifica funded them with royalties from the sale of Gülen’s books.

Young replaced the Turkish officers of corporate finance, operations and administration with a team of mostly American executives. Young also replaced five of Magnolia’s nine board members. Its new board for the 2016-17 school year consists of three Americans, four Turks, a Kazakh and a Turkmen. She also moved Magnolia’s headquarters from Westminster to a downtown office tower five floors above the Los Angeles headquarters of the California Charter Schools Association. She says the 10 Magnolia schools employ 27 teachers from Turkey, “all vetted by Homeland Security, and outstanding math and science teachers.”

The State Auditor’s report in May 2015 appeared to be a turning point for the organization. It concluded that Magnolia had not misappropriated funds, and it issued a set of 12 recommendations for Magnolia to return to good standing. “The State Auditor gave us a fix-it ticket,” Young says.

A month later, in June 2015, California approved $17.4 million in state funding for construction of a new Magnolia charter school for more than 1,000 students in Santa Ana. Young refers to the sizable grant as tacit recognition that Magnolia’s financial problems are in the past. The State Auditor declared earlier this year that Magnolia had met its recommendations in the area of management reforms and that Magnolia was financially stable and sound.

Supporters of Magnolia who found LAUSD’s 2014 investigation unduly hostile felt vindicated by the State Auditor’s report. “While the report did identify some procedural concerns with Magnolia, it was certainly not the smoking gun the Office of the Inspector General was suggesting was happening there,” says Colin Miller, senior policy adviser for the California Charter Schools Association.

Young says she and her team were under the impression that they had put Magnolia’s financial crisis behind them after the court settlement with LAUSD and the clean bill of health from the State Auditor. But LAUSD had other ideas. As it turned out, the district’s inspector general had never stopped investigating Magnolia.

The latest round of the investigation has concluded for now, offi cial sources say. On Sept. 1, 2015, LAUSD deputy inspector general Frank Cabibi and four investigators arrived at Magnolia’s new headquarters. The foundation had not responded to the district’s year-old request for documents, and Cabibi brought a letter signed by LAUSD inspector general Ken Bramlett, authorizing the team of investigators to collect the documents themselves. Bramlett declined to comment for this story, citing the district’s policy to keep confi dential matters pertaining to ongoing investigations.

Says Young: “Mr. Cabibi said as far as he was concerned, my staff was all potential criminals for not responding to the request.”

Young says she and her team were under the impression that they had put Magnolia’s financial crisis behind them after the court settlement with LAUSD and the clean bill of health from the State Auditor. But LAUSD had other ideas. As it turned out, the district’s inspector general had never stopped investigating Magnolia.

The latest round of the investigation has concluded for now, official sources say. On Sept. 1, 2015, LAUSD deputy inspector general Frank Cabibi and four investigators arrived at Magnolia’s new headquarters. The foundation had not responded to the district’s year-old request for documents, and Cabibi brought a letter signed by LAUSD inspector general Ken Bramlett, authorizing the team of investigators to collect the documents themselves. Bramlett declined to comment for this story, citing the district’s policy to keep confidential matters pertaining to ongoing investigations.

Says Young: “Mr. Cabibi said as far as he was concerned, my staff was all potential criminals for not responding to the request.”
> Erdogan hired Amsterdam to conduct a global investigation into the Gulen financial network, including a number of charter schools in the United States. The Republic of Turkey is paying Amsterdam’s firm $50,000 a month, federal filings show.

Amsterdam has been collecting material from numerous local investigations of charter schools with Gulen ties in Ohio, Texas and California, trying to consolidate and connect them back to the Gulen organization. He has kept a busy itinerary of meetings and phone conversations with PR firms, news reporters, congressional staffers and even the head of the L.A. Board of Education, Steve Zimmer.

On Jan. 27, a senior counsel for Amsterdam & Partners named John Martin appeared at a hearing of the Fremont Unified School District’s Board of Education, presenting a list of objections to Magnolia’s application for a new charter that was under review. Before Martin spoke, Caprice Young told the board that Martin was “a representative of the Turkish government, who seems to believe that we are affiliated with a religious group with whom we are not affiliated.” In his remarks, Martin referred to the findings of LAUSD’s audit.

Fremont Unified voted unanimously to deny Magnolia Science Academy Fremont’s application.

On Feb. 16, Amsterdam’s firm filed a formal complaint against Magnolia with the California Department of Education, requesting a full investigation into the financial practices of Magnolia’s charter schools. Amsterdam’s complaint accuses Magnolia of “suspected ties and illegal funneling of state and federal public funds to an organization of charter schools and other businesses headed by Fethullah Gulen.”

The complaint, rehashing the findings of state and LAUSD investigations, came at a sensitive time for Magnolia, less than two months after it had filed applications for 10 new charters in seven school districts — Fremont, Santa Ana, Garden Grove, Anaheim Union, Anaheim City, Oceanside and L.A.

On March 31, Magnolia published an open letter to the Turkish consul general in Los Angeles, Raife Guler Gezer, protesting Turkey’s support for what the letter calls “an aggressive campaign to undermine our 11 California public schools.” Amsterdam then threw a jab at Young on Twitter: “Magnolia’s @CapriceYoung, who on Jan. 13 flatly denied her school’s connection to Gulen, is suddenly interested in Turkish politics.”

To which Young replied, “Erdogan’s [sic] pays @robertamsterdam $600k to attack my schools so I am suddenly interested.”

The California Education Department launched a new investigation into Magnolia in August, according to a letter from the department — the third investigation in as many years.

Tensions between Magnolia and its accusers came to a head on Oct. 18, when the L.A. Unified School Board met to vote on the charter renewals for three Magnolia schools — Magnolia Science Academy 1 in Reseda, Magnolia Science Academy 2 in Van Nuys and Magnolia Science Academy 3 in Carson.

Prior to the meeting, hundreds of Magnolia parents, students and teachers crowded the sidewalk in front of LAUSD, wearing matching orange shirts and carrying signs that said “Stop School Closing” and “I Stand for Magnolia.” Amsterdam trolled the Magnolia administrators online, tweeting a picture of
HAVE YOU EATEN YET?

chinatownla.com
facebook: losangeleschinatown
instagram: LACHinatown
twitter: LACHinatown

"Chinatown emerging as L.A.'s hottest restaurant destination"
-Jonathan Gold
LA Times
More Info & Tickets at:
USA.RIGPA.ORG/LA

INJURED?
No Recovery, No Fee.

Auto, Motorcycle, Truck, Bus, Bicycle, Workplace, Slip & Fall, Animal Attacks, Faulty Products and Wrongful Death

Experience the wisdom of
The Tibetan Book of Living and Dying
with teacher and author
Sogyal Rinpoche

December 9th @ 8pm
Writers Guild Theater

LOSE WEIGHT...
Feel Great

INTRODUCTORY OFFER!
Includes consultation and 1 week supply of FDA-Approved Appetite Suppressants (Phentermine), Fat Blocker, Water Pills

$19.96
& FREE FAT-BURNING INJECTION B-12 SHOT

SHED EVEN MORE WEIGHT
HCG INJECTIONS ONLY $9 PER SHOT

LOCATIONS NOW IN OC & BEVERLY HILLS
OC WEIGHT LOSS & ANTI AGING CENTER
2901 WILSHIRE BLVD. STE. 206, SANTA MONICA 90403
714.544.8678 | YOUNGERLOOK.COM

> 12 ) “We’re not here to discuss the academic achievement of the schools,” board member George McKenna said. “We’re here to discuss the budget, disbursing of resources and financial reporting. You’re not responsible to the agency that holds you accountable.”

Several speakers at the public hearing alleged to the Republic of Turkey’s allegation that Magnolia funneled public funds to the Gülen movement. Mustafa Sahin, the principal of Magnolia Science Academy 1, complained of “a dark cloud of accusation and suspicion over our heads that has nothing to do with education.” Jerry Simmons, an attorney representing Magnolia, went further, accusing the school board of “discrimination based on nationalities of individuals serving on the board of Magnolia.”

“Magnolia has been swept up in the issue,” Simmons said. “My clients are accused publicly of bringing teachers connected with international terrorism and coups overseas.”

The L.A. Unified board voted 6-0 to deny the renewals of the three charters. The Magnolia Public Schools appealed the denial to the County Board of Education last month. Should the county deny the applications on appeal, Young says Magnolia will appeal to the State Board of Education.

Says Young: “The county and state tend to look at charter renewals with more objectivity and more consistency with the law.”

Yunus Avcu says a friend of his was watching TV in Turkey on Oct. 11 and happened upon the broadcast of a press conference in which Robert Amsterdam described a complaint he filed with Ohio authorities. The complaint alleged a $19 million real estate scam involving a network of 17 charter schools in the state with ties to Gülen. Avcu says the friend, a former physical education teacher at the Lotus School, convinced him to get in touch with Amsterdam.

Amsterdam says that ever since the airing of the press conference, he and his firm have been inundated with calls from whistleblowers — including Avcu. “We almost can’t keep up,” he says.

Amsterdam connected L.A. Weekly with Avcu, who says he came forward of his own volition after hearing about Amsterdam’s press conference.

Avcu says he began working for the Accord Institute as a financial consultant to the Sonoran Science Academy in Phoenix in January 2010. He says the Accord Institute recruited him and sponsored his H1B visa while he was at Arizona State University earning a master’s degree in finance, which he completed in 2011.

Avcu says that the Accord Institute reassigned him to manage the business office at the Lotus School for Excellence in Aurora, Colorado; he began working there in February 2013. He says he was never a member or follower of the Gülen movement in Turkey, and he supposes he was hired because he was one of the few Turks in Arizona with a finance degree. He describes the Gülen followers who recruited him for the job at Sonoran as fellow students at Arizona State, whom he met through a managerial internship at a hotel. “I was not really a fan of the movement while I was working in the organization,” he says.

Avcu claims that when he arrived in Colorado, he became responsible for collecting the cash payments from teachers at the school and delivering the cash in person to the Accord Institute headquarters.

State law in Colorado requires that local schools post credit card statements online, in a downloadable format, for free public access. The Lotus School’s credit card statements confirm that Avcu made regular flights to Orange County in 2013 and 2014.

“They have created a different system, a different payroll system in a different organization,” Avcu says. “Whatever the government is paying to people, the people are not getting the money they deserve.”

L.A. Weekly consulted with two legal experts, who said such charitable donations could fall under the definition of a bribe, as in the Mormon Church, but only if they were religiously motivated and donated voluntarily. Avcu says the donations were neither religious nor voluntary — that he and the other Turkish employees had to donate or lose their jobs.

Avcu says he soured on his job after the December 2013 Gülenist “judicial coup” in Turkey. He says the exuberant mood inside the Accord Institute as the Erdoğan government neared collapse made him suspect for the first time that the organization had real influence in Turkey. He left six months later and returned to Turkey. He says he tried alerting newspaper reporters in Colorado about the Gülen movement, but no one responded.

He says he hasn’t spoken to any investigators and hadn’t told his story to anyone until he met with Amsterdam last month in Istanbul.

Fethullah Gülen is still living in Pennsylvania, but Turkey analysts predict the administration of President-elect Donald Trump will be more receptive than its predecessor to Turkey’s calls for extradition. Trump’s pick for national security adviser, retired Lt. Gen. Michael T. Flynn, recently endorsed extraditing Gülen to Turkey in an opinion piece for conservative news website The Hill.

Additionally, Trump immigration adviser Mark Krikorian, executive director for the Center for Immigration Studies, has written critically about the volume of H1B visa applications from the Gülen-linked schools at a time when there are more than enough American teachers willing and able to fulfill the duties.

Some say Gülen might not live to see extradition. He is in his late 70s, with diabetes. A quiet death in Pennsylvania wouldn’t just put a stop to the noisy appeals for extradition; it might also give schools like Magnolia an opportunity to demonstrate their autonomy by outlasting Gülen.

Others aren’t so sure.

“In the last two years they’re getting in more trouble,[there are] more investigations, more people are focused on the schools,” Avcu says. “So they’re trying to get more open, trying to get more Americans involved and pushing Turkish people to work in outside companies. But the organization is not giving up control.”

Amsterdam, however, says the damage to the schools is already done; he believes the failed coup attempt in Turkey will lead to the undoing of all charter schools with alleged ties to the Gülen movement:

“I believe the whole Gülen movement will implode,” he says.
ATTENTION!

Looking for highly motivated appointment setters for a thriving home improvement company!

Make up to $15.00 per hour, plus commission for sales!
Daily cash + Weekly bonuses! Must hire a minimum 1 year home improvement or telemarketing experience.
Make up to $900.00 weekly + Giving away a brand new iphone 6 this month.

We are doing interviews everyday at 10:00am

Wise Construction, Inc. 844-861-1068

4009 Wilshire Blvd. #200D, Los Angeles, CA 90010
info@wiseconstruction@gmail.com • Wise-Construction.com

Look Sexier...because you can!

LA’S MOST CELEBRATED & FRIENDLY INJECTORS

THE BIG DECEMBER EVENT!
Good thru December 31st, 2016

PURCHASE 24+ UNITS OF BOTOX AT $8.95 PER UNIT & GET 1 SYRINGE OF JUVÉDERM XC AT $345*
ULTRA XC (1.0 cc) $345*
ULTRA+ XC (1.0 cc) $345*
VOLUMA XC (1.0 cc) $645*

*REFLECTS $50 OFF INSTANT REBATE • VISIT OUBEAUTY.COM OR CALL FOR MINIMAL RESTRICTIONS

Purchase 20+ units of XEOMIN® at JUST $7.95 PER UNIT

and get 1 syringe of RADIESSE® at JUST $295*

*effective cost after receiving a $100 gift card

$25 INSTANT REBATE for RESTYLANE/LYFT

PURCHASE 24+ UNITS OF BOTOX AT $8.95 PER UNIT & GET 1 SYRINGE OF JUVEDERM XC AT $345*

No Double Chin.

Introductory offer kybella™ $495* PER VIAL

*recommended 1-3 vials for 1st treatment and 1-2 for second.

Phentermine Weight Loss Program

NEW! LipoVele - $195 FREE AFTER-CARE KIT

Phentermine Weight Loss Program

$89 30-day Supply NO EXAM FEE

CoolSculpting

FREEZE THE FAT AWAY PERMANENTLY

No Surgery. No needles. No downtime

CoolSculpting Handles

The Industry’s Gold Standard for Fat Reduction

More specials at www.oubeauty.com • Botox Diamond Award

Named Best Medispa 8 Years in a Row 2008-2016

Now 2 Great Locations

OuBeauty Medical Spa
818.551.1682
213.617.1682

130 N. Brand Blvd., Glendale, CA
125 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA

Open 7 Days a Week ‘til 8pm

Looking for highly motivated appointment setters for a thriving home improvement company!

Make up to $15.00 per hour, plus commission for sales!
Daily cash + Weekly bonuses! Must hire a minimum 1 year home improvement or telemarketing experience.
Make up to $900.00 weekly + Giving away a brand new iphone 6 this month.

We are doing interviews everyday at 10:00am

Wise Construction, Inc. 844-861-1068

4009 Wilshire Blvd. #200D, Los Angeles, CA 90010
info@wiseconstruction@gmail.com • Wise-Construction.com

Attention!
**The Holiday Season is Here**

**Join Us For**

Seasonal & Happy Hour Dining Specials or Let Us Cater Your Next Event!

**BEVERLY HILLS** 310.278.7666
236 South Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

---

**FRIDA MEXICAN CUISINE**

fridarestaurant.com

**FRIDA TACOS**

fridatacos.com

**FRIDA CATERING**

tacolibre.com

---

**LA WEEKLY**

16 | 27

MINIMUM TWO PERSONS

-WE ONLY USE USDA CHOICE AND PRIME MEAT -


ALL YOU CAN EAT Menu 27 items

Lunch/$21.99/11am-3pm, on Weekdays, Except Holidays. Dinner/$23.99/3:00pm to Closing Weekdays, All day on Weekends and Holidays

---

**YULE LOVE THESE DELIGHTS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!**

Let Jamaica build one of her beautiful and unique creations for your special event.

11511 West Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064
jamaicascakes.com • 310.478.1971

Open Monday - Friday 7am - 7pm • Saturday 8:30am - 6pm • Sunday 8:30am - 1:30pm

Vegan Options Available!

---

**2016 HOLIDAY SEASON**

Call us today at 213.620.0461 to place an order.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season -

Cheers,
The Little Jewel of New Orleans

---

**2016 HOLIDAY SEASON**

Louisiana Pecan Wood Smoked Boudin Blanc Turkey (~15 lbs) $100

Louisiana Pecan Wood Smoked & House Chaurice Boudin Blanc Stuffed Turkey $125

Louisiana Pecan Wood Smoked House Boudin Blanc Stuffed Turkey $120

Deep South Style Soda Pop Glazed X-Mas Ham (~10 lbs) $80

---

**2016 HOLIDAY SEASON**

Call us today at 213.620.0461 to place an order.

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season -

Cheers,
The Little Jewel of New Orleans

---

**HAE JANG CHON**

**RESTAURANT**

ALL YOU CAN EAT Menu 27 items

Lunch/$21.99/11am-3pm, on Weekdays, Except Holidays. Dinner/$23.99/3:00pm to Closing Weekdays, All day on Weekends and Holidays

MINIMUM TWO PERSONS

-WE ONLY USE USDA CHOICE AND PRIME MEAT -


3821 w. 6th St., Los Angeles, CA 90020; (213) 389-8777; www.haejangchon.com

Open 11am ~ 2am (next day) Lunch and dinner seven days. Beer, wine and soju, valet parking. MC, V, DIS.
**SEASON’S EATINGS**

L.A. chefs share holiday traditions, from Hanukkah latkes to Javanese fried rice

**BY BESHA RODELL**

Just like in the city itself, our chef community in L.A. is incredibly diverse, and the holiday traditions they celebrate have origins in many faiths, ethnic identities and countries. Some of these chefs were kind enough to share those traditions with us, allowing us to learn about Armenian, Indonesian and Japanese holiday customs. Others passed along some great recipes, which you can find online at L.A. Weekly, for everything from cocktails to delicious desserts.

**Hanukkah with Suzanne Tracht, Jar**

“We have to make latkes at Jar because my customers wouldn’t let me off the hook if I didn’t. They always call us up and ask if I’m making any, and I always do because I don’t want to let them down. I serve the latkes with crème fraîche and a homemade applesauce made from Granny Smith apples. I sweeten up the Granny Smiths with some sugar and ginger, but the tartness makes them perfect for latkes.

“I also go to my sister’s house. She makes latkes for everyone and someone always brings jelly donuts. We always eat jelly donuts during Hanukkah. I don’t even really like jelly donuts, but something about Hanukkah makes them taste great.

“When I was a kid, making latkes was my father’s job. He would grate them by hand and maybe get a little skin in the game. He would also grate the onion by hand, so everyone had tears coming down. He would make so many on our little electric fry pan. He could only fit four or five in the pan at a time, so he needed to start early in the day.”

**Christmas with chef Bruce Kalman, Union**

On Christmas Eve, Bruce Kalman serves a Feast of the Seven Fishes at his restaurant, Union. “To pull the menu together, I draw inspiration from the Feast of the Seven Fishes that my mother-in-law has cooked in the past. We combine this with the sustainable seafood available to us. It has become a collaborative menu between myself and the chefs at Union.”

**Christmas with chef Erwin Tjahyadi, Komodo**

“Alongside more traditional fare, one of the dishes that I love to have during the holidays is nasi goreng, which is Indonesian fried rice. Considered one of Indonesia’s national dishes, it is full of rich flavors and spices and is great to eat alone or as an accompaniment to other dishes. Growing up, my parents would make nasi goreng during special occasions. Every time I eat it, it reminds me of being with family and celebrating together, which is why I love serving it, especially during the holidays. As fusion cuisine is a big part of my cooking style, I also love the fact that I can celebrate both my cultures (Indonesian and American) at the dinner table.

“During Christmas, my family and I will have nasi goreng instead of stuffing. We love having spicy food during the cold weather, and nasi goreng Jawa (specifically from our island, Java) is just the dish to do it, with stir-fried with chili paste, shredded eggs, aromatic spices, onions and your choice of protein. Traditionally, we stuff the dish inside of a cone-shaped container mold, take it out by inverting the mold and placing it in the center of our holiday platter, and adorn it with other side dishes. We decorate it with krupuk (fried onion chips), candied tempeh (compressed soy beans), flavored egg, beef rendang and fried chicken or shrimp. Of course, everything is served family-style because sharing is what the holidays are all about.”

**New Year’s Eve with chef Danny Elmaleh, Doheny Room**

“During the holidays, my mom and dad usually do the cooking. My mom makes great salads, which are usually Asian-inspired, and my dad usually cooks Moroccan-inspired dishes. We always have a large array of appetizer-type dishes on the table, and there is always a fish, a chicken or turkey and a beef or lamb or both! Then, of course, we have dessert and tea and cookies. Out of all the wonderful things they make, my favorite is the beef tongue stew. It is the most tender and succulent piece of protein you could have.”

**New Year’s Eve with chef Masa Kurihara, executive corporate chef, Tengoku Ramen Bar**

“Japanese people celebrate the new year by gathering with friends and having osechi-ryori, a special food eaten to bring happiness and prosperity to the new year. Osechi-ryori looks like a big bento box, with many compartments filled with a variety of little colorful dishes, that are mainly seafood and vegetables. Each little dish symbolizes a wish for the coming year. Japanese housewives usually spend the last few days in the year preparing osechi-ryori, because it is not auspicious to cook for the first three days of the new year. Even though osechi-ryori is enjoyed by Japanese people nationwide, the flavors of each osechi-ryori is different in every part of Japan. My mother is from Osaka and she learned how to make osechi-ryori from my grandmother. My favorite osechi-ryori dishes are kuroname (black beans marinated in sugar and soy sauce), which symbolizes good health, and kinpira-gobo (marinated burdock root), which symbolizes good health and harvest.”

**New Year’s Day with chef Vartan Abgaryan, 71 Above**

“Vartan Abgaryan is of Armenian descent, and there’s one tradition he especially loves. Like many cultures around the world, Armenians’ big celebration happens on Three Kings Day, or Epiphany, Jan. 6. “From New Year’s Eve until Jan. 6, Armenians go to one another’s homes and eat, get together and hang out, and then celebrate on the 6th.” One traditional dish that he likes very much is a sweet porridge, made with barley, dried fruit and nuts. “This has been a tradition in my family for ages. My grandmother was a child eating this every winter, and it became a tradition in our family. My grandmother passed away and my mother took over making the porridge, then, since she passed, both my aunt and sister make it every year. To this day, my extended family knows that when they visit us for New Year’s, it’s a staple and they will be eating the chilled porridge made with wheat berries, dried fruits and nuts.”

**Three Kings Day with Andrea Borgen, Barcito**

“This was one of my favorite traditions growing up, likely because I relished the opportunity to tell my friends about a gift-getting holiday they’d never heard of. (I was not popular with their parents.) On the night of Jan. 6, my sister and I would leave our shoes out, along with bowls of water and grass (for the camels, duh) and overnight the kings would visit and stuff them with little knick-knacks. That evening we’d celebrate with our parents, drinking sidra, an Argentine sparkling apple cider, and noshing on the leftover Christmas cookies Santa couldn’t get his hands on. These days, I’d probably wanna upgrade that sparkling cider to a twist on a French 75.”
os Feliz was so hip in the early 2000s that it was almost impossible to breathe there. You’d spend a half-hour at Skylight Books, full of magazines you’d never heard of, where you’d mingle with TV stars and (slightly) indie rockers with unnatural hair colors. Then you could wander up Vermont and inevitably end up at Fred 62, the all-night dîner that sort of went for a Twin Peaks/Pulp Fiction vibe but was too full of rubberneckers to actually count as weird. (The shakes and that turkey burger were good. Might still be.) Since then, the neighborhood has settled into itself, a yupster haven full of old favorites and some newer places that succeed by offering hearty and accessible food with just the tiniest frisson of something “different.” Here are the 10 best restaurants in Los Feliz.

Yuca’s

The proprietor of Yuca’s won a James Beard Award when the restaurant was just a tiny former shoeshine stall that she’d been working in for 29 years. The attention allowed her to open a new location on Hyperion Ave., Los Feliz; (323) 661-0055, littledoms.com. This Italian-American joint has been bustling since day one. It’s all candles and dark wood, and though it’s loud, if you snap a booth it can be pretty romantic. Little Dom’s is a good choice if you’re in the mood for a big slab of meat and a strong cocktail; the kitchen has some fun with the appetizers, offering things like a spicy crab and burrata bruschetta. Mondays are especially packed, with the three-course prix fixe dinner, and the weekend brunch menu is a restaurant highlight.

Speranza

This is indeed another Italian restaurant, but it is worlds apart from Little Dom’s. Speranza only serves beer and wine; perhaps accordingly, tables tend to linger. It’s family-friendly, and kids are welcome. The menu focuses on pastas, some of which are homemade, and all of which are worth trying, especially those paired with seafood. And, before anyone becomes outraged, yes, this is Los Feliz. 2547 Hyperion Ave., Los Feliz; (323) 644-1918, facebook.com/speranza.

O Bánh Mi

This little shop is quite difficult to find, which seems to be by design. There’s a neon O in the window, but that’s the only signage — and it’s open just from noon to 4 p.m. The small menu fits the small storefront, with a few bánh mì to choose from: sardine, tofu, squid, chicken and cold cuts. But those in the know show up promptly at noon on Friday, when a whole roasted pig is brought in and made into the day’s sandwich star. It sells out quickly; remember to bring cash.

McConnell’s

Does an ice cream parlor count as a restaurant? It does when the product is this good. The Santa Barbara–based
Mini chain caused a commotion when it arrived at Grand Central Market; this branch just opened this week and it’s safe to say that weekends at this location, full of post-State sweets seekers, are going to be packed. Some flavors are swapped out seasonally, but the chocolate almond brittle and peppermint stick are always excellent choices. And if Eureka lemon and marionberries is on the menu, it’s practically against the law not to get it. 4630 Hollywood Blvd., Los Feliz; mcconnells.com.

Ricky’s Fish Tacos
Ricky’s is a truck that occasionally has to change its location, though lately it’s been parking on the south side of the Von’s on Virgil. Ricky himself mans the truck, frying up shrimp and fish and topping the tacos with pico de gallo, crema and cabbage. In true truck fashion, there are a bunch of squeeze bottles full of sauces on the sideboard, ready for your experimentation. This truck was one of the champions of San Diego–style fish tacos a few years ago, and is still holding it deliciously down. 1400 N. Virgil Ave., East Hollywood; @Ricky’s Fish Tacos.

Messhall Kitchen
When this crowd-pleaser opened, it had a “grown-up Boy Scout” vibe, with cutesy campground names on the menu items and the servers decked out in the tight, unbuttoned version of outdoor wear. Messhall has moved away from that a little, favoring a less theme-driven approachability. The menu tends toward Americana, with burgers and meat-heavy sandwiches dominating. There is an homage to the Cobb salad, too — after all, this is the old Brown Derby location. The cocktails are good; between that and an abundance of oysters, this is a nice happy hour spot. 4500 Los Feliz Blvd., Los Feliz; (323) 660-6377, messhallkitchen.com.

HomeState
Usually Los Angeles is at the forefront of any American food trend — and yet it took us decades to get to breakfast tacos. HomeState arrived from Texas and quickly became one of L.A.’s most popular brunch spots. It doesn’t hurt that you can take your food over to Bar Covell (Home-State is counter service) and pair it with a glass of bubbly, but the food is worth the wait even if you’re not day drinking. Try the potato tacos and the migas with brussels. HomeState arrived from Texas and quickly became one of L.A.’s most popular brunch spots. It doesn’t hurt that you can take your food over to Bar Covell (Home-State is counter service) and pair it with a glass of bubbly, but the food is worth the wait even if you’re not day drinking. Try the potato tacos and the migas with brussels.

Go Get Em Tiger
This branch of the Go Get Em Tiger mini chain caused a commotion when it arrived at Grand Central Market; this branch just opened this week and it’s safe to say that weekends at this location, full of post-State sweets seekers, are going to be packed. Some flavors are swapped out seasonally, but the chocolate almond brittle and peppermint stick are always excellent choices. And if Eureka lemon and marionberries is on the menu, it’s practically against the law not to get it. 4630 Hollywood Blvd., Los Feliz; mcconnells.com.

Mario Batali Isn’t Willing to Die for Noodles
Mario Batali may not officially live in L.A., but as a partner in the Mozza empire and Eataly (the latter with a soon-to-open Westfield Century City location), the New York–based chef spends a lot of time here. Batali’s most recent trip out to the best coast was partly in support of his new book, Big American Cookbook: 250 Recipes From Across the USA. He greeted us with a simple statement: “I love Los Angeles.”

Sometimes it’s hard for people from other places to admit that.
Why? Because they’re jealous of your weather? The close proximity to the most fertile fields of sea urchin in the world?

It’s nice to be appreciated as a food city.
Though I don’t appreciate the “C” health department grade. Jonathan Gold seems to relish that. I’m not willing to die for noodles or pork intestines. I prefer “A.” I know what a “B” looks like in the kitchen. If you’ve seen a dead cat lying next to a bunch of roaches under the fucking burners, you know that’s not cool. A “B” doesn’t mean that it’s groovy and Anthony Bourdain eats there. A “B” means someone’s going to get sick this month.

What are your go-tos in L.A.?
I’m a fan of everything from Gladstone’s to Pink’s. I tend to go to my own [restaurants], because I like to check up on the team. Liz Hong, Mozza’s executive chef, has a really smart attitude, and Nancy Silverton always has a joyous expression of everything right about good. I had drinks there after dinner at Providence, which was mind-bendingly good. At my late age, I’m far more impressed with product than technique. So when they do something simple, like prawns baked in salt ... it tells you so much about the confidence of the chef.

Is Providence a favorite here?
Providence is one of my favorite places. So is Pink’s. Because I like to eat around 2 a.m. and there’s nothing else open.

You probably learned a lot about various places’ quintessential culinary experiences in writing your cookbook, which is divided by American regions.
Yeah, regions. But I made them up.

And you dig into the history of the dishes, too.
When you talk about American traditions, remember that we’re not even 300 years old. We really bought most of our traditions from other places’ quintessential culinary experiences in writing your cookbook, which is divided by American regions. Yeah, regions. But I made them up.

You probably learned a lot about various places’ quintessential culinary experiences in writing your cookbook, which is divided by American regions.
Yeah, regions. But I made them up.

And you dig into the history of the dishes, too.
When you talk about American traditions, remember that we’re not even 300 years old. We really bought most of our traditions from other places’ quintessential culinary experiences in writing your cookbook, which is divided by American regions.
BILLINGSLEY’S RESTAURANT
VOTED BEST PRIME RIB & STEAK HOUSE IN LOS ANGELES

MONDAY - SATURDAY 11:30AM - 9PM
SUNDAYS 4PM - 9PM

HAPPY HOUR 4PM - 7PM
EARLY BIRD MENU MONDAY-FRIDAY 4PM - 7PM
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 4PM - 6:30PM

WWW.BILLINGSLEYSRESTAURANT.COM
11326 W PICO BLVD • LOS ANGELES, CA 90064 • (310) 477-1426
BOOKS

Pre-Hipster History
Silver Lake is L.A.'s undisputed epicenter of cool, but did you know its roots as a hipster hub date as far back as the early 1900s? Longtime resident Michael Locke wrote about the famous and little-known artists, writers, musicians, architects and political activists who once made the area their home, in his new book, Silver Lake Bohemia: A History, co-authored by Vincent Brook. It features fascinating people like Anaïs Nin, whose hilltop house was designed by Eric Lloyd Wright, grandson of Frank Lloyd Wright; Rudolph Schindler and Richard Neutra, who built 26 homes in the neighborhood; and Harry Hay, who founded the Mattachine Society, one of the first gay rights organizations, in Silver Lake long before West Hollywood was our city's gay and lesbian capital. Vroman’s, 695 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena; Fri., Dec. 2, 7 p.m.; free, book is $21.99. (626) 449-5320, vromansbookstore.com. —Siran Babayan

HOLIDAYS

Monster Mash
According to Alpine folklore, Krampus is a horned, demonic creature who, as a wicked counterpart to Santa Claus, punishes naughty children. At the Krampus Ball costume party, the lederhosen-clad and dirndl-girdled G.T.E.V. D’Oberlander post away the folk und dance music of Alpine Bavaria on tuned Alpine cowbells and 10-foot twin Alphorns; Hammerstein Musik Bavaria brings classic beer ballads and polka dance lessons; plus there’s Ironside’s gothic folk-rock and the two dozen devils and mountain spirits of Krampus L.A. Troupe, with their wailing horns and snapping whips. Fistfuls of pfeffernusse and tankfuls of Austrian Steigl beer will be available. Highland Park Ebell Club, 131 S. Avenue 57, Highland Park; Fri., Dec. 2, doors 7:30 p.m., show 8 p.m.-midnight; $25. krampuslosangeles.com. —John Payne

DANCE

Aw, Nuts
A brand-new, full-length production of The Nutcracker set in Los Angeles circa 1912, was the audacious calling card when Los Angeles Ballet made its debut 11 years ago. Over the intervening years, the production has been polished to a lustrous patina and the dancing talent deepened as LAB’s Nutcracker became an eagerly anticipated local holiday tradition. After this weekend’s opening, LAB can be found touring Greater L.A. throughout December. With the onslaught of the shopping frenzy, traffic congestion and uncertainties about the new year, a brief respite in a world of toy soldiers, dancing dolls, sugarplum fairies and brave nutcrackers provides a much-needed source of comfort and joy. Future engagements at Dolby Theatre, UCLA Royce Hall and Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center. Alex Theatre, 216 N. Brand Ave., Glendale; Sat., Dec. 3, 7:30 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 4, 2 p.m.; $31-$99, $24.50-$79 seniors, students and children 12 and under. (310) 998-7782, losangelesballet.com. —John Payne

MUSEUMS

Heavy Petting
The National Museum of Animals & Society began in 2012 as a website and later became an art gallery in Hollywood, the first of its kind dedicated to animals and animal rights, with Ellen DeGeneres, Portia de Rossi, Kesha, Lionel Richie and other celebrities as honorary board members. Now named The Animal Museum, the space celebrates its new downtown home with a grand opening, featuring vegetarian hors d’oeuvres, cocktails, DJ Michelle Pesce, special guests and current exhibits “Crazy Cat Ladies,” “Entangled” and “Fashion Tails.” The latter features Eva Danielle’s photographs of more than 70 famous people, including Sharon Osbourne, Russell Simmons, Jason Alexander and Kevin Nealon, with their rescue pets. The Animal Museum, 421 Coylton St., downtown; Sat., Dec. 3, 5:30-8:30 p.m.; $45. (323) 928-2652, theanimalmuseum.com. —Siran Babayan

FOOD & DRINK

Call It Macaroni
Seven restaurants (one of them vegan!) will be battling for the mac and cheese crown at Time Out Los Angeles’ Mac and Cheese Smackdown. The winner gets everyone’s eternal love, presumably, and all festival attendees get the pleasure of voting on their favorite. When purchasing your ticket, pick a time slot: The organizers don’t want an all-at-once rush on cheese and carbs. Speaking of carbs, each ticket also gets you one beer and a choice of wine or cider, as well as a dessert from Creme Caramel L.A. Plus, there will be adoptable puppies at the event. Bank of America Plaza, 333 S. Hope St., downtown; Sun., Dec. 4, noon-7 p.m.; $30. eventbrite.com/e/mac-and-cheese-smackdown-tickets-29047347998. —Katherine Spiers

SHOPPING

The Wright Stuff
Barnsdall Art Park is like a little oasis right in the center of Los Angeles. The intimate, grassy hilltop located just off Hollywood Boulevard is the site of Frank Lloyd Wright’s first project in L.A., the Hollyhock House, and offers a perfect spot for an afternoon picnic with stunning views of the city and mountains beyond. The Barnsdall Art Center also holds affordable art classes for adults and kids in painting, sculpture, jewelry, weaving, ceramics and a host of other media. To help support scholarships, programming and the purchase of materials, they hold the annual Barnsdall Art Center Holiday Art Sale & Fundraiser, which features a wide array of student and faculty work for sale. Food and drink are available for purchase from local vendors, as are raffle tickets for prizes ranging from restaurant gift cards to Disneyland tickets. Barnsdall Junior Art Center, 4814 Hollywood Blvd., East Hollywood; Sun., Dec. 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; free. (323) 644-6395.
for years, thanks to mostly Republican politicians who insist on putting crowd-pleasing antichoice rhetoric before the well-being of low-income women and men. Now, with a right-wing demagogue about to enter the White House — not to mention a creepy Midwestern vice president-elect who thinks women should have funerals for miscarried fetuses — it’s in greater danger than ever. But SoCal creatives won’t let it go down without a fight. At Plan B: A Benefit for Planned Parenthood, comedians Kate Berlant, Emily Heller, Chris Thayer, Clare O’Kane, Tashi Condelie and Corie Johnson take the stage to raise funds for the essential clinic, and Bethany Cosentino and Tamaryn DJ between sets. There’s also a raffle and a gift bag for people who’ve donated to PP in the past (and have proof). They won the battle — we can’t let them win the war. Resident, 428 S. Hewitt St., downtown; Mon., Dec. 5, 7 p.m.-midnight; $10 suggested donation. facebook.com/events/931996026930396.
—Gwynedd Stuart

HOLIDAYS
Cult Classic
"I’m so riddled with the holiday season that the mere mention of a stocking stuffers sexually arouses me." Who knew John Waters was such a sucker for Christmas? That paean to the “jubilee of consumerism” Waters wrote in his 1986 book, Crackpot, eventually inspired A John Waters Christmas, an annual monologue-style stand-up show he’s been touring for more than a decade. The director behind some of filmdom’s sleaziest movies shares personal stories about the not-so-merry side of Yuletide and doles out gift-giving advice. Hint: Gift certificates are boring and impersonal. The Comedy Store, 8433 W. Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood; Mon., Dec. 5, 9 p.m.; $50-$110. (323) 650-6268, hollywood.thecomedystore.com. —Siran Babayan

COMEDY
Cover Boy
Comedian, actor and man of many podcasts Paul F. Tompkins and composer Eban Schletter’s comedy-music partnership has lasted more than 20 years. Schletter, who’s written scores for SpongeBob SquarePants, Mr. Show With Bob and David and the Academy Awards, provides the music to Tompkins’ current monthly improv/live podcast at Largo, Spontaneoneation, and previously Varietopia, in which Tompkins and celebrity guests would perform covers of “Space Oddity,” “Purple Rain” and The Smiths’ “How Soon Is Now?” Morrissey who? Tonight, the two interpretations of pop songs with help unveil their new, all-music show, Tompkins Hogs the Covers, featuring more interpretations of pop songs with help from fellow Largo regulars including Aimee Mann, Ted Leo and Open Mike Eagle. Largo at the Coronet, 366 N. La Cienega Blvd., Beverly Grove; Sun., Dec. 4, 8:30 p.m. (also Sat., Dec. 3); $30. (310) 855-0350, largo-la.com. —Siran Babayan

tue 12/6
TALKS
PC No Evil
Conservativism and comedy rarely go hand in hand, but audiences have become increasingly sensitive when it comes to poking fun at racism, sexism, homophobia and politics. Can we no longer take a joke? Where do we draw the line? Zócalo comedy store.com asks the age-old PC question: “Has Political Correctness Really Killed Humor?” New York Times Magazine contributor Carina Chocano moderates this panel discussion, featuring L.A. comedians/actors Kristina Wong and Max Amini, as well as Beck Krefting, an associate professor at Skidmore College; Krefting also wrote the book, All Joking Aside: American Humor and Its Discontents. MOCA, 250 S. Grand Ave., downtown; Tue., Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m.; free. zocalopublicsquare.org/

wed 12/7
CYCLING
Welcome to Wheels
L.A. may be famous for its smog and traffic, but thanks to organizations such as the nonprofit Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition, it’s getting to be an increasingly pedal-pushing town, too. In 1998, Joe Linton and Ron Milam founded the LACBC as a way to advocate for more bike-friendly streets in the city. Now, the member-based group is holding a special event in order to pay tribute to its effective community outreach and education. LACBC Open House 2016 honors the history of biking in the City of Angels with music, libations, and scintillating discussions about the two-wheeled vehicle that changed the world. LACBC HQ, 634 S. Spring St., downtown; Wed., Dec. 7, 6-10 p.m.; $20, $5 members. (213) 629-2143, la-bike.org/openhouse16. —Tanja M. Laden

FILM
Sweet 15
This week, Echo Park Film Center celebrates 15 years as a community resource for cinephiles and activists alike with five days of free events and programming. The beloved organization has...
long emboldened youth and community organizers, and EPFC’s commitment to equal and affordable access to media empowerment is more important now than ever. The Echo Park Film Center 15th Anniversary Celebration commences with an alumni showcase featuring work by EPFC youth-filmmaking program alumni on Wednesday, followed over the week by an All-Night Anniversary Salon with live music, bike rides alongside the EPFC Filmmobile, an evening of silent films and a traditional open screening night, at which even you can share your short films. As always, donations appreciated. *Echo Park Film Center, 1200 N. Alvarado St., Echo Park; Wed., Dec. 7, 7 p.m. (through Dec. 11); free. (213) 484-8846, echoparkfilmcenter.org.* —Neha Talreja

**CLASSICAL**

**Needle in the Haydn**

Many songwriters are satisfied if they can find a verb that rhymes with twerk, but Joseph Haydn had even greater things on his mind when he assembled a little piece called *The Creation*. The epic oratorio is merely an attempt to evoke the invention of the universe, with the 18th-century Austrian composer borrowing from the Book of Genesis and John Milton’s *Paradise Lost* to pump up his euphoric origin story. Hardy vocalists Rachele Gilmore, Joshua Guerrero and Johannes Kammler will have to pace themselves as conductor Gustavo Dudamel presides over an expanded version of the L.A. Philharmonic. Venezuelian filmmaker Alberto Arvelo lets the light in further with a video installation. *Walt Disney Concert Hall, 111 S. Grand Ave., downtown; Thu.-Fri., Dec. 8-9, 8 p.m.; Sat.-Sun., Dec. 10-11, 2 p.m.; $20-$190. (323) 850-2000, laphil.com.* —Falling James

**ACROBATICS**

**Circus Life**

City National Plaza hosts its annual Holiday Spectacular on Thursday evening and, this year, the entertainment comes from *Lucent Dossier Experience*. The circus arts company is a downtown staple, having made a name for itself during its 2000s residency at the Edison. These days, the troupe balances large concert performances — such as this year’s 3-D show as Sahara Tent headliners at Coachella — with intimate performances at Clifton’s. Their interactive, improv-heavy shows are always unpredictable. You might spend the evening simply as a spectator, or one whimsical character may drag you into their world. The event is free, but it’s also a benefit for Volunteers of America Los Angeles, so attendees are asked to bring donations of new toys, blankets or art and school supplies. *City National Plaza, 515 S. Flower St., downtown; Thu., Dec. 8; 5-8 p.m.; free. (213) 485-9595, citynationalplaza.com.* —Liz Ohanesian

Get more info and get to know your favorite writers at BN.COM/events All events subject to change, so please contact the store to confirm.

*ANNE RICE in conversation with CHRISTOPHER RICE*  
**Prince Lestat and the Realms of Atlantis**  
Discussion / Book Signing  
Monday, December 5th, 7pm  
189 Grove Drive  
Los Angeles (323) 525-0270

In the latest book of the Vampire Chronicles, Lestat grapples with a mysterious power stemming from the ancient city of Atlantis.
Are you interested in trying to improve the way your brain works?

If yes, you may be able to join a study where you add FDA-approved medication(s) to your HIV-regimen to improve neurocognitive performance.

This study is for HIV-positive people who also have HIV-associated neurocognitive disorder (HAND) as defined by the Frascati criteria. It will help us to identify if adding Maraviroc (MVC) and/or Dolutegravir (DTG) to their current antiretroviral therapy will improve neurocognitive performance. Participants will be enrolled in this study for about 96 weeks. Compensation will be provided.

To join you must be:
- 18 years of age or older
- HIV-positive with an undetectable viral load
- Have had a HIV-associated neurocognitive disorder within 45 days prior to study entry
- Able to complete the neuropsychological test in English

For more information contact the UCLA CARE Center at careoutreach@mednet.ucla.edu or via phone 310-557-9062

There are limitations to the confidentiality of email communications. Do not include any sensitive health information if you choose to contact the study team via email.

Behavioral Research Specialists, LLC
Paid Participation Available
Depression - Anxiety - Bipolar - Schizophrenia - Pain - Alzheimer’s
Opiate Addiction - Diabetes - Insomnia - Asthma - ADHD - Hypertension
High Cholesterol - Inpatient - Phase I-IV - Pediatrics - PTSD - Restless Leg

230 N. Maryland Ave.
Suite 207, Glendale,
CA 91206
888-255-5798 Ext. 1
www.brstrials.com
info@brstrials.com

Get Ready to Quit Smoking?

Seeking smokers who drink between the ages of 21-65 for UCLA Study
Free Treatment with Effective Smoking Cessation Medication and Compensation

Call: 310-206-6756
Visit: www.surveymonkey.com/r/SmokingCessationStudy

Ready to Quit Smoking?

HAVE YOU BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH DEPRESSION?

The PAREXEL® Early Phase Unit located in Glendale, CA is looking for people with depression to participate in a clinical research study.

TO QUALIFY YOU MUST BE:
- Male or female
- 18-59 years old
- Have an existing diagnosis of Major Depressive Disorder
- Stable on antidepressants for 6 weeks

The study may involve up to 3 visits. No study drug or placebo will be given. If you qualify and complete the study you may be compensated up to $400.00 for time and travel.

Please reference study #231946 Substudy A.
Although the Second Amendment people may be a “friend of the gay community,” this statement began. “The right of the people to keep and bear Arms shall not be infringed upon. Period.” Policies in the statement included a five-year minimum sentence on gun criminals, bolstering of the rights of gun owners who fatally shoot in self-defense; and a nationwide expansion of concealed-carry laws. Fischer has strong opinions on this last issue.

“I believe personally in states’ rights, but I can recognize that the reciprocity for carrying a gun varies widely,” Fischer says. “I’ve been licensed to carry with a permit that’s valid in most states but not here in California. Maybe forcing, for example, Los Angeles County to ease up on its standards for issuing a carry permit would be the answer we need to prevent gun owners from unintentionally violating a law. At this point, out of the 70,000 carry permits issued in this state, only a few dozen of those people are civilians in Los Angeles County. In my mind, that’s not an issuance policy; that’s infringement.”

Trump’s proposal also included a plan for improving our nation’s mental health system, which ideally would have prevented someone like Mateen from committing the Orlando massacre.

“There are some people who demonstrate violent behavior who are ill, and while there’s already a system in place to keep guns out of their hands, it needs fixing,” Fischer says. “In that vein, there’s a proposal to fix NICS, the background check system in place, which is speedy and fair, and used nationwide through the FBI. But there needs to be way better rapid communication between state and local governments and that nationwide database. A fix like that could save many lives.”

While Trump’s gun regulation proposals seem reasonable, the disconnect between his campaign promises and his postwin policy flip-flops make any of his declarations questionable, as evidenced by his stance on the Affordable Care Act. Throughout the election Trump repeatedly vowed to repeal Obamacare, yet days after winning he downgraded his position to keeping portions of ACA intact, a tacit admission that it’s not exactly the “terrible legislation” he condemned it to be.

This unreliability extends to the realm of LGBT rights. While Trump’s platitudes toward queer America may ring hollow, the fact that he has the ability to appoint the next Supreme Court justice to the same judicial institution that approved marriage equality on a federal level is a cause of concern for many.

“While I suppose I could thank Donald Trump for saying several times he’s going to protect gay rights, it’s so vague I don’t actually know what that means,” Fischer says. “At the same time, he’s alluded to appointing judges who will protect religious liberty, and again, I don’t know what that means either. It’s dog-whistle politics. The only reason I’m not as panicked as many LGBT friends is because I’m a Supreme Court junkie and I know it would be almost impossible to set up a case that would literally overturn marriage equality because the court recognizes public opinion for a case like that is unpopular. Even if several appointments swayed the court even more conservative, they’re not in the business of trying to expunge marriages. They’re supposed to just answer questions about constitutional law.”

For Fischer, the primary antagonist against the LGBT community is the VP-elect. “Pence has really avoided some hard questions about some laws he’s signed in his state, and that angers me greatly, because if he doesn’t just want to let two consenting adults get married or start families, he should cut the vagaries and just say no. No matter what, it’ll be unpopular, and I’ll still think he’s narrow-minded.”

Although many within the LGBT community congratulated Hillary Clinton as their pro-gay champion in this election, Fischer is quick to remind us that as recently as 2004, the then-New York senator declared, “I believe marriage is not just a bond but a sacred bond between a man and a woman.”

“I feel that until a few years ago, Hillary was biding her time to support marriage equality until it was politically convenient,” Fischer says. “or rather, until such a time as she could try and gain voters and their dollars from the gay community. If Hillary supports gay rights now, I commend her, but her inconsistency on many stances, including gay rights, is alarming.”

Fischer is equally skeptical of Clinton when it comes to her position on firearms. The former secretary of state was much more open and specific on her gun-control policy than Trump during the course of the election, as evidenced by a statement on her website’s gun violence prevention page: “I believe weapons of war have no place on our streets,” Clinton’s website says. “We may have our disagreements on gun safety regulations, but we should all be able to agree on a few things. If the FBI is worthy of you for suspected terrorist links, you shouldn’t be able to just go buy a gun with no questions asked. You shouldn’t be able to exploit loopholes and evade criminal background checks by buying online or at a gun show. And yes, if you’re too dangerous to get on a plane, you are too dangerous to buy a gun in America.”

“I actually agree that if you’re under investigation with the FBI, you shouldn’t be able to simply buy firearms willy-nilly,” Fischer admits. “Especially if [the FBI is the one] with access to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. But the no-fly, no-buy list is a deal breaker for me. I’m uncompromising on my adherence to due process, and if we can prove someone has terrorist ties, they should be charged. Otherwise, we’re saying that eroding individual rights without due process is somehow defensible. The moment we start making exceptions to someone’s civil liberties, we start erasing our Constitution further.”

This gun-rights debate comes during a surge in postelection hate crimes targeting minorities, specifically those in the LGBT community. Last month, images of bloody and beaten openly gay film producer Chris Ball went viral after he was assaulted in Santa Monica. According to Salon, assailants shouted, “We got a new president, you fucking faggots,” before smashing Ball over the head with a bottle and slamming him onto the pavement. Four staples reportedly were required to close his wound.

“It’s sickening to watch,” Fischer says of the rise in hate crimes. “I think, as always, LGBT citizens should arm themselves in a way that’s legal to do so around the country. If they want to learn how, by all means, give Pink Pistols a shout.”
IRISH EYES AREN’T SMILING

The 20th-anniversary revival of The Beauty Queen of Leenane is as brutal and poignant as ever

BY BILL RADEN

Nothing confirms the shelf life of a drama like the definitive revival. Generally coming several dozen years after its original anointing by New York and London critics, a revival thrusts a play back into the ferment of cultural discourse, even if it’s artistic proof not only that the work has transcended the historical moment of its birth but that it packs the kind of universal staying power that can speak across generations.

If the exquisite new international touring production of The Beauty Queen of Leenane at the Mark Taper Forum is any indication, Martin McDonagh’s blackly comedic blowtorch of an Irish melodrama promises to be around as long as there are controlling mothers and emotionally crippled daughters locked in a toxic embrace of mutually manipulative torment.

The icing on this 20th-anniversary staging is that it comes courtesy of Galway’s Druid Theatre Company and its legendary director/co-founder, Garry Hynes. A revival doesn’t get more definitive or faithful than this. Hynes’ 1996 production turned the first-time playwright into an overnight sensation. This searing reimagining of that debut—which with The Cripple of Inishmaan and The Lonesome West comprises McDonagh’s Leenane Trilogy—makes it abundantly clear what the fuss was about.

The action mostly takes place in the grim confines of designer Francis O’Connor’s meticulously rendered, tumble-down stone cottage. There, 70-year-old harridan Mag (a magnificently malevolent Marie Mullen) and her spinsterish, resentful virgin of a 40-year-old daughter, Maureen (the equally fine Aisling O’Sullivan), grimly enact a purgatorial domestic existence.

The disharmony of the women’s venemous symbiosis is disrupted when the blockheaded Ray Dooley (Aaron Monaghan) leaves an invitation to a party that—despite Mag’s attempt to destroy it—leads to Maureen’s reacquaintance with Pato (Marty Rea), Ray’s older brother, visiting from London. An awkwardly unconsummated one-night stand—and budding romance—between Pato and Maureen ensues.

This sets the stage for Act 2’s dizzying cascade of reversals, triggered by a second letter from Pato (in a tour de force delivery by Rea), this one the potentially redemptive promise of a new life in America for Maureen. But when Mag intercepts it, rather than salvation, a far different, more extreme fate opens up for both women.

Hynes expertly teases out the dramatic ironies of McDonagh’s tightly twisting plot devices for all of their suspense and excruciating comic effect. Both Mullen (who originated Maureen in 1996) and O’Sullivan offset their twin grotesques with just enough recognizable maternal warmth and filial affection to heighten the human horror and accentuate the poignancy and pathos of the shock denouement.

O’Connor’s emblematic projections, James F. Ingalls’ bleak lighting and Greg Clarke’s suggestive sound all lend the action an underlying quality of absurdist fable, which Hynes uses to foreground McDonagh’s broader political allegory about British colonialism and its continuing and tragic impact on Irish identity.

THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE

| The Druid Theatre Company at Mark Taper Forum, 135 N. Grand Ave., downtown | Through Dec. 18 | (213) 628-2772, centertheatregroup.org

Petersen Auto Museum

Friday, December 2, 2016 • 8pm – 11pm
VIP Hour from 7pm – 8pm
laweekly.com/sipsandsweets

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

A portion of the proceeds from this year’s Sips & Sweets event benefits foodforward.org

SIPS:
1886 Bar at The Raymond
71ABOVE
accompanist
Bar Toscana & Nerano
Birch
E.P. & L.P.
Gaelagaztua
Hyperion Public
Lekurlips
Loch & Key
Lost Property
Miro

Momed Atwater Village
O close
Red O Santa Monica
Sawasdes
Sonny’s Hideaway
SoHo
The Bar at Belcampo Santa Monica
The Dragon
The Lonesome Group
The Nibby
The Rogue Room

SWEETS:
Alexander’s Steakhouse
Beardlaw Kitchen
Beverly Hills Beignet
Choctál Single-Origin Ice Cream
Cobblemania
Copenhagen Pastry
Crème Caramel LA
Enjoy
Masarpone Cheesecake
McCormick’s Fine Ice Creams

Mercedes Binga Desserts
Nickel Diner
Ono
Salt & Straw
Street Churros
The Broadway Baker
The Gourmandise School
Walking Around
Wanderlust Creamery
Westbound
WP24 by Wolfgang Puck
We all have secrets...

UCLA IRB#12-000949. This UCLA research study is being conducted by the UCLA Department of Family Medicine (PI: Keith Heinzerling MD). Funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

...Is Meth yours?

Enter below to win two VIP all access passes to ALL 2017 LA Weekly Events!

Enter to win at laweekly.com/free/LAWeeklyVIP

UCLA Meth Clinical Trial

We all have secrets...

Would you like to stop or reduce your Meth use? A UCLA meth clinical trial may be able to help. UCLA is conducting a clinical trial to find out if an anti-inflammatory medication can help patients to stop or reduce their meth use and improve mental functioning, by reducing toxic brain inflammation caused by meth.

Counseling, study medication, and compensation are included in this 18-week outpatient clinical trial. Interested in learning more?

...Is Meth yours?

If you are 18 years or older, using crystal meth, and looking to stop, call our research clinic in Hollywood (866) 449-UCLA or visit www.uclabam.org/meth

UCLA IRB#09-05848. The UCLA research study is being conducted by the UCLA Department of Family Medicine (PI: Keith Heinzerling MD). Funded by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

Original Teaching of THEOSOPHY

2016 PROGRAM

SUNDAY AT THEOSOPHY HALL
Morning classes for adults (10:30 AM - 12:00 PM) in English & Spanish
Evening meetings (7:30 PM - 8:45 PM) Talks and questions on Theosophy

PROGRAM FOR DECEMBER, 2016
December 4 – Death and Rebirth
December 11 – The Mystery of “Life’s Glorious Unsought Battle”
December 18 – Earth Turns: The Winter Solstice
December 25 – “Christmas Then and Christmas Now”

WEDNESDAY AT THEOSOPHY HALL
Study Class, 1:00 to 2:15 PM in The Bhagavad-Gita
Study Class, 6:15 to 7:20 PM in Wednesday Thinkers - Basic Theosophy
Study Class, 7:30 to 8:45 PM in The Secret Doctrine by H.P. Blavatsky
Spanish Study Class, 7:30 to 9:00 PM in La Doctrina Secreta by H.P. Blavatsky

SATURDAYS (THE FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH)
Spanish Study Class, 2:30 to 6:00 PM in La Doctrina Secreta by H.P. Blavatsky

THE UNITED LODGE OF THEOSOPHISTS
245 W. 33rd St. (at Grand Ave.) Los Angeles, CA 90007
(213) 748-7244 / www.alt-la.org
T his week, one artist collects clips of black women singing and cracking jokes, while another creates collages from images of relatively well-known white women.

**Dream house**

Artists Enoc Perez and Carlos Rolón, both of whom have roots in Puerto Rico, made each object in their current show at Chimento Contemporary together, although not while in the same place. Perez would make small, loose oil paintings of homes in lands that immigrants to the United States have left behind. He would send them to Rolón, who would make their frames, rugged and glistening enough to convey all the aspiration and angling associated with pursuing the American Dream. He attached a crest from the Chevrolet Bel-Air to a simple wood frame around the painting of a small red house in Guaynabo, a city in Puerto Rico. Gold chains and costume jewelry embellish a painting of a white, red and blue one-story house with an overgrown yard and an all-blue fence around it. 622 S. Anderson St., Space 105, downtown; through Dec. 17. (323) 685-2520, chimentocontemporary.com.

**Not for grabbing**

The flaming-vagina piñata that hangs above the doorway into Deborah Brown’s exhibition at Jason Vass is broken. Boxes of Red Hots candy are scattered across the concrete floor and a smooth, penis-shaped bat hangs on the wall nearby — presumably, this is the tool that did the deed. Brown, who studied in SoCal and lives in the U.K., titled her show “Careful What You Wish for.” Vaginal imagery reigns supreme. Nipples make frequent appearances. There’s the piece you see right when you walk in: *Wanna Ride*, an exhaust pipe next to a truck door with a flaming vagina painted on it. Still Interested? is a photograph of a furry though still pretty nipple. Everything in the show is “still pretty,” brazenly flashy in the way militantly pro-empowerment showgirls might be. 1452 E. Sixth St., downtown; through Dec. 17. (213) 228-3246, jasonvass.com.

**Doing it his way**

Sit in a multicolored, patchwork armchair next to a pile of readable, sometimes radical books (Toni Morrison, Alice Walker and a guide to being beautiful) while you watch Mickalene Thomas’ new, two-channel film at MOCA. Glimmering silkscreens of gorgeous women hang on the walls around you and lights are dim as the 12-minute pastiche plays out, female comedians on one side, singing divas on the other. Comedian Jackie “Moms” Mabley sings Frank Sinatra’s “My Way” in her own satirical style. “But more, much more than that, I wanted to do it his way. For what is a woman, what is she got, if not herself, then she has not… Let the record show, I wanted to do it hilliiiiiss way.” Of course, empowerment is in question; doing it his way was the way to get ahead, Mabley implies. Thomas titled her show “Do I Look Like a Lady?” and the work portrays a group of powerful women still struggling against the status quo. 250 S. Grand Ave., downtown; through Feb. 6. (213) 621-2766, moca.org.

**White as a sheet**

In Kandis Williams’ current show at Night Gallery, the faces of women — some recognizable as onscreen stars, all of them white and relatively attractive — appear in collages that are purposefully imperfect. One collage on a sheet of white fabric appears hastily assembled. The images are rectangular, as if they were pulled right from magazines or printer trays. This sheet could easily be a ritual object, made for use in some kind of séance or ceremony, meant perhaps to access whatever darkness or depth lies beneath these women’s camera-ready veneers. 2276 E. 16th St., downtown; through Dec. 22. (323) 589-1135, nightgallery.ca.

**Nobody ever told me**

A friend asks Martine Syms, via text, if she’ll ever find love in Syms’ video *A Pilot for a Show About Nowhere*. Syms replies that she’s getting on a train. Clips from television and shots of computer screens intersperse the languorous narrative. There is more than one medium in use at any one time in Syms’ work. Family footage of the artist as a toddler appears beneath these women’s camera-ready ve- neers. 2276 E. 16th St., downtown; through Dec. 22. (323) 589-1135, nightgallery.ca.
OH, JACKIE!

Natalie Portman thrills in Pablo Larraín’s impeccable biopic

BY APRIL WOLFE

I

n the pantheon of American first ladies, Jacqueline Kennedy was no Eleanor Roosevelt. She didn’t push for policy, didn’t relinquish her pillbox hat to walk among the needy, didn’t travel to foreign countries as an ambassador and certainly didn’t advise her husband on matters of war. Jackie Kennedy’s role was one most obviously of domesticity, tending to the children — two of whom died as babies — and decorating the White House imagined as a teak and antiques authentic to its history. But in director Pablo Larraín’s Jackie, a searing, almost scary thrill ride through the psyche of one very determined woman, serves as a reminder that JFK’s visage owns the half-dollar because Jackie owned Americans’ hearts.

In the opening moments, a journalist (Billy Crudup) drills Jackie (Natalie Portman) with pointed questions about the day her husband was assassinated on a sunny afternoon in Dallas. She teases him with a heartfelt, harrowing account — a shard of skull on her lap; the sweet, questioning look on that famous face as he slouched down in the car; her wish that she could have blocked him with her own body — before telling him with a stone face, cigarette dangling from her mouth, that it’s all off the record. The verbal tennis match between these two is somehow both jocular and jarring, jump cuts match between these two is somehow unnerving, with strings shuddering in tremolo all over the place — to add an overwhelming sense of dread. Orchestral arrangements are performed by U.K. collective Orchestrate, and the result is an unsettlingly gorgeous and deceptively simplistic score, like a waltz or a dirge in a haunted medieval castle, moving slowly back and forth from major to minor keys — everything about this film is about the highs and lows, peaks and valleys.

THE TONE OF JACKIE IS DIFFICULT TO PIN DOWN BUT IS ONE OF THE MOST INVENTIVE I’VE EVER SEEN IN A BIOPIC.

It’s almost easy to overlook the craftswork on these immaculately replicated Chanel numbers Jackie dons, but their invisibility in the story is a testament to their perfection; not one element of the costuming and production design stands apart but all together re-create the time, place and people.

After watching the film, I developed a newfound appreciation for the woman who kept herself together for the good of America, when everything was falling apart. And I felt the hole in my heart, knowing that the White House shaped by her aesthetic now will be inhabited by a cheapjack vulgarian.

Larraín, whose best-known work is probably 2012’s No (Chile’s entry for the Academy Awards), dives heart first into this story. Every scene is visceral. Every note played tells a story, culminating in the re- enactment of America’s most moving and spectacular memorial. JFK’s eight-block-long funeral procession. Jackie is a sharp, haunting portrayal of a woman whose grief was so grand it required a parade. If she could march through the streets with her children to protest her husband’s violent death, we can march peacefully against hate. Jackie gives us one big lesson: Optics matter.

JACKIE | Directed by Pablo Larraín
Written by Noah Oppenheim | Fox Searchlight
Landmark, ArcLight Hollywood

ISABELLE HUPPERT FACES THE WORST IN THE CURIOUSLY BEAUTIFUL THINGS TO COME

One reason why Isabelle Huppert makes suffering so compelling onscreen is her sheer... well, “unflappability” isn’t quite the right word. It’s a kind of ironic distance, perhaps. The actress can convey cu- riocity, bewilderment and coolness all at once, even as she deals with the most agonizing of circumstances. But there’s pain there, too, lurking just under the surface. Somewhere beneath the calm perseverance is an ever-present, though often subtle, vulnerability. In the great pantheon of Huppert Hurtle-athon, Mia Hansen-Lvée’s lovely new drama Things to Come is relatively mild stuff, suffering-wise. Here she endures just a shifty divorce, a professional crisis and a sad-but-not-entirely- unexpected death in the family. Huppert plays Nathalie Chazeaux, a philosophy professor and author who has captivated generations of students. Her husband leaves her for another woman. Then her publisher decides not to renew her contract. There’s more, but I’ll leave it at that. Nathalie begins to feel not just the anxiety of a 50-something woman seemingly left alone in the world but also a sense of renewed possibility: “I’ve gained my freedom,” she tells her protégé and one-time student Fabien (Roman Kolinka), even if it doesn’t quite seem that she believes it.

“Can the truth be questioned?” Nathalie asks her students. “Debating truth is one thing, contesting it is another.” In other words, facts are facts, but their nature can change. That’s a good way to describe Hansen-Lvée’s style, too: It is both grounded and loose. Her composi-
**Film**

**ACTRESS VS. ACTRESS**

**STELLAR THRILLER ALWAYS SHINE EXPOSES AN INDUSTRY THAT TURNS WOMEN AGAINST ONE ANOTHER**

**BY APRIL WOLFE**

Nice girls play by the rules. They turn their shoulders inward and nibble on the ends of their slim fingers, nervous about all those difficult thoughts in their heads. And their hair is always perfect and feathery like a baby bird on a collector’s plate. If this description sounds angry, it is. That inflammatory attitude hangs heavy in the air of Sophia Takal’s *Always Shine*, a psychological thriller about the implosion of two women — the naughty one and the nice one — each of whom wishes desperately that she could be the other.

Beth (Caitlin FitzGerald) is that perfect and prim baby bird. In the opening, she’s framed in extreme close-up, a white background peaking out from behind her head. She’s crying, baring her soul, telling someone off-screen that she’ll “do anything” for them, even take off her clothes. That’s when two men’s voices ask her if she’s cool to do nudity. The question throws Beth off her game, but she acquiesces — it’s a screen test, and like the character she’s auditioning to play, she’ll do anything for a part. Beth doesn’t ruffle feathers, especially those of men. Beth’s polar opposite and best frenemy is another actress, Anna (Mackenzie Davis), whose own extreme close-up monologue is furious and accusatory. But this time, when the camera pulls back, we see this is no film set. She’s struggling to pay for her car repairs. Meanwhile, Beth is raking in money from beer commercials. Resentment smolders deep in Anna, as she smears layers of red lipstick on her lips like armor and picks up Beth for a getaway weekend in a secluded Big Sur house — with no cell service.

Takal takes cues from Robert Altman’s masterpiece *3 Women*, directing the camera to wander while two or more people are speaking, sometimes slowly pushing in and holding on a single character, giving their offhand words and facial tics grand meaning. In one scene, where Anna is showing Beth how to have attitude as they run the lines in a shitty horror script, Takal tightens the shots on each actor, and when you think the frames can’t get more claustrophobic, she situates her performers so close that their faces are nearly touching in one extreme close-up. Meanwhile, there’s something too sharp, too real, in Anna’s reading. In this striking, picturesque locale, where they’re surrounded by lush greenery, hilly terrain and a fog that just keeps rolling in, the two are cut off from the world, pushing each other’s buttons.

By the time Anna, with utter hatred shooting from her eyes, asks Beth, “Do you ever feel like a whore?” for taking off her clothes in so many movies, the competition has stumbled right off the road of sanity. FitzGerald’s and Davis’ performances are so on-point, so tense, I could feel a tightening in my stomach all the way through.

The sheer genius of this explosive thriller is that even though these two women are squaring off against one another, it is clear throughout that neither is happy with the roles she has been given — and these roles have been granted and reinforced by men. They’re under pressure, bending themselves to the wills of others, and as actresses at the mercy of male directors, their pain is extreme. *Always Shine* is a potent psychological thriller, all right. But it’s also a powerful statement on the very industry that produced it.

**ALWAYS SHINE** | Directed by Sophia Takal | Written by Lawrence Michael Levine | Oscilloscope Laboratories | Vintage Los Feliz

---

**EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENTS NOW PLAYING**

**HOLLYWOOD**
*(323) 464-4226 arclightcinemas.com
4-Hour Validated Parking $3*

**SHERMAN OAKS**
*(818) 501-0753 arclightcinemas.com
Free 4-Hour Validated Parking • NO PASSES ACCEPTED*
“ONE OF THE MOST ASTOUNDING FEATS OF BIOGRAPHICAL REIMAGINING IN MODERN CINEMA.”

BEN DICKINSON – ELLE

DIRECTED BY PABLO LARRAIN
WRITTEN BY NOAH OPPENHEIM

NATALIE PORTMAN

“ONE OF THE MOST ASTOUNDING FEATS OF BIOGRAPHICAL REIMAGINING IN MODERN CINEMA.”

BEN DICKINSON – ELLE

NATALIE PORTMAN

DIRECTED BY PABLO LARRAIN
WRITTEN BY NOAH OPPENHEIM

EXCLUSIVE ENGAGEMENTS START FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2
WEST LOS ANGELES
The Landmark at W. Pico & Westwood
(310) 470-0492

HOLLYWOOD
Arclight at The Dome
(323) 464-4226

HOLLYWOOD
Arclight at Sunset & Vine
(323) 464-4226

Q&As WITH PABLO LARRAIN & NOAH OPPENHEIM
FRIDAY 12/2 AT ARCLIGHT HOLLYWOOD FOLLOWING THE 7PM SHOW AND SATURDAY 12/3 AT THE LANDMARK FOLLOWING THE 7PM SHOW
**ANONYMOUS**

"Anonymous is the ketchup sandwich of cyber thrillers, but the ketchup-up is a generic store-brand equivalent and the bread is too crumby Saltines. Akan Sataye’s film knows nothing about cyberthrilling, technology, the international hackivist collective from which it derives its title, basic standards of storytelling or even an acceptable pronunciation of “Craiglist.” Canadian lad Alex (Cullan McAuliffe), seeking revenge on the evil mega-bank that laid off his mother, reaches out via a 1990s-era chatroom to a criminal collective called “Dark Web” (the film’s analogue to Anonymous) with the following swear-to-God verbatim request: “WILL YOU HELP ME MAKE SOME MONEY?” Seems legit! “Dark Web” starts sending Alex luxury watches in the mail, which he sells through “CRAGYsiit.” He meets a fast-talking lowlife named Sye (Daniel Eric Gold), who’s like Morpholous from The Matrix, only instead of teaching Alex to defly gravity, Sye shows him how to rip off the bank that laid off his mother, reaches out via a 1990s-era chatroom to a criminal collective called “Dark Web” (the film’s analogue to Anonymous) with the following swear-to-God verbatim request: “WILL YOU HELP ME MAKE SOME MONEY?” Seems legit! “Dark Web” starts sending Alex luxury watches in the mail, which he sells through “CRAGYsiit.” He meets a fast-talking lowlife named Sye (Daniel Eric Gold), who’s like Morpholous from The Matrix, only instead of teaching Alex to defly gravity, Sye shows him how to rip off the bank that laid off his mother, reaches out via a 1990s-era chatroom to a criminal collective called “Dark Web” (the film’s analogue to Anonymous) with the following swear-to-God verbatim request: “WILL YOU HELP ME MAKE SOME MONEY?” Seems legit! “Dark Web” starts sending Alex luxury watches in the mail, which he sells through “CRAGYsiit.” He meets a fast-talking lowlife named Sye (Daniel Eric Gold), who’s like Morpholous from The Matrix, only instead of teaching Alex to defly gravity,Sy...
**YOUR WEEKLY MOVIE TO-DO LIST**

**See a Leonard Cohen Doc or That Thing You Do!**

**Friday, Dec. 2**

As far back as I can remember, I always wanted to watch *Goodfellas*. Easily the best gangster movie to lose the Best Picture Oscar to *Dances With Wolves*. Martin Scorsese’s mafioso masterwork glams up La Cosa Nostra before reminding us that even made men can end up living the rest of their lives like schnooks. Producer Irwin Winkler will introduce the film, and between 5 and 7 p.m. you can purchase books, posters and other cinematic goods as part of the Aero’s yearly holiday sale. Aero Theatre, 1328 Montana Ave., Santa Monica; Fri., Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m.; $11. (323) 466-3456, americancinemathequecalendar.com.

Leonard Cohen is the most recent celebrity casualty of 2016; let us hope against hope that he’s also the last. Cinemfamily is marking the singer-songwriter’s passing with a presentation of the rare *Bird on a Wire*, a 1974 documentary following Cohen’s tour from a few years earlier, which begins in Europe and ends in Israel — a fittingly sacred site for the man who made us all sing “Hallelujah.” Cinemfamily/Silent Movie Theatre, 611 N. Fairfax Ave., Fairfax; Fri., Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m.; $12. (323) 655-2510, cinemfamily.org.

Are you gonna bark all day, little doggy, or are you gonna go see *Reservoir Dogs*? The New Beverly plays Quentin Tarantino’s auspicious debut at midnight, because that’s the sort of thing you can do when you own a repertory theater. The writer-director’s color-coded thieves are a font of memorable lines, which they pull off so much more successfully than their would-be heist; the more pears-shaped things go, the more enriching the film becomes. New Beverly Cinema, 7185 Beverly Blvd., Fairfax; Fri., Dec. 2, 11:59 p.m.; $6. (323) 939-4038, thenewbev.com.

**Saturday, Dec. 3**

As Christmas draws near, we must all of us remember that they don’t make ‘em like they used to. The villains are likewise compelling — thieves are a font of memorable lines, which they pull off when they first see him, as if they’ve known and adored each other for years. When things get too intimate, he insists that sex between operatives is a mistake. She tells him, “The mistake people make about pizza” phase of his career, but the movie that made him a household name seems poised to remain

**ALLIED**

COURTESY OF 20TH CENTURY FOX

a holiday staple for years to come. Electric Dusk Drive-In, 2930 Fletcher Drive, Glassell Park; Sat., Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m. (doors at 5:30); $10 lawn, $14 car, $50 VIP. (818) 653-8591, electricduskdrivein.com.

**Monday, Dec. 5**

Betsy Bromberg is among the foremost experimental filmmakers in Los Angeles. As it did with her Voluptuous Sleep five years ago, REDCAT is hosting the world premiere of her latest, *Glide of Transparencies*. This new feature is broken into three movements that, in Bromberg’s words, amount to “a journey devoid of compass bearings, forging pathways without a path.” REDCAT, 631 W. Second St., downtown; Mon., Dec. 5, 8:30 p.m.; $11. (213) 237-2800, redcat.org.

**Wednesday, Dec. 7**

Just because you’ve seen *It’s a Wonderful Life* in bits and pieces on TV more times than you can count doesn’t mean you should sleep on the opportunity to see it on the big screen. Frank Capra’s blend of movie magic and optimism feels especially important this holiday season, which caps off a year in which the Potter’s of the world repeatedly won. ArcLight Sherman Oaks, 15301 Ventura Blvd., Sherman Oaks; Wed., Dec. 7, 7:30 p.m.; $18. (818) 501-7033, arclightcinemas.com.

**Thursday, Dec. 8**

Tom Hanks is something like our official American Everyman, a role he embodies so well that it’s easy to forget he’s also a gifted writer and director. Hanks made his behind-the-camera debut 20 years ago with *That Thing You Do!*, the story of a one-hit wonder from the 1960s, which is itself a kind of cinematic earworm. LACMA, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Mid-Wilshire; Thu., Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m.; $10. (323) 857-6000, lacma.org. — Michael Nordine
gate through conventional story beats and resolutions. Which might be why Arrival — about the mysterious appearance of 12 floating extraterrestrial vessels in different corners of the world — is the best film the director has made so far. Its atmosphere is its story. Arron finds Louise (Amy Adams), a government linguist recruited by the U.S. military to communicate with the aliens, called “heptapods” thanks to their seven long tentacles. Hearing a recording of their inchoate wailing — part whale noise, part metal machine music — Louise realizes that she must actually be in their presence to understand them. Sure enough, when she “meets” the heptapods, she realizes that their real language is not spoken but written, consisting of circular swipes in which every little wavy and eddy brush stroke conveys meaning. To find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to find out why the creatures are here, and whether they come in peace, Louise and Ian try to

BAD SANTA 2

In the 13 years since the first Bad Santa, two hugely talented actors from the cast died — RIP Bernie Mac and John Ritter. Both were supporting players whose personalities outsized their roles. Now, Kathy Bates swallows up the lion’s share of the dialogue, but as everyone knows, Moana’s people are terrified of venturing beyond a nearby reef; they’ve content to live in fear, grateful for what little they have. Luckily, Moana has special powers: The seas bend to her will. That gives her the courage to locate Maui, a muscle-bound narcissist who has lost all his special powers. He has a literal backstory: Animated tattoos magically appear on his back after important events, telling the tale of his life. He’s a marvelous creation, and the Rock voices him with an expert mix of bluster and pathos as the episode quest takes a buddy movie, with the bickering demi-god and princess coming to understand one another. (Bilge Eksioglu)

BAD SANTA 2

In the 13 years since the first Bad Santa, two hugely talented actors from the cast died — RIP Bernie Mac and John Ritter. Both were supporting players whose personalities outsized their roles. Now, Kathy Bates swallows up the lion’s share of the dialogue, but as everyone knows, Moana’s people are terrified of venturing beyond a nearby reef; they’ve content to live in fear, grateful for what little they have. Luckily, Moana has special powers: The seas bend to her will. That gives her the courage to locate Maui, a muscle-bound narcissist who has lost all his special powers. He has a literal backstory: Animated tattoos magically appear on his back after important events, telling the tale of his life. He’s a marvelous creation, and the Rock voices him with an expert mix of bluster and pathos as the episode quest takes a buddy movie, with the bickering demi-god and princess coming to understand one another. (Bilge Eksioglu)

BAD SANTA 2

In the 13 years since the first Bad Santa, two hugely talented actors from the cast died — RIP Bernie Mac and John Ritter. Both were supporting players whose personalities outsized their roles. Now, Kathy Bates swallows up the lion’s share of the dialogue, but as everyone knows, Moana’s people are terrified of venturing beyond a nearby reef; they’ve content to live in fear, grateful for what little they have. Luckily, Moana has special powers: The seas bend to her will. That gives her the courage to locate Maui, a muscle-bound narcissist who has lost all his special powers. He has a literal backstory: Animated tattoos magically appear on his back after important events, telling the tale of his life. He’s a marvelous creation, and the Rock voices him with an expert mix of bluster and pathos as the episode quest takes a buddy movie, with the bickering demi-god and princess coming to understand one another. (Bilge Eksioglu)

BAD SANTA 2

In the 13 years since the first Bad Santa, two hugely talented actors from the cast died — RIP Bernie Mac and John Ritter. Both were supporting players whose personalities outsized their roles. Now, Kathy Bates swallows up the lion’s share of the dialogue, but as everyone knows, Moana’s people are terrified of venturing beyond a nearby reef; they’ve content to live in fear, grateful for what little they have. Luckily, Moana has special powers: The seas bend to her will. That gives her the courage to locate Maui, a muscle-bound narcissist who has lost all his special powers. He has a literal backstory: Animated tattoos magically appear on his back after important events, telling the tale of his life. He’s a marvelous creation, and the Rock voices him with an expert mix of bluster and pathos as the episode quest takes a buddy movie, with the bickering demi-god and princess coming to understand one another. (Bilge Eksioglu)

BAD SANTA 2

In the 13 years since the first Bad Santa, two hugely talented actors from the cast died — RIP Bernie Mac and John Ritter. Both were supporting players whose personalities outsized their roles. Now, Kathy Bates swallows up the lion’s share of the dialogue, but as everyone knows, Moana’s people are terrified of venturing beyond a nearby reef; they’ve content to live in fear, grateful for what little they have. Luckily, Moana has special powers: The seas bend to her will. That gives her the courage to locate Maui, a muscle-bound narcissist who has lost all his special powers. He has a literal backstory: Animated tattoos magically appear on his back after important events, telling the tale of his life. He’s a marvelous creation, and the Rock voices him with an expert mix of bluster and pathos as the episode quest takes a buddy movie, with the bickering demi-god and princess coming to understand one another. (Bilge Eksioglu)
The Bangles celebrate their early material and their garage-rock roots.

“We wanted to do something in L.A., and we thought, ‘You know what? We're gonna do it when we feel like this is coming from a place of sheer enthusiasm and everybody's gonna find incredibly talented musicians over the country, which is great and easy for female rockers today. And, hopefully, played a part in making life more tolerable for other women. We can look back now and laugh at how ludicrous it all was, but they're justifiably proud that they stood their ground and embraced that part.”

“We were rough around the edges,” Hoffs says. “We got a really point of it.” But that was the place of sheer enthusiasm and everybody's gonna find incredibly talented musicians.

“By the time the mid-'80s happened, we were walking into Whisky a Go-Go, and it was full-on hair metal. I was digging out 4-track tape and rerecording them. I knew that they came out of punk rock. It's a band saying, 'Here comes a Bangles super-fan,' which is great and fun. You figure, I'm happy to keep going,” Hoffs says.
BACK WITH A BANG

With three throwback shows at the Whisky a Go-Go, The Bangles celebrate their early material and their garage-rock roots

BY BRETT CALLWOOD

Susanna Hoffs and sisters Debbi and Vicki Peterson of The Bangles are sitting outside a cafe in Santa Monica, drinking coffee and enjoying the sun, when a woman tentatively approaches the table with a beaming smile. “Hi, I’m a matchmaker. Can I give you a card? You’re exactly the type that some of our clients like.” Hoffs politely explains that she’s been married for more than 20 years and the matchmaker, oblivious about whom she’s approached, disappears. Hoffs turns back to the table, blushing slightly, and says, “She doesn’t know I’m ancient. But that was the point of it. Now we embrace that part.”

The Bangles played the Strip as a transition was taking place, from the punk scene led by X and The Germs to the hair-metal that would take over MTV and radio for the latter half of the ‘80s. That music, while fun, was undeniably testosterone-fueled—and had very little influence on The Bangles.

“The music industry was pretty testosterone-fueled in the ‘80s, and the Bangles had to put up with all sorts of ridiculous photo shoot requests, from ‘make out with each other’ to ‘have a pillow fight in your pajamas.’ To our credit, the young Bangles quickly figured out that they could say no to that crap and get on with their collective career. They can look back now and laugh at how ridiculous it all was, but they’re justifiably proud that they stood their ground and, hopefully, played a part in making life easier for female rockers today.”

“Just a click through YouTube and you’re gonna find incredibly talented musicians all over the country, which is great and exciting,” Vicki says. “Young women who are fearless, and thank God for that. It actually is something that I relate to. We had a sweet blind spot as to what our limitations might be out there in the world. We fully believed from day one that we would rule the world. We were very narrow-minded.

“Now that The Go-Go’s are no more, one of our clients like,” Hoffs says. “Hi, I’m a matchmaker. Can I give you a card? You’re exactly the type that some of our clients like.” Hoffs politely explains that she’s been married for more than 20 years and the matchmaker, oblivious about whom she’s approached, disappears. Hoffs turns back to the table, blushing slightly, and says, “She doesn’t know I’m ancient. But that was the point of it. Now we embrace that part.”

There has been lots of crossover between the bands; Vicki toured with The Go-Go’s for a short time in the ‘90s, and worked on some Belinda Carlisle’s solo material. Both Debbi and Hoffs also worked with various Go-Go’s through the years. When The Go-Go’s very recently decided to retire, it seemed to add a little more importance to these Bangles Whisky shows.

Now that The Go-Go’s are no more, we are fraidy cats of the hair-metal and we shrugged off our punk rock clothes. We were in towels and soap bubbles on the record cover, but they were a very honest-to-God art project, and that’s how I saw The Bangles, too.”

“We were rough around the edges, but that was the point of it.”

—SUSANNA HOFFS

Once that was achieved, “world domination” was next on their list. Debbi recalls feeling “triumphant” after that first show. “We went on to do several shows there in that era,” Hoffs says. “We got a really bad review in the L.A. Times. They didn’t really understand the band at that point. Fair enough, we were rough around the edges. But that was the point of it. Now we
TWENTY YEARS AFTER HIS PROVOCATIVE DEBUT ALBUM, *Soul on Ice*, Ras Kass is still exploring America’s uncomfortable truths

**By Jeff Weiss**

Jack Nicholson had nothing on Ras Kass. At least not by 1996, the year the screen legend starred in *Mars Attacks* while the Watts- and Carson-raised “waterproof MC” unleashed his classic debut, *Soul on Ice*. Celebrating its 20th anniversary this fall, the album court-martialed rap clones, offering a mace-swinging condemnation of everything, from the New World Order and pale devils to the education system and Bob Costas.

The title track’s hook rewrote Nicholson’s infamous “you can’t handle the truth” monologue from *A Few Good Men*. No one actually remembers what the actor said to Tom Cruise next, but any serious West Coast rap fan can recite the entire chorus of “Soul on Ice,” especially the Diamond D remix. That’s timelessness, and testament to the singularity of the cerebral artist who named himself after an Ethiopian emperor and explained why his “secular metaphysical theory” was fatal from his first bars. After a canonized debut single (“Remain Anonymous”), rap bible *The Source* hailed the Banning High grad as the West Coast’s answer to Nas. But *Soul on Ice* barely charted and no singles earned significant radio play.

Trapped between underground and mainstream, on a label (Priority) on the verge of selling out, in a West Coast climate that offered little oxygen to artists outside of the G-funk mold, Ras Kass suffered from the industry politics that ensnared many of his peers.

“Labels aren’t there to be creative. They don’t want you to re-create the wheel, they just want the same tire everyone likes, slightly improved each year,” Ras Kass says now. He dropped two albums for Priority and spent the next eight years stuck in limbo, trying to extricate himself from a labyrinth of exploitive contracts.

“Art wants to be creative and free,” Ras Kass says. “There’s no such thing as ‘the music business,’ there’s the business of selling music.”

He’s sharply dressed in a black sweater and designer jeans, looking barely older than he did on the cover of *Soul on Ice* — which he just re-released in a 20th-anniversary edition with remixes and unreleased tracks. Earlier this fall, he dropped its sequel, *Intellectual Property: SOI2*.

Over the last two decades, his influence has seeped into everyone from Kendrick Lamar and Ab-Soul to Canibus and Lupe Fiasco. But in the wake of the political chaos of the last several months, his debut feels as pertinent as at any time since it first dropped — especially “Nature of the Threat,” which one dreams of being used to torture the alt-right’s neo-Nazi buffoons.

A lacerating polemic against white supremacy, “Nature of the Threat” is the rap analog to Howard Zinn’s *A People’s History of the United States*. The hyperbolic attack is supported by obscure historical truths absorbed by a kid who read the *Encyclopedia Britannica* cover to cover. In Trump’s America, it still feels like required listening, no matter how uncomfortable it can be to hear.

“The thesis of ‘Nature of the Threat’ is that white people are potential predators, and the rest is just me doing numbers to prove that,” Ras Kass says. We talk briefly about his latest song, a postelection attack on Trump that plays out like an unofficial sequel to “Nature.”

“I ask what the wiser, more mature Ras Kass would say to the impassioned kid who wrote the original.”

An L.A. native, Jeff Weiss edits *Passion of the Weiss* and hosts the *Bizarre Ride* show on RBMA Radio. Follow him on Twitter @passionweiss.
IRON MAIDEN
Book of Souls
The quality of this album will make metal-heads weep with joy. Iron Maiden continue to create masterpieces in the new millennium.

PARQUET COURTS
Human Performance
A rare achievement: breathtaking and brilliant. Establishes Parquet Courts as simply one of the best rock bands in the world right now.

NICK CAVE & THE BAD SEEDS
Skeleton Tree
At times anguished, eerie and seeking, there’s a devastating quality to these songs, as well as a strange beauty.

NEIL DIAMOND
Acoustic Christmas
Distinguished by an intimacy reminiscent of small family groups singing together at home, and, of course, by Diamond’s inimitable voice.

ERIC CLAPTON
Slowhand At 70 - Live At The Royal Albert Hall
With a set blending vintage blues tracks and Clapton classics, this 7 night run was acclaimed by critics and adored by fans.

RADIOHEAD
A Moon Shaped Pool
Transcending the trappings of ’90s guitar rock band, Radiohead collects texture, emotions, and sounds for a soundtrack to the 21st century.

SUPER SATURDAY SALE - DEC. 10TH!
20% OFF: HEADPHONES, TURNTABLES, POSTERS, USED DVDS/BLU-RAYS AND USED BOOKS.

FREE PARKING IN OUR ONSITE LOTS OR 2 HOURS VALIDATED PARKING WITH PURCHASE AT ARCHLIGHT CINEMA.

AMOEBA FOOD DRIVE BENEFITING LOS ANGELES REGIONAL FOOD BANK
Donate $3 to the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank at Amoeba and receive a $5 Amoeba Gift Certificate. Get a jump on your holiday shopping and help out those in need at the SAME time. (Gift certificates are only valid through 12/8.)

HOLIDAY HOURS
BEGINNING THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15TH - DECEMBER 23RD, WE WILL OPEN AT 10AM.
CHRISTMAS EVE 12/24 - 9AM TO 8PM (TRADE COUNTER 9AM TO 6PM)
CHRISTMAS - CLOSED
NEW YEAR’S EVE 12/31 - 10:00AM TO 9PM (TRADE COUNTER CLOSES AT 6PM)
NEW YEAR’S DAY 1/1 - 11AM TO 10PM (TRADE COUNTER CLOSES AT 7PM)

6400 SUNSET BLVD. at CAHUENGA • (323) 245-6400
MON-SAT 10:30AM-11PM • SUN 11AM-10PM • AMOEBA.COM
Tread carefully, citizen. The war will be declare soon if it hasn’t already. The atheists are coming with their oppressors, joy-killing, contrarian points of view, which they seek to cull down the throats of the Christian-consumerist majority.

The audacity of these attacks! To think they could in any way neutralize a wave of love and acceptance worth billions of dollars. It’s time for millions of Americans to get rolled like drunken sailors as they fill their carts with products made in other parts of the world. Yesterday, as I walked the streets of Fargo, North Dakota, looking at the Christmas decorations that adorned the light poles, it occurred to me that our traditions are often far more powerful than we are as high-functioning creatures. While many traditions find their origins in religion, they have been worn by so many for so long, they are different from how they started.

So there might be a “War on Christmas,” but at all times, there is a war on everything in America. These conflicts are profit-motivated, but at all times, there is a war on everything in America. These rituals are verses in our collective song, monetized and sung raggedly. The rest of the world trips on us hard. We are the whale that swallowed our wheels. We are the whale that swallowed our wheels. We are the whale that swallowed our wheels.

As this year will soon conclude and I spend the last thing you want to do is bet on what America’s greatness will be. The rest of the world trips on us hard. We are the epic blockbuster and they’re all watching now. We are also our own reality show. We have no need to go anywhere or ever look beyond our borders, as we generate enough content to keep ourselves hypnotized.

Many of us will tell anyone who will listen that America is the greatest country, but rarely can we actually provide facts to back this assertion up. We don’t need to. The aforementioned greatness is beyond knowledge, beyond reality. It is a thing that we have told ourselves so many times, for so many years, that its origins are untraceable and therefore sacrosanct, never to be questioned.

While some people are having a hard time stomaching the idea of Donald Trump sharing the same job description as Abraham Lincoln and Thomas Jefferson, it is perhaps the best example of the incredible mechanism that is our democracy. As this year will soon conclude and I spend another day with thousands of fellow Americans, I am impressed and grateful for the level of civility that meets me in each venue. It is our almost completely unrestrained force that almost taunts and belittles as it hangs like the sword of Damocles over the heads of all.

To think that even a few people can go along with that for more than an hour is crazy, but that’s America – a landmass slashed by borders that are, miraculously, not constantly challenged. What ultimately makes America great is the fact that there are any of us left.

It is our almost completely unrestrained sense of freedom that makes an election like the one that just gave the country Donald Trump simultaneously possible and completely insane. The endless lines, the broken voting machines, the dirty tricks and pathetic oppression of the electorate’s ability to engage in a free and open election are just a few examples of the square peg’s inability to fit. American democracy, in its most asiduously followed and most fully realized application, is easily the highest bar ever assigned to any country’s population. It is, in fact, impossible to achieve. What we live in is the amazing aspiration. This attempt is no different from anything else you have tried to do consistently well. There are good days and bad days. Thinking about it this way, the last election was simultaneously like any other and also completely unique. For many it still evades believability.

Don’t know of any country that self-mythologizes to the point where there is an almost factory-installed contempt for reality or order; where the facts are just not exciting enough, and so their bones are ground to dust under our wheels. We are the whale that swallowed itself. We bought in and disappeared.
Power 106 Presents Call Christmas
@ THE FORUM
A great finish to a year full of successful hip-hop festivals — from the fifth anniversary of Soulection this spring to the recent 20th anniversary of Stones Throw — Power 106’s Call Christmas features some of the biggest acts to come up in the genre this year. The lineup includes stars from all across the multifaceted movement of hip-hop, from D.R.A.M. — who, though you wouldn’t know from his hit song, “Broccoli,” has got major pipes — to his co-star on the track, Lil Yachty, whose debut mixtape, Lil Boat, has made him an instant favorite of fans and critics alike (you probably can expect an onstage collaboration between the two).

The legendary Ice Cube also will be in the arena, along with 2 Chainz, G-Eazy, Anderson .Paak and more, so this is one for the books. — Artemis Thomas-Hansard

The Besnard Lakes
@ THE ECHO
The Besnard Lakes don’t write songs so much as they craft long, hypnotic, Pink Floyd–style soundscapes. The tracks on the Montreal band’s latest album, A Coliseum Complex Museum, and a related 2015 EP, The Golden Lion, are shorter than songs on their previous releases, but they all have similar, ponderous tempos flanked with occasional traces of shoegazer psychedelia. Echoes of nature linger in such tracks as “The Plain Moon” and “Nightingale,” as guitarist Jace Lasek and his bassist-wife, Olga Gores, cast their reverent, hushed voices into a hazy void. At times, the languorous moods and the airy, wan harmonies can get pretty monotonous, but there are moments when the surging guitars and faraway vocals combine for an ecstatic state of wonder, especially on gauzy fable “The Bray Road Beast.” —Falling James

Jonny Lang
@ CANYON CLUB
Jonny Lang’s six studio albums have spanned traditional blues, blue-grass and rock gospel. His last album, 2013’s Falling James, has made him a showstopper from the new album of blues fans. Among Lang’s own fan favorites and most beloved covers, keep an ear open for “We Are the Same,” a showstopper from the new album that’s recently taken on an even greater resonance. Also at the Saban Theatre, Thursday, Dec. 8. — Jackson Truax

Asking Alexandria
@ THE WILTERN
Part of music’s enduring allure is that — despite the best efforts of Pro Tools, Auto-Tune and manufactured pop bands — it’s as much intangible magic as logical bound science. Brit metalcore survivors Asking Alexandria present a case in point, rekindling old magic by reuniting with original singer Danny Worsnop in October despite his elfin and vocally versatile replacement, Ukrainian Denis Stoff, being more obvious rock-star material. With Worsnop back aboard, fans can expect set lists shunning AA’s sole Stoff-era album, this year’s The Black, in favor of selections from the prior three full-lengths. Worsnop’s interim work with somewhat-supergroup We Are Harlot telegraphs his love for ’80s/’90s mainstream hard rock, which seems set to ultimately elbow aside his band’s linger-ing electronic stutters and metalcore breakdowns on any imminent recordings. — Paul Rogers

Dynamic 10-Year Anniversary
@ FACTORY 93
Not everyone can step into Insomniac’s warehouse space, Factory 93, and bring the music and the vibe that match the venue’s underground aesthetic. Dynamic, the Hamburg-based house-music brand driven by Solomun, is more than capable of this, especially when celebrating its 10th anniversary. The brief but impactful five-date North American Dynamic tour features Solomun himself and his brightest stars: Adriatique, Kollektiv Turmstrasse and Stimming, both performing live, plus Karmon and Magdalena. Solomun is running out of shelf space for the awards he’s been deservedly given for all his activities over the last five years, which come as no surprise; along with his Dynamic cohorts, he has reshaped the deeper side of house, keeping its subversive bent while giving it widespread appeal. — Lily Moayer

Matmos
@ THE BOOTLEG
Electronic duo Matmos made their mark II of Bavaria. The latter two items offered amazing weird sonorities — teeth grinding, flesh being burned by cigarettes, cows eating or having their uteruses pumped full of air with a vacuum cleaner and played like a bagpipe. On this year’s Ultimate Care II (Thrill Jockey), Matmos made music with the sounds of a washing machine. This cleanly recorded album traverses rhythmic, textural and even melodic variations that start with the scratch of the wash-size selection wheel and end with the alert noise that signals the wash is done. — John Payne

Upcoming Events at Amoeba!
All shows are FREE and ALL AGES
For a full calendar of events, visit amoeba.com

Saturday • December 3rd • 4pm
AMOeba Charity Auction
W/ Kurt Braunohler & Kristin Schaal!
Kurt Braunohler and Kristen Schaal will be auctioning off concert tickets, crazy collectibles, gift certificates & more! Proceeds benefit the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank. Kurt and Kristen will hang out after to sign copies of their Hot Tub with Kurt and Kristen live at the Virgil double LP (out now on Kill Rock Stars!) at Amoeba Hollywood to meet the artist and get your copy signed.

Tuesday • December 6th • 6pm
A-Trak DJ Set + Signing
A-Trak and Fool’s Gold Records celebrate the release of In The Loop: A Decade Of Remixes” 7” box set with a live turntablist set and signing at Amoeba! Purchase the box set at Amoeba Hollywood to meet the artist and get your copy signed.

Tuesday • December 13th • 5pm
Sebastian Bach Book Signing
Pre-order 18 And Life On Skid Row (Harper Collins) NOW in-store only at Amoeba Hollywood to guarantee admission to this special signing event on 12/13. Space is limited!

Toy Drive at Amoeba
Donate a new, unwrapped toy [ages 7 to teen] at Amoeba - now through 12/18 - for the children of Five Acres and get $2 off your purchase as a “thank you” for your donation.

6400 Sunset Blvd.
(323) 245-6400
Mon-Sat 10:30am-11pm • Sun 11am-10pm
Validated Parking at the Arclight!
Buy-Sell-Trade: CDs, LPs, DVDs, Video, CD-Rs & MORE!
Amoeba.com
Free Shipping on Music & Movies - No Minimum!
Kristin Hersh  
@ THE ECHOPLEX  

As leader of Throwing Muses and, more recently, 50FootWave, Kristin Hersh specializes in careful, poetic observations couched in a variety of folk, pop and alt-rock settings. Like her fellow New England wordsmith Emily Dickinson, Hersh has an arch, literary perspective, so it’s no surprise that her latest release, Wyatt at the Coyote Palace, comes as both a double CD and a book, a dual format she has explored before. The music on Wyatt ranges from low-key, unplugged balladry (“In Stitches”) and rootsy folk (“Bubble Net”) to relatively up-tempo but still acoustic-based songs (“Some Dumb Runaway,” “Christmas Underground”). Hersh plays all the instruments on the album, which was inspired in part by her autistic son Wyatt’s obsession with a local pack of coyotes. —Falling James

Gaby Moreno  
@ THE ROXY  

Gaby Moreno is that rare songwriter from Guatemala who’s crossed over into mainstream success in the United States. She sings in English and Spanish, and her music is an ebullient blend of R&B, jazz, blues and folk. Her songs are flexible enough to work as straightforward singer-songwriter pop and also to be twisted into rootsy Americana, as in “Illusion,” the delicate, fanciful title track off her latest album, which she’s performed on A Prairie Home Companion as a rustic ballad alongside bluegrass mandolinist Chris Thile. “All I have are these daydreams until he comes back to me,” Moreno coos reverentially, even as she drops playful references to Gandhi and Jean-Luc Godard. “Life’s a despairing illusion,” she confides, her voice trailing off sweetly into the night sky. —Falling James

Future Pigeon, Rainbow Arabia  
@ THE ECHO  

Dub Club and the Echo flash back to the global mashup underground of aughts L.A. with local favorites Future Pigeon and Rainbow Arabia. Back in the early years of the 21st century, Future Pigeon brought their hybrid sound to L.A. stages frequently. Check out “Dubbing at the Gates of Dawn,” with its nod to “Lucifer Sam,” and you’ll get an idea of how the group fuses rhythmic, Jamaican influences with ’60s psychedelia and a whole lot more. Rainbow Arabia got their start by drawing from world-music sounds, but the duo have since veered more straightforward synth-pop. Their latest album, L.A. Heartbreak, is a must-listen for anyone who still appreciates out of 10, garage-rock revival bands all from the indie-rock doldrums, but nine times out of 10, garage-rock revival bands turn out to be privileged kids playing around with the aesthetics of nostalgia. The Spits, however, are not one of those garage-rock bands. Borrowing from the smirking humor, grit and lo-fi cacophony of The Ramones, The Spits play fast, loud and with a lot of heart, moving any crowd into rapturous pogoing. There’s no better way to experience a Spits show than to turn out to be twisted into rootsy Americana, as in “Illusion,” the delicate, fanciful title track off her latest album, which she’s performed on A Prairie Home Companion as a rustic ballad alongside bluegrass mandolinist Chris Thile. “All I have are these daydreams until he comes back to me,” Moreno coos reverentially, even as she drops playful references to Gandhi and Jean-Luc Godard. “Life’s a despairing illusion,” she confides, her voice trailing off sweetly into the night sky. —Falling James

The Spits  
@ UNION NIGHTCLUB  

You can be forgiven for not jumping out of your seat when you hear the term “garage rock.” The recent renewal of interest in the distorted, messy, inebriated rock music of the 1950s and ’60s was supposed to save us all from the indie-rocker doldrums, but nine times out of 10, garage-rock revival bands turn out to be privileged kids playing around with the aesthetics of nostalgia. The Spits, however, are not one of those garage-rock bands. Borrowing from the smirking humor, grit and lo-fi cacophony of The Ramones, The Spits play fast, loud and with a lot of heart, moving any crowd into rapturous pogoing. There’s no better way to experience a Spits show than to lose yourself in the whirl of the mosh pit. —Sam Ribakoff

Gaby Moreno is that rare songwriter from Guatemala who’s crossed over into mainstream success in the United States. She sings in English and Spanish, and her music is an ebullient blend of R&B, jazz, blues and folk. Her songs are flexible enough to work as straightforward singer-songwriter pop and also to be twisted into rootsy Americana, as in “Illusion,” the delicate, fanciful title track off her latest album, which she’s performed on A Prairie Home Companion as a rustic ballad alongside bluegrass mandolinist Chris Thile. “All I have are these daydreams until he comes back to me,” Moreno coos reverentially, even as she drops playful references to Gandhi and Jean-Luc Godard. “Life’s a despairing illusion,” she confides, her voice trailing off sweetly into the night sky. —Falling James
ACEROGRAM: 228 W. Second St., Pomona. Young Jesus, Hellrazor, Ferbus, Fri., Dec. 2, 9 p.m., free. DJ Zomb-E, Sat., Dec. 3, 10 p.m., free.


AMOeba MUSIC: 6400 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles.

Arts, CAFE NELA:

Rock & Pop


Sat., Dec. 3, 10 p.m., free.

Hellrazor, Ferbus, Fri., Dec. 2, 9 p.m., free. DJ Zomb-E, Gill Landy, Paige Calico, Fri., Dec. 2, 8:30 p.m., $15. Sad13, Vagabon, Lisa Prank, Sat., Dec. 3, 8:30 p.m., $12 (see Music Pick). Matmos, Jeff Carey, Bully Fae, Sun., Dec. 4, 8:30 p.m., $20 (see Music Pick). ExSage, Twin Temple, Bones, Mon., Dec. 5, 8:30 p.m., free. Gemma Ray, Dylan Pratt, Spurs, Tue., Dec. 6, 8:30 p.m., $10 (see Music Pick). Rockie Fresh, Wed., Dec. 7, 8:30 p.m., $15. Fiori, Lostboycroy, Ospa, Thu., Dec. 8, 8:30 p.m., $15.


Cody’s Viva Canta: 900 Riverside Drive, Burbank. Gary Myryk’s Bluestreak, 3 Balls of Fire, Fri., Dec. 2, 7:30 p.m., free. The Cody Bryant Experience, The Blue Shadows, Mondo Doraime, Sat., Dec. 3, 8 p.m., free with resw. Debra Lee & Trigger Happy, Sundays, 6 p.m., free; Loni Donato’s Holiday Party, Sun., Dec. 4, 10 p.m., free. The Brombies, Mondays, 7:30 p.m., free. The Flight 584 Big Band, Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., free; John Pisano’s Guitar Night, Mondays, 7:30 p.m., free. Tracy Dawn, The Cody Bryant Experience, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., free. Jimmy Angel, Thu., Dec. 8, 7:30 p.m., free. Jay Dee Maness, Thu., Dec. 8, 8:45 p.m., free; Cody Bryant, Carmine Sardeo, Ronnie Mack, Thursdays, 9 p.m., free.


The Hot L: 5043 York Blvd., Highland Park. Funny Women’s Fest, Dec. 2-3, 6 p.m. Hellrazor, Tele Novella, Sun., Dec. 4, 8 p.m., $7. Facial, Moaning, The Primals, Tue., Dec. 6, 8 p.m., free. Grand Canyon, Jamie Wyatt, Maesa & the Whole Damn Fam, Wed., Dec. 7, 8 p.m., $7. Sure Sure, Emerson Star, Mike Semperth, Thu., Dec. 8, 8 p.m., $10.

HM175: 3110 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Tele Novella, Kolars, Bebe McPherson, Liberty Larson, Andrew Abelson, Marquis W. Howell, DJ Neil Martinson, Fri., Dec. 2, 8 p.m., TBA.


Large at the Crown: 366 N. La Cienega Blvd., Los Angeles. The Wild Reeds, Cigarette Barbies, Valley Queen, Izaak Opatz, Thu., Dec. 8, 8 p.m., $20.


The Love Song: 4505 S. Main St., Los Angeles. Spain, Tuesdays, 8:30 p.m. Thu. Dec. 27, free.


Mc Cabre’S Guitar Shop: 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. Jackdhir, Dec. 2, 8 p.m.; TBA. Priscilla Ann, Sun., Dec. 4, 10:30 p.m., $10; Richard Thompson, Sun., Dec. 4, 8 p.m., $85.


 Molly Malone’S: 575 S. Fairfax Ave., Los Angeles. Cranky George, Sat., Dec. 3, 8 p.m.; TBA. Salmon Eyes, Tue., Dec. 6, 10 p.m., TBA. Anna Lee & the Authority, Wed., Dec. 7, 7 p.m., TBA.

Multiple L.A.: 200 S. Hill St., Los Angeles. Killa, Sun., Dec. 4, 8 p.m., TBA.

Paladi:no’S: 6101 Reseda Blvd., Reseda. A Benefit for Kimberly Crane, with bands TBA, Fri., Dec. 2, 8 p.m.; TBA. Museshead, Blackout, Precious Metal, Zeus’ Hammer, Al Teman, Sat., Dec. 3, 8 p.m., $10. Lucky Otu, Monstays, 8 p.m., TBA.

Pappy & Harriet’S Pioneertown Palace: 53688

This holiday season, the Lovelace Studio Theater at The Wallis will transform into The Sorting Room, an intimate night club featuring up-and-coming artists and established entertainers.

Featuring:

12/3-4 Louden Wainwright III Louden Wainwright III’s Surviving Twin
12/8-10 Sandra Bernhard Sandra Monica Blvd: Coast to Coast
12/11 Rumer Willis
12/13 Rebecca Spencer
12/14 Melinda Sullivan & Nikos Syropoulos
12/15 Cameron Esposito
12/16 Rita Wilson
12/17 Kerrigan-Lowdermilk and Friends
12/18 Salastina Music Society’s Chamber Messiah
12/20-21 Megan Hilty

Subject to change & more to be announced!

CONNECT WITH US: 310.746.4000 | TheWallis.org/TSR
We give away tickets to some awesome concerts, we're letting you pick what you want to go to.

WIN A $150 TICKETMASTER

THE VIPER ROOM:
THE UNION NIGHTCLUB:
THE TROUBADOUR:
THE TERAGRAM BALLROOM:
TAIX FRENCH RESTAURANT:
SOL VENUE:
SILVERLAKE LOUNGE:
THE ROXY:
JAZZ & BLUES

Pandoras, Thu., Dec. 8, 9 p.m., TBA (see Music).
Gerry, Sons of the Bitch, Thu., Dec. 8, 9 p.m., $10.
Cash'd Out, The Rhyolite Sound, Sat., Dec. 3, 9-11 p.m., $30, 8 p.m., $30.
Saul Hernández, Against the Current, CRUISR, Beach Weather, Sun., Dec. 4, 10 p.m., $30. Hirie, Arise Roots, Iya Terra, Queendom Tribe, Fri., Dec. 2, 9 p.m., $5.
Angeles. Dear Lemon Trees, at Anniversary Party #8, Sat., Dec. 3, 8-11 p.m., $40. The Creosote Serenaders, Thu., Dec. 8, 8 p.m., free.
Pioneertown Road, Pioneertown. The Paul Chesne
Devin O’Rourke, The Place, Wed., Dec. 7, 8 p.m., $8.
Tue., Dec. 6, 7 p.m., $10. Expo 86, Nina Yasmineh, Kylie Hughes, Tigers Are Bad for Horses, Jim Priest, High Society Homeless, Mon., Dec. 5, 8 p.m., $8.
Catherine Lidstone, Clark Chimp, Sat., Dec. 3, 7 p.m., $25.

—Falling James

COCO PALM RESTAURANT: 15600 Fairplex Drive, Pomona. Chino Espinoza y los Dueños del Son, Fridays, 10 p.m., free.

THE CONGA ROOM: 800 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles. Discoteca DTLA, Fridays, 9:30 p.m.; TBA. Conga Room Saturdays, Saturdays, 9 p.m., TBA.

EL CID: 4212 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles. Flamenco Dinner Show, Fridays, Saturdays, 7:30 p.m.; Sundays, 6 p.m., $50 & $55.

EL FLORIDA: 1253 N. Vine St., Los Angeles. Salsa Night, Fridays, 8 p.m.; Saturdays, 9:30 p.m., $10.


PICKWICK GARDENS: 1001 Riverside Drive, Burbank. The Tujunga Social Club Orchestra, Mondays, 7-10 p.m., free.

TIA CHUCHA’S CENTRAL CULTURAL & BOOKSTORE: 13191 A Gladstone Ave., Sylmar. Open mic Fridays, 8-10 p.m.

—Falling James

DANCE & GRIND: bscene

twitter.com/dancegrind

THE CINEMA BAR:
BOULEVARD MUSIC:
COUNTRY & FOLK

BOULEVARD MUSIC: 4316 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City. Jim “Kimo” West, Ken Emerson, Sat., Dec. 3, 8 p.m.


E.B.’S BEER & WINE BAR, FARMERS MARKET: 6333 W. Third St., Los Angeles. SSy Brown, Sat., Dec. 3, 7 p.m., free.


TINHORN FLATS SALOON & GRILL: 1724 N. Highland Ave., Los Angeles. Tina Michelle & the Rhinestone Cowgirls, Tues., 9 p.m., free.

—Falling James

DANCE CLUBS

THE AIRLINER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Low End Theory, with resident DJs Daddy Kev, Nobody, The Guastapop Killa, D-Stylz and MC Nocando, Wednesdays, 9:30 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

AVENAL HOLLYWOOD: 1735 Vine St., Los Angeles. Bear Grizz, Midnight Tyrannosaurus, Pogmole, Kaleido, Daftuq, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m. Don Diablo, Sat., Dec. 3, 10 p.m., $30 & $50.


FACTORY 93: 1756 Naud St., Los Angeles. 10 Years Dynamic with Solumon, Adriatique, Kollektiv Turmstrasse, Star messaging, Karmon, Magdalena, Sat., Dec. 3, 9 p.m., TBA. See Music Pick.

GRAND STAR JAZZ CLUB: 3040 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.


EXCHANGE L.A.: 6000 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles. Frontliner, Thu., Dec. 8, 8:30 p.m.-2 a.m., $10-$15. Drewsthatdude, Fri., Dec. 2, 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Afro Kino, Sat., Dec. 3, 10 p.m.

THEatre at Ace Hotel: 929 S. Broadway. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.


THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.

THE DECANTER: 2419 N. Broadway, Los Angeles. Noize Fridays, Fridays, 10 p.m.; Sander Van Doorn, Dubvision, Fri., Dec. 2, 10 p.m., $12.65 & up.

THE REALM: 618 Spring St., Los Angeles. Dance Yourself Clean, Saturdays, 9 p.m., free-$5.
State Licensed Dispensaries & Doctor Certifications

**MOST AFFORDABLE 420 CARDS IN Socal**

LBC 420

LBC 420 (some restrictions and/or extra fees apply)

720 Alamitos Ave., Unit A, Long Beach 90813

RENEWALS $24/ NEW PATIENTS $29

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY

SoCal420docs.com

$24

BOOK YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY

Harvest Time!

Mon-Sat 11AM-7PM

IT'S WELCOME WALK INs

DREAM ORCHESTRA: Lane 8:

Go Go Go

DirtYPHONICS, Delta Heavy, Krimer:

David Bazan:

RuFüS Du SOL:

The Lumineers:

Lane 8:

Dee-1:

RuFüS Du SOL:

The CSUN Symphony:

The Choir of Trinity Wall Street, The Trinity Choir:

Baroque Orchestra:

Andrea Bocelli:

Brilliant Strings:

China Philharmonic Orchestra:

Mr. Carmack:

Pam Tillis, Lorrie Morgan:

Rosemary’s Bilygoat Sapphic Music:

CLASSICAL & NEW MUSIC

CLASSICAL & NEW MUSIC

We except all major credit cards w/fee

Nineteen 804

12 MONTH WALK IN WELCOME • 24 HOUR VERIFICATION • 10 CARDS • 100% PRIVATE/CONFIDENTIAL • CULTIVATION LICENSES SPECIAL

WALK IN WELCOME • 24 HOUR VERIFICATION • 10 CARDS • 100% PRIVATE/CONFIDENTIAL • CULTIVATION LICENSES SPECIAL

WITH Dope by Design, in the Constellation Room, Saturday, December 3, 9 p.m., $25. Hollywood Forever Cemetery, 6000 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles.

With Anakim, 9 p.m., TBA. The Fonda Theatre, 6325 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles.

Serena Wang ignites Beethoven’s Piano Concerto No. 3, and conductor Gustavo Dudamel presides over Sergei Prokofiev’s Scythian Suite and Alexander Scriabin’s Poem of Ecstasy, Fri., Dec. 2, 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 3, 8 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 4, 2 p.m., $20-$206. The Barak Ballet dance troupe joins the band for Tchaikovsky’s The Nutcracker, in a children’s matinee, Sat., Dec. 3, 11 a.m., $22 & $26. Gustavo Dudamel conducts Joseph Haydn’s epic Biblical oratorio The Creation, which will be sung in German by soprano Rachele Gilmore, tenor Joshua Guerrero, baritone Johannes Kummer, and the L.A. Master Chorale (directed by Grant Gershon). The presentation features imagery by Venezuelan filmmaker Alberto Arvelo, Dec. 9, 8 p.m.; Dec. 10-11, 2 p.m., $20-$190 (see GoLA). Walt Disney Concert Hall, 111 S. Grand Ave.


Namhee Han: The Westwood Presbyterian Church organist remote across the melodies of J.S. Bach, Zachari, Charles Callahan, William Bolcom and Guy Bovet at a lunchtime recital, Fri., Dec. 2, 12:15 p.m., free. First Lutheran Church & School, 2900 W. Carson St., Torrance.

Pacific Symphony: Pianist Jeremy Denk unwinds Brahms’ First Piano Concerto, and Carl St. Clair conducts waltzes by Richard Strauss and Johann Strauss Jr., Fri.-Sat., Dec. 2-3, 8 p.m., 11:30 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 4, 8 p.m., $49.50. The Novo by Microsoft, 800 W. Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles.

Riverside County Philharmonic: Sat., Dec. 3, 3 p.m., TBA, Fox Performing Arts Center, 3801 Mission Inn Ave., Riverside.

The USC Thornton Baroque Sinfonia: Rotem Gilbert guides the student ensemble through works by Hieronymus Praetorius and Michael Praetorius, Dec. 3, 8 p.m., 11:30 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 4, 8 p.m., free. USC, Newman Recital Hall, 3616 Trousdale Parkway, Los Angeles.

Vienna Boys Choir: The Austrian choral group performs a holiday show, Fri., Dec. 2, 8 p.m., $28-$80. Valley Performing Arts Center, 1111 Nordhoff St.


For more listings, please go to laweekly.com.
ARRESTED FOR DUI?

Sol Danny Khorsandi, Esq.
DUI-AD.COM
Comprehensive and Personalized DUI Defense

310-858-5550
ALCOHOL / DRUGS / MEDICATIONS-RX

ROBERT PALLAS M.D.
Medical Marijuana Evaluations

RENEWALS ANY DOCTOR
Cultivation License available

NEW PATIENTS
$25*
$35*

1312 Venice Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90066
(310) 313-3161
24 hour online & phone verification
Open Mon-Sat 12pm-7pm
Walk-ins Welcome
*MUST PRESENT THIS AD TO REDEEM SPECIAL OFFER

NOHO EVALUATIONS+

$30 $40

MUST BRING AD AT TIME OF APPOINTMENT TO RECEIVE DISCOUNT

OPEN EVERYDAY: 11AM-7PM

DOCTOR PICO WEST
BEST PRICES IN LA!

24/7 VERIFICATION
New Patients

$30
$20

*TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY FOR PROMO PRICES

2267 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90006
MEDICAL MARIJUANA EVALUATIONS

ARRESTED FOR DUI?

Sol Danny Khorsandi, Esq.
DUI-AD.COM
Comprehensive and Personalized DUI Defense

310-858-5550
ALCOHOL / DRUGS / MEDICATIONS-RX

ROBERT PALLAS M.D.
Medical Marijuana Evaluations

RENEWALS ANY DOCTOR
Cultivation License available

NEW PATIENTS
$25*
$35*

1312 Venice Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90066
(310) 313-3161
24 hour online & phone verification
Open Mon-Sat 12pm-7pm
Walk-ins Welcome
*MUST PRESENT THIS AD TO REDEEM SPECIAL OFFER

NOHO EVALUATIONS+

$30 $40

MUST BRING AD AT TIME OF APPOINTMENT TO RECEIVE DISCOUNT

OPEN EVERYDAY: 11AM-7PM

DOCTOR PICO WEST
BEST PRICES IN LA!

24/7 VERIFICATION
New Patients

$30
$20

*TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY FOR PROMO PRICES

2267 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90006
MEDICAL MARIJUANA EVALUATIONS

It’s a Jungle Out There

Let Herbscout help you find all things cannabis

herbscout.com
$20 OFF 1/2 OZ’$ W/ THIS AD
*EXCLUDES EXCLUSIVE SHELF STRAINS
FIRST TIME PATIENT & REFERRAL PROGRAM OPTIONS:
1. Free 8th of LOVE NUGS (w/$10 Donation)
2. Free $10 Gram (w/$10 Donation)
3. $10 Cap on $20 Strains (Curated 2 RPH) or 1/2 Off Top of Cali Heritage Wax
*APPLY ‘EEE’ for a FREE OR $5 off of your choice of a Joint, or Hand-Cut Cali Cabinet Exclusive Distillate Wax.
PROP D COMPLIANT • PRE-ICO COLLECTIVE
FIRST TIME PATIENT & REFERRAL PROGRAM
OPTIONS:
1. DOWNTOWN PATIENT GROUP
   213.747.3386
   1320 MATEO ST. LOS ANGELES CA. 90021
   OPEN DAILY 10AM - 8PM
2. FREE GRAM FOR EACH REFERRAL
3. 6 GRAM 1/8TH AVAILABLE (DAILY ON SELECT STRAINS)

EXEMPTIONS AVAILABLE
THE DOCTORS
OPEN 7 DAYS FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE
NOW THREE LOCATIONS
HOLLYWOOD
1439 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood, CA 90028
Cross Street Sunset • (323) 463-5000 • (323) 463-2222
10am to 7:30pm Monday through Saturday • Sunday from 10am to 6:30pm
LOS ANGELES
1155 NORTH Vermont Ave. #200, Los Angeles, CA 90029
(323) 463-5000 • (323) 463-2222
10am to 7:30pm Monday through Saturday • Sunday from 10am to 6:30pm
RESEDA
6650 Reseda Blvd. #101B, Reseda, CA 91335
(818)654-5882 and (818)370-7379
10am to 7:30pm Monday through Saturday • Sunday from 10am to 6:30pm
OPEN SUNDAYS AND EVENINGS TILL 7:30
YOUR # 1 SOURCE FOR THE ADULT MARKET & INDUSTRY IN LOS ANGELES AREA!

ADULT WAREHOUSE OUTLET

www.adultwarehouseoutlet.com

We are open to the public and wholesale customers with products at unbeatable wholesale prices.

WE HAVE A HUGE SELECTION OF:
- REALISTIC DILDS
- PENIS ENLARGER PUMPS
- LINGERIE
- MENS REALISTIC MASTURBATORS
- PENIS CYBERSKIN EXTENSIONS
- LUBES & CREAMS
- SEX ENHANCERS PILLS
- BACHELORETTE FAVORS
- Thousands of Adult Toys
- Plenty of Lubes, Oils and Enhancers
- Largest selection of DVDs in San Fernando Valley

4 CONVENIENT LOCATIONS!

8126 VAN NUYS BLVD. #2 • VAN NUYS, CA 91402
818-985-2255

7118 RESEDA BLVD. • RESEDA, CA 91335
818-514-6655

7233 CANOGA AVE. • CANOGA PARK, CA 91303
818-857-5729

6660 HOLLYWOOD BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CA. 90028

NEW HOLLYWOOD LOCATION!

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

ORDER ONLINE WWW.ADULTWAREHOUSEOUTLET.COM

WE OFFER DISCREET SHIPPING ON YOUR PACKAGE!
**Holiday Party**

**DECEMBER 15TH**
**8PM - 2AM**

**$125 15 MIN. VIPS**

15004 Oxnard Street, Van Nuys, CA 91411
Mon-Thurs Noon-2am, Fri Noon-4am, Sat 1pm-4am, Sun 1pm-2am
spearmintrhino.com rhinosuperstore.net

**SPEARMINT RHINO VAN NUYS**

**1/2 OFF ENTRY**
This coupon is good for 1/2 off entry into Blue Zebra.
Not valid during special events.

**OH, WHAT FUN**

4th Annual
IT IS TO PLAY!

**NOVEMBER 2ND**
THRU **DECEMBER 19TH**

Donate $10 and receive a wristband good for 2-4-1 Nude or Bikini dances during your same day visit at any California Spearmint Rhino Gentlemen’s Club, California Girls Gentlemen’s Club, Dames N’ Games and Blue Zebra Adult Cabaret.

A portion of all donations will benefit the Military families of Operation Help A Hero and the women and children of Families for Justice as Healing.

All donations are tax deductible.

Thank you
Large and Lovely Ladies of So Cal!!
SKINNY LADIES not ALLOWED!

Real People,
Real Results!
24 LIVE CHAT with REAL people
Create FREE personal profile and get results within minutes!

Real People, Real Results!
323-337-0027
213-226-1885
818-257-7178
562-296-1293
Call toll free
1-855-488-4455
You must be over 18 to use this service. APC, Inc. Does not prescreen callers. All caller agree to hold APC, Inc harmless with regard to any interactions occurring as a result of using this program.

Create FREE personal profile
and get results within minutes!
WHO ARE YOU
AFTER DARK?
213-316-0880

THE ONLY FULL NUDE/ FULL BAR CLUB IN LA
XPOSED
Wet Spot

18 AND OVER
ALL PRIVATE
FULL NUDE
LAP & COUCH
BOOSTHS

1/2 OFF ADMISSION BEFORE 7
$5 OFF ADMISSION AFTER 7
1ST SODA FREE
ALCOHOL EXTRA • NO COUPONS ON TUESDAY WITH AD • LAW EXP 12/31/16

10624 RAVENHOE BLVD, LENNOX, CA
310.671.9073 • JETSTRIP.COM
MON-THURS TIL 2AM THURS TIL 3AM FRI-SAT TIL 4AM SUN 6PM TIL 2AM
FREE PARKING • EXP 12/31/16

12PM - 2PM
FREE ADMISSION
FROM OPEN TILL 9PM
(WITH THIS AD)

FREE TO LISTEN AND REPLY TO ADS
Free Code: LA Weekly

1-888-MegaMates
FIND REAL GAY MEN NEAR YOU
W. Hollywood:
(323) 648-3999
Santa Monica:
(310) 883-2299
The Valley:
(818) 996-7000
www.megamates.com 18+

THE ONLY FULL NUDE/ FULL BAR CLUB IN LA
XPOSED
Wet Spot

18 AND OVER
ALL PRIVATE
FULL NUDE
LAP & COUCH
BOOSTHS

1/2 OFF ADMISSION BEFORE 7
$5 OFF ADMISSION AFTER 7
1ST SODA FREE
ALCOHOL EXTRA • NO COUPONS ON TUESDAY WITH AD • LAW EXP 12/31/16

10624 RAVENHOE BLVD, LENNOX, CA
310.671.9073 • JETSTRIP.COM
MON-THURS TIL 2AM THURS TIL 3AM FRI-SAT TIL 4AM SUN 6PM TIL 2AM
FREE PARKING • EXP 12/31/16

12PM - 2PM
FREE ADMISSION
FROM OPEN TILL 9PM
(WITH THIS AD)

FREE TO LISTEN AND REPLY TO ADS
Free Code: LA Weekly

1-888-MegaMates
FIND REAL GAY MEN NEAR YOU
W. Hollywood:
(323) 648-3999
Santa Monica:
(310) 883-2299
The Valley:
(818) 996-7000
www.megamates.com 18+

THE ONLY FULL NUDE/ FULL BAR CLUB IN LA
XPOSED
Wet Spot

18 AND OVER
ALL PRIVATE
FULL NUDE
LAP & COUCH
BOOSTHS

1/2 OFF ADMISSION BEFORE 7
$5 OFF ADMISSION AFTER 7
1ST SODA FREE
ALCOHOL EXTRA • NO COUPONS ON TUESDAY WITH AD • LAW EXP 12/31/16

10624 RAVENHOE BLVD, LENNOX, CA
310.671.9073 • JETSTRIP.COM
MON-THURS TIL 2AM THURS TIL 3AM FRI-SAT TIL 4AM SUN 6PM TIL 2AM
FREE PARKING • EXP 12/31/16

12PM - 2PM
FREE ADMISSION
FROM OPEN TILL 9PM
(WITH THIS AD)

FREE TO LISTEN AND REPLY TO ADS
Free Code: LA Weekly

1-888-MegaMates
FIND REAL GAY MEN NEAR YOU
W. Hollywood:
(323) 648-3999
Santa Monica:
(310) 883-2299
The Valley:
(818) 996-7000
www.megamates.com 18+

LA WEEKLY
www.laweekly.com // December 2 - 8, 2016 // LA WEEKLY
ATTENTION!

Looking for highly motivated appointment setters for a thriving home improvement company!

Make up to $15.00 per hour, plus commission for sales!
Daily cash + Weekly bonuses! Must hire a minimum 1 year home improvement or telemarketing experience.
Make up to $900.00 weekly +
Giving away a brand new iPhone 6 this month.

We are doing interviews everyday at 10:00am

844-861-1068
Wise Construction, Inc.
4009 Wilshire Blvd. #200D, Los Angeles, CA 90010
info@wiseconstruction@gmail.com • Wise-Construction.com
LA WEEKLY

Visit us at 3861 Sepulveda Blvd, Culver City | 310-574-7303 | LAWEEKLY.COM/ADINDEX

ARRESTED FOR DUI?
ALCOHOL / DRUGS / MEDICATIONS-RX
Comprehensive and Personalized DUI DEFENSE.
Sol Danny Khorsandi, Esq.
310-858-5550
www.DUI-AD.com

Astrologers-Psychics-Tarot Readers
P/T F/T $12-$36/hr. tambien en Espanol.
984 424-9029

LA WEEKLY IS SEEKING A MULTIMEDIA ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE AND A DIGITAL SPECIALIST

SEND RESUMES TO: DCASHMAN@LAWEEKLY.COM

For more information on this position, visit: LAWEEKLY.COM/ABOUT

ARRESTED FOR DUI?
ALCOHOL / DRUGS / MEDICATIONS-RX
Comprehensive and Personalized DUI DEFENSE.
Sol Danny Khorsandi, Esq.
310-858-5550
www.DUI-AD.com

Talk to Me TODAY!
We are dozens of guys looking to meet fuller figured ladies for dating, friendship and more.
You can chat LIVE right now privately or create a FREE profile and start mingling. Try it FREE!!

You can chat LIVE right now privately or create a FREE profile and start mingling. Try it FREE!!

So Cal Large and Lovely Ladies Connection.
Call Now

(213) 226-1885
(714) 460-1130
(310) 808-6259
(805) 244-9023
(323) 337-0027
(818) 257-7178
(562) 296-1293
(909) 510-5494
(626) 367-2043
(949) 271-0058
(661) 367-2043
(951) 572-3069

CASH IN 7 DAYS!
$50,000 - $75,000!
NO Interest, NO Payment, NOT a Loan!
Various types of programs available to suit your needs.
*Any California Real Estate with Good Equity
(626) 548-3817

DRIVERS - $60 PER HOUR, DRIVE EXECUTIVES FT/PT
(818) 377-5069, (352) 792-1245 or (201) 688-5093

American Country Rock
www.TomMorrison.com

OPRAH WINFREY
SEE LISTEN COMEDY ADVENTURE MUSICAL
theroadtohanahawaii.com
AJS 6551 Coldwater #6
Mon - Fri 12-1pm

DRIVERS - $60 PER HOUR, DRIVE EXECUTIVES FT/PT
(818) 377-5069, (352) 792-1245 or (201) 688-5093

American Country Rock
www.TomMorrison.com

THE SHAPE OF VAPE IS CHANGING
www.Wvapes.com
Best New Product Winner - Hempcon 2015
W is the newest in high tech oil pen design. Pure, potent, and incredible flavor. W Vapes provides the true premium cannabis oil experience.

EVICTION? / SHERIFF LOCKOUT?
www.StayPutForMonths.com

HELP TO TENANTS
We stop evictions 1 to 5 months or more.
Service guaranteed. We also assist with Divorces, Name Changes, Small Claims, etc
ASSAF SERVICES, LLC
(323) 930-1936, (818) 402-1043

DRIVERS - $60 PER HOUR, DRIVE EXECUTIVES FT/PT
(818) 377-5069, (352) 792-1245 or (201) 688-5093

American Country Rock
www.TomMorrison.com

OPRAH WINFREY
SEE LISTEN COMEDY ADVENTURE MUSICAL
theroadtohanahawaii.com
AJS 6551 Coldwater #6
Mon - Fri 12-1pm

DRIVERS - $60 PER HOUR, DRIVE EXECUTIVES FT/PT
(818) 377-5069, (352) 792-1245 or (201) 688-5093

American Country Rock
www.TomMorrison.com

THE SHAPE OF VAPE IS CHANGING
www.Wvapes.com
Best New Product Winner - Hempcon 2015
W is the newest in high tech oil pen design. Pure, potent, and incredible flavor. W Vapes provides the true premium cannabis oil experience.

EVICTION? / SHERIFF LOCKOUT?
www.StayPutForMonths.com

HELP TO TENANTS
We stop evictions 1 to 5 months or more.
Service guaranteed. We also assist with Divorces, Name Changes, Small Claims, etc
ASSAF SERVICES, LLC
(323) 930-1936, (818) 402-1043

DRIVERS - $60 PER HOUR, DRIVE EXECUTIVES FT/PT
(818) 377-5069, (352) 792-1245 or (201) 688-5093

American Country Rock
www.TomMorrison.com

THE SHAPE OF VAPE IS CHANGING
www.Wvapes.com
Best New Product Winner - Hempcon 2015
W is the newest in high tech oil pen design. Pure, potent, and incredible flavor. W Vapes provides the true premium cannabis oil experience.

EVICTION? / SHERIFF LOCKOUT?
www.StayPutForMonths.com

HELP TO TENANTS
We stop evictions 1 to 5 months or more.
Service guaranteed. We also assist with Divorces, Name Changes, Small Claims, etc
ASSAF SERVICES, LLC
(323) 930-1936, (818) 402-1043

DRIVERS - $60 PER HOUR, DRIVE EXECUTIVES FT/PT
(818) 377-5069, (352) 792-1245 or (201) 688-5093

American Country Rock
www.TomMorrison.com

THE SHAPE OF VAPE IS CHANGING
www.Wvapes.com
Best New Product Winner - Hempcon 2015
W is the newest in high tech oil pen design. Pure, potent, and incredible flavor. W Vapes provides the true premium cannabis oil experience.

EVICTION? / SHERIFF LOCKOUT?
www.StayPutForMonths.com

HELP TO TENANTS
We stop evictions 1 to 5 months or more.
Service guaranteed. We also assist with Divorces, Name Changes, Small Claims, etc
ASSAF SERVICES, LLC
(323) 930-1936, (818) 402-1043

DRIVERS - $60 PER HOUR, DRIVE EXECUTIVES FT/PT
(818) 377-5069, (352) 792-1245 or (201) 688-5093

American Country Rock
www.TomMorrison.com

THE SHAPE OF VAPE IS CHANGING
www.Wvapes.com
Best New Product Winner - Hempcon 2015
W is the newest in high tech oil pen design. Pure, potent, and incredible flavor. W Vapes provides the true premium cannabis oil experience.
This Weekend!

**SKIP THE MALL, SHOP LOCAL!**

**THE 9TH ANNUAL UNIQUE LA HOLIDAY MARKET**

DECEMBER 3 & 4 / 11AM - 6PM / DTLA / INFO & TICKETS AT UNIQUEMARKETS.COM