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FRIDAY, JUNE 9
Mike Kuchar: Big, Bad Boys at Ghebaly Gallery. Kuchar has an in\'ntual ýýure in the underground ýýim and comics scenes since the 1960s, who together with his twin brother George gained cult recognition for their over-the-top, no-budget ýýims that sent up Hollywood epics, celebrating camp as an artistic sensibility, rough out the \`70s, Kuchar began to support his ýýim-making with gay erotic drawings with a unique combination of gonzo lewdness and uncompromising joy, garnering an underground fandom and critical acclaim. 1109 N. Poinsettia Place, West Hollywood; Opening reception: Friday, June 9, 5-8pm; Artist talk: Saturday, June 10, 3pm; On view through July 8 with live ýýure drawing sessions throughout; free; ghebaly.com.

Manuel Betancourt, in conversation with Grace Perry, discusses The Male Gazed: On Hunks, Heartthrobs, and What Pop Culture Taught Me about (Desiring) Men at Book Soup. Betancourt has long lustfully coveted masculinity—in part because he so lacked it. As a child in Bogotá, he grew up with the social pressure to appear strong, manly, and ultimately, straight. And yet in the ýýims and television he avidly watched, Betancourt saw glimmers of di\`ent possibilities… His book graphestes with the thrust of masculinity, examining its frailty and anxieties along with its erotic potential. Looking back over decades of pop culture, this book establishes that to gaze at men is still a subversive act. 8818 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood; Friday, June 9, 7pm; free; booksoup.com.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10
Carmen Argote, Alberta Whittle, and Truong Cong tung at ICA LA. Including drawings, sculptures, and works in process, I won't abandon you, I see you, we are safe maps Argote\`s journey toward a deeper understanding of her interior self and the binaries that it holds—adult and child, man and woman, resident and exile, individual and collective. Originally from Barbados and currently based in Scotland, Whittle directly engages her diasporic heritage to create works that meditate on the journeys, both historical and present, of Black communities across the Caribbean Sea and beyond. Characterized by a poetic sensitivity to history, landscape, and materiality, Tr\`\`n g\`s dynamic installations o\`en incorporate natural materials that bear the traces of time and the echoes of generations and are composed in such a way as to reimagine the land from a site of colonial empire to one of communion. 1717 E. 7th St., downtown; Opening receptions: June 10, 3-6pm; On view through September 10; free; theicala.org.

SUNDAY, JUNE 11
SALT: Volta x Heidi Ross at 2220 Arts + Archives. – Poetic Research Bureau and dance theater company Volta present an immersive performance that enables audience members to experience a collapsing relationship through taste, sound, dance, and poetry. Directed by Mamie Green and Megan Paradowski of Volta, writers Sammy Loren and Ellington Wells reimagine Euripides’ iconic tragedy Medea, and otherworldly harpist Melissa Achten scores the piece live. An atmosphere of “dark mania” will seize more than eyes and ears, as the audience sample edible installations by conceptual artist and chef Heidi Ross. 2220 Beverly Blvd., East Hollywood; Sunday, June 11, 3pm; Monday-Tuesday, June 12-13, 7pm; $30; 2220arts.org.

TUESDAY, JUNE 13
Writers Bloc presents David Fenton with Jane Fonda at New Roads School. Interested in making an impact for climate change? For gun violence prevention? For social justice? For human rights? Public health? Head straight for David Fenton. Fenton has been a social activism guru for decades, having worked with Yoko Ono; Nelson Mandela; Bruce Springsteen; Carl Sagan; Jesse Jackson; and countless other public ýýures in their crusades for social change. Activist's Media Handbook is a handbook for people who seek to be part of the solution. He tells stories of his successes and mistakes, and o\`es lessons he learned the hard way. 3131 Olympic Blvd., Santa Monica; Tuesday, June 13, 7:30pm; $25, $55 includes signed book; writersblocpresents.com.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14
Beyond Baroque presents Jerome Rothenberg and Charles Bernstein at Gagosian/ Marciano Arts Foundation. An evening with poets Jerome Rothenberg and Charles Bernstein inside Anselm Kiefer\`s remarkable exhibition Exodus. Two of the most consequential ýýures in radical poetics over the past half century, Rothenberg and Bernstein will explore some of the themes that occupy Kiefer—Jewish mysticism, the poetry of Paul Celan, and the formulation of a global poetics in response to the Holocaust—in a conversation and readings of their poetry. 4357 Wilshire Blvd., Koreatown; Wednesday, June 14, 6:30pm; free; beyondbaroque.org.

ONGOING:
Not Another Second: LGBT+ Seniors Share Their Stories at The Watermark. Photogra\- pher Karsten \`for\ormaehlen’s candid portraits and one-on-one, AR enhanced interviews with the 12 LGBT+ seniors invite them to tell their stories of integrity, resilience and humanity while paving a bet- ter way for future generations. ese stories come from the individuals who were a part of the generation that lead the Stonewall uprising, founded political group ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) and helped end the US military policy commonly referred to as \“don't ask, don't tell\". 947 Tiverton Ave., Westwood Village; On view through June 29; free; notanothersecond.com.

MUSIC
JUNE 9-15
Garbage / Noel Gallagher’s High Flying Birds at Greek Theatre
Quite the double bill, this one. Shirley Manson, Butch Vig and co. return to L.A. with their ‘90s electro-alt-rock outfit Garbage, alongside former Oasis man Noel Gal- lagher and his High Flying Birds. Rumors are, ahem, “y ang around that Oasis will be reforming sooner rather than later, but this will very much do for now. Metric also perform. 7 p.m. on Friday, June 9 at the Greek - etre, $69.50, lagreektheatre.com.

Janet Jackson at Hollywood Bowl – e show is sold out, but those of you with tickets are in for a treat. Jackson performs at the Bowl on a bill with Ludacris, as well as the South Orchestra of Los Angeles (or YOLA). 2015’s Unbreakable is Jackson’s most recent album, and it was very well received. But my, hearing those Rhythm Nation tunes again, especially the perfect \“Black Cat,\” will be wonderful. 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 10 at the Hollywood Bowl, hollywoodbowl.com.

Eels at Fonda Theatre – man known as E formed Eels way back in 1991, though the Beautiful Freak debut album and “Novocaine for the Soul” breakthrough single didn’t arrive until 1996 (recorded over two years prior to that). eir fourteenth and most recent album, Extreme Witchcraft, dropped last year and it continues their trend for wonderfully o\` eat, quirky but not silly alt-pop-rock. 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 10 at the Fonda - etre, $43, fondatheatre.com.

Peach PRC at Roxy Theater – Australian pop-pixie Peach PRC is in these parts to play her ýrst ever US shows including L.A. on Sunday and Monday. is comes right a\’ er the release of her Manic Dream Pixie EP which includes the singles \“Kinda Famous\”, \“F U Goodbye\”, and \“Perfect For You\”. Hear all that and more on Sunset. 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7 at the Greek - etre, $49.50+, lagreektheatre.com.
CORONER SAYS COUSIN OF BLM COFOUNDER DIED OF ENLARGED HEART WHILE IN LAPD CUSTODY

Months after the death of Keenan Anderson, the cousin of a Black Lives Matter co-founder, died in police custody, the coroner revealed his cause of death

BY ISAI ROCHA

LAPD Chief Michel Moore expedited the police bodycam footage of the incident, as public concern increased days after Anderson's death.

Protests and vigils led by BLM ensued on the corner of Venice Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard, where Anderson was arrested and taken into custody.

BLM often pointed to the deaths of Anderson, Takar Smith and Oscar Leon, all of whom died in police custody in January, as a rallying cry against LAPD. They contended that the Anderson incident should have been met with a crisis response team in lieu of offic s.

The organization also said the footage of the Anderson incident was “highly edited,” with a visible gap before backup arrived on scene.

After releasing the incident footage, Chief Moore said he would “pay close atention” to the offic s’ use of a taser on Anderson.

Mayor Karen Bass, who just signed a city budget increasing LAPD’s funding, commented on the coroner’s fi dings, saying, “I remain committed to expanding the public safety system to include health professionals and to ensuring LAPD offic s receive the best possible training to assist people in cri sis.”

While the coroner’s report provided a cause of death for Anderson, the manner of death is still being investigated.

“The coroner raises questions that still must be answered and I await the result of the investigati on already underway,” Bass said. “I know that in this time of pain it sometimes feels like there is no hope, but we must turn the pain into concrete, substantive change — and we will.”

Anderson hailed from Washington D.C., and was in Los Angeles visiting family for the new year.

SNOOP DOGG POSTPONES CONCERTS IN SUPPORT FOR WRITERS STRIKE

Snoop Dogg announced the postpone ment of his upcoming Hollywood Bowl anniversary show in an act of solidarity with entertainment unions that are currently seeking new contracts.

The June 27 and June 28 shows were going to celebrate “Doggystyle,” Snoop’s debut album that shaped the sound of West Coast hip-hop in the ’90s.

Snoop said the shows would be moved to Oct. 20 and Oct. 21, with hopes that the Writers Guild of America (WGA), which is currently on strike, as well as the Screen Actors Guild (SAG-AFTRA), will have come to terms on new contracts with studi os by then.

“Me and Dr. Dre, we stand in solidarity with the writers,” Snoop said in a video posted to Instagram, adding his hope that the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) “negotiate fair deals as soon as possible.”

The WGA has been on strike since May 1, asking major film and TV production companies for assurances in a new contract.

While SAG-AFTRA has not opted for a strike, its members voted to authorize one if a contract is not reached by the expiration of their contracts on June 30.

The “Snoop Dogg and Friends” concert was scheduled to have Dr. Dre, who produced the Doggystyle album, join Snoop on stage, with conductor Eric Hodge and the ReCollective orchestra accompanying the legendary rappers.

The Hollywood Bowl said those who bought tickets for the original dates will have their passes honored for the new dates. Parking, shuttle or park and ride passes that were purchased for the original shows will also transfer to the new dates without further action from guests.

ANGELENOS PROTEST FLORIDA IMMIGRATION BILL

Angelenos protested at Placita Olvera in downtown L.A., as part of a nationwide protest against Florida’s SB 1718 immigration law.

The June 1 rally started on Olvera Street and eventually led to a march through downtown L.A., with protesters holding signs that read “We are not the immi grants” and “No human is illegal on stolen land.”

The protest was organized by the Mobilize 4 Immigrants coalition, with a parallel protest in the Orange County city of Santa Ana.

These efforts were in addition to a nationwide labor strike that has caught fl e on social media, asking supporters to not work or shop and instead join a local rally, such as the ones being held in L.A. and Santa Ana.

“Th s is a community-led labor strike in solidarity with our indigenous immigrant community,” the organizers wrote on their call to action. “We can put a stop to these anti-immigrant bills by boycotting. Enough is enough.”

Florida governor and presidential candidate Ron DeSantis calls the bill the “strongest anti-illegal bill in the nation,” as it would revoke employer licenses for employing undocumented immigrants, set aside $12 million to relocate undocumented immigrants from Florida, as well as task hospitals with asking for a patient’s immigration status.

“Biden’s Border Crisis is a catastrophe,” DeSantis said after signing the bill. “While Washington abdicates its responsibility to secure our border, Florida is once again stepping up. Today, I signed legislation to combat illegal immigration and to deter il legal immigrants from coming to Florida.”

In May, the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) issued a Florida travel advisory, denouncing the bill and warning that Latinos face danger by visiting the state.

“DeSantis’ enforcement regulations will treat us like criminals...” LULAC President Domingo Garcia said in a statement.

The Florida law will go into effect July 1 and Mobilize 4 Immigrants has plans for another protest in Los Angeles on that day.

“We cannot tolerate the inhumane treatment of people any longer,” Camila Cuevas of Mobilize 4 Immigrants said in a social media post. “Th s strike is about standing up for all marginalized communities, particularly those impacted by tyrannical laws like the ones being passed in Florida.”
EAT, MEET AND GREET DURING PRIDE MONTH

Give Back in June

BY MICHELE STUEVEN

In honor of Pride Month, all Yardbird locations will donate 50% of proceeds to the Human Rights Campaign from their specialty pride menu items for the entire month of June. Indulge in the berry Prideful, made up of silver tequila, Cointreau, lime, strawberry and agave or a slice of Pride Key Lime Pie with toasted meringue, raspberry sauce and seasonal fruit.

Noble 33, the international hospitality group known for its high-energy restaurant concepts Toca Madera, Casa Madera, and Sparrow Italia, will offer a specialty Pride cocktail across its U.S.-based concepts for all of June. For each cocktail sold, $2 will benefit the National LGBTQ Task Force, an organization dedicated to advocacy and equality. The organization celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

The Bandera is a rainbow concoction of tequila blanco, seasonal fruit, and cranberry-apricot chamoy; Watermelon Jamaica Cascara, Citrus Kombucha and topped with mint.

Kristin Ciccolella of Venice’s queer-owned seafood destination, The Anchor, will take her seafood show on the road with her food truck, The Little Anchor. Launching in time for lobster season and Pride, Ciccolella will load up her signature rolls with fresh Maine lobster fl w in daily, and fill her sourdough bread bowls with clam chowder and lobster bisque. She’ll also serve up her crispy fish and chips.

In honor of Pride Month, Riviera31 at the Sofitel Los Angeles will be offering the “Hey Papi” cocktail made with El Sativo Reposado, tajin, lemon, agave nectar and cucumber. For each cocktail purchased, $1 will be donated to the Los Angeles LGBT Center. And just around the corner to coincide with the third anniversary of Kylie Minogue Wines, her Prosecco Rosé and Côtes Provence Rosé will be exclusively poured in Los Angeles at The Roof and Lobby Bar at The West Hollywood EDITION for the month of June. Proceeds from each glass and bottle sold also will benefit the Los Angeles LGBT Center.

San Francisco-based comfort food restaurant The Melt will spread the love throughout June with the return of its Harvey Milk Shake, a limited-edition vanilla shake topped with vibrant rainbow sprinkles. For each milkshake sold, $1 will be donated to Equality California, a longtime LGBT+ partner of the restaurant brand.

For the third year in a row and to celebrate Pride Month in June, Verge Coffee Roasters will offer a seasonal beverage and partner with the It Gets Better Project, a global nonprofit dedicated to empowering LGBTQ+ youth. Thoughout the entire month, every Verge cafe in California will offer a Cascara Spritz, with 100% of the proceeds from the beverage going to the It Gets Better Project. Verge's Cascara Spritz is made up of Jamaica Cascara, Citrus Kombucha and topped with mint.

Above; or Spirit-Free featuring CUT above cocktails can be served in three ways, Classic, the way the bartender intended; Cut made with half the alcohol above; and World Famous Drag Queen, Roxy Wood for a PRIDE bingo brunch with bottomless mimosas. The ‘Roxy’s Got Balls’ event will feature a prefix menu that includes chilaquiles and Alaskan cod ceviche. There will be two different seatings at 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.; brunch is $55 per person, bottomless mimosas can be added for an additional $10.

In celebration of Pride Month, West Hollywood’s Gracias Madre will host Sip & Strut Sundays throughout the month of June from 10 a.m. to noon, featuring live drag performances and Pride cocktail specials from beverage director Sean Stewart. Gracias Madre will open one hour earlier every Sunday to serve and slay brunch featuring the below performers:

June 4: Karma Lush, Ophelia Belle, & Host Carti G
June 11: Karma Lush, Miss Kendoll, & Host Carti G
June 18: Ophelia Bell, Kalista Stage, & Host Marta Beatchu
June 25: Miss Kendoll, Marta Beatchu, & Host Annie Biotixx

Sip & Strut Sundays featured cocktails include the Raspado Shaved Ice - three options available, including Guava with Herradura Blanco, seasonal fruit, and cranberry-apricot chamoy; Watermelon with La Tierra de Acre Cenizo Mezcal, Cointreau, mint, pink peppercorn, and served with a pineapple popsicle; El Tequilen Reposado with cacao, clove, California dates, and vanilla oat milk ice cream; the Diver Girl, made with Amber Mezcal, pineapple, coconut, and lime topped with house-made hibiscus tea; and the Tequila A-GOGO with house-made blanco tequila gin, orange, pineapple, orange liqueur and topped with blueberry and oat milk foam. All of the above cocktails can be served in three ways, Classic, the way the bartender intended; Cut made with half the alcohol using a spirit-free alternative from CUT Above; or Spirit-Free featuring CUT Above. Reservations are required. Visit Gracias Madre’s website via https://graciasmadre.com/sip-and-strut-sundays to make a reservation, or call 323-978-2170.
DOUBLE RAINBOW
The 2023 PRIDE GUIDE
BY LINA LECARO • PHOTOS BY HOWARD WISE

Clearly one Pride celebration isn't enough for L.A. Though the circumstances that led to LA Pride and WeHo Pride throwing two different events might have started out somewhat contentiously amid the pandemic and BLM protests, things seem to have settled in the best possible way in 2023. Both big banner gatherings enjoyed their own successful celebrations in 2022, and just last weekend, West Hollywood's event with JJLA and Outloud (featuring musical headliners Grace Jones, Orville Peck and Carly Rae Jepson, plus the Dyke March, Summertramp and more) drew thousands for three days and nights of activism and revelry. And Christopher Street West's LA Pride dominates for the rest of the month.

As other parts of the country seek to deny equal rights to the LGBTQ+ community, it's become clear that not only is there room for multiple events in this city, we need them more than ever. Celebrations of identity, love and freedom are a public way to combat hate and political discrimination. (Of course, the most important way to do this is voting the bigots out so do that too, please). As we have every year since it began, LA Weekly highlights the events queer Angelenos and their allies do not want to miss this year.

Thursday, June 8
Pride is Universal takes over Universal Studios for its annual gay day gathering this week. With Super Nintendo World offering a new environment to celebrate in, the after-hours theme park experience should be revving and raging. Live DJs, Universal character meet-and-greets, musical guests, drag performers and more are planned. Splurge for a VIP ticket that grants earlier access to the park at 2 p.m., as well as express line access, premium viewing areas at the main stage and hangtime in the LA Pride VIP Lounge. 100 Universal City Plaza, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m. More info at seatickets.us/event/2023-PRIDE-IS-UNIVERSAL-Exclusive-After-Hours-LGBTQ-Party

Saturday, June 10
Who doesn't love a hotel pool soiree? Hotel Indigo's Pride Pool Party welcomes The Nightbreed crew, Whitney Mixtr and Mishelle Havnfun for an afternoon of hot looks, cool cocktails, vivacious sounds and refreshing pool dips. 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. 899 Francisco St., Downtown. Later that night, Nightbreed joins forces with Incognito for He.She.Th. Named after the London queer collective and label, this underground shindig features Felix Da Housecat, Amanda Mussi, David Banjela and LA's Warp Mode crew. They tout, “no genres (or genders) off limits” at this one, but techno, acid, jungle, electro-clash will surely be part of the inclusive
LA Pride in the Park expands to a two-day shindig this year at Los Angeles State Historic Park, with a seriously mega-wattage star bill headlined by Megan Thee Stallion on Friday and Mariah Carey on Saturday. Vendors, LGBTQ+ exhibitors, the Erotic City leather environment and a new Trans Galleria featuring art by L.A. trans community creators are just a few of the exciting elements to enjoy. 1245 N. Spring St., Downtown 3 p.m. - 11 p.m. on Friday, and 1 p.m. - 11 p.m. on Saturday. More info at lapride.org. (Read more about this one in our music section).

And like the Dodgers have done in the past, LA Pride will feature a special drag performance surrounding streets. This year, the parade route begins at Sunset Boulevard and Highland Avenue, heading north, then east onto Hollywood Boulevard and south onto Cahuenga Boulevard, ending at Sunset Boulevard and Cahuenga Boulevard. Notably, the procession will air live on KABC/ABC7, as well as ABC News Live and Hulu via streaming. Anchors Ellen Leyva and Christiane Cordeiro co-host the ABC7 broadcast. Marching starts at 11 a.m. More info at lapride.org

LA Pride Village expanded on the origins of the march's legacy with a multitude of events last year, and this year will be no exception. The free, all-day street festival will run between Vine Street and Gower Street, not far from the official LA Pride Parade route in the ‘70s. This kicks off at the Celebration Stage on Gower and Hollywood, hosted by The Hollywood Partnership and LA Pride. Ninety local vendor booths will line the route and two entertainment stages will present scheduled performances including Mariachi Arcoiris, Bob Baker Marionette Theatre, the Gay Freedom Band LA, Secret Circus, Dance Church, and the queer AAPPI drag party called Send Noodz. There'll also be an expanded bar garden, food trucks and much more. Noon - 8 p.m.; free. More info at lapride.org

While in Hollywood for LA Pride, don't miss the opportunity to check out the NewFilmmakers Los Angeles (NFMLA) LGBTQ+ Cinema Showcase hosted by The Montalbán Theater. Featuring curated programs and shorts by LGBTQ+ filmmakers with a strong representation of BIPOC filmmakers, it's an opportunity to see three different program blocks (one for all ages and two for adults) exploring the full spectrum of queer identity. Q&A sessions with the filmmakers will bookend the screenings. Suggested donation of $10 each or $25 for all three. 1615 Vine St., Hollywood. newfilmmakersla.com/events/event/lgbtq-cinema-with-the-montalban-2023-la-pride

Friday, June 16

Though it was the source of controversy after the Dodgers organization uninvited local drag charity group the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence to participate due to political pressure, the Dodgers rightfully reinstated the invite and the annual event goes on with its ties to the community intact. LGBTQ+ Pride Night at Dodger Stadium is always a crowd pleaser with a vibrant dose of rainbow gear contrasting the traditional Dodger blue everywhere you look. With LA Pride as co-presenter, the Friday game against rivals the San Francisco Giants also includes an exclusive Dodgers LGBTQ+ jersey and a drone show after the game. It all starts at 7 p.m. Tickets at mlb.com/dodgers/tickets/specials/lgbt-night.

Saturday, June 17

Street Food Cinema honors Pride month with a special screening of The Birdcage at The Autry Museum. SFC moves around to various locations including Los Angeles State Historic Park, Will Rogers State Historic Park, and Verdugo Park in Glendale, but the Autry is its most culturally rich, with revolving exhibits exploring the America West. The exhibit showcasing student artwork around the theme “Visions of Solidarity” running through June 30 is particularly timely. Check out the museum before the show. As for 1996's The Birdcage, it's a classic we never get sick of with an all-star cast including Robin Williams, Nathan Lane, Gene Hackman, Dianne West and Hank Azaria. Food trucks on site for the event include Angelinos Woodfî Pizza, Baby’s Badass Burger, Daddy J’s Flamin Hot Chicken, Lupita's Tacos and Nibble Night. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., show at 8:30 p.m. Tickets at streetfoodcinema.com/events/the-birdcage-celebration-of-pride.

Saturday, June 24

Cinespia always delivers when it comes to the perfect film party for Pride. This year they invite us to “do the Time Warp again” as they join forces with Christopher Street West and LA Pride for a special screening of The Rocky Horror Picture Show at LA State Historic Park. DJs, photo ops and more round out the festivities. Doors open at 7:30 p.m.; show at 9 p.m. cinespia.org

All Month Long:

Santa Monica Place’s annual pop-up, the Made with PRIDE Marketplace, remains a highlight of SaMo Pride (which kicked off last weekend). The monthlong citywide celebration offers activities for all ages and the Marketplace in particular offers a way to support community creators and score unique gifts, housewares, jewelry, fashion and a lot more. Each Friday, Saturday and Sunday in June more than 20 LGBTQ+ business owners present unique products and services made in LA or Southern California at large. 395 Santa Monica Place, Santa Monica, at Broadway and 3rd Street Promenade. More info at santamonicaplace.com/pride.

The shopping center formerly known as the Hollywood and Highland is in the Pride spirit all month long. Ovation Hollywood’s center courtyard hosts a Loud & Proud Pride Month DJ Series on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays in June. The schedule is as follows: Fri., June 9: Veronika from DAGR (4 p.m. - 8 p.m.); Sun., June 11: St Panther + Friends (9 a.m. - 7 p.m.); Fri., June 16: St Panther (4 p.m. - 8 p.m.); Sat., June 17: Ceci from DAGR (2 p.m. - 7 p.m.); Sun., June 18: KIDD (2 p.m. - 7 p.m.); Sat., June 25: TOMI (2 p.m. - 7 p.m.).
WeHo Pride LGBTQ Arts Festival continues all month long and it might be the ultimate way to truly immerse yourself in LGBTQ+ stories and expression, with a plethora of exhibits, readings, and events happening in West Hollywood and beyond. Here, we share general info on everything, but look for more detailed coverage on many of these free events in our Arts and Culture sections as the month progresses. More info at wehopride.com/artsfestival.

**WeHo Pride LGBTQ Arts Festival Exhibits in June:**

**Through June 30**

“Angelic Troublemakers” (digital drawings and photographs relating to the theme of LGBTQIA+ Pride) at West Hollywood Library; “My Own Private Rodeo,” in collaboration with ONE Archives Foundation and HIT presenting new works by Coyote Park posing the question, “What does it mean to exist in a way that our elders weren’t allowed to?” at ONE Gallery; and “Rainbows, Wigs, and Shades,” Dustin Gimbel’s ceramic totem installation celebrating diversity at Sunset Plaza, 8624 W. Sunset Blvd.

**Saturday, June 24, all in the Fiesta Hall at Plummer Park (1166 N. Vista St., West Hollywood)**

The Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights presents its Annual Pride Play Reading Queer Book Bazaar with local book dealers, independent publishers, and literary vendors, plus live performances. 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**Wednesday, June 21**

Decoding The Closet in American Art LA LGBT Center, Anita May Rosenstein Campus, Senior Center, 1118 N. McCadden Place, Hollywood; 3 p.m. - 4 p.m.

**Thursday, June 22**

Queers Performing Tricks presented by AC Smith + Queer Animated Shorts presented by Silverlake Shorts at Fiesta Hall at Plummer Park, 1166 N. Vista St., West Hollywood; 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, June 24, all in the Fiesta Hall at Plummer Park (1166 N. Vista St., West Hollywood)**

**Sunday, June 25**

Invertigo Dance Theatre’s Walk the Walk + Yoznit at West Hollywood Park (base of the Grand Staircase) 8750 El Tovar Place, West Hollywood. 2 p.m. - 4:40 p.m.

**Schindler House Haunting by Jas Lin 林思穎 at MAK Center for Art and Architecture, 835 North Kings Road, West Hollywood; 8 p.m. Reservation required.**

**Monday, June 26 - Friday, June 30, all at Braindead Studios (Brain Dead Studios, 611 N Fairfax Ave.) Reservations required.**

Screening - Experimental Shorts - Curated by Jheanelle Brown - Mon., June 26, 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.; Girl Internet Show: A Kati Kelli Mixtape - Tues., June 27, 8 p.m.; Screening - Blue by Derek Jarman - Wed., June 28, 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.; Screening - Riot Acts: Flaunting Gender Deviance in Music Performance featuring a Live Performance by the Legendary San Francisco Musical Act Lipstick Conspiracy - Thurs., June 29, 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m; Screening - The Adventure of Iron Pussy by Apichatpong Weerasethakul - Fri., June 30, 7:30 p.m. - 10 p.m. See more Pride events and updates in the Arts, Culture, Music and Food sections at LAWeekly.com.
P R I D E / M U S I C

ONLY THE LONELY!

Pride and Joy for Carly Rae Jepsen

BY BRETT CALLWOOD

ew things are certain in life, besides
death and taxes. But we can pretty
much guarantee that pop artists,
and strong female artists at that,
will receive a massively enthu-
siastic reception when they perform at any
Pride event.

On June 9 and June 10, LA Pride in the
Park will be headlined by Mariah Carey
and Megan Thee Stallion. Before that
though, on June 3 and June 4, OUTLOUD
@ WeHo Pride saw ’80s icon Grace Jones
and contemporary pop star Carly Rae Jep-
sen tread the boards. Again, that’s just the
headliners. There’s a ton of awesome music
before those four mega stars. But LA can
take over and embrace it the way that
they do the rest of our songs. “It sounds a little bit like a bummer, but
I don’t mean it as a bummer. I mean it as
this beautiful time where we could also
reflect and check in on ourselves. I think
for a lot of it I was thinking, where did I
land? What’s going on? I think from the
loneliness came a lot of exciting moments,
and contemporary pop star Carly Rae Jep-
sen will be headlined by Mariah Carey
Pride event.

It’s been about six months since Jepsen
released her latest album, The Loneliest
Time, a sweetly heartfelt body of work that
saw her explore some lockdown-induced
feelings.

“It’s been such a wild ride since then,”
Jepsen says. “I don’t feel like I’ve really
stopped. But it’s been a good pace of things.
That has been, I’ve gone for a month, I’m
home for a week, I’m gone for two weeks,
I’m home for a week. So it’s been a nice pace
of getting to go and do the thing I love, and
also have a life in between. It’s great.”
The title of the album, Jepsen’s sixth,
should be a clue, but the album was con-
ceived and generally executed during lock-
down.

“It took a while to write because I histori-
cally overwrite, and I was no different with
this project,” she says. “But I ended up writing
a lot of it on Zoom, because that was the
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as in front of my computer in my house.”

Despite the obvious and overt themes,
the record isn’t a depressing listen. Rather,
it’s full of hope and no small amount of joy.

“I was nervous to call it The Loneliest
Time for a lot of reasons,” Jepsen says.

“It sounds a little bit like a bummer, but
I don’t mean it as a bummer. I mean it as
this beautiful time where we could also
reflect and check in on ourselves. I think
for a lot of it I was thinking, where did I
land? What’s going on? I think from the
loneliness came a lot of exciting moments,
and contemporary pop star Carly Rae Jep-
sen will be headlined by Mariah Carey
Pride event.

It’s been such a wild ride since then,”
Jepsen says. “I don’t feel like I’ve really
stopped. But it’s been a good pace of things.
That has been, I’ve gone for a month, I’m
home for a week, I’m gone for two weeks,
I’m home for a week. So it’s been a nice pace
of getting to go and do the thing I love, and
also have a life in between. It’s great.”
The title of the album, Jepsen’s sixth,
should be a clue, but the album was con-
ceived and generally executed during lock-
down.

“It took a while to write because I histori-
cally overwrite, and I was no different with
this project,” she says. “But I ended up writing
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the record isn’t a depressing listen. Rather,

too, and a lot of longing. A lot of silliness.
I wanted it to be not just introspective and
sad, but also have some joyful moments,
too. I think I felt all of that, alone in the
bubble of my little house.”

It’s an album that sees the Canadian art-
ist bounce between decades and genres,
whereas on previous efforts she’s been a
little more direct with her targets.

“It was important to me that there felt
like cohesiveness in the theme of loneliness,
moreso like ‘I’m gonna do strictly ’80s,’ I kinda felt like I had done that with
Emotion, and I think with Dedicated I
started to feel like I’d spread my wings a
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Artist Dakota Noot turns scissors, paint, and tape into a lively playland of cut paper characters and scenarios, using his body (and maybe yours) as a stage to activate darkly whimsical drawing, painting, performance, video, and installation. Like a paper doll’s accouterments in a quirky dialog with surrealism, Noot’s exploration of queer and Midwestern identity is at once wholesome and subversive, fantastical and funny, pointed and poignant. A parade of human-animal hybrids and intimate releasing of pop-culture pressures, Noot’s world of fi ely detailed, exuberantly chromatic, and endlessly inventive expressions range from movement videos to full-room, often interactive, multimedia installations. Noot is currently engaged in a week-long residency at Coaxial Arts, which culminates this weekend in two nights of performance — on Saturday, June 10 (8pm) and Sunday, June 11 (5pm). I will perform wearing paper costumes with a cutout installation I’ve made. Laugh, cry, and question why.

L.A. WEEKLY: When did you fir t know you were an artist?
DAKOTA NOOT: My daycare growing up was my dad Paul Noot’s after-school art classes, so I always made art. I’m thankful for having a family that’s never questioned me being an artist.

What is your short answer to people who ask what your work is about?
A Coloring Book gone wrong (or right). Or, The Mystic Knights of the Oingo Boingo discovering Crayola.

What would you be doing if you weren’t an artist?
I would have gone into writing, probably either children’s books or young adult fantasy stories. There’s still time for that! I grew up writing fan fi tion.

Did you go to art school? Why/Why not?
Going to Claremont Graduate University was my ticket out of North Dakota. Rachel Lachowicz exposed me to installation art. Amitis Motevalli and Anne Bray pushed me to performance, and I’m finally taking up its call 6 years later. Also, Lisa Adams is my art-hero in her dedication to painting.

Why do you live and work in L.A., and not elsewhere?
The culture, food, and people are incomparable to anywhere else. I feel accepted in L.A. like I never did before—and the film industry always inspires my artwork. It’s that spirit of Kenneth Anger or Roger Corman that lives on.

When was your fir t show?
I think my first group show was at the Hive Gallery in Downtown L.A. in 2016. My mom had come down from North Dakota, and we had a fun moment where somebody called us “hipsters!” I guess we have style.

When is/was your current/most recent/next show or project?
I currently have a week-long residency at Coaxial Arts that will end with two performances—on Saturday, June 10 (8pm) and Sunday, June 11 (5pm). I will perform wearing paper costumes with a cutout installation I’ve made. Laugh, cry, and question why.

What artist living or dead would you most like to show or work with?
Vaginal Davis. Reading her blog (while in North Dakota) inspired me to move out and come to Los Angeles.
I wanted to see her Los Angeles, even as she moved to Berlin. I hope to thank her one day! She even worked for the LA Weekly. Do you listen to music while you work? If so, what? I'm obsessed with the jazz soundtrack for Jess Franco's film Vampyros Lesbos.

It's so upbeat. Euro-horror from Jess Franco and Jean Rollin inspires a lot of horror references in my work. Website and social media handles, please! Web: dakotanoot.com IG: @dakotanoot TikTok: @dakotanoot
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