NEWSOM SIGNS NEW GUN LAW
MOULIN ROUGE! THE MUSICAL FINDS PERFECT HOME AT THE PANTAGES
THE CANNABIS ADMINISTRATION AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

ART, DESIGN, POEMS & STORIES

SUMMER BOOKS STASH
OTHERWISE KNOWN AS EVERYTHING WE SWARE TO READ THIS SUMMER — BUT THERE'S STILL TIME!

BY SHANA NYS DAMBROT
**GO EDITORS’ PICKS**

**ARTS**

**THURSDAY, JULY 28**

*Steve Keene at Palm Grove Social.* People love to call Steve Keene the “assembly line Picasso” for his signature style of post-folk serial painting, prolific output, interpretive but legible rendering, and schematic palette. His work has been exhibited at venues and collected by fans at all walks of life and across diverse cultural milieu. Now, in honor of his hefty new book, he returns to Los Angeles for a major new and classic, and partly crowd-sourced, survey exhibition curated by the good people of Hat & Beard Press, who published the monograph. 4660 W. Washington Blvd., West Adams; July 28; on view through August 12; free; instagram.com/palmgrovesocial.

**FRIDAY, JULY 29**

*At the Table at The Armory.* A group exhibition exploring our intimate and communal relationships with food and investigating the many ways these connections were severed or challenged during the 2020-21 lockdown. Through artworks, documentary photography, recorded narratives, and ephemera — as well as a series of innovative and creative food-themed artist workshops — this exhibition creates space for reflection on the role food plays in our lives as individuals and in our communities and traces the effects of the pandemic on the ways we interact with and consume food. 145 N. Raymond Ave., Pasadena; On view July 29 - December 4, programming begins July 30; free; armoryarts.org.

*Brash Collective, William Virgil, + Majeda Alhinai: Intentionally Opaque at SCI-Arc.* A sculptural piece that promotes mindfulness, imagination, and self-reflection through an externalist perspective. Intentionally Opaque presents the visitor with a labyrinth, a space of otherness simultaneously physical and mental, an analogy for life. However, it is not a maze or a puzzle to be solved. Instead, it is a path to meaning to be experienced. The labyrinth places us in a realm to explore imagination. Its muted, opaque walls give space to those who need it. 960 E. Third St., downtown; Opening reception: Friday, July 29, 6pm; On view through September 11; free; sciarc.edu.

**SATURDAY, JULY 30**

*Irving Penn: Burning Off the Page at Pace Gallery.* Photographing for Vogue for nearly 70 years, Penn’s inventive fashion photographs transformed American image-making. The artist was also highly accomplished and experimental in the darkroom, and Burning Off the Page centers on the formal strategies and experimentations that shaped his distinctive style, which he termed “photography,” and which entailed the translation of drawing, painting, and sculpture, among other art forms, into photography—a hybridization that presciently blurred the line between high art, graphic design, fashion, and photography. 1201 S. La Brea Ave., Mid-City; On view July 30 - September 3; free; pacegallery.com.

*Talih Abdiel and DaEun Jung at L.A. Dance Project. LAUNCH: LA artists, Talih Abdiel and DaEun Jung, present new work created during their residencies. Abdiel’s “Echo’s Answer” explores expanding human consciousness and universal understanding using exercises based on sound frequency hemisphere-synchronization, solo and group astral projection, auto-suggestion, transcendental meditation and more. DaEun Jung’s work “Norri” is a group dance practice inspired by the principle, form, and mode of Korean folk dance as a communal performance in the language of contemporary movement. 2245 E. Washington Blvd., downtown; Friday-Saturday, July 30-31, 4pm & 8pm; $20; ladanceproject.org.*

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 2**

*Cy Twombly: Making Past Present at the Getty Center.* American artist Cy Twombly’s engagement with the art and poetry of ancient Greece and Rome played a central role in his creative process. This exhibition explores Twombly’s lifelong fascination with the ancient Mediterranean world through evocative groupings of his paintings, drawings, prints, and sculpture made from the mid-20th to the early 21st century, tracing an imaginative journey of encounters with and responses to ancient texts and artifacts. The presentation includes sculpture from the artist’s personal collection, on public display for the first time. 1200 Getty Center Dr., Brentwood; On View August 2 - October 30; free; getty.edu.

**MUSIC**

**JULY 29 – AUGUST 4**

*D’Molls*  
*Whisky A Go Go*  
*Not every hair band rose to the heights of Motley Crue, or Poison, or even Warrant. But some of the others managed to earn a reputation for putting on a great show and D’Molls were one of them. See for yourself. Dark Horse Rising, Guitar & Whiskey Club, American Jetset, the Rumours, TREVORS EVERYWHERE and Sex Appeal also perform. 6 p.m. on Friday, July 29 at the Whisky A Go Go, $25, whiskyagogo.com.

*Nekromantix*  
*Alex’s Bar*  
*Two nights of horror-influenced psychobilly in Long Beach! Count us in. And they’ve assembled a couple of stellar lineups too. Highlights include Vegas punks Soldiers of Destruction, led by sometime LA Weekly scribe Mortat, on the Saturday, 8 p.m. on Friday, July 29 and Saturday, July 30 at Alex’s Bar, $25.75, alexsbar.com.*

*A-Ha*  
*Hollywood Bowl*  
*This is fascinating. Norwegian ‘80s pop icons A-Ha team up with the Hollywood Bowl Orchestra to add a symphonic twist to classic tunes such as “Take On Me” and “The Sun Always Shines on TV.” 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 31 at the Hollywood Bowl, $16-$91, hollywoodbowl.com.*

*Teyana Taylor*  
*House of Blues*  
*R&B singer Teyana Taylor brings her Last Rose Petal Tour to the Hollywood Palladium on Wednesday and then the House of Blues in Anaheim on Thursday. Catch them both – her smoky vocals make it worth it. 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 4 at the House of Blues Anaheim, $34.50, houseofblues.com.*

**MONDAY, AUGUST 1**

*Bert Stern’s Elizabeth Taylor Photographs at the Beverly Hills Hotel.* The hotel is partnering with the Bert Stern Trust and the House of Taylor to showcase striking images of Elizabeth Taylor, including several never-before-seen photos taken during the fiery Cleopatra years. The hotel served as a backdrop to Taylor’s life in California dating back to her childhood. Her father Francis, who inspired her love of art, had a gallery in the hotel’s promenade and she went on to be a frequent guest of the hotel throughout her life, including several of her honeymoons. 9641 Sunset Blvd., Beverly Hills; On view August 1 – September 30; free; dorchester-collection.com.
BRANDON KIDA’S GUNSMOKE SIZZLES IN HOLLYWOOD

The new Nikkei restaurant is a palate pleaser

BY MICHELE STUEVEN

The latest talk of the town is Brandon Kida’s newly opened multicultural mix of creativity in Hollywood, Gunsmoke. Tucked and hidden at the base of the Columbia Square Living Tower, Kida’s Nikkei restaurant blends the flavors of his Japanese roots and French training with the Mexican and Filipino influences of growing up in L.A.

The relaxing zen indoor/outdoor space is named after its historic location at Columbia Square, home to the CBS Radio studio where the Gunsmoke western radio show was broadcast and CBS TV from 1938 to 2007.

An Italian version of a scallion pancake, the spongy focaccia made in-house, is served with whipped ricotta and poppy seeds for slathering. Kida’s Asian take on escargot is shiitake mushrooms in a garlic soy butter, also baked daily on site.

For the artichoke fritter, mung beans, sweet potatoes and artichokes are shaved thin and formed into a light and crisp crosshatched delicacy topped with charred artichoke puree and dusted with Peruvian huacatay for an aromatic kick. Second only in drama to that is the warm Napa cabbage salad topped with crispy fried anchovy. It arrives looking like a compact green peony wrapped in parmesan shavings and is unfolded tableside with great panache.

Kida, who also helms Hinoki & the Bird as executive chef and launched his handmade dumpling concept Go Go Gyoza and Go Go Bird offering LA-style fried chicken in April 2020, brings plenty of heat to the table at Gunsmoke. The crispy quail with Szechuan peppercorns and local rockfish with sambal, cucumbers and delicately fried shallots will bring you to tears.

To cool things off, one of the dessert palette cleansers is another homage combining Kida’s years at L’Orangerie in Los Angeles and Lutèce in New York with his California upbringing — a honeynedew granita served with semi-frozen melon and lime zest nestled in a pavlova, as delicate and graceful as the ballerina it was named after.

The palette only gets more colorful at the bar with an evolving menu under the direction of Rhino Williams, from Hollywood’s speakeasy-style Lost Property Bar. For the brave, the signature cocktail is Williams’ take on a Long Island Iced Tea. The Kyoto Iced Tea blends vodka, gin, rum, tequila, orange liqueur, fresh lemon, organic cane simple syrup and house-made cantaloupe soda served over pebble ice, with a side of cantaloupe soda to help bring down the octane level. Also a fan favorite that can easily be mistaken for a spa drink is the Almost Famous with Aviation gin, lime and cucumber juice topped with cucumber foam.

Should you rather channel your inner Marshal Matt Dillon at the bar, wrangle yourself the Yippee-Ki Yay with a mezcal kick or the Gunsmoke martini with Smoke Lab Vodka and dashi olives. And don’t forget to tip your hat if Kitty Russell saunters through.

On that note, Gunsmoke is a non-tipping restaurant and automatically adds a 20% fee to all checks.
NEWSOM SIGNS GUN LAW ‘MODELED AFTER TEXAS ABORTION LAW’

In direct response to abortion laws in Texas, California Governor Gavin Newsom has signed a gun law allowing those affected by gun violence to pursue legal action.

BY ISAI ROCHA

Governor Gavin Newsom signed a gun law on July 22 that he said was “modeled” in similar fashion to Texas’ abortion law.

Under California Senate Bill 1327, Californians will be able to sue those making, selling, transporting or distributing illegal semiautomatic guns and “ghost guns,” for up to $10,000 in damages, per weapon, in the confines of the state.

“Our message to the criminals spreading illegal weapons in California is simple: You have no safe harbor here in the Golden State,” Newsom said in a statement.

While the Supreme Court rolls back reasonable gun safety measures, California continues adding new ways to protect the lives of our kids. California will use every tool at its disposal to save lives, especially in the face of an increasingly extreme Supreme Court.”

The bill lists a lengthy series of guns that the state defines as “assault weapons” that include, but are not limited to, semiautomatic rifles, shotguns and pistols.

Newsom signed the bill at the Santa Monica College, reminding the public of a 2013 mass shooting that killed six people, including the gunman. Newsom said the weapon involved in the shooting was an AR-15-style rifle that was unserialized, also known as a “ghost gun,” that was put together by the gunman.

Such a weapon will now be subject to a lawsuit under the new gun law.

SB 1327 was authored by California Senate Majority Leader Emeritus Bill Hertzberg, who said the bill continues to make California one of the “safer states” in the country.

“For the sake of our children, this is a common sense step toward ensuring California streets, schools and communities continue to be among the safest in the nation,” Hertzberg said Friday.

The Texas law that Newsom not-so-subtly targeted was Senate Bill 8, which prohibits abortions as soon as six weeks into a pregnancy.

Similar to the law Newsom signed Friday, a lawsuit component may be enacted toward providers and doctors who perform an abortion under Texas.

“We’re using Texas’ perverse abortion law to ACTUALLY save lives,” Newsom said.

BRUCE’S BEACH: L.A. COUNTY OFFICIALLY TRANSFERS LAND TO DESCENDANTS OF BRUCE FAMILY

Bruce’s Beach, a Manhattan Beach property previously owned by a black couple, has officially been transferred to their descendants.

In July of 2021, the L.A. County Board of Supervisors unanimously voted to return the land that was seized from the Bruce family by eminent domain in the 1920s.

On July 20, a ceremony was held on the property, with Bruce family members, supporters and Supervisors Janice Hahn and Holly Mitchell on hand.

“Today we are celebrating the final step in the return of Bruce’s Beach to the legal heirs of two visionary entrepreneurs, Willa and Charles Bruce,” Mitchell said during the ceremony.

After the supervisors voted to return the beach to the family, the county was tasked with tracking down the family.

That is where they found the Bruces’ great-grandsons, Anthony and Derrick Bruce, as well as other extended family members.

One of those extended family members was Chief Duane “Yellow Feather” Shepard, who has gathered family members for protests and rallies since 2018.

“They’re here and they’re smiling,” Shepard said during the ceremony. “My family declared that this was sacred land, I was going to do everything I could to get it back... to the family.”

Hahn became a leading force within the county after hearing about a 2020 protest of Bruce’s Beach, and taking time to learn more about the history of the area.

“I always tell people that I’m embarrassed to say I didn’t know the story of Bruce’s Beach for most of my life,” Hahn said. “I didn’t learn about what had happened to Willa and Charles Bruce until 2020 when I heard about a protest taking place at the park up the street.”

That same year, there was a Change.org petition not just asking for the land to be returned, but for the display plaque at the park to show a historically accurate description of how the Bruce’s lost their land, as well as mention of harassment of black visitors by the Ku Klux Klan.

From 1912 to 1924, Bruce’s Beach was a popular resort destination for black Angelenos, as the beachfront property often hosted live music, black celebrity appearances, and family parties.

PRESIDENT JOE BIDEN TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID, FEELS MILD SYMPTOMS

President Joe Biden tested positive for COVID-19 the morning of July 21 and went on to be experiencing “very” mild symptoms.

The symptoms were not revealed, but in a statement, White House Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said the president is currently taking Paxlovid as treatment.

“Consistent with CDC guidelines, he will isolate at the White House and will continue to carry out all of his duties fully during that time,” Jean-Pierre said. “He has been in contact with members of the White House staff by phone this morning, and will participate in his planned meetings at the White House this morning via phone and Zoom from the residence.”

At 9:18 a.m. PST, the Twitter account for President Biden posted a photo of the president at his desk with the caption reading that he was “doing great.”

“Folks, I’m doing great,” the tweet read. “Thanks for your concern. Just called Senator Casey, Congressman Cartwright, and Mayor Cognetti (and my Scranton cousins!) to send my regrets for missing our event today. Keeping busy!”

Since returning from an overseas trip, the President’s schedule was not filled with events as usual. When asked about Biden’s schedule at a White House press scrum, White House national security spokesman Jon Kirby said the president was “busy” despite not having duties on the schedule, which typically notes all the president’s daily duties.

“The President’s been busy,” Kirby said. “I’ll let Karine speak to the President’s schedule, but the President’s been quite busy. Just because you don’t see something necessarily on the public schedule doesn’t mean that there’s not a lot of work going on.”

It is uncertain if the President’s lack of scheduling is connected to his positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

The White House added that it would provide daily updates and the President will be able to assume his duties once testing negative.

“Out of an abundance of transparency, the White House will provide a daily update on the President’s status as he continues to carry out the full duties of the office while in isolation,” the White House said.

As of this writing, the White House said the President’s symptoms are waning.
THE LARGEST MASS ADOPTION BLOCKCHAIN IRL EVENT OF THE YEAR

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Music aficionados with a deep knowledge of the first wave of L.A. punk know very well who Paul Roessler is. The man was a Screamer, for god's sake – the electropunk band active from 1975-1981 that is famous for recording almost nothing but retaining cult status regardless. The Screamers' reluctance to cement a legacy ended up having the opposite effect; for punk fans, their music is the white whale. The stuff of legend that has to be hunted down.

But that was then and this is now. Forty-one years have passed since the Screamers ceased to exist, and Roessler has had a hell of a time. His recent The Drug Years album is out now via the Kitten Robot label that he runs with like-minded soul Josie Cotton. The label is in and of itself an exploration of contemporary and classic punk rock, in all of its many forms. Crowjane is a signee, as is Roessler's sister and former Black Flag member Kira. They've got Hayley & the Crushers, and the Velvet Starlings. And of course, Cotton and Roessler.

Roessler recorded the album at his own Satellite Park studios, and released it on the Kitten Robot label that he runs with like-minded soul Josie Cotton. The label is in and of itself an exploration of contemporary and classic punk rock, in all of its many forms. Crowjane is a signee, as is Roessler's sister and former Black Flag member Kira. They've got Hayley & the Crushers, and the Velvet Starlings. And of course, Cotton and Roessler.

"The Turning of the Bright World" album is out now via Kitten Robot.
A s the hoopla over Baz Luhrmann’s glitzy Elvis biopic seems nowhere near subsiding, many of us have been reassessing the filmmaker’s previous works, from Romeo+Juliet to The Great Gatsby. More recently, we admired his vision of ’70s New York in the Netflix series The Get Down. But Luhrmann’s biggest achievement on film was most notably Moulin Rouge, and the stage extravaganza Moulin Rouge, and the stage

entertainment, and hence save it. But fate has other plans, and due to a case of mistaken identity, Satine and Christian meet and fall in love instead, forcing the pair to make up a show within the show that mirrors the whole situation and sees the lovers meeting up in secret behind the duke’s back.

Anyone who saw the movie knows that despite its ‘love conquers all’ themes, the story is a tragedy. Satine is ill and soon finds out she is dying. She tries to do what’s best for all, sacrificing her true heart for the good of the club, but in the end must live (for however long she has) her truth. Ryan does a good job conveying Christian’s hopeful, rather innocent zest for life, while Reed’s Satine evokes more of an old Hollywood starlet feel than Kidman’s darker take – the character is street smart, but she knows showing more of an old Hollywood starlet feel than Kidman’s darker take and freedom. “It’s not exactly all-ages suitable stuff. Sometimes this formula can limit them as transitions to the all-familiar stuff. Sometimes this formula can come off somewhat forced, but Moulin Rouge, which was one of the most successful projects to do this on film ever, leans into the over-the-topness visually and musically (as it should), making it a perfect show for the Pantages in Hollywood. Masks by the way are enforced for the entirety of the show, and the historic building had added enhanced filtration systems since the pandemic, so it’s one of the safest theater experiences out there right now.

Moulin Rouge! The Musical runs now through Sept. 4 at the Pantages, 6233 Hollywood Blvd. More info at BroadwayInHollywood.com. It will be at Segerstrom Center for the Arts, 600 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa from Nov. 9 to Nov. 27. More info at scfta.org.
Otherwise known as everything we swore to read this summer — but there's still time!

BY SHANA NYS DAMBROT

No books roundup is ever comprehensive, but this selection of eclectic and lively titles features books of and about art, creativity, poetry, prose, photography and design — especially, but not limited to, that which is inspired by the truly unruly muse that is Los Angeles.

**Why I Make Art: Contemporary Artists’ Stories About Life & Work (Atelier Editions).** There’s a school of thought that why an artist makes work is at least as interesting as the work itself. Whatever else, this is certainly true in podcasts — in artist Brian Alfred’s Sound & Vision podcast in particular. The book gathers 30 of the liveliest and most intriguing of these interviews, all from 2016-2020 — an especially volatile and surreal era addressed with depth and humor by artists like Gregory Crewdson, Jules de Balincourt, Inka Essenhigh, Amir Fallah, Dominique Fung, Vanessa German, Khalil Robert Irving, Clinton King, Geoff McFetridge, Maysha Mohamedi, Hilary Pecis, Cauleen Smith, Salman Toor, Robin F. Williams, and more. soundandvisionpodcast.com

**Thomas Mann’s Los Angeles: Stories from Exile 1940–1952 (Angel City Press).** Nobel Prize-winning author Thomas Mann is not the first creative giant to escape to the dreamworld of Los Angeles — but he is one of the fanciest. When he and his family fled the Nazis, they landed in the Palisades, among an avant-garde expat community that included Bertolt Brecht, Christopher Isherwood, Aldous Huxley, Susan Sontag, Jack Warner, Carl Laemmle and Igor Stravinsky. This new book details Mann’s immersion in the lifestyle, from the beach to the Bowl, with terrific source material and evocative, sophisticated illustrations by Jon Stich. angelcitypress.com

**Izaac Enciso: Fifty-One Miles (SIE Publishing).** Photographer Izaac Enciso wondered, what would it be like to see through the eyes of a river? The L.A. River, in this case. During a series of walks along its concrete banks and strange islands, Enciso picked up a cache of translucent glass and plastic debris, and made camera filters out of them. After that, his landscape photographs of the river were transformed into colorful, radiant, elusive narrative abstractions, episodes of collaborative impressionism that are both mysterious and firmly rooted in their place. Each book is printed individually and bound by hand in Mexico City. izaacenciso.com

**Désirée van Hoek: Notes on Downtown (Idea Books).** Sometimes it takes a visitor to see a place clearly, someone who can come and go, have a broad perspective, and an eye for tracking gradual changes that locals might miss. Dutch photographer Désirée van Hoek has been working regularly in downtown Los Angeles since 2007, witnessing its progress and entropy...
through a period of transformative gentrification — and the suffering in the shadow of the shiny skyscrapers.

This unflinching portrait of DTLA combines architectural and candid street photography with telling details, abstract moments and dramatic establishing shots, as well as writing from experts and stakeholders.

ideabooks.nl

Ave Pildas: Star Struck (Deadbeat Club).

Hollywood Boulevard in the early ’70s must really have been something to see. It was a vibrant, visceral place, with an edge and energy, and oh so much style. Luckily, photographer Ave Pildas was there, snapping regular folks and low-key celebrities, as they strolled and goofed, and touristied their way down the street, stopping to pose with the dodgy storefronts and dingy-up walk of fame stars whose names they recognize. Fantastic fashions aside, this monograph celebrates the precarious spirit of adventure that bubbled over in those heady rock ’n’ roll days. deadbeatclubpress.com

Sant Khalsa: Crystal Clear Western Waters (Minor Matters Books). For photographer Sant Khalsa, it will never not be weird that there are stores that only sell water. And being influenced by serial documentarians like Walker Evans and Ed Ruscha, she spent years photographing their facades. The resulting classically black-and-white series taken in Arizona, New Mexico, Southern California and Southern Nevada presents a survey of this specific vernacular of commercial architecture — but it’s also a prescient callout of capitalism’s exploitation of the very failures of energy and civic infrastructure, as well as the looming resource scarcity, which a broken system helped create. minormattersbooks.com

Amir Zaki: Building + Becoming (X Artists Books).

Combining his interests in the fractal beauty of nature and the planar surrealism of architecture, photographer Amir Zaki’s new monograph itself has elements of the binary and the random. Constructed sculpturally, the book opens into a luxurious double-wide expanse that generates fascinating juxtapositions between depopulated urban landscapes and natural phenomena equally devoid of human presence. In stone and concrete, waters and sands, vistas and closeups, Zaki finds resonance and counterpoint between what we build and what simply becomes — reflecting not only his unique perspective on the world as it is, but teasing out the harmonies that hint at what it could be. xartistsbooks.com

Julia Morgan: An Intimate Biography of the Trailblazing Architect (Chronicle Books). Famous to most as the architect behind the massively iconic, controversial and obsession-worthy fairytale that is Hearst Castle, Julia Morgan was a prolific trailblazer quite outside of San Simeon. The first woman admitted to study architecture at the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris and the first licensed to practice architecture in California, she is responsible for some 700 buildings that literally helped define what California would become in the modern era. This photo-rich biography draws on interviews, letters, and Morgan’s own diaries, which see her waxing poetic on the California landscape, struggling with family issues, and always striving to find her voice and make her mark. chroniclebooks.com

Norma Tanega: Try to Tell a Fish About Water (Anthology). Singer/songwriter Norma Tanega became well-known for her 1966 hit “Walkin’ My Cat Named Dog,” but her creativity extended not only through years in music, but an equally passionate lifetime in the art studio. She received her MFA from Claremont Graduate University in 1962, a community she loved and where she remained a magnet of multifaceted creativity until her death in 2019, advancing gallery work, teaching, performing and exhibiting. Now a new book traces her life story, with a renewed focus on the exuberance of
her chromatically intense, gesturally arresting paintings, alongside photos, illustrations, journals, and memories from Tanega’s friends and collaborators. 

**Daniel Wheeler: Portrait: An Urban Tree Diary (Rose Gallery).** A tree is a tree is a tree is a tree is a tree is a tree. Except when it isn’t. Every day for seven months, artist Daniel Wheeler drew a new tree. With the rapt attention to detail and difference of a portrait, Wheeler teased out variances in leaf and bark, cast and contour — and at the same time, this radical anti-smartphone, almost devotional presentness transformed his consciousness.

Part journaling, part field sketch, part mantra, as actor and nature-lover Nick Offerman observes in the book’s introduction, “This artist’s penchant for picking twigs out of the gutter and rendering them into heartbreaking works of inspiration or illuminating objects of delight or both at once certainly awakens my own affection.

And admiration. And gratitude.”

**Augustus Britton: How to Kill a White Man: Words on Awakening.** Firstly, we should say, there is no actual death in this strident, gritty soul-searcher of a memoir. Britton collects his recent short stories, poems, vignettes and thought-streams with shades of beatnik epiphany and Joyce-like logic, occasionally scorching, emo around the edges, and reminiscent in style of how Lost Generation writers set curious self-reflexivity against the backdrop of a warring zeitgeist. In the end if anything dies, it’s the patriarchal archetype of white, male capitalism, and its paradigm of oppression and exclusion. Britton, though part of that demographic, candidly puts pen to paper to chronicle his own existential journey toward something better, enacting this compelling literary spectacle with warts and all.

**The Steve Keene Art Book (Hat & Beard / Tractor Beam).** The word is overused, but...
Steve Keene is a legend. Known as much for his “assembly line Picasso” routine of mass-painting dozens of works at once, one color stroke or detail at a time, which results in series that are both editions and all unique — and then selling them for like $10 to make sure everyone who wants one can have one — Keene’s cornered the market on the plywood masterpiece. Among hundreds of thousands of paintings, he made cover art for Pavement, The Apples in Stereo, and Silver Jews — but there’s never been a proper book before. Stemming from a 2016 exhibition at Shepard Fairey’s L.A. gallery Subliminal Projects, the book includes paintings from some very interesting personal collections, as well as commentary from Cat Power, Ryan McGinness, Fairey, and more. Keene lands in L.A. with a giant show at Palm Grove Social on July 28th, and a book signing at Arcana Books in Culver City on July 30th. hatandbeard.com

Aboriginal Screen-Printed Textiles from Australia’s Top End (University of Washington Press). A hefty, lavishly illustrated work of exposure and art history, Fowler Museum senior curator of Southeast Asian and Pacific Arts Joanna Barrkman’s catalog of contemporary Australian textile artists is a treasure. In tracing the evolving practices at five Aboriginal-owned art centers in the Northern Territory, from the 1960s to its current higher profile in regional and global art sphere, experts and makers discuss the ways screen-printed textile designs express the cultures, identities, and connections to the land and its history, as well as boundary-breaking collaborations with fashion houses and interior designers. fowler.ucla.edu

The Kitchen Studio: Culinary Creations by Artists (Phaidon). Being a visual artist on the world stage doesn’t always translate into being an artist in the kitchen — but that doesn’t stop them from trying. This quirky, unexpectedly moving collection of illustrated recipes offers culinary creations by more than 70 artists, including Ghada Amer, Olafur Eliasson, Carsten Höller, Dorothy Iannone, Ragnar Kjartansson, Nicolas Party, Zina Saro-Wiwa and Rirkrit Tiravanija. It’s not a cookbook, but its menus are savory and sweet, personal and global, diasporic, familial, conceptual and aspirational — and augmented with sketches, photographs, collages, paintings and personal notes that may yet inspire your next dinner party. phaidon.com

Wendy Red Star: Delegation (Aperture / Documentary Arts). Apsáalooke/Crow artist Wendy Red Star’s witty, deceptively chipper photography and collage work deconstructs the toxicity of Indigenous representation in American culture through a feminist lens, leveraging tropes of commercial stereotypes, conventional beauty standards, and popular entertainment against themselves. With biting humor and chameleonic self-portraiture, site-specific actions, and an eye always on the divergence between the truth and the official historical record, Red Star further highlights the ways in which identity is shaped at a personal and societal level by the agenda of the narrator. wendyredstar.com

Ryan Pfluger: Holding Space: Life and Love Through a Queer Lens (Princeton Architectural Press). In 2020-2021, photographer Ryan Pfluger set out to craft portraits and stories of queer, interracial couples — not only as an act of appreciation and advocacy, but as a way of forging deep and intentional human connection during a time of estrangement and isolation. The 100 color photographs that make up this collection portray proof that deep joy and abiding love is alive and well in the world if you want it, even — especially — in modern times that can seem to be about anything but. Papress.com
The leaders of the efforts to end federal marijuana prohibition weighed in on the effort finally getting introduced to the Senate.

By Jimi Devine

The Senate’s long-awaited bill to end federal cannabis prohibition, The Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act (CAOA) removing cannabis from the Controlled Substances Act, while protecting public health and safety in the process. We also knew that there would be a path to market for communities hit the hardest by the war on drugs’ disproportionate impact on people of color. As cannabis increasingly becomes a bigger money game by the day, the restorative and economic justice aspects of the bill were a known bedrock early. As were things like a basic tax structure and research being encouraged.

Over the year, they would receive 1,800 comments from stakeholders on what federal cannabis regulations should look like. HELP Committee Chair Patty Murray (D-WA) and HSGAC Committee Chairman Gary Peters (D-MI) also came on board as cosponsors of the CAOA.

“For far too long, the federal prohibition on cannabis and the War on Drugs has been a war on people, and particularly people of color,” said Majority Leader Schumer. “The Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act will be a catalyst for change by removing cannabis from the federal list of controlled substances, protecting public health and safety, and expunging the criminal records of those with low-level cannabis offenses, providing millions with a new lease on life. A major government stuck in yesteryear means for public health and safety. By failing to act, the federal government is empowering the illicit cannabis market, it’s ruining lives and propelling up deeply rooted racism in our criminal justice system, it’s holding back small cannabis businesses from growing and creating jobs in their communities. Cannabis legalization is here, and Congress needs to get with the program.”

For years, the final member of the initial trio of sponsors, Cory Booker, had been one of the most outspoken members of Congress on the issues of cannabis legalization and the neighborhoods hit the hardest by the delay. Over the last year, advocates applauded Booker’s effort to keep cannabis banking on the table as a bargaining chip when it came to preserving something for the wider social equity movement.

On the flip side, some argued the violence operators with big piles of cash were facing outweighed the hypothetical market share worked into the bill. Keith Stephenson is the owner of the nation’s oldest black-owned cannabis business, Purple Heart in Oakland. He told us as the SAFE Banking debate raged, access to basic financial services would be a gamechanger for public safety.

But as Supernova Women co-founder Amber Senter noted that while bank accounts are nice, she expected communities of color in cannabis would face the same discriminatory practices seen in other parts of the financial services sector. So getting access to merchant services is one thing, getting access to wider capital is another.

“As more states legalize cannabis and work toward reversing the many injustices the failed War on Drugs levied against black, brown, and low-income people, the federal government continues to lag woefully behind,” said Senator Booker.

Booker went on to note the restorative justice aspects of the bill reflect common sense drug policies.

“With strong restorative justice provisions for communities impacted by the drug war, support for small cannabis businesses, and expungement of federal cannabis offenses, this bill reflects long overdue, common sense drug policy,” Booker said. “I am proud to have partnered with Senators Schumer and Wyden to introduce this critical legislation. The support that we have received from committee chairs and outside groups underscores the historic nature of this bill, and the urgent need for Congress to pass it.”

On the other side of Capitol Hill, Rep. Earl Blumenauer has quarterbacked the cannabis effort for years with a carousel of faces eventually joining him in the reform movement over his long stay in Congress. He has been involved in cannabis reform since his first term in the Oregon House of Representatives in 1973.

“The introduction of the Cannabis Administration and Opportunity Act in the Senate is a historic breakthrough in our bicameral efforts to end the failed federal prohibition of cannabis,” Blumenauer noted after the bill was filed.

Blumenauer noted, after working for decades on this issue, he is finally starting to watch the dam break.

“For far too long, the federal government has stood in the way of science and progress — failing our communities who have been most impacted by the disastrous war on drugs and prohibiting individuals from utilizing the health benefits of cannabis. The momentum surrounding cannabis reform in Congress and nationally has reached a fever pitch,” Blumenauer said.

The congressman said he is looking forward to working with his friends in the Senate to reconcile the differences between the CAOA and House-passed bills. This includes bills like The MORE Act and SAFE Banking.

“It is critical we resolve minor differences in the pursuit of larger objectives,” Blumenauer said. “We have never had stronger leadership in Congress for cannabis reform, and I’m optimistic that now is the time to make significant progress.”
**LEGAL NOTICES**

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT**

State of California
Los Angeles County

The following person is doing business as 

**AMENDMENTS**

**DOM GALLEY** Inc d/b/a **DOM THE LAND**, A California corporation, d/b/a **RAMPS SPORTS**, a California corporation, d/b/a **RAMPS X**, a California corporation, d/b/a **NEW YORK**, a California corporation, and SHAY LISA L U aka LDA LEE, an individual, and DOB 1-10, inclusive. YOU MAY BE SUED BY PLAINTIFF LILIA GARCIA-BRÓWNER, Labor Commissioner for the State of California, Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, on behalf of the State of California (California Notice). You have been served. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these forms online or in the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away if you do not know an attorney. You may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org) or the California Courts Online Self-help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/online-help), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of $10,000 or more in a civil case. The court’s lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. The name and address of the court is: Los Angeles County Superior Court, 101 West Third Street Los Angeles, CA 90012 Case Number: 21STCV46110

**Warning:**

Making a false or fraudulent claim is a felony subject to 5 years in prison or a fine up to $50,000 or double the value of the fraud whichever is greater, or both imprisonment or fine.

**Thank you Saint Jude, Saint of the Impossible, EC**

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