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SHOULD THE GAYS BE STUMPING FOR TRUMP?

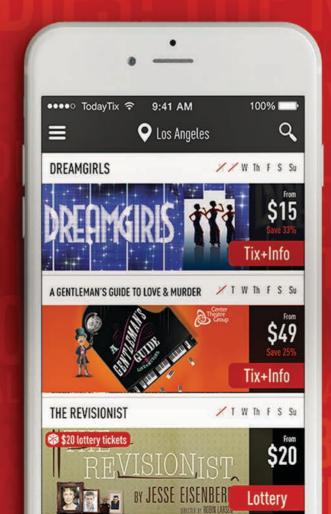
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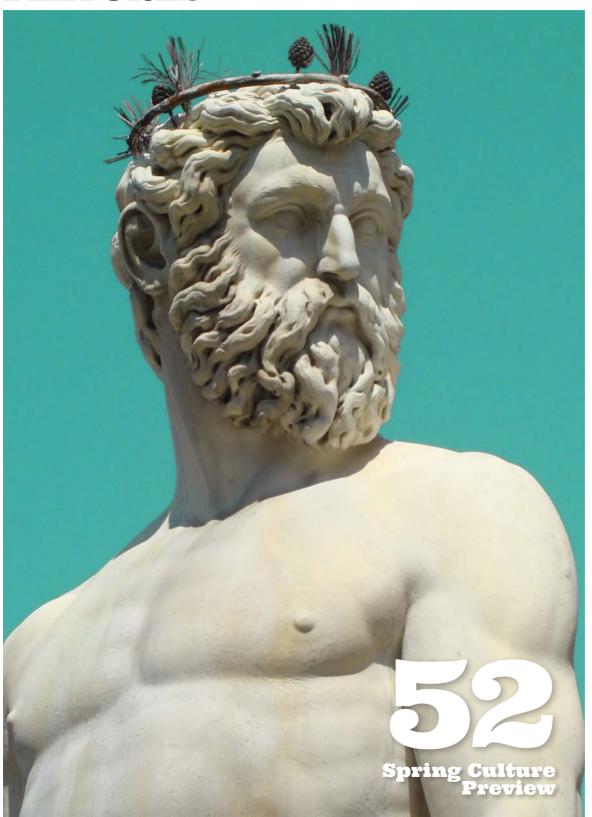




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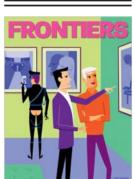




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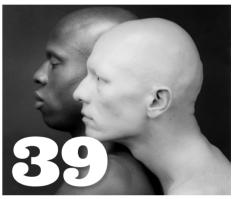
Billy MastersPalm Springs













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FRONT

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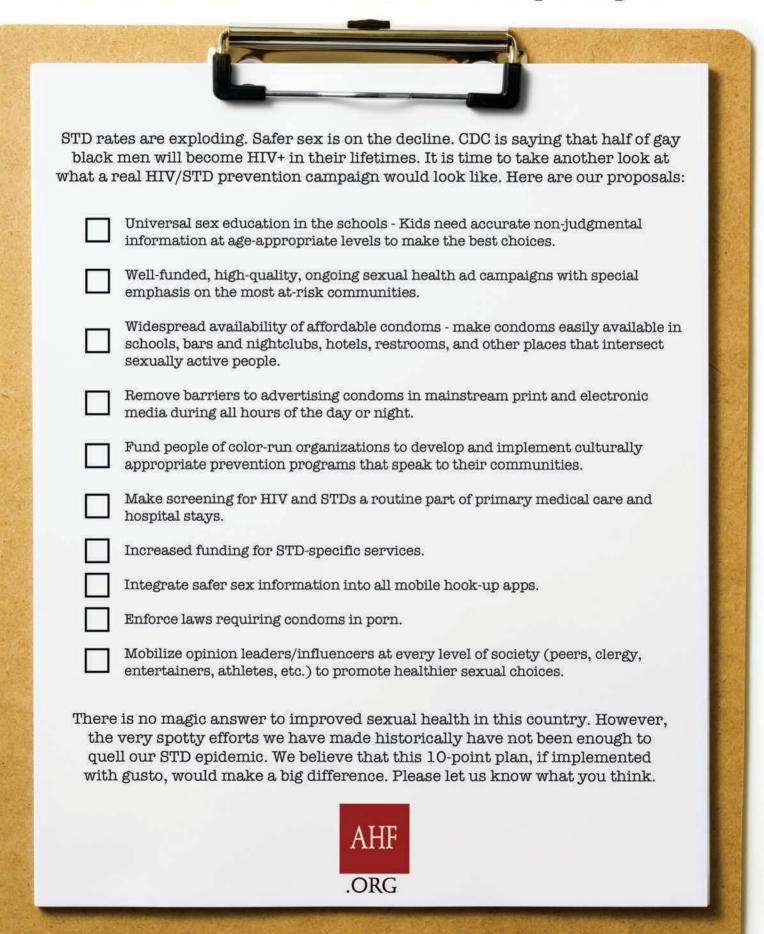








What does a real STD prevention agenda look like? AIDS Healthcare Foundation's 10-point plan.



NEWSBOX



RALEIGH, NC (AP) - Gay and transgender rights supporters wasted little time in challenging a new North Carolina law, filing a federal lawsuit on March 28 that called it discriminatory and said it singles out LGBT people for "disfavored treatment."

The law, which has also drawn strong opposition from major corporations including Apple and Google, was signed by Republican Gov. Pat McCrory the week before. The GOP-controlled legislature passed the law in response to a broad Charlotte ordinance that allowed transgender people to use the restroom aligned with their gender identity. The new state law also prevents all cities and counties from extending protections to cover sexual orientation and gender identity at restaurants, hotels and stores.

"By singling out LGBT people for disfavored treatment and explicitly writing discrimination against transgender people into state law, (the new law) violates the most basic guarantees of equal treatment and the U.S. Constitution," the lawsuit said.

With the law. North Carolina became the first state to require public school and university students to use only those bathrooms that match their birth certificates, according to the National Conference on State Legislatures.

Advocates for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender rights say state legislators demonized them with bogus claims about bathroom risks. Supporters say the new law protects all people from having to share bathrooms with people who make them feel unsafe.

Two transgender people, a lesbian law professor and several civil liberties groups sued.

Lawsuit defendants include McCrory and the University of North Carolina system, where one plaintiff works and another attends college. The system's 17

11111111111111111111111111111

THREE

The number of cities, as of March 28, that banned official travel to North Carolina for employees due to the state's new anti-gay law. Among the cities giving North Carolina the finger are San Francisco, Seattle and New York City.

......

campuses also must comply with the law.

Another defendant is Attorney General Roy Cooper, a Democrat who has criticized the law and wants it repealed. He is challenging McCrory this fall for governor. Cooper is a defendant because his office defends the state in litigation.

Two plaintiffs—UNC-Chapel Hill employee Joaquin Carcano of Carrboro and Payton Grey McGarry, a student at UNC-Greensboro-were born female and now consider themselves male but have not changed their birth certificates.

The lawsuit says Carcano used a designated men's restroom at work and McGarry used a campus locker room without any problems before the law was passed. Using women's restrooms could cause them anxiety and fear, the lawsuit says. Now they'll have to search for bathrooms in other buildings or at local businesses, according to the lawsuit.

Forcing McGarry "to use the women's restroom would also cause substantial harm to his mental health and well-being," the lawsuit reads. "It would also force him to disclose to others the fact that he is transgender, which itself could lead to violence and harassment."



"I would be blessed with a gay son. I just want my boys to be happy and healthy. It doesn't seem different or weird or anything anymore because it just seems so normal to me."

Gwen Stefani, who just released the brand-new solo album This is What the Truth Feels Like, speaks with PrideSource about how she'd react if one of her children were gay

Why Did the Rams Draft Michael Sam?

e all cheered when **Michael Sam** was drafted by the St. Louis Rams two years ago, becoming the NFL's first openly gay player in the process, but a new report claims his 11th-hour selection might have been part of a backroom deal with the league.

Sports journalist **Howard Balzer** cites "multiple sources" claiming the Rams struck a deal with the NFL to draft Sam, and in exchange were kept off HBO's annual *Hard Knocks* series for the year. The show follows an NFL team through their training camp and preseason, and in 2014 the Rams were one of the eligible teams. Head coach **Jeff Fisher** didn't want the team on the show, and the NFL didn't want the embarrassment of Sam going undrafted, so a deal was reportedly struck.

Fisher has denied the reports, calling them "absolutely absurd," insisting Sam was simply the best player on the board at the time they drafted him. "It's insulting, from my standpoint, as it relates to Michael," he says.

An NFL spokesman simply added, "Jeff Fisher is correct." As for Sam himself? He thinks it sounds plausible, tweeting, "I'm not surprised at all" on March 23.

Despite being drafted by the Rams, Sam never made it onto the team's practice squad. He briefly joined the Dallas Cowboys, and then the Montréal Alouettes, but left that team too, citing "personal reasons."

As for the Rams, they're moving back to Los Angeles, and they will in fact be the featured team on this year's *Hard Knocks*, which kicks off its 11th season on Aug. 9. — **D.P.**

SPEAK OUT

"If a dude's hot, a dude's hot. There are some good-looking dudes out there. Look at Ryan Gosling, bro. I'd totally make out with his face."







PALEYFEST L.A. 2016, Dolby Theatre, March 11-20—Once again the ultimate TV fans were able to get up close and personal to the stars and creators of their favorite series. Top, from left: Big Bang Theory stars Mayim Bialik and Jim Parsons, AHS: Hotel stars Finn Witrock and Wes Bentley; middle: AHS star Cheyenne Jackson, Empire's Gabourey Sidibe, Scream Queens stars Emma Roberts and Lea Michele, Empire's Jussie Smollett; bottom: AHS star Matt Bomer, Black-ish star Jenifer Lewis, Supergirl's Melissa Benoist, Scandal's Guillermo Diaz and Kerry Washington



IMPACT AWARDS, Beverly Hilton, March 12—The Family Equality Council's 12th annual awards honored individuals for their efforts to advance equality for all families. Top, from left: Levi Kreis, David Monahan and Larry Sullivan, Greg Louganis, Joy Villa; middle: FEC's Brent Wright and Emily Hecht-McGowan with Perez Hilton (center), David Marshall Grant, Caroline Rhea, Stuart Bell, Vince Klaseus, Alec Mapa; bottom: Linda Perry with Sharon Osbourne and Sara Gilbert, Greg Berlanti and Jeremy Jordan



OUTFEST FUSION 2016, Egyptian Theatre, March 4-16—The only multicultural LGBT film festival of its kind held events throughout Los Angeles. Top, from left: Bamby Salcedo, Flavio Florencio, Marco Castro-Borjorquez with guest, Outfest Executive Director Christopher Racster with Nisha Gantra and Wilson Cruz, Alonso Duralde; middle: Andrae Vigil-Romero, Sergio Ingato, Moira Griffin, Nneka Onuorah, Breeda Wool; bottom: Amy Flower, Kai Towns, Lucy Mukerjee-Brown, Be Steadwell

He broke the rules and changed the art world.

Iconic images of celebrity friends, elegant floral still lifes, and graphic depictions of New York's S&M subculture come together to celebrate Mapplethorpe's enduring and provocative legacy.



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The J. Paul Getty Museum



WATERCOOLER

Your cheat sheet for intelligent conversation — By Peter DelVecchio

Georgia Governor Vetoes Bill After Threats of Boycott

Apparently succumbing to pressure from many quarters, Georgia's Republican Gov. Nathan Deal announced March 28 that he would veto the socalled Free Exercise Protection Act, which would have allowed businesses to refuse services to LGBTs on religious grounds.

The NFL had threatened the measure could scuttle Atlanta's Super Bowl bid, and Disney and Marvel said they would stop filming in the state should the bill become law. Producers of AMC's The Walking Dead said they might walk their filming of the mega-hit out of Georgia as well. Film production generated roughly \$1.7 billion in Georgia last year.

Time Warner, Turner Broadcasting, Warner Brothers, Coca-Cola and AMC Networks were among the most prominent companies with significant Georgia ties to come out against the bill.

35 Dead in Brussels Terror Attack, 2 Suspects at Large

At least 35 people were killed, and more than 300 were left wounded, after explosions ripped through an airport and Metro station in Brussels on March 22.

Two men spotted on surveillance footage reportedly remain at large, and they're among eight suspects whom authorities are still searching for throughout Europe in connection to the coordinated attacks.

The bombings came four days after Salah **Abdeslam**, the main fugitive responsible for the Paris terror attacks last November, was arrested by Belgian police.

On March 28, three men were charged in Belgium on accusations of participating in the activities of a terrorist group, though investigators have been tight-lipped about specific allegations against those who are in custody.

UK National Health Service Won't Provide PrEP

HIV/AIDS activists are feeling betrayed by the UK National Health Service's announcement that it will not provide pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services or medications nationwide.

Studies show a regimen of the antiretroviral drug Truvada greatly reduces the risk of HIV transmission. "NHS England led us to believe for the last two years that they would be willing to commission and fund PrEP as long as it met the appropriate criteria of cost effectiveness," says the National AIDS Trust's Yusef Azad.

NHS said PrEP is not its responsibility because it's a preventative measure that should instead be managed by local governments, a justification rejected by the Local Government Association and London Council. Pressure is mounting on the NHS to reverse its decision.



Smithers of 'The Simpsons' Finally Comes Out

After years of innuendo and an obvious unrequited love for his boss, Mr. Burns, Waylon Smithers of The Simpsons is officially coming out, according to Fox.

"Homer turns to a dating app to help Smithers find a boyfriend," the network says, describing "The Burns Cage," airing April 3. "When Smithers is devastated by Burns' lack of affection towards him. Homer makes it his mission to find him a boyfriend."

Underscoring the episode's gayness, Star Trek's **George Takei** will make his fifth appearance on the show, this time playing himself.

"In Springfield now, most people know he's gay, but obviously Burns doesn't," says EP Al Jean. "We actually do a lot with Smithers this year; he gets fed up with Burns not appreciating him and considers his options."

ACLU Challenges Kentucky Prison Censorship

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) is challenging a Kentucky state prison policy that it alleges bans prisoners from receiving LGBT-related mail. The Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex intercepted prisoners' mail under this policy on at least 13 occasions since August, Kentucky ACLU legal director William Sharp wrote in a March 15 letter to warden Kathy Litteral.

The censored mail included "personal letters and photographs not marked as sexually explicit, as well as periodicals such as Out magazine and The Advocate, which contain articles about popular culture and politics of interest to the LGBT community," Sharp wrote.

While Litteral has not responded, the Corrections Department is "going to review all of the policies, both institutionally and system-wide," a spokeswoman told the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Antarctica Declared 'World's First LGBT-Friendly Continent'

The land way, way down under has been declared "the world's first LGBT-friendly continent" by the nonprofit Planting Peace, which promotes LGBT equality and owns a rainbow-colored house across the street from the virulently anti-gay Westboro Baptist Church.

The primary purpose of this declaration is to instill full fundamental human rights to LGBT people inhabiting or visiting the continent of Antarctica," founder Aaron Jackson said.

Group members recently traveled to the bottom of the world to plant rainbow and transgender flags among the penguins on the tundra, raising awareness for basic rights for the LGBT community.

If you're living with HIV, you may face another clinical challenge to healthy aging



Help Curb Excess Abdominal VAT

Visceral adipose tissue (VAT) isn't regular fat. VAT is a hard fat that surrounds organs, may be associated with serious health issues, and can be difficult to control with diet and exercise alone.

EGRIFTA® (tesamorelin for injection) is the only FDA-approved treatment for excess HIV-related abdominal VAT

EGRIFTA® was shown to reduce VAT in 2 clinical trials of 816 total adult patients who received 2 mg of *EGRIFTA*® or placebo (26-week Main Phase and 26-week Extension Phase).^a

Trial 1: 18% average reduction. Trial 2: 14% average reduction.

^aFor additional trial details, see the full Prescribing Information at EGRIFTA.com.

EGRIFTA® is not indicated to treat health issues beyond the reduction of excess abdominal VAT.

SELECTED RISK INFORMATION

What is **EGRIFTA®**?

- EGRIFTA® is an injectable prescription medicine to reduce the excess in abdominal fat in HIV-infected patients with lipodystrophy. The impact and safety of EGRIFTA® on cardiovascular health has not been studied.
- EGRIFTA® is not indicated for weight loss management.
- It is not known whether taking EGRIFTA® helps improve compliance with anti-retroviral medications.

EGRIFTA® may cause serious side effects including:

 Serious allergic reaction. Stop using EGRIFTA® and get emergency help right away if you have symptoms such as a rash over your body, hives, shortness of breath or trouble breathing, swelling of your face or throat, fast heartbeat, and feeling of faintness or fainting.

- Swelling (fluid retention). *EGRIFTA*® can cause swelling in some parts of your body.
- Increase in glucose (blood sugar) intolerance and diabetes.
- Injection site reactions. Change (rotate) your injection site to help lower your risk for injection site reactions. The following symptoms around the area of the injection site can occur: redness, itching, pain, irritation, bleeding, rash, and swelling.

The most common side effects of EGRIFTA® include:

joint pain, pain in legs and arms, swelling in your legs, muscle soreness, tingling, numbness and pricking, nausea, vomiting, rash, and itching.

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.



Please see brief summary of full Important Patient Information on next page.

Learn more at EGRIFTA.com

A Transformation From Within

IMPORTANT PATIENT INFORMATION

The following is a brief summary only. See complete Prescribing Information at EGRIFTA.com or request complete Prescribing Information by calling 1-844-347-4382. This information does not take the place of talking to your doctor about your medical condition or your treatment.

What is EGRIFTA® (tesamorelin for injection)?

- EGRIFTA® is an injectable prescription medicine to reduce the excess in abdominal fat in HIV-infected patients with lipodystrophy. The impact and safety of EGRIFTA® on cardiovascular health has not been studied.
- EGRIFTA® is not indicated for weight loss management.
- It is not known whether taking EGRIFTA® helps improve compliance with anti-retroviral medications.

Do not use EGRIFTA® if you:

- have pituitary gland tumor, pituitary gland surgery or other problems related to your pituitary gland.
- have active cancer or are receiving treatment for cancer
- are allergic to tesamorelin or mannitol.
- are pregnant or become pregnant. If you become pregnant, stop using EGRIFTA® and talk with your healthcare provider.

Talk to your doctor to find out if *EGRIFTA*® is right for you. How should I use *EGRIFTA*®?

- Read the detailed "Instructions for Use" that comes with EGRIFTA® before you start using EGRIFTA®. Your healthcare provider will show you how to inject EGRIFTA®.
- Use EGRIFTA® exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider.
- Inject *EGRIFTA*® under the skin (subcutaneously) of your stomach area (abdomen).
- Change (rotate) the injection site on your stomach area (abdomen) with each dose. Do not inject EGRIFTA® into scar tissue, bruises or your navel.

EGRIFTA® may cause serious side effects including:

 Serious allergic reaction. Some people taking EGRIFTA® may have an allergic reaction.

Stop using *EGRIFTA*® and get emergency help right away if you have any of the following symptoms:

- a rash over your body
- hives
- swelling of your face or throat
- shortness of breath or trouble breathing
- fast heartbeat
- feeling of faintness or fainting

- Swelling (fluid retention). EGRIFTA® can cause swelling in some parts of your body. Call your healthcare provider if you have an increase in joint pain, or pain or numbness in your hands or wrist (carpal tunnel syndrome).
- Increase in glucose (blood sugar) intolerance and diabetes.
 Your healthcare provider will measure your blood sugar periodically.
- Injection-site reactions. Change (rotate) your injection site to help lower your risk for injection-site reactions. Call your healthcare provider for medical advice if you have the following symptoms around the area of the injection site:
 - redness

bleeding

itching

rash

pain

swelling

irritation

The most common side effects of EGRIFTA® include:

joint pain

- nausea
- pain in legs and arms
- vomiting
- swelling in your legs
- rash
- muscle soreness
- itching
- tingling, numbness and pricking

These are not all the possible side effects of *EGRIFTA*®. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

You may also report side effects to ** EGRIFTA ASSIST** toll-free at 1-844-EGRIFTA (1-844-347-4382).

For more information about *EGRIFTA*®, go to www.EGRIFTA.com or contact **** FGRIFTA ASSIST** toll-free at 1-844-EGRIFTA (1-844-347-4382).

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WHY THIS GAY IS STUMPING FOR TRUMP

Our resident psychologist takes a look at the upcoming presidential election, and it turns out that Donald Trump as the Republican nominee could be the best possible outcome for the LGBT community By Dr. Greg Cason

estern politics tend to be overly formal, with lots of rules and that whole "checks and balances" thing clogging the U.S. government. No wonder someone with a street-thug accent and a Jersey Shore tan, making promises of wall-building, is such a breath of fresh air. Don't act surprised. I'm his demographic. I'm white and disenfranchised. (Well, gay.) Though I do veer from the typical rally attendees with my college education, appropriate BMI and desire to break down walls—albeit emotional ones. Still, when the presidential election rolls around, I want **Donald Trump**'s name on the ballot.

The reason he's so popular is that people—well, Trump people—are pissed off. Their anger is aimed at the establishment, the government, immigrants, you name it. They also don't want another four years of Obama policies, and they sure as hell don't want **Hillary Clinton**. Now that I think of it, that's not too different from **Bernie Sanders** supporters. They're angry, too.

Call it sexism, a rejection of political dynasties or a reminder of the high school English teacher who was both boring *and* always picked on you. Many people simply don't like Hillary on an emotional level.

Luckily, people hate Trump more. In a recent Gallop poll, three out of five Americans say they view Trump unfavorably. But unlike his fingers, that unfavorable rating is "YUUUGE." Trump is the most unfavorably viewed

3%

According to Politifact.com's
TRUTH-O-METER, the percentage of statements made by Donald Trump classified as "true."
Forty-two percent of his statements have been deemed false, and even worse, 19% have been deemed "Pants on Fire."

.....

candidate from any party (Republican, Democrat or Independent) in the last 25 years!

Everybody thinks the more you like a candidate, the more likely you are to vote for him or her. If only it were that simple. In reality, it all comes down to voter psychology. What people dislike may play a far more important role.

If you really want to motivate someone to give money, post articles on Facebook or, most importantly, show up at the voting booth, you have to get them riled up. And there's no more surefire way to give them the passion of torch-wielding villagers than to give them something—or someone—to oppose or blame.

That's why political attack ads work so well. That's also how initiatives to ban gay marriage in 2004 got **George W. Bush** voters to the voting booth in key states. And that's why **Barack Obama** benefited so wildly when **Sarah Palin** entered the 2008 presidential race. It wasn't just hope that motivated people; it was hate.

That same kind of opposition and anger is why Trump and Sanders supporters are so active right now. They don't like the way things are happening in this country, and neither group likes early front-runner Clinton.

According to research by **Richard Petty, Ph.D.**, Professor of Psychology at the University of Ohio, opposition inspires more confidence in one's position than support. That confidence in one's position then inspires



▶ continued

action, including casting a vote.

Let's take two people who both intend to vote for Hillary. The first Clinton voter has supported her from day one. The second voter really hates Trump. Come Nov. 1, it's the Trump-hater who's most likely to step into the voting booth and cast a vote for Clinton.

That's why I want Trump to be the Republican nominee. Come November, that three-fifths of America that views Trump unfavorably is more likely to vote for the Democratic candidate if Trump is on the ballot. The Republican leadership knows it, too, and that's why they're so freaked out.

A Trump nomination will also, hopefully, motivate all of those angry Sanders supporters who are currently threatening to stay home on Election Day if they don't get their way. Anger, it turns out, is also a good tonic for apathy.

I know what you Sanders people are saying: "That's why Bernie should be the nominee ... people don't hate him!" Even if he could inspire more Democrats to vote for him now, his quasi-socialist views and cranky finger-wagging would most certainly gain a place of disdain with Republicans, and some Independents.

The Democrats need Trump.

What if the Republican establishment is able to wrest the nomination away from Trump and give it to second-placer Ted Cruz? That's a head-scratcher. It's a good thing people have a negative emotional reaction to him, too.

In a Psychology Today article, neurologist Richard Cytowic describes Cruz with the German word backpfeifengesicht, meaning a face in need of a good punch. Cruz has a downturned face, and the corners of his mouth bend down. The outsides of his eyebrows also bend down, along with his eyes. According to Cytowic, downturned expressions typically signal disagreeableness and disgust, leading many to label Cruz as "creepy."

Democrats may still stand a chance with Cruz and the extremely negative gut reactions he elicits, but it's a chance that may not be worth taking.

That's why I'm stumping for Trump. He's a bully, a thug and an anti-intellectual, and with the help of plenty political attack ads and protests, he'll inspire more people to vote against him than anyone in the last 25 years. Now that's what I call winning!



DATEBOOK

wed. | APRIL 20 EAT. DRINK. BE AN ANGEL

This Project Angel Food annual event offers restaurateurs an opportunity to donate sales on this one day to the organization. Participating restaurants include The Abbey, Jar, Kitchen24, Hugo's, Rockwell, Tortilla Republic and more. For the full list of restaurants. go to angelfood.org.

SAT. | APRIL 23 **VOICE AWARDS 2016**

GMCLA's fifth annual awards will honor leaders who use their voice for social change and equality. This year's honorees include Abbe Land and Subhi

Nahas; Pauley Perrette and Ross Mathews will host: and Paula Abdul, Alex Newell and Daniel Franzese are among the night's special guests. amcla.org



The Pasadena Playhouse's annual fundraiser and red carpet gala event, a 1960s-inspired soirée set on the playhouse's proscenium, will honor Jane Fonda and record producer Richard Perry. The evening takes its setting and locale from current production Casa Valentina, pasadenaplayhouse.org

SAT. | APRIL 30 **EVENING UNDER THE STARS**

The AIDS Assistance Program's annual gala. the unofficial finale of the desert social season, will feature a performance by music legends The Village People at the O'Donnell Golf Club in Palm Springs. aidsassistance.org

SUN. | JUNE 19 GENERATION: THE 2016 SUMMER INTENSIVE TOUR

The Broadway Dreams Foundation and The Wallis have put together this annual summer intensive for aspiring musical theater artists. The weeklong event invites future stars to engage in rigorous training, learning from industry professionals. Through June 26. mybroadwaydreams.com

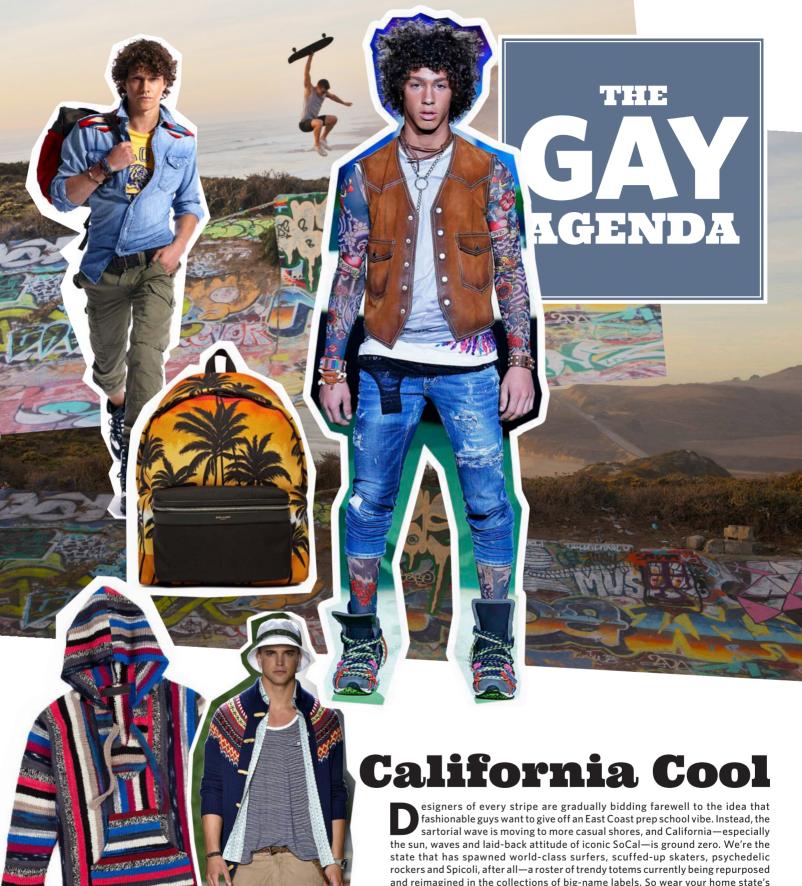


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and reimagined in the collections of big-name labels. So wear your home state's history of faded denim, drug rugs and sleeveless tops with pride this season. Just maybe go easy on the tie-dye. Some things are best left on the beaches of yesteryear. -Stephan Horbelt

> Clockwise from top left: Ralph Lauren Spring 2016 Collection; Dsquared2 S/S 2016; Michael Bastian S/S 2016; Van Doren Old Skool by Vans, \$65, vans.com; Cashmere Baja Pullover, \$2,140, elder-statesman.com; Saint Laurent Palm Print Backpack, \$895, neimanmarcus.com



Take a Break

Head to Koreatown for the can't-be-beat combo of ice cream and booze

ce cream and alcohol are two of the human race's greatest triumphs, so we're pretty thrilled they've found themselves together courtesy of Break Room 86's boozy new patio ice cream truck, the facade of which was personally constructed by bar owners (and brothers) Mark and Jonnie Houston.

The bar, located inside Koreatown hot spot The Line Hotel, is renowned as a fun spot thanks to its full-on '80s vibe. (As in, patrons enter through a vintage Pepsi vending machine and witness a throwback world of video games, boomboxes and mixtapes, plus themed nights aiming to recall certain scenes of Bret Easton Ellis' Less Than Zero.) It's latest draw—the ice cream truck bar—ups the ante, serving shots, bottled cocktails and, most importantly, alcoholic ice cream treats.

Break the heat with one of Break Room 86's own boozy push-up pops, available in either Screw Ball or Coconut Crush (a surprisingly refreshing concoction of gin, Jagermeister, coconut milk and pineapple juice). Or maybe you'd rather try a Coolhaus Manhattanice cream sandwich. (That's right, your favorite gourmet ice cream spot has ioined in on the fun.) Bottled cocktails are a childhood throwback, too, with choices like orange soda and gin, grape soda and vodka and a cherry Coke and rum option. Even teetotalers can join the fun, opting for a Choco Taco or a Rocket Pop, which of course require no tinkering.

Drunken ice cream is all well and good, but it's really the old-school ice cream truck setup that seals the deal, complete with a colorful illustrated menu. In fact, the only thing missing (besides an engine) is that classic ice cream truck music. Then again, we're fine with that.

The ice cream truck at Break Room 86, 630 S. Ardmore Ave., Koreatown, is open from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. - Dominic Preston



THERE'S A NEW coffee on the caffeine market. which happens to also be the first line of bottled cold-brew to hit shelves. Lucky Jack Nitro Cold Brew Coffee—available at local Whole Foods outlets and M Café de Chaya on Melrose-is the brainchild of Richard Karno (also the founder of local organic roaster Groundwork Coffee for true bean nerds). More than just delicious allorganic coffee, though, Karno discovered a method for infusing nitrogen in each of Lucky Jack's six flavors, meaning not only do they make a glorious popping sound when you open them, but you're left with a head of foamy nitrogen bubbles when you pour a bottle over ice. That same effervescent quality to the brew makes these great mixers for coffee cocktails, making Lucky Jack a great option no matter what time of day you're crav-





BUTCH BOTANICALS

Floral arrangements not your thing? Add a touch of masculine greenery to your home with a personalized terrarium from Birch & Bone

fter just over one year of doing pop-up events around town at high-profile spots like Artisanal L.A. and Soho House, Birch & Bone (birchandbone. com) has landed prime real estate at the Ace Hotel—and business is blooming. Located at the United Artists Theater's will-call ticket booth, owner Amelia Rose Posada's badass botanical and floral arrangements are a refreshing contrast to Downtown's hustling-and-bustling street level.

The 33-year-old entrepreneur is especially known for her terrarium bars, an original concept that always drew crowds to Birch & Bone's pop-ups and earned a permanent spot at the new store. Building your own terrarium at Birch & Bone is a lot easier than it looks, and the friendly staff is happy to walk you through it.

You have two sizes to choose from: A 6-inch x 6-inch glass cylinder for \$40 or 3x3 for \$20. "You first start with a bottom laver," Posada says. "You can either do a solid layer of sand or three or four different colors, and then you put your soil in. And then if you want to get sharp with it, you can get a little cactus. I've got soft succulents if you don't want it to be so sharp in there, or you can mix them up."

Next are what she calls "the toppings." Much like a frozen yogurt stand, you can get as wild as your want with personalization. "That's where I like to really pull in



the texture, so I've got the big chunks of glass and moss," she says. "And then you put your crystal on there."

Texture is a key component in Posada's distinct floral design style. It's what gives her arrangements some grit and personality, and sets her apart from the rest. "I'm a very texture-driven person. I'm not really the girl that's going to have the cups of sweet peas and silver jars by my bed," she said. "When I'm designing a piece, I start with texture and I add soft elements into it, whereas I think most designers start with your peonies, or your roses, or your ranunculus. It's just all soft. I start with succulents, cactus, or if I'm doing a vase arrangement or a bouquet, I'm pulling in dried mushrooms, pods that are hollowed out from Indonesia, filled with moss and air plants."

Texturize your own home with a self-made Birch & Bone creation. They're available for private parties, events, weddings, and really any excuse to buy flowers. You'll find them at 929 S. Broadway in DTLA, Tuesday through Sunday. They're closed Mondays. -Lydia Mack

Clockwise from left: Tom Dixon, Blue Bottle Coffee, Sweetgreen, SoulCycle, Magasin











5 PLACES WE'RE EXCITED TO SEE FIND A HOME AT PLATFORM

UMAMI BURGER'S

latest collabora-

tion sees ultimate

foodie and Good Eats host Alton Brown craft perfection within a bun. "The

Alton Burger" is a

tribute to the classic

Southern breakfast:

a patty blending

beef with bacon

lardons, cheddar,

miso-maple bacon,

smashed cheesy

tots (!), a fried

egg, fried sage and

house-made coffee

ketchup. Even better

than the burger

itself? Through April

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Wish. Eat up!

-S.H.

ou've come a long way, Culver City. In the last half-decade, you've transformed from a blip on the way to LAX into a go-to spot for "L.A. affordable" housing and laid-back lunch and dinner spots. April sees the neighborhood welcome Platform, a four-acre, mixed-use indooroutdoor mall that will up Culver City's game even more. The former car lot will house 15 high-end shops and five restaurants, only a few blocks from Downtown Culver City. It's received quite a bit of buzz already, but here are five reasons we're excited about spending more time below the 10.

In addition to its West Coast headquarters, housed on-site, Platform is also home to this rapidly expanding fitness cult's largest studio in L.A. The space is currently open and hosting its 45-minute indoor cycling sessions.

MAGASIN

This is a new concept by Josh Peskowitz, former fashion director for Bloomingdales, intended to be a curated spot for menswear, only stocking "under-the-radar yet highly sought-after" labels.

BLUE BOTTLE COFFEE

This Oakland-headquartered boutique roaster is a response to the pumpkin-spiced and Big Gulpsized crap served up at big-name spots, meant for those who actually like the taste of coffee beans. The product is brewed on vintage equipment and we can't wait to see the "unique café concept" they have in store for us at Platform.

SWFFTGRFFN

This D.C.-based customizable salad chain is all the rage for those looking to eat healthy and eat trendy. (Though maybe not a good fit for those who despise puns, as offerings include the Avocobbo, Kale Caesar and Rad Thai.)

TOM DIXON X CURVE

The Tom Dixon flagship at Platform will be the design house's second spot in the world and will feature the brand's signature Brit-influenced home décor, furniture and accessories. Offering men's and women's apparel, Curve is attached, as is a modern take on the British tea room, perfect for light bites when your limbs tire from throwing down some serious plastic. -S.H.



Magic in the Valley

EVEN BEFORE WE'RE transported back to J.K. Rowling's lush world of wizards, witches and wands with November's Eddie Redmavne-starring Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them, Universal City gets a dose of magic all its

own when The Wizarding

World of Harry Potter at

Universal Studios opens to the public on April 7.

Fans of the super successful book and film franchise (and their muggle tag-alongs) will race through Hogwarts on the Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey ride (featuring 3-D

cameos by Daniel Radcliffe and Emma Watson), fly above Hogsmeade on the roller coaster Flight of the Hippogriff, load up on loot including Chocolate Frogs and Every-Flavour Beans in Honeydukes candy shop and throw back a pint of Butterbeer

at Three Broomsticks.

The park expansion will be a boon for the SoCal area, as it has been for Universal Studios Orlando since the Wizarding World opened there five years back. -S.H.



It's the suit color of the moment, seen on recent runways by Burberry, Ferragamo and Canali. Whether it's milk chocolate or more mahogany. try it with a light blue shirt and dark tie.



BOOGIE NIGHTS

The '70s are back in a big way, and not just in the form of HBO's Vinvl. Retroinspired menswear is all the rage for Tom Ford, Gucci and others, but you don't have to spend a lot to look like a child of rock 'n' roll.



WRIST CANDY

In the era of smartphones, it was only a matter of time before sporting a watch on your wrist became de riqueur once more. Save up for a classic gold timeniece and watch strangers' heads start to turn.



ANIMAL PRINTS

Straight guys may shy away from the boldness of cheetah or tiger print, but all you really need is confidence ... and to remember that, like any loud print, moderation is the key. Looking like a head-to-toe African safari has never really been the look. -S.H.





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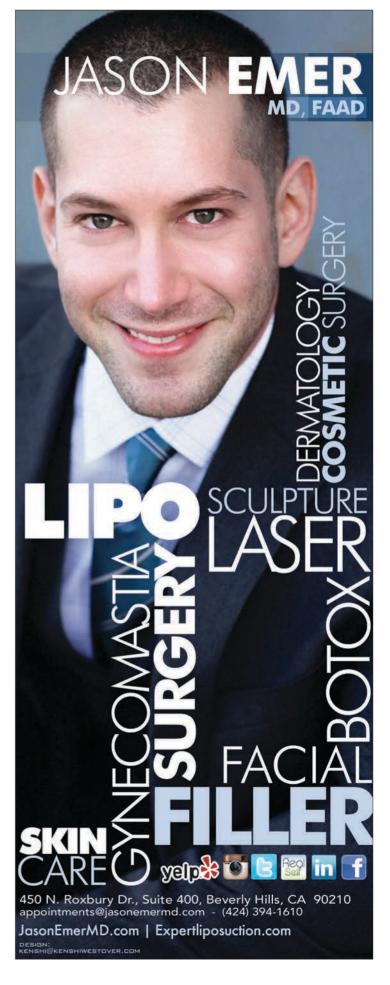
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COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION WITH THIS AD







What kind of bag comes with "zipperless entry"? The Trunkster does, a new take on the suitcase that aims to make your next trip an easier (and more stylish) one. Designed by Jesse Potash and Gaston Blanchet for "road warriors," its roll-top door has replaced the zipper as the coolest way to access your belongings. Even better, this bag (\$355 for the 22-inch carry-on version) comes with a built-in digital scale and 2 USB ports for charging your phone. You'll be ecstatic to leave home. trunkster.co - Stephan Horbelt

8 Places to Pitch a Tent

This spring, enjoy the great outdoors the way Mother Nature intended—naked as a jaybird—at one of the country's many wilderness hot spots

hether you like roughing it in the woods or prefer the luxuries of a well-equipped cabin, these nine campgrounds, resorts and retreats—each one perfect for the rugged gay man—have something for everyone. It's time to load up the Winne and git along, little dogies.

Rancho Cicada Retreat, Plymouth, California

Nestled on 44 acres within the Sierra Foothills, this mostly male retreat along the Cosumnes River provides platform camping near the water's edge, a swimming hole, gorge tubing, sunbathing, volleyball and fishing. When you're all tuckered out, enjoy a homemade meal before slipping into the bubbling Jacuzzi-style tub. ranchocicadaretreat.com

Magnetic Valley Retreat, Eureka Springs, Arkansas

Considering that Carroll County is one of the gayest places in the south-central United States (approximately

one-third of its population is "family," according to *The New York Times*), it's no surprise that this exclusive, private men's resort is a popular destination. Catering to gents aged 21 and older, Magnetic Valley facilitates a vibrant social scene with amenities like a heated pool, hot tub, dry sauna, outdoor showers, fire pit and the Carrie Nation Bar. *magneticvalleyresort.com*

Twin Ponds Lodge, Albion, Maine

It's a bare-all free-for-all for naturists at Twin Ponds Lodge in Maine, a gated campground and resort for adult men. Strip down and hang out—literally—anywhere on the property, from the large heated pool and 14-man hot tub to the recreation hall outfitted with billiards, ping-pong and satellite TV. Day passes are also available if you prefer a shorter stint of fishing or hiking, releasing toxins in the wood-fired sauna, scrubbing down in the communal shower room or catching rays in the open sunning areas. twinpondslodge.com









Lizard Landing Campground, Columbia, Alabama

Primarily catering to the gay community but welcoming of our allies, Lizard Landing offers 11.5 secluded acres of primitive tent sites, no-frills sleeping cabins and deluxe cabins featuring in-unit hygiene facilities. A heated saltwater pool (your skin will thank you!), fishing, canoeing and kayaking activities are available for adventurers, plus there's access to a boat ramp if you bring along your vessel. *lizardlanding.com*

Campit Outdoor Resort, Saugatuck, Michigan

Spread out on 25 private acres at this adult- and membersonly tent and RV campground that caters to gays and lesbians. Located just 10 minutes from Saugatuck, the most popular LGBT vacation destination in the Midwest, Campit offers an immersive outdoor experience, from sprawling meadows to wooded trails to Lake Michigan beaches. Other amenities include a swimming pool, clothing-optional areas and a gang shower for men. *campitresort.com*

Southern Comfort Campground, Cross City, Florida

If you prefer a more private, members-only (and no minors allowed) ambience, check into the clothing-optional and aptly named Southern Comfort Campground in northwest Florida. Pick from your preference of camp arrangement—tent, RV or

cabin—before letting loose in the Southern Nights clubhouse, playing horseshoes or volleyball, visiting the beer garden or dressing up for one of the destination's theme weekends. southerncomfortcampground.net

Roy's Hideaway, Collins, Georgia

Gay and lesbian anglers will delight at the abundance of fishing opportunities at Roy's Hideaway—a private, membersonly campground in rural Georgia—offering six lakes filled with a wide assortment of daily catch. Landlubbers can stay occupied at the pool and spa area, hiking several tree-covered trails that wind through the property, in addition to fun with canoes, kayaks, duck watching and snacks from the on-site café. royshideaway.com

Stag Run Club at Overlook Farm, Mauckport, Indiana

Gunning to get dirty? Don your boots and overalls for a weekend of camping among farm animals, including horses, cows, chickens, ducks and other wildlife with which you can interact. Tents, log cabins, bunkhouses and suites are available on this private, all-male property, where—after you've put in an honest day's work (like gathering your own freshly laid eggs for breakfast)—you can bask on the clothing-optional sun deck, dive into the heated pool, partake in games in the lodge or ride your own stallion if you brought one. stagerunclub.com —Mikey Rox



Kathy Griffin Talks Travel

We recently caught up with our favorite funny lady—on the high seas! Kathy Griffin performed aboard the Carnival Breeze—docked in Cozumel—back in February as part of Carnival LIVE. We couldn't help but ask about cruising (both kinds) and her go-to vacation spots.

"On a cruise, you never know what the audience is going to be like. It could be married couples, gay couples, singles looking to meet some-body. But I'll know within the first couple minutes what kind of audience it is. Some wanna hear stories about my mom, some wanna hear about the Kardashians.

"This is actually my third trip to Mexico in two months. I love Mexico. I'd say Mexico is number one; Hawaii is number two. But I'll go anywhere—certainly for a joke. I'm in the middle of an 80-city tour, so I don't have a lot of time for vacation. When I can just grab four days, though, I come here to Mexico.

"But I go wherever people want to laugh. If I find out that I have a giant following in Belgium, then off I go. It's wherever people wanna hear my offensive material and celebrity stories.

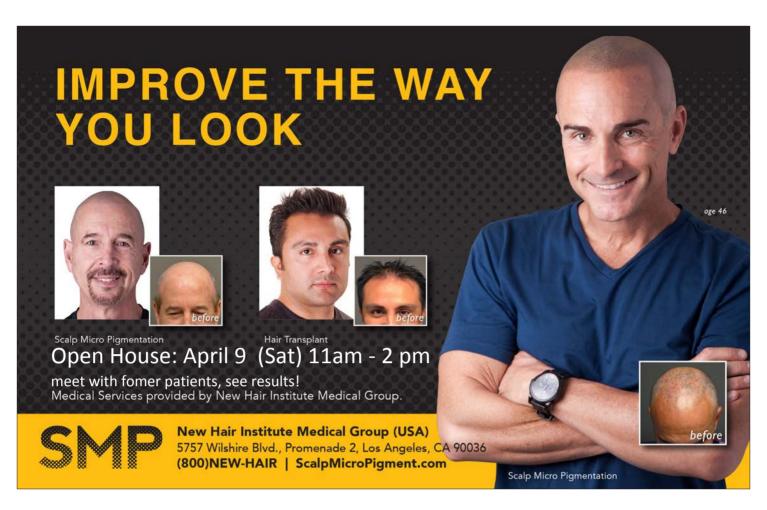
"I've done about 10 gay cruises, and so I will open tonight by telling the audience, 'Oh, you guys think you know how to party? No, no, no. I have stories.' There's definitely a specific vibe on gay cruises, which is 'party, party, ask questions later.' lactually keep the list of activities, because they're so hilarious. This is my first cruise with the straights, though. I hope they don't let me down. They can be unpredictable."

Kathy's tour will make its way back to California in May



'GLAMPING' GETS AN UPGRADE

Planning a getaway to the great outdoors? A private chef, bartender and tent caddies can now tag along to make your experience in the brush a little more ... lush. Puckett Excursions, a new full-service, L.A.-based outdoor tour company, aims to take some of the wild out of the wilderness with what it has coined "sophisticamping"—customized experiences that include a luxury tent with smartly appointed bedding and food and drink prepared by a chef who sources local ingredients and a mixologist from DTLA's Bar Mattachine. A photographer is also assigned to your group to document the experience while you're all digitally disconnected. "I've always had an affinity for working with people, creating unique experiences and spending time outdoors," says founder **Chris Puckett**, who honed his hospitality skills in New York and L.A. over the past two decades. "This just seemed like the next logical step." Focused on off-the-beaten-path activities like hikes, canyoneering and obstacles, this season's destinations include Yosemite, Yellowstone/Grand Teton, Olympic, Zion and Bryce Canyon national parks, with international options to be added in 2017. puckettexcursions.com —M.R.





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Let's Talk About Tel Aviv

Curious about where to party, play and lay your head in the Middle East? Wonder no more, as our handy guide to Israel's nonstop city has you covered

ooking for a husband? Update your passport and hop on a flight to Tel Aviv, Israel, where you're sure to find him. Maybe it's the heat, maybe it's the mandatory military service—these men are worth the trip. But Tel Aviv is also a cosmopolitan city, its arms wide open to LGBTs, that never sleeps. More than its immaculate beaches, this international city with nonstop nightlife is a destination not to overlook.

STAY

Situated in the heart of Tel Aviv, The Norman (\$\$\$\$, thenorman.com) brings sophistication and boutique character to the historic city. This boutique hotel redefines hospitality, matching the timeless elegance of the 1920s with the comforts of a world-class property.

If the Norman is too pricey, opt for the Cinema Hotel (\$\$\$\$, atlas.co.il), set in a Bauhaus building overlooking Dizengoff Square—a 15-minute walk from the beach, with a rooftop terrace and quaint cocktail lounge.

Orna and Ella (\$\$\$\$, ornaandella.com) is a contemporary spot on Sheinkin Street. A longtime favorite with a devoted clientele, it's famous for sweet-potato pancakes, cheesecakes and pastries, but there are also sandwiches, salads and pastas as well. It's both intimate and energetic, with charming, quintessentially Israeli waiters.

Imbibe with friends under the stars at trendy spot Bicicletta (\$\$\$\$, bicicletta.rest. co.il). The highlight of this restaurant and bar is a garden with a giant mulberry tree at its center. Inside, the open kitchen invites curious diners to grab a place alongside burning pans and chat with the passionate chefs at their helm.

PLAY

Just north of the Hilton Hotel, an eagle statue marks the gay beach known as Hilton Beach. The beaches of Tel Aviv are littered with bronzed and buff specimens, here being no different, as fit men donning tight suits check each other out, chat and make weekend plans. Get to know the locals and learn about the best parties happening that week.

The city's vibrant street art and graffiti is garnering national attention, and artists the world over are visiting Tel Aviv to make their mark-literally. Tour the bohemian neighborhood of Florentin alongside expert Guy Sharett of Streetwise Hebrew (streetwisehebrew.com), who will guide you to unique pieces of street art both big and small. He'll also provide some simple Hebrew lessons via his handy dry erase board.

PARTY

One party especially worth checking out is called Dreck (drecktlv.com), which changes venues frequently, so you'll make sure to check the website for updated info. It's a dance party that draws a diverse cross-section of the city's most attractive guys and girls.

The renewed Shpagat (facebook.com/ shpagatlv) opens daily at 10 a.m., a coffee house in the morning and into the afternoon, $a\,crowded\,bar\,where\,locals\,gather\,over\,good$ wine and beer at night.

Well-known among the city's residents and a must -stop for tourists, Evita Bar (evita. co.il) is a popular gathering place for the Tel Aviv LGBT community, particularly as a first stop on many a nightlife tour. Open since 2004, this small dance hall and patio space is filled with sexy bartenders, and it's a great place to make new friends. -Alexander Kacala



Playa del Carmen has become something of a gay hot spot of late, and the Grand Hvatt Plava del Carmen is actively courting those LGBT travelers. It's got everything gay travelers want from a resort—two restaurants. several bars, a full-service spa, fitness center and close proximity to the area's nightlife venues. and invites same-sex destination weddings as well. playadelcarmen.grand.hyatt.com

Mandarin Oriental Las Vegas has a new package, "Celebrate the Stars 2016," that includes a one-night stay, two unlimited passes to the on-site spa and a four-course tasting menu for two at Twist by Pierre Gagnaire, starting at \$549, through year's end.mandarinoriental.com -S.H.



TLV PRIDE 2016

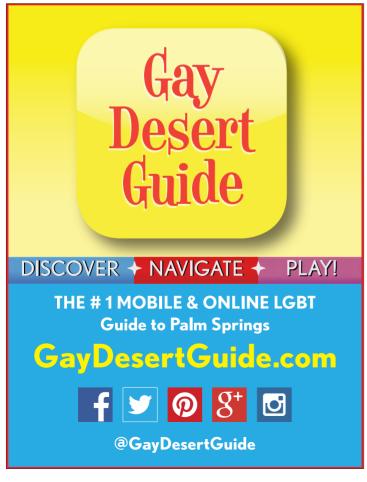
f anyone knows their way around a party weekend, it's the gay men of Tel Aviv. Every year, the sun-drenched city marks the beginning of the end of spring by becoming a melting pot of the globe's most gorgeous men, all in the name of LGBT Pride. For the city's local gays and fun-seeking tourists, consider it four days of balls-out revelry.

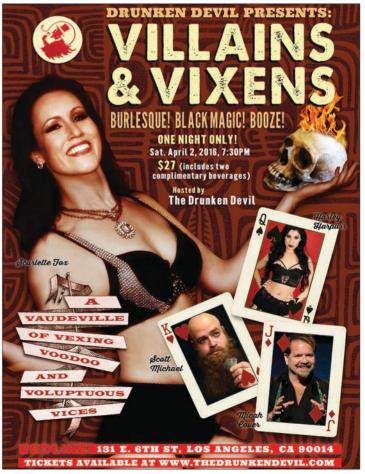
Taking place June 1-4 this year, Tel Aviv Pride shares similarities with the many celebrations that occur stateside—bars and nightclubs packed with an oversized slate of parties, the ubiquitous parade—but is unique as one of the world's largest LGBT celebrations, and the largest in Asia by far. Hillary Clinton recently referred to TLV Pride as "a bastion of liberty" in her March 21 AIPAC speech. We tend to agree.

The crown jewel of last year's weeklong festivities, which featured Eurovision winner Conchita Wurst and saw more than 180,000 participants, was a circuit party called Water Park (yep, it took place at the local water park) that combined waterslides and a wave pool with cocktails, world-famous DJs and a ton of snug banana hammocks.

Things near a close on Friday, June 3, when the city's LGBTs gather at Me'ir Park for music, drag performances and speeches before embarking on a parade route that leads straight to the beach. There, a party on the sand will take place from 3 p.m. to sunset, featuring a soundtrack pumped out by local Israeli DJs and live performances. -S.H.







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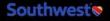




GMCLA PARTNERS

BENFITTING













alendan

Through May 1 A GENTLEMAN'S GUIDE TO LOVE & MURDER

Ahmanson Theatre

This Tony-winning musical tells the story of Monty Navarro (Kevin Massey), a distant heir to a family fortune who tries to jump the line of succession. by any means necessary. centertheatregroup.org



■ Thu. | March 31 EVITA RETURNS

Bootsy Bellows

One of L.A.'s most outrageous parties is being revived, now in a new home on the Sunset Strip. Expect talented local DJs, a live performance or two and the best people-watching possible. facebook.com/ evitalosangeles

■ Through Sept. 12 **FACTORY OF THE SUN** MOCA

It's the U.S. premiere of Hito Steyerl's landmark video installation, in which he looks at the unprecedented global flow of data and the prevalence of surveillance. moca.org

Fri. | April 1

LEA SALONGA

Valley Performing Arts Center Known for her breakout role in Miss Saigon, Lea Salonga

built a career as the singing voice of Jasmine in Disney's Aladdin and Fa Mulan in Mulan. She's also performed on Broadway in Les Miz and Flower Drum Song. valleyperformingartscenter.org



Fri. | April 1 THE SHINING **Griffith Park Zoo**

Following its initial screening of Polteraeist, Great Horror Movie Night's second installment of creepy films features this classic thriller starring Jack Nicholson. directed by Stanley Kubrick. greathorrorcampout.com

Fri. | April 1

SLEEPLESS: THE MUSIC CENTER AFTER HOURS

Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

An immersive, multi-sensory event, Sleepless reimagines The Music Center's theaters and adjacent spaces with DJs, dance parties, video installments and sonic sculptures. The public can even go backstage. musiccenter.org/sleepless

Fri. | April 1 KRULLAPALOOZA

Largo at the Coronet

Tig Notaro's annual benefit show honors late actress and writer Suzanne Krull. with proceeds going to The Deported Veteran's Support House in Tijuana, Mexico. Performers include Notaro. Maria Bamford, Al Madrigal and others. largo-la.com



STAR TREK: THE **ULTIMATE VOYAGE**

Pantages Theatre

The North American concert tour will feature guest composers Jay Chattaway, Ron Jones and Dennis McCarthy, who will conduct a live orchestra to projected TV and film footage of Star Trek. Through April 2. startrekultimatevoyage.com



All Hail the Queens

GMCLA's latest concert plans to showcase the gay community's all-time favorite chanteuses By Mike Ciriaco

amcla.ora

he Gay Men's Chorus Los Angeles is getting girly. This April in Glendale's Alex Theater, Bette, Babs, & Beyoncé, GMCLA's 37th spring concert, spotlights the oeuvres of Bette Midler, Barbra Streisand and Beyoncé, among a slew of other songstresses.

'GMCLA wanted to create a concert that celebrates our favorite pop divas, from Garland to Gaga, Minnelli to Madonna, Aretha to Adele," says GMCLA Artistic Director Joe Nadeau. "Growing up as gay men, if you could capture the soundtrack of our lives, you would find a list of songs from pop divas. Their music resonates with our life experiences-falling in love, breaking up, struggling to find our place in the BETTE, BABS world, friendships and family, & BEYONCÉ overcoming obstacles, owning Alex Theatre our uniqueness and individuality, April 9-10

celebrating our successes." The parallel trajectories of the LGBT community and these superstars form the spine of GMCLA's concert. Spanning eight decades of popular music, Bette, Babs, & Beyoncé highlights the symbiotic relationship between gays and their diva idols. It's widely acknowledged within gay culture that the death of Garland sparked the Stonewall Riots, igniting the modern LGBT rights movement. Since then, pop stars have been some of queer culture's most vocal proponents. In fact, at one point The Advocate coronated Madonna as our "Greatest Gay Icon."

"They've supported the LGBT community

since the beginning," says Nadeau. "These female icons have been there for us, whether you're talking about the death of Judy Garland, Bette Midler and her humble beginnings as 'Bathhouse Betty,' Madonna pushing the envelope of LGBT equality or Lady Gaga cementing the idea that we are all 'born this way'—they've been there for us, and with this concert we pay tribute to this amazing music."

The show's concept was crystallized back in 2010 when GMCLA invoked the spirit of another dominant female force, Grammy winner and LGBT activist Cvndi Lauper by

performing her iconic "True Colors" in a music video for Dan Savage's It Gets Better campaign. Their rendition quickly evolved into an anthem for the anti-bullying

movement, and will be featured in this concert's lineup.

GMCLA will break new artistic ground as well, with an cappella edition of Beyoncé's "If I Were a Boy,"

performed by the entirety of the 250-plusmember chorus. The number resonates strongly with Nadeau, who anticipates it will make an impact with trans audience members: "In this song, Beyoncé tries to work out a difficult breakup by offering what she would do differently if she 'were a boy.' By imagining herself as a different gender, this song takes on a deeper meaning in the LGBT community as we strive to honor and support the transgender community. It will be a remarkable moment in the concert."



Fri. | April 1

BIG BLACK HOLE Renberg Theatre

Varla Jean Merman returns to the stage with an outer space and science fictionthemed performance. The show combines story, song and video along with the piano stylings of accompanist Gerald Goode. Through April 3. varlaonline.com

Sat. | April 2 ADAM LAMBERT

Orpheum Theatre

The American Idol alum closes his "The Original High" 2016 tour with a performance in his hometown. Glee vet Alex Newell (who recently released Power) opens. Through April 3. adamofficial.com

Sat. | April 2

PONY BOX DANCE THEATRE

Holden Performing Arts Center

It's an evening of shared artistic programming, with choreography highlighting conformity and identity while also exploring the senseless killings of African-Americans by police officers. ponyboxdance.org

Sat. | April 2

Globe Theatre

DJs Marco da Silva and Joe Gauthreaux provide the soundtrack for this official Mr. Leather L.A. party, powered by the favorite app of hairy gay dudes, Scruff. 9 p.m. til 4 a.m. legion.laltickets.com

OFF SUNSET **FESTIVAL** Silver Lake April 3 offsunsetfestival.com A SEXY STR **FEST RETURN** The Off-Sunset Festival returns to Silver Lake for its fourth year of fun, sun and leather play

n the kinkster's calendar, the Off-Sunset Festival is like a Father's Day for leather daddies. Serving as the grand finale of our city's annual Leather Pride Week, this fetish-themed carnival offers revelers grub, suds and the best of the city's rougharound-the-edges kink culture.

Spanning Santa Monica Boulevard from Hoover to Sunset, the street fair will feature performances by acts including Four Star Mary, out '90s rockers Pansy Division and Tramp for the Lord, all on the main stage. (A separate DJ stage will feature local turntable talent.) And let's not forget local purveyors of jewelry, art, handcrafted furniture and, naturally, leather gear and accessories. If you're hungry, you'll be able to grab a nosh at one of many food trucks, then wash that down with brew straight from the keg. Think of it like a giant beer bust that has overflowed onto the streets of Silver Lake!

Most importantly, come to the Off-Sunset Festival sporting your shiniest leather gear, as you'll be able to ditch your civilian threads at a courtesy clothes check upon entering. Purchase your tickets in advance to save \$5 off the gate price (\$20), and we'll see you there. **—M.C.**



BEAR BUST | PRECINCT Photos by Jeremy Lucido

















Messiahs and Hot Messes

Cosmic Christ aims to anoints DTLA into a new caliber of gay nightlife

inch your gold lamé loincloth and touch up your glitter stigmata, because Cosmic Christ is descending upon Los Angeles. On April 8, the unholy trinity of local drag vixen Phyllis Navidad, DJ One-Half Nelson and recent New York expat Erickatoure Aviance will join forces with DJs Chris Bowen and TK Disco and a triumvirate of gay Burning Man tribes (The Glamcocks, Paradise Motel and the Hanging Gardens) to present this hybrid performance/art installation/warehouse party. The bacchanal's theme owes a debt of gratitude to the 1979 Giulio Paradisi film The Visitor.

"Cosmic Christ encompasses a spectrum of inspiration from the cult classic movie to create a visual futurist's playground," says Navidad. "Through large scale video projections, installations and staff costuming, we'll transform the space into an immersive psychedelic experience."

"It's a ceremonial-based event that suggests aspects of divination and ritual." adds One-Half Nelson. "The night will culminate in an interactive performance piece at 2 a.m. where the audience takes home a piece of the performance."

Obviously, this event ascends beyond your basic WeHo bar crawl. In addition to raising funds for the local queer art scene, the big brains behind this rapturous rave—known collectively as The Visitors—aim to carve a new, unique niche within L.A.'s gay nightlife scene. It's an aspiration especially important to

COSMIC

CHRIST

April 8 inyurl.com/gm7rmb4

Erickatoure, a disciple of the Twilo-era New York party sphere and frequent collaborator of **Jonny 'Gay Pimp' McGovern**'s East Village events in the early 2000s.

"The current scope of gay nightlife doesn't really translate to all of the queer community in Los Angeles," says Aviance, who purports a contradictory balance of the feminine and masculine. "As an interactive art collective, Visitors

are interested in an experience—a memory, if you will—that lives on in the participant's mind. Our hope is to make something that people can not just talk about but ask about later and be inspired by."

They're ideals that harmonize well with the gay burners of Oasis, who wish to infuse Cosmic Christ with their Burning Man principles—things like radical inclusion, radical self-expression and communal effort. Like a laser-lit Last Supper, everyone in encouraged to break bread with Cosmic Christ.

"Collaboration is at the core of what Cosmic Christ is about," says Navidad. "We're excited to create a cult experience that includes everyone from start to finish." —M.C.

S*N*A*P SHOTS

HIGH VOLTAGE | MICKY'S **Photos by Jason King Photography**













Calendar

S*N*A*P SHOTS

BRUT | BELASCO THEATRE **Photos by Jeremy Lucido**















▶ continued

■ Through April 17 **SUMMER AND SMOKE**

Actors Co-op Theatre

A story of love and survival from celebrated American playwright Tennessee Williams, this drama follows the shy, fluttery Miss Alma, hopelessly in love with the town doctor's son. actorsco-op.ora

■ Tue. | April 5 EMO NIGHT: TAKING **BACK TUESDAY**

Echoplex

This event brings together lovers of emo rock music dating back as far as the '90s. At each event, a musician from the scene 'guest DJs,' with past DJs including Blink 182's Mark Hoppus and Mikey Way of My Chemical Romance. facebook.com/emonightla



■ Wed. | April 6 INDIAN FILM

FESTIVAL Arclight Hollywood

Presenting a diverse lineup of narrative and documentary features, short films and galas, opening the festivities will be the premiere of Angry Indian Goddesses from filmmaker Pan Nalin, with 25 others screened. Through April 10. indianfilmfestival.org

■ Wed. | April 6 YOGA FOR MEN

Inspire

This weekly men's yoga class focuses specifically on the male body and targets common areas of tension—a balance of playful discovery, mindfulness, challenging physical practice and philosophy. This is the start of Beginner's Course I. yoga4men.com

■ Wed. | April 6 PETER PAN 360 **Threesixty Theatre Tent**

Experience the J.M. Barrie classic with the combination of an intimate theater-inthe-round setting, overhead surround CGI projection, flying sequences 40 feet in the air and puppets. Through April 24. peterpan360.com

■ Thu. | April 7

BECKETT TRILOGY The Broad Stage

This one-woman Samuel Beckett trilogy features Irish actress Lisa Dwan, who saw previous success in sold-out performances at London's Royal Court Theatre and New York's Brooklyn Academy of Music. Through April 10. thebroadstage.com



Thu. | April 7 WE DAY CALIFORNIA

The Forum

A series of educational events combines the energy of a live concert with inspirational stories of leadership and change, with a star-studded cast of presenters, speakers and performers, like Charlize Theron, Tyrese Gibson, Seth Rogen and Selena Gomez. weday.com

Fri. | April 8 FANTASEA: MAGIC

FESTIVAL The Queen Mary

The worlds of the Academy of Magical Arts and The Queen Mary combine for a weekend of magical activities including the Mysteries of Magic Dinner Show, a Friday Night of Illusions Show and more. Through April 10.



TELL ME I'M PRETTY

Bootleg Theater

Written and performed by Joshua Silverstein, this solo show tackles race. gender and poverty through comical storytelling, spoken word, vocal percussion and hip-hop, backed by a threepiece band. Through May 7. bootlegtheater.org

LOS ANGELES' FAVORITE GROCERY STORE IS GIVING AWAY FREE GROCERIES!



THE ORIGINAL FARMERS MARKET SPRING GROCERY GIVEAWAY

Enter to win one of six \$500 Farmers Market Grocery Shopping Sprees, between April 4—May 26. Look for the miniature shopping carts found at these participating grocers to enter:

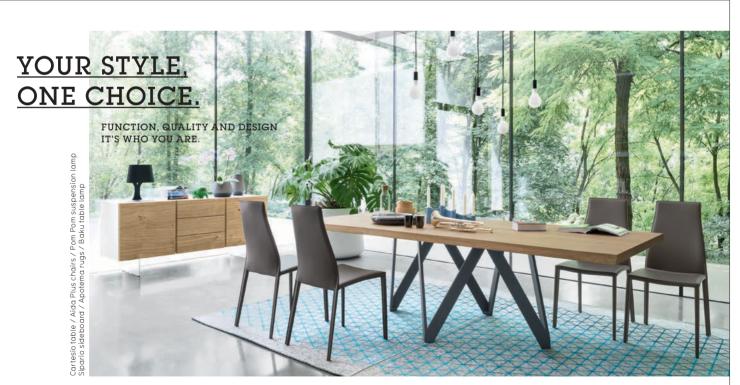
Dragunara Spice Bazaar
Farm Boy Produce
Farm Fresh Produce
Farmers Market Poultry
Greenhouse Produce
Huntington Meats & Sausage
Marconda's Meats

Marconda's Puritan Poultry Mr. Marcel Gourmet Market Normandie Bakery T&Y Bakery T (Tea) Shop Tusquellas Seafoods

The Original FARMERS MARKET

TWO HOURS FREE PARKING at Farmers Market surface lots (along Third & Fairfax) with Market purchase validation, or ONE HOUR FREE PARKING at The Grove's nearby parking structure.

Must be 18 years or older to participate. One entry per person, per week. Farmers Market employees, merchants, their employees and immediate family members are not eligible to win. All winners will be notified by phone or email before May 27, 2016. You need not be present to win.



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A LITTLE SLICE OF HEAVEN

The L.A. LGBT Center's Simply DiVine event wants you to stuff your face to feed the city's LGBT needy

ost nutrition experts will attest that a weekly 'cheat day' as part of your diet can be beneficial for long-term fitness goals. So if you really want that statuesque speedo physique, pencil in your next cheat day for April 9, when Simply DiVine returns to the L.A. LGBT Center, and stuff yourself sexy! Appropriately, all proceeds from this eating-oriented event will benefit the Center's programs and services, which currently provide over 100,000 meals for LGBT homeless youth and low-income senior citizens each year.

"When I think about all of these LGBT youth who are kicked out of their homes, it breaks my heart," says Susan Feniger, celebrity chef and event co-chair. "Did you know that, on any given day, there are over 6,100 homeless youth 24 and younger trying to survive on the streets of L.A., with a staggering 40% of them identifying as LGBT? Within days of arriving in L.A., they find themselves doing drugs and 'survival sex' in order to obtain money for food."

Unfortunately, the situation is just as dire for the other end of the spectrum. "Among the seniors who live at the Los Angeles LGBT Center's Triangle Square, roughly 28% of them live on less than \$1,000 a month," Feniger says. "It's heartbreaking that the youngest and the oldest members of our community are the most vulnerable. We need to do something about this dilemma."

To combat the epidemic, many of the city's most prominent eateries have donated their best bites for the cause. Participating spots include Black Cat, Connie and Ted's, Craft, Jar, Taste, Tortilla Republic and Umami Burger, as well as Feniger's own Border Grill and Mud Hen Tavern. Feniger will be joined by fellow celebrity chefs Mary Sue Milliken (Border Grill), Kajsa Alger (Mud Hen Tavern), Nyesha Arrington (Leona), Steve Samson (Sotto) and the Food Network's Giada De Laurentiis.

"Giada is donating 100 of her Happy Cooking: Make Every Meal Count...Without Stressing Out books, and will be at the event's VIP section in person to sign them," Feniger says. "If you're a fan of Giada, this is your chance to meet her and receive her signed book for free."

So this month, don't feel guilty for veering away from your strict diet regimen. Just remember: the more you cheat, the more our impoverished LGBT brethren can eat. -M.C.

EATING



Old Space, New Restaurant

ou might remember a gastropub named Melgard from the corner of Melrose and Gardner, but the address is practically the only recognizable thing about this new Cal-Italian eatery.

I say new, but in fact, Spartina is the revival of a two-decades-old New York institution, courtesy of chef Stephen Kalt. Kalt most recently did time behind the stoves at Caulfield's, the restaurant at the Sixty Beverly Hills, but his rap sheet includes stints with Daniel Boulud at Le Cirque and a winning appearance on Iron Chef.

The space feels fresh and new, though it actually begins outside the front door, where

a small patio on the corner is strung with lights for alfresco dining. Inside, the restaurant is one big open floor plan, with large windows along one wall and the open kitchen taking up another entire side of the space. In keeping with the simplicity of the menu-though Italian-inspired, the plates focus on seasonal ingredients, so expect dishes to change over time—the space is spare but not Spartan. The floors are concrete: tables and chairs are made of wood; and the wooden rafters are exposed, while overhead lights are big and framed by gun-metal gray fixtures. There are more cozy touches as well, including a long, narrow shelf holding assorted potted herbs, and inset shelves behind some of the banquettes with books and knick knacks.

One of the signature starters, the grilled avocado, is split and stuffed with diced tomato.

lemon and Calabrian chile oil and a hearty sprinkling of shaved ricotta salata. The overall effect is fresh, bright and mouth-watering. The fried Tuscan kale also feels deceptively healthy. Wood-grilled octopus comes out with a delicate char and is plated with paper-thin slices of spicy Calabrese salami, crispy roasted potatoes and tangy aioli for the right balance.

The standout pasta dish has to be the ravioli stuffed with luscious burrata then topped with delicate sea urchin and a bright-green cascade of shiso and basil. The oversize rigatoni with cauliflower, walnuts, brown butter and pecorino sardo is subtle yet substantial.

The list of red and white pizzas come in intriguing flavor combinations. The option with lamb sausage also includes pistachio, red onion and pecorino, while one of the white pizzas is served with garlic-laced clams in their shells, fluffy dollops of whipped ricotta, earthy garlic confit and a drizzle of extra virgin olive oil. You'll notice a fire blazing in the open kitchen, so be sure to order one of the grilled items, like the mountain trout stuffed with salted cod and potato purée, served with clams, celery and thyme.

The small dessert menu includes tasty treats like a lemon tart, mascarpone panna cotta drizzled with honey and a dense-but-delicious walnut pie.

The wine list skews mostly Italian, with some Californian entries on there as well, but you can try a few thanks to the fairly sizable selection of vinos available by the glass or quartino. - Eric Rosen



Spartina

7505 Melrose Ave. Los Angeles (323) 782-1023 spartina.la

\$\$\$\$\$

Atmosphere

Bohemian backyard bungalow

Standout Dishes

Wood-grilled octopus, clam pizza

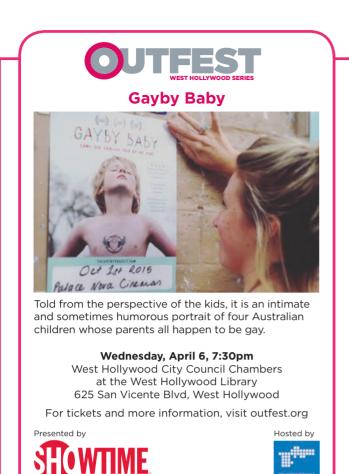
Drinks

Italian wines

Hours 11-3 & 5:30-10 Mon-Thu, 5:30-11 Fri-Sat, 5:30-9 Sun

Reservations

Recommended









Calendar

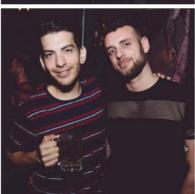
S*N*A*P SHOTS

BIG BAD WOLF | FAULTLINE Photos by Jeremy Lucido

















▶ continued

Sat. | April 9 **FESTIVAL OF BOOKS USC Campus**

It's music, food, art, culture and fun at this LA Timessponsored festival featuring events with Stan Lee, Padma Lakshmi, Rainn Wilson and Buzz Aldrin—and that's just the first day! Through April 10. events.latimes.com



Sat. | April 9 **BONKERZ!** Precinct

Jackie Beat and Mario Diaz welcome you back to their "big gay dumb party," this time featuring live shows by Big Dipper, Chico's Angels, Tammie Brown and more, with music by DJ Whitney Fierce. precinctdtla.com

Through April 10

CASA VALENTINA Pasadena Playhouse

This brand-new work by Harvey Fierstein and director David Lee asks questions about identity and fluidity when a community meeting of cross-dressers face the challenges of coming out in 1962. pasadenaplayhouse.org

Through April 10 ZOOTOPIA El Capitan Theatre

During special screenings of Disney's new animated film, enjoy an all-new interactive Wild Animal Encounter show featuring Lola the Sloth and friends from the Wildlife Learning Center. elcapitantickets.com



Sun. | April 10 DON QUIXOTE Local cinemas

Performed and broadcast live from the Bolshoi Ballet in Moscow, audiences will eniov this classic tale of an eccentric hero at theaters across the United States. fathomevents.com

Through April 16

LUKE AUSTIN: SOFT INSTANT

Jason Vass Gallery

Based in L.A., Australianborn photographer Luke Austin features new work in his first solo exhibition in the city. Known for his intimate male nude portraits. the exhibition showcases 14 portraits of friends shot at his home. Through April 16. jasonvass.com

Through April 30 **RED VELVET** Atwater Playhouse

It's the West Coast premiere of a critically acclaimed play by Lolita Cakrabarti, in which pandemonium erupts when a black American actor arrives at a prestigious English theater to play the title role in Shakespeare's Othello. atwaterplayhouse.com



■ Through June 10 WAITING FOR **JOHNNY DEPP** The Whitefire Theatre

This one-woman musical was created by award-winning writers and composers, inspired by true events in the creators' lives. Deedee O'Malley stars as the quirky Rita Donatella, on a quest to land a role in a Depp film. johnnydepp. brownpapertickets.com ■



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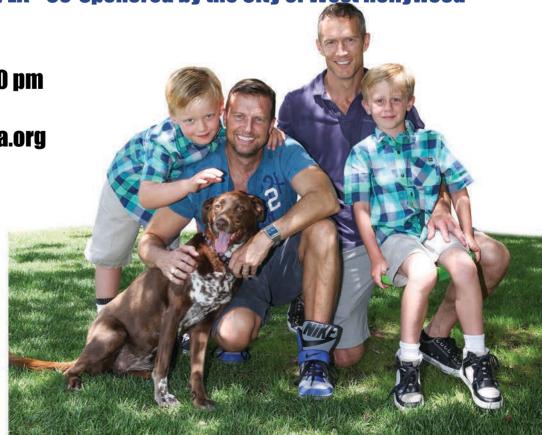
Free Admission Hours 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

For info. visit pawsla.org 213.741.1950













TWO LEGENDARY LADIES

JANE FONDA AND LILY TOMLIN play the titular characters of *Grace and Frankie*. Grace hates Frankie; Frankie hates Grace. But their husbands (Sam Waterston and Martin Sheen) have fallen in love, leaving their feuding wives to be together. If you didn't know that, you probably aren't a Netflix subscriber, but no worry—on April 12, Lionsgate releases the hilarious first season on DVD. Even if you've got Netflix, these discs are the only place you'll find exclusive episode commentaries by the cast and creators Marta Kauffman and Howard J. Morris. There's also a gag reel, featurette and a sneak preview of Season 2. Speaking of Season 2, all 3 episodes will be available for streaming on May 6, and Netflix has already gone ahead and picked up the show for a third season. It might not be so great to be Grace and Frankie, but it must be wonderful to be Jane and Lily. —Dominik Rothbard

Robert Mapplethorpe once said, "My whole point is to transcend the subject ... go beyond it somehow, so that the composition, the lighting, all around, reaches a certain point of perfection." Now it's Mapplethorpe's turn to be the subject, as the iconic photographer is the focus of a new documentary by **Fenton Bailey** and **Randy Barbato**, the creative forces behind local production company World of Wonder and innovative storytellers

who have previously profiled Tammy Faye Messner, Michael Alig and Chaz Bono.

Bailey and Barbato turn their lens on the photographer in *Mapplethorpe: Look at the Pictures*, premiering April 4 on HBO. The film's journey began when HBO's queen of documentaries approached the duo with the idea. "We have made many films with **Sheila Nevins** over the last couple of decades," Bailey says. "She said, 'You know, you should look into Mapplethorpe.' We went off and started investigating and discovered the LACMA and Getty were planning these two huge retrospectives. We then realized if we wanted to do this we had to get on with it. It feels like we are having a Mapplethorpe moment. There seems to be a resurgence of interest in that time—New York in the '70s and '80s. Pre-internet. Pre-gentrification. Pre-AIDS. Pre-social media. People are interested in this period of history, and it was a perfect moment."

"When we started making this film, we initially had some ambivalence about him because we didn't really know him," Barbato says. "We knew of his artwork. We knew of his ambition. We knew things on a surface level. We didn't know if we liked him. That

ENTERTAINMENT

▶ continued

is an unusual way for us to start a film. We usually have very strong feelings about our subjects from day one. We knew we admired his work, and he played an important role in our tribe, but we didn't know if we personally liked him."

That soon changed over the course of making the film, when they learned of Mapplethorpe's dedication to authenticity. "The daring way in which he lived his life out loud," lists Barbato. "His commitment to living an authentic life. Not editing the brutal honesty of his ambition. The way he led his life was mirrored in the way he approached his art. It was a 360 experience. He was his art, and he put it all out there. When we really came to understand that, we realized we like this

Mapplethorpe: Look at the **Pictures**

A profile of the controversial artist from childhood to New York star, with retrospectives at L.A.'s Getty and LACMA museums as a backdrop

guy. People still don't put it all out there. People pretend and edit and don't tell it like it is. But 30 years ago, when most gays were still in the closet, he was photographing golden showers and fist-fucking. "

Right now, interest in male eroticism is extremely heightened, especially in the LGBTQ community. Bailey and Barbato believe that has fed into Mapplethorpe mania. "He was a pioneer of that," Bailey says. "He was not afraid to be naked. To shoot explicit sexuality at a time when even though everyone in the art world was gay, a lot of people were in the closet. He was very open about

it and willing to shoot photographs about that life and make people look at them as art—not pornography."

"It's not about what he was photographing," Barbato says. "It's not about your moral position on golden showers. That's not what Robert Mapplethorpe is about. He is about challenging you to expand the way you look at the world. That's what his art was about then, and that's what it's about now. It's as important if not more important than 30 years ago."

Mapplethorpe was a survivalist, committed to whatever he had to do to create art. "Weirdly, I was thinking about this the other day, I do think of the show Survivor," Bailey says. "The tagline of the show is, 'Outwit, outplay, outlast,' Although he died very young, everything Mapplethorpe did has ensured that he has outwitted, outlasted and outplayed many of his contemporaries. You know? The way he planned his final exhibition that caused a big scandal, his foundation. It was all very carefully planned."

Carefully planned it was, and 27 years after Robert Mapplethorpe's death, he's still here, alive and well, authentic as ever.













Track Record: The Dixie Chicks

etro country hipsters, rejoice! On the eve of their fifth headlining tour, Texas trio Dixie Chicks, back in action after a 10-year hiatus, are re-releasing their four classic albums—Wide Open Spaces (1998), Fly action after a 10-year niatus, are re-releasing their roun classic around 10-year niatus, are re-releasing their roun classic around 10-year niatus, are re-releasing their rounding and 10-year niatus, are re-releasing their ro and much-loved Natalie Maines, Emily Robison and Martie Maguire had their wings clipped after Maines, during a 2003 concert at Shepherd's Bush Empire in the U.K., addressed the controversial Iraq war and expressed her dismay regarding George W. Bush. The reactionary, jingoistic country fanbase went to town on Maines and the group, boycotting their music and forcing them off the charts. The GOP may not, but history will look kindly on these three bluegrass-loving ladies, whose DCX MMXVI World Tour winds up at the Hollywood Bowl on Oct. 10. In preparation for that, here's a look at their 10 best tracks. - Dan Loughry

1. "Goodbye Earl" (From *Fly*)

Here's where most of us first heard Dixie Chicks, on this empowerment anthem about how high-school friends plot to get rid of the abusive, good-for-nothing title character.

2. "Ready to Run" (From Fly)

This anti-marriage (or pro-freedom) opener to their sophomore release makes explicit the sweet intersection between bluegrass and its Celtic roots. If it's possible to two-step and Riverdance at the same time, here's your soundtrack.

3. "Wide Open Spaces" (From Wide Open Spaces)

Fresh-faced babes venture out into the world with big dreams and unencumbered optimism. Right, it might end in tears, but the beginning of the journey is hopeful yet.

4. "Landslide" (From Home)

Their Fleetwood Mac cover—an

undeniable classic in a harmonic country style that pays homage to roots far from Nashville or Dallas.

5. "Travelin' Soldier" (From *Home*)

The song Maines was introducing in concert that occasioned her anti-war comments is a plaintive rumination of war, its aftermath and the regular folks caught in its emotional crossfire.

6. "The Long Way Around" (From Taking the Long Way)

After the political controversy, Dixie Chicks dug deep and came up with their most fully realized record, which kicks off with this open road paean to keeping your mind clear, your values strong and vour beliefs steadfast.

7. "Tonight the Heartache's on Me" (From *Wide Open Spaces*)

A two-stepper about a two-timer that makes you want to stuff your manbun under your Stetson, put on your shit-kickers and scuffle off across the dance floor.

8. "Cold Day in July" (From Fly)

More sad love songs, this one a slow ballad with pedal steel and some soft-rock AM radio drums, perfect for dashboard-pounding through your tears.

9. "White Trash Wedding" (From Home)

This banjo-picking speed-demon of a track is the bluegrass version of punk.

10. "Not Ready to Make Nice" (From *Taking the Long Way*)

Addressing critics head-on, Maines is broken and unbowed on this rousing slice of agitprop. She expressed her opinion, paid the price, lived to tell the tale. And now, with their re-emergence in a divisive election year, they get to tell it again. ■



OUR BIG SCREEN REPORT CARD



GO SEE IT

10 Cloverfield Lane (B+) Batman v. Superman (A-) The Boss (A-) The Jungle Book (A-) Midnight Special (B+) The Witch (A-) Zootopia (A-)



MEANT FOR REDBOX

Barbershop: The Next Cut (B-) The Bronze (B) Demolition (B) The Divergent Series: Alleaiant (B-) Gods of Egypt (C+) Green Room (B) I Saw the Light (B) Knight of Cups (B+) London Has Fallen (B) The Program (B-) Where to Invade Next (B+) Whiskey Tango Foxtrot (B-)



DON'T BOTHER

The Brothers Grimsby (D) Get a Job (C-) Hardcore Henry (C-) Krisha (D+) Miracles from Heaven (D) Mr. Right (C-) My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2 (D)



—Tom Paul Jones



Taking a Stab at Broadway

Bret Easton Ellis opens up about American Psycho heading to the Great White Way and the blanding of modern gay culture

wenty-five years after **Bret Easton Ellis**'s American Psycho hit bookshelyes, it's preparing to make its Broadway debut—as a musical. After a successful London run, the gory production has begun previews at Manhattan's Gerald Schoenfeld Theatre, with Benjamin Walker portraying wealthy (and homicidal) investment banker Patrick Bateman. We had the opportunity to chat with Ellis about his novel, the infamous anti-hero of which still holds an important place in pop culture, particularly after **Christian Bale**'s 2000 film portrayal.

In 1991, did you ever imagine American Psycho becoming a musical?

No, and I don't think anyone else did. Patrick Bateman has become this ubiquitous figure in pop culture. In '91, no one wanted to option the book. No one thought it had any commercial potential. No one really knew that the book or that character was going to end up becoming a part of the pop culture consciousness—and certainly not a musical.

What are some challenges Benjamin Walker will face playing a character so strongly associated with Christian Bale?

A theatrical experience is much different than a cinematic experience, so he has to give a very different performance. You can't do the subtle and confused stuff Bale was doing in the movie; you have to create a new Bateman. Where there was a strange subtlety to Bale's performance, it was very, very cinematic. It was in his tiny vocal inflictions. It was much truer to the Bateman of the book.

You've spoken about a "gentrification of gayness" in previous interviews.

The corporate culture blanding everyone out is a crime. This idea of inclusivity for everybody is a crime. I really am a believer in individuality—in being your individual self and not going with the group, and that means resisting inclusivity. That means being on your own and being true to yourself-your messy, contradictory, fucked-up self-not blanding yourself out to follow the status quo. I have always felt that way. I have always felt that rebels are interesting. Outsiders are more interesting than insiders. I feel that way about gay culture. Now, of course equality is vital, and marriage equality has to happen, but I do miss what we sacrificed. I miss the gay art that was created post-WWII, whether it was Gore Vidal, Truman Capote, Robert Mapplethorpe, James **Baldwin**. That is gone, and it's not coming back. If you think Tyler Oakley is going to be our savior, great. -A.K.

The Q&A: MELISSA McCarthy



Her latest project, The Boss, is in theaters April 8, and here she chats about her character Michelle Darnell's beginnings, Peter Dinklage nervousness and Donald Trump parallels

Q: The film's opening sequence is fantastic. You had The Nae Nae down!

A: First of all thank you for that It was the dreamiest thing to do, because for two weeks I got to hang out and rehearse with dancers. which is like a weird dream I've always had. And I started to feel a lot cooler than I am. Like, "I gotta go guys, I gotta go to dance rehearsal." And I never thought I'd get to rap with T-Pain. It was like two huge fantasies.

Q: You created this character at the **Groundlings 15 years** ago. What made it time for Michelle Darnell's

leap to the big screen? A: You know, I just could never let her go. I took that as a sign that I wasn't done with her. [Husband Ben Falcone] and I would be talking about something completely random and I would go, "I think Michelle's an orphan. I think she just had no one ever really love her." He's like "We were not talking about that at all." Q: How was working with your love interest in the film, Peter Dinklage? A: I was so weirdly nervous to meet him.

There's something very

imposing about him; he radiates some kind of magic. I knew he was an amazing actor, and I knew he would be great in the role, but I didn't know he was that funny. I know a lot of funny people; my friends are very funny. That guy is one of the funniest human beings on the planet, which I found a little irritating. [Laughs] I was like, "Just be good at one thing. Don't keep branching out; you'll shame all of us.'

Q: The character isn't a new one. but I couldn't help but notice parallels between your character and a certain gingerhaired GOP politician.

A: Nope! [Laughs] I'm desperately trying to think of a different redheaded politician. Michelle is successful because she's good at it. She's not doing smoke and mirrors and a crazy show; she's good at what she does. And she does make people money. And she's made herself money. And she runs successful companies. So to me, it's not Trumn-esque at all, because it's not ... she's actually doing something. [Laughs] I'll regret that. -S.H.

FOUR UPCOMING ALBUMS THAT CAN'T BE RELEASED SOON ENOUGH



DETOUR CYNDI LAUPER, MAY 6



WASHED AWAY ROONEY. MAY 6



DANGEROUS WOMAN ARIANA GRANDE. MAY 20



LOVE YOU TO DEATH **TEGAN AND SARA. JUNE 3**

ENTERTAINMENT







Who's Hungry?

IN LOS ANGELES, IT'S NOT UNCOMMON for dinner party hosts to behave a little strangely, but in The Invitation, coming to theaters April 8, however, the hosts, David (Michiel Huisman) and Eden (Tammy Blanchard), behave more than a little strangely. They ask their guests—Gina (Michelle Krusiec), Tommy (Mike Doyle) and his partner Miguel (Jordi Vilasuso), Ben (Jay Larson) and Claire (Marieh Delfino), plus Eden's ex, Will (Logan Marshall-Green), and his new girlfriend Kira (Emayatzy Corinealdi)—to watch a video that makes everyone rather uncomfortable. They play honesty games that border on inappropriate. They also serve really good wine.

But what is really going on at this dinner party? Why is David locking the doors? Is there no decent cell reception? And where is Gina's boyfriend, Choi?

It would spoil one's appetite to reveal more, but viewers who accept the invitation to this slow-burn thriller will get the answers they seek. What can be said is that Eden and Will have not seen each other (or their friends) in the two years since a tragedy ended their marriage. How the characters now interact—with awkward pauses and talk of letting go—is at the core of this taut film that examines how folks cope with trauma. - Gary M. Kramer



CHELSEA DOES ... CHELSEA

Well, the delay certainly couldn't have been coming up with a name. After a lengthy hiatus and only a handful of Chelsea Does ... documentaries, Chelsea Handler will finally return full-time (well, Wednesday through Friday) with a brand-new talk show for Netflix, Chelsea, premiering May 11. Handler will handle all the standard topics (politics, pop culture, etc.) with her signature snark, one major difference between her Netflix chat show and E!'s Chelsea Lately being the absence of Mr. Chuy Bravo. Chuy, Handler reports, has "passed over to Mexico. That's where he resides now." Handler also has her sights set pretty high when it comes to upcoming guests, hoping to get both Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton on her show in the next few months. We've missed you, Miss Chelsea. -D.R.

5 MEMORABLE DINNER PARTIES



This Hitchcock classic has gay students thrillkilling, then serving dinner over the corpse



THE PERFECT HOST David Hyde Pierce's fussy

Angeleno character takes a criminal in ... and then the tables turn



IT'S A DISASTER A hilarious comedy about a couple's brunch that gets ruined by

a dirty bomb



THE OVERNIGHT

A new-to-L.A. couple gets more than dinner at a very raunchy adult sleepover



Buñuel's surreal movable feast has six guests meeting but never eating -G.M.K.









TELEVISION LONG DIVISION



Height Jokes





Appearances by droids



Best Virtual Performance



ΑII credibility



MTV Movie Awards, April 10, MTV

SET YOUR

1. THE RANCH

While we count down the days until Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt returns, Netflix hopes to entice us with a new multi-cam sitcom. The Ranch is about two brothers, Ashton Kutcher and Danny Masterson. who return home to work on their dad's ranch. Somehow they roped Sam Elliott and Debra Winger into this. (Friday, April 1, Netflix)

2. THE POWERPUFF GIRLS

If Fuller House has left you cold, perhaps this one's the reboot for you! Blossom, Bubbles and Buttercup are back (though with new voices), ready to fight crime and promote girl power. The artwork still looks strikingly wonderful and, happily, Tom Kenny is back to voice both the Mayor and narrator. (Monday, April 4, Cartoon Network)

3. NOTHING LEFT UNSAID

Not many mothers and sons get to resolve their issues in a fancy HBO doc—nor would they want to-but that's exactly what Anderson Cooper and 92-year-old mother Gloria Vanderbilt do here. The sleek documentary went down a storm at Sundance earlier this year, and now it's your chance to see it. (Saturday, April 9, HBO)

4. DICE

Louis CK has one. Marc Maron has one. Jim Gaffigan, Aziz Ansari and even Rob Schneider have them, so why not give Andrew Dice Clay his own semi-autobiographical, semi-funny sitcom? Follow him as he relocates to Las Vegas to reboot his comedy career. Natasha Leggero and Lorraine Bracco co-star. (Sunday, April 10, Showtime)

5. THE REAL HOUSEWIVES OF DALLAS

If The Real Housewives of Potomac taught us anything, it's that ... well, it's that we don't wanna go to Potomac. Dallas looks to have a more wild, freewheeling set of housewives. The cast includes an ex-porn star, an ex-Miss USA contestant and an ex-Dallas Cowboys cheerleader. What are they now? Housewives, we guess. (Monday, April 11, Bravo)

6. GAY FOR PLAY

This brand-new game show is done the Logo way. Host RuPaul and an endless parade of celebrity guests-Kelly Osbourne, Ross Mathews, Michelle Visage—will help contestants answer pop culture trivia. It's like Hollywood Squaresmeets-Match Game, but somehow even gayer! (Monday, April 11, Logo) - D.R.

Where Would You Rather Spend Your Time?



If relaxing in the pool sounds good to you, then look no further.

Just blocks from the art, culture and world-class dining of vibrant downtown Palm Springs lies the gated Village Traditions community.

Within the gates is Vallera Palm Springs, an enclave of 52 detached private courtyard homes, all of which blend the traditional elegance of Old Las Palmas architecture with modern, high design interior finishes.

Offered in three distinct two-story floor plans that boast three spacious bedrooms and three bathrooms, each private courtyard home is designed with indoor-outdoor living in mind.

Vallera Palm Springs just might be the home you've always wanted, and the lifestyle too.

From the low \$500.000's





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your guide to spring's best Out of the state of the stat

From the diverse musical acts and hipster fashions of Coachella to the pumping poolside beats of White Party Palm Springs, there's never been a better time to book a trip out to the desert

By Stephan Horbelt, Dan Loughry & Patrick Rosenquist



hiding in a bunker for the last few decades, here's a brief breakdown: White Party is a weekend-long gathering of the gays in Palm Springs organized by party promoter Jeffrey Sanker. He's been guiding along the event since its inception in Just because you're planning to spend the 1990, and it's grown into one of America's largmajority of White Party weekend waist-deep est "circuit parties"—gay gatherings that happen year-round across the country and elsewhere in in a pool doesn't mean your dopp kit—home the world. There are White Parties elsewhere, too, to some of your more private items while on the road—wants to be treated the same. But including Miami, New York and Chicago-though here's one you could actually bring into the they aren't necessarily connected. shower. Frankly, we're pissed we didn't come up with the Silicone Doppel Bag by Würkin Stiffs (\$50, wurkinstiffs.com) ourselves. Your

A VIP ticket at this year's gathering will run you \$480 plus fees and taxes, which includes access to a viewing deck, a gift bag and use of exclusive bathrooms among other perks. A standard weekend pass—which includes access to the Commando Ball, the main event, the Sunday Tea Dance and the closing event—goes for \$385. Tickets to individual

hat's there to say about White Party

Palm Springs that already hasn't been

said? Well, just in case you've been

events are of course also available.

Sanker's gathering has been called many things: a much-needed balm after the havoc of the 1980s; a licentious and drug-fueled orgy; and also, a damn good party. In short: if you show up, there's a decent chance you'll have some fun, and you'll probably end up with a few regrets (that is, after all, part of the plan).

This year, Sanker is hoping to keep up that tradition. He tells *Frontiers*, "This will be the place everyone can connect and reconnect, dance, celebrate and live with no boundaries. White Party brings it all together to create unforgettable moments that become lifelong memories."

Continuing one of the biggest hits from last year, White Party is once again taking over Wet 'n Wild Water Park. "We are taking over the entire venue all day," says Sanker, adding, "It will be ours and all gay—filled to the brim with the hottest swimwear-clad boys. You can dance to amazing music, grab some hot rays, cool off in the water and waves and enjoy a cocktail."

favorite moisturizer exploded? (Thanks des-

ert heat!) Just wash it out and let it dry while

you're tea-dancing the day away. -S.H.





1. COMMANDO BALL

Friday, April 8

Renaissance Hotel Event Center

This all-new military-themed party invites you to show up sporting your best gear. Or leave your pants at the clothes check and rock that camo underwear.

2. SPLASH

Saturday, April 9 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. Wet 'n Wild Water Park

Twenty-one acres of guys in swimwear? Yes, please. Aussie DJ Dan Slater and London's Wayne G.—as well as live performers—will take to a floating stage in the middle of the wave pool. Complimentary

shuttles will be leaving the Renaissance Hotel all day long.

3. THE WHITE PARTY

Saturday, April 9 9 p.m. - 7 a.m.

Palm Springs Convention Center Channel your inner Khaleesi (or find your own Jon Snow) at this 10-hour dance marathon—the main event, all-new and reimagined. Israeli DJ Offer Nissim will spin tunes (among other top talent) for fun-loving Westeros fans.

4. SUNSET T-DANCE

Sunday, April 10 4 - 10 p.m. White Party Park It's the largest outdoor tea dance in the world, and this year's will feature a live show by Real Housewives of Beverly Hills' Erika Jayne, plus a special surprise performer. Then there's also the WP Ferris wheel and a huge (choreographed) fireworks display.

5. PAPA

Sunday, April 10 10 p.m. - 7 a.m.

Renaissance Hotel Event Center
This year's closing event sees

This year's closing event sees popular gay Tel Aviv dance party Papa come out to the desert, with an opening set by WP DJ contest winner Rico Alexis. It's the last dance of the weekend, so make it a good one. **—P.R.**

White Party Palm Springs has also reconfigured its main event, rolling the standard two gatherings on Saturday night into one long, crazy party.

"There will be an all-new setup at the reconfigured Palm Springs Convention Center using the west, mountain-facing entrance. It's a fresh new look inside and out that will dazzle our guests. We've also got Offer Nissim, the world's hottest DJ, flying in from Tel Aviv to spin live," Sanker says. That shindig will last from 9 p.m. til 7 a.m.—10 hours of dancing.

New to the party? Sanker's advice for those checking out the craziness for the first time is pretty simple: don't overdo it.

"Pace yourself. Hydrate. Wear sunscreen," he says. "Eat right and get adequate rest between the events. Don't try to go balls-out from the start. You could wind up crashing and sleeping through the main event." And Sanker wouldn't want that: "I'd hate for anyone to miss one of my signature, reimagined parties!" —P.R.

Your Desert Digs

FOR THE PARTY ANIMAL

If you're the type who never wants the party to end, stay at White Party's host hotel, the Renaissance. You won't have to do much more than walk out your door to stumble upon barely there swimwear, as the weekend's poolside parties take place here, along with the Friday and Sunday night parties inside the hotel's event center. 888 Tahquitz Canyon Way, book a room through JeffreySanker.com.

FOR THE ON-TREND TRAVELER

The latest Palm Springs property to welcome sun-worshipping, ARRIVE Hotel opened up its 32 guestrooms mid-March to cheers from desert regulars. Don't have an all-parties pass to the big weekend? Escape the nonstop WP hubbub with time spent around its 66-foot pool, in its attached coffee shop or inside its sleek-but-masculine rooms. 1551 N. Palm Canyon, arrivehotels.com



FOR THE LUXE-LOVER

Up your net worth during White Party weekend with a stay at one of the desert's most swanky hotels, The Riviera. (The fact that at one time you could find Elvis and Frank Sinatra drinking by the pool here is just icing.) This property—with its upscale dining spot Circa 59, multiple lounges and bars and anything-you-could-ask-for Azure Spa—is great for the guy looking to dance during the day and be catered to at night. —S.H.





BETWEEN THE FOOD lines

and the Porta Potties and the Ferris wheel and the art installations, what is there to do? Oh yeah, listen to some music. Here are seven acts we're looking forward to.



LCD SOUNDSYSTEM

Retirement doesn't count for much in the music industry, so here comes the best dance act left of Daft Punk to get you to shake your tailfeather, crunk your rump, whatever. And they already have the Coachella-nation anthem in their back pocket: "Drunk Girls."



THE 1975

These U.K. pop rock upstarts are on the upswing—lots of funk and guitars and beats and whathaveyou—so here's your chance to say, "I saw them before they were huge."



FOALS

Rock in 2016 doesn't come any more passionate or forward-thinking than these Oxford musicians. Front man Yannis Phillipakis is the consummate showman, and his band is a well-honed machine that's been touring a victory lap for their awesome fourth release, What Went Down.



KAMASI WASHINGTON

Friend of Kendrick
Lamar and all-around
jazz Renaissance man
Washington brings
his future-jazz chops
to the polo field. How
that translates to an
EDM-leaning crowd
remains to be seen, but
one thing is for certain:
this is not dinner-time
mellow jazz. Prepare to
be transported.

f it seems like you hear about the Coachella nearly year-round, it's because you do. Tickets are released in June, only months removed from the previous festival, and there are always lineup rumors, more ticket sales, lineup confirmations and some more ticket sales to keep the crown jewel of the festival season in the spotlight.

Along with Lollapalooza and Bonnaroo, Coachella makes up the Big Three of music fests—they draw the biggest names, indie darlings and everything in-between. But Coachella has something else going for it: a great location and—usually—better weather.

Officially called the Coachella Valley Music and Arts Festival, it traces its roots to a 1993 Pearl Jam concert at the Empire Polo Club—its current venue—that gave way to informal gatherings throughout the '90s.

The festival itself came into being in 1999, and has only grown since then: musical luminaries as diverse as Paul McCartney, Prince and Kanye West have performed on one of Coachella's many stages. It's also become somewhat of a tradition for beloved bands to regroup for a (very lucrative) show. This includes The Stooges, Rage Against the Machine, The Jesus and Mary Chain and The Verve.

This year, the event is held with repeating schedules on back-to-back weekends, and headliners include LCD Soundsystem (another desert reunion!) on Friday, Guns N' Roses on Saturday and Calvin Harris on Sunday. Sprinkled throughout the schedule are acts as diverse as Sufjan Stevens, Grimes, Run the Jewels, Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros and pretty



much every musician you care about.

Beyond being a showcase for beloved Generation X and Millennial acts, Coachella is—lest we forget—still a powerful showcase for up-and-comers looking to win over new fans, too. Miami Horror, Algiers and Girlpool are acts you may not have on regular rotation right now, but just wait—if they nail their show, they'll end up on your radar.

What about accommodations? Unfortunately, with Coachella being the biggest social event of the region, it'll be pretty difficult to find a hotel room or Airbnb with the right balance of distance from the festival and price. It's worth checking all of the Coachella region for rooms or rentals—most sites focus on Palm Springs, naturally, but the festival itself happens about 20 minutes away from the city.

While further, Joshua Tree and surrounding regions might be a better bet for those looking to snag a comfy bed while checking out the festival—there is always the option of camping, and while the weather is usually agreeable, make peace with any potential climate issues before you head out to the desert. You'll be happier, trust me.

As far as prices, both general admission and VIP passes are sold out. If you're willing to shell out a few extra bucks—and this late in the game, you'll have to—you can snag a dinner pass, which includes courses created by Michael Voltaggio, Jonathan Sawyer and Kris Morningstar. Every night focuses on a different chef. Those go for \$624 and \$1124, for general or VIP treatment, respectively, the latter including access to an exclusive area, extra bathrooms and a cash bar. —P.R.



CHVRCHES

These Scottish electro popstars will appeal to the indie kids and old New Wavers alike, and diminutive vocalist Lauren Mayberry is the new La Roux—if not the new Blondie. Second album Every Open Eye came out last year, and sing-alongs are guaranteed.



GRIMES

She made fans out of even more gays with the release of fourth album *Art Angels* last November. Now if only we could figure out how to describe her...



GUNS N ROSES

These guys get an honorable mention. Or do I mean dishonorable? Regardless, this could be a bracing triumph for L.A. glammetal or an unmitigated reunion disaster. Either way, they'll entertain you. —D.L.



You didn't trek all the way out to Indio to miss your favorite band on the main stage, and pulling out your iPhone whenever you need the time is a great way to ensure it's dead before the sun goes down. Opt for an inexpensive timepiece that's as colorful as Coachella, like this solar-powered resin watch by **SmileSolar** (\$40, fab. com). It's made from recycled materials, and a portion of your purchase goes to help children in Africa and Asia with school meals. Good festival karma is of course a plus. —**S.H.**



lectric Daisy Carnival's reputation precedes itself. One of the largest gatherings of DJs and their fans in the world, it's earned the reputation of an "American Ibiza"—a reference to the infamously decadent Spanish town that's become the epicenter of Europe's techno scene.

The festival, better known as EDC, began life here in Los Angeles as a (relatively) small gathering of house heads at the Shrine Expo. It bounced around the city for a while before a string of bad press surrounding drug overdoses made it unappealing to venues. It finally moved to Vegas in 2011, and while Sin City is the main gathering for EDC, the carnival also has offshoots in New York, Chicago, Florida, and Texas, plus international versions in the UK, Brazil, Japan and Mexico.

Whether or not EDC's druggy reputation is deserved—that's subject of intense debate between organizer Insomniac and various groups—it's built itself as the natural, polished successor to Southern California's infamous desert raves of the '90s, when guerilla organization and the use of public land made the parties easy targets for officials to rack up drug arrests.

Electric Daisy Carnival, though, is a far cry from a few tents and speakers in the desert. Nearly

135,000 people attended the opening day ceremonies for EDC 2015, which was held at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway. The festival even inspired a 3-D documentary, *Under the Electric Sky*, which premiered at the 2014 Sundance Film Festival.



So, what's there to look forward to this year? This June, EDC will be celebrating its 20th anniversary, and to mark the occasion, the festival will be holding events in the week leading up to the official gathering. These gigs include pool parties at Liquid Pool, Rehab Beach Club and Wet Republic

at the MGM Grand. Talent like Afrojack, Dimitri Vegas and Hardwell will helm gatherings at various venues on The Strip, including Hakkasan and Marquee Dayclub. There's also an "EDMBiz" convention, where you can learn how the electronic music business works. All of these separate events require additional tickets.

For the festival itself, EDM heavyweights like Steve Aoki, Knife Party and Laidback Luke will thrill crowds at the Motor Speedway starting Friday. A three-day will run you around \$350, and you'll want to tack on a \$90 shuttle pass (shuttles run from various hotels, including Excalibur, MGM Grand and Linq)—but that, of course, doesn't include the price of a hotel.

On the high end, a VIP package to EDC can be had for about \$700, which includes rapid entry, complimentary body painting, access to an "exclusive" Ferris wheel and one drink ticket per night. You'll still have to cough up money for a room somewhere in Vegas, though. Layaway and installment plans are available for most ticket options.

Since this is Vegas at the height for summer, it's best to come prepared to EDC. Bring sunscreen, drink plenty of water and dress appropriately. And, of course, don't forget the bead kandi. —P.R.



OTHER. EDC EVENTS

NEW YORK

MAY 14-15

East Coasters will "journey deep into the owl realm" when EDC hits the Big Apple for two days, and music will blast forth on four separate stages inside Citi Field, including electronic hip-hop, house, trance and techno. Cheaper than the L.A. installment, two-day tickets are currently selling for \$229 (eventually increasing to \$250).

UNITED KINGDOM

JULY 9

Headliners of the UK's one-day EDM celebration, held at The National Bowl, include Alison Wonderland, AVICII, Eric Prydz, Martin Solveig and a ton of other industry big-names. A general admission ticket will run you around \$85, and packages are available that include a hotel room or even a camping spot.

JAPAN

JULY - TBA

Details are still scarce about the very first EDC Japan, which was announced last summer. It's an attempt to compete with Ultra Music Festival, which has branched out from its Miami roots onto nearly every continent. (Ultra rolls into Tokyo Sept. 17-19.)



Seriously, who has time to shower during EDC weekend? That's time that could be spent taking in the pumping EDM, gawking at costumed performers and losing your mind to trippy visual effects. And you won't feel guilty (or smelly) if you have **Arrojo's ReFinish Dry Shampoo** (\$17 for 100 mL, arrojonyc.com), packed with aloe vera and ginger. Spray it in, sans water, to absorb the excess oil in your mane—preventing you from looking like 'that greasy raver over there'—and to help out with texture and volume. Win-win, we say. —**S.H.**

Your Desert Digs

1 THE LINO

One of the latest Vegas properties to arrive on The Strip, The Linq is a super-affordable Caesars property that's perfect for a quick weekend jaunt. With rooms starting at only \$29 per night (though there's no way you'll secure that rate for EDC weekend), you won't find a cheaper deal with as much to offer. The Linq isn't just a hotel—it's an entertainment district, complete with a Grove-like open-air mall (check out the Polaroid Fotobar), plenty of restaurants and the world's tallest observation wheel. <code>caesars.com/linq</code>

2 VDARA HOTEL AND SPA

This one's a great option for the guy looking to get rowdy while on the fairgrounds but relax in peace once the party dies down. A lot of hotels refer to themselves as "all-suite," but rooms at the Vdara are expansive and super stylish. It's also a smoke-free non-gaming hotel, which helps with that whole 'relaxation' thing, and best of all, you can get pampered before you head back home with a treatment at Espa at Vdara. If you have some money to spend, the \$350 "On the Rocks" treatment includes body exfoliation, body massage with volcanic stones and a scalp massage, while the \$100 foot treatment is a not-so-pricey (but much-needed) alternative. vdara.com

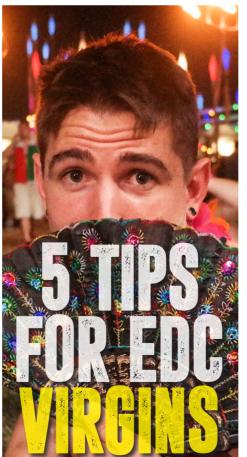
3 HARD ROCK HOTEL

You're heading to Vegas for an epic weekend of music, so why not keep the theme when booking your hotel? The Hard Rock is synonymous with hard partying and rock 'n' roll debauchery, which makes it a perfect fit for EDC weekend. Heading up with a pack of single buddies? Splurge on the hotel's epic Bachelor Pad suite, complete with a stripper pole in the living room and a mirrored ceiling in the bedroom. hardrockhotel.com —S.H.









1. THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS TOO MUCH WATER.

Remember: you're in the middle of the desert in June. You're going to be thirsty. A Camelbak is an easy way to stay hydrated, and you can fill it up at any drinking fountain.

2. BRING LIP BALM

After a few days of dancing in the sun, your lips are going to be gnarly. It's a simple way to stay comfortable.

3. BOOK A DECENT HOTEL ROOM

Vegas has an abundance of places to stay, but after a long day of dancing and enjoying yourself, do you really want to crash somewhere uncomfortable? You don't have to book a super pricey spot, just somewhere you'll like.

4. BRING CASH

There's a decent number of food trucks and other vendors dotting the Las Vegas Motor Speedway, and having cash will ensure you can grab a (relatively) quick bite.

5. REST

It's easy to over-extend yourself the first day you arrive, but avoid the temptation. This is a three-day gathering, and you're going to want to experience it all! Take breaks, and get a good night's sleep. —**P.R.**

COMEDY CONCERTS FESTIVALS EXHIBITS FILMS THEATER

SPRING CULTURE PREVIEW

El Niño made for a sometimes-wicked winter here in SoCal, but the scents and sounds of spring have finally arrived. From ballet to bongs, songs to throngs (of people), here's what's going on around Los Angeles that will dust off your culture calendar BY Mikey Rox











APRIL

COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET

April 15-17, Dorothy Chandler Pavilion

Precision, power, passion—and the occasional pop song—blur the boundaries of ballet and contemporary dance in this genre-bending performance choreographed by program founders **Dwight Rhoden** and **Desmond Richardson**.



► THE JUNGLE BOOK

April 15, Local Cinemas

Mowgli and friends (and a couple enemies) get the live-action treatment in this retelling of the **Rudyard Kipling** classic.

JOSEFOWICZ PLAYS ADAMS

April 16, Walt Disney Concert Hall

L.A. Philharmonic Creative Chair John Adams conducts renowned violinist Leila Josefowicz in this collaboration that the Wall Street Journal heralded as "free-flowing, picturesque eclecticism" following its well-reviewed New York premiere.

► JAPANESE TEA EXPERIENCE

April 17. The Huntinaton

A docent-led tour to learn about the garden's ceremonial teahouse, Seifu-an—translated to "Arbor of the Pure Breeze"—culminates in a participatory tea ceremony in nearby Ikebana House.

► RADICAL INTIMACIES: THE 8MM CINEMA OF SAUL LEVINE

April 18, REDCAT

Avant-garde (and highly underrated) filmmaker **Saul Levine** screens a selection of his half-century-spanning work, including *Light Licks*, *Portrayals* and several Super 8mm sound films.

SAVAGES

April 18, El Rey Theatre

The London-based post-punk band brings their intense brand of noise rock stateside for a performance delivered like a punch in the face.

CHEECH & CHONG: 420 CELEBRATION

April 20, The Novo by Microsoft

If you're a fan of the ganj—and this comedy duo—there's no place you'd rather be.

CINEARTE

April 22-24, L.A. LGBT Center

A celebration of the Latin@ community and culture, featuring documentaries, regional and international shorts, a feature-length film, art installations and live entertainment.

BROKE L.A. FESTIVAL

April 23, 695 S. Santa Fe, DTLA

Like Coachella but on a budget, the roster includes up-and-comers **The Fontaines**, **DWNTWN**, **Softest Hard**, **BlackGummy** and more.



► CHICAGO THE MUSICAL

April 26 - May 1, Pantages Theatre

Grammy Award-winner **Brandy Norwood** stars as murderer-turned-America's-sweetheart Roxie Hart in this musical set amid the razzle-dazzle decadence of the 1920s.

MY MOTOWN: MUSIC, MEMORIES AND MORE

April 29 & 30, Catalina Bar & Grill

Remember the good ol' days of music as **Thelma Houston** turns back the clock, performing classic songs like "I Second That Emotion" and her international hit, "Don't Leave Me This Way."

BOB'S BURGERS LIVE

April 29, The Wiltern

Smoke a little bud before joining the animated show's cast for stand-up, a table read and a Q&A with a sneak-peek into upcoming episodes.

STAGECOACH FESTIVAL

April 29 - May 1. Empire Polo Club

Headliners Luke Bryan, Carrie Underwood and Eric Church make the desert pilgrimage a no-brainer if you enjoy two-steppin' to country music.

► EVENING WITH PATTI SMITH

April 30, The Getty Center

Patti Smith shares songs, poems and intimate stories written about, with or inspired by her dear friend and celebrated photographer Robert Mapplethorpe, whose own exhibition, The Perfect Medium, runs through July 31 at the J. Paul Getty Museum.

DAPPER DAY

April 30. Disnevland

Get all gussied up to spin inside Alice's Tea Cups at this biannual meet-up that kicks off with a style expo before you strut your stuff with **Mickey Mouse** down Main Street.





POOLSIDE PLAYLIST

Put together a soaking-wet soundtrack before summer even comes with these much-anticipated album releases.

All Saints, Red Flag (April 8) Ariana Grande, Dangerous Woman (May 20) Blake Shelton, If I'm Honest (May 20) Cyndi Lauper, Detour (May 6) Deftones, Gore (April 8) Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros, PersonA (April 15) Fifth Harmony, 7/27 (May 20) Garbage, Strange Little Birds (June 10) Goo Goo Dolls, Boxes (May 6) Jennifer Nettles, Playing with Fire (May 13)

Ladyhawke, Wild Things (June 3) **Lita Ford, Time Capsule** (April 15) M83. Junk (April 8) Nick Jonas, Last Year Was Complicated (June 10) Pet Shop Boys, Super (April 1) Peter, Bjorn and John, Breakin' Point (June 10) Peter Wolf, A Cure for Loneliness (April 8) PJ Harvey, The Hope Six Demolition Project (April 15) Rob Zombie, The Electric Warlock Acid Witch Satanic Orgy Celebration Dispenser (April 29) Rufus Wainwright, Take All My Loves (April 15) Shonen Knife, Adventure Tegan and Sara, Love You to Death (June 3) Weezer, The White Album (April 1)

MAY

PENTATONIX

May 1, Microsoft Theater

A cappella sensation **Pentatonix**—the best thing to come from NBC's nowdefunct The Sing-Off—performs with Us the Duo and AJ Lehrman.

TEGAN AND SARA

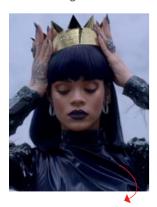
May 2, The Roxy

Twin sisters—not lesbian lovers— Tegan and Sara Quin will run through their decade-plus repertoire of work, including songs from their soon-tobe-released eighth album Love You to Death.

AN EVENING WITH **DAVID SEDARIS**

May 3, Royce Hall

The humorist brings his sardonic wit and incisive social critiques to this program that takes a serious turn—unsolved mysteries in African-American neighborhoods.



► RIHANNA: ANTI **WORLD TOUR 2016**

May 3, The Forum

She's gonna workworkwork workwork, and sing a whole bunch of other songs whose lyrics you'll only half-understand.

► IN & OF ITSELF

May 3 - June 26, Skirball Theater

Formerly titled Unknown, this metaphorical labyrinth written and performed by **Derek DelGaudio**—directed by Frank Oz—is filled with allegorical allusions centered around a single paradoxical truth: Right now you're simultaneously confused and intrigued by its description.

SCI-FEST L.A.

May 5-29, Acme Theatre

This otherworldy festival of one-act plays will showcase works by acclaimed musician Janis Ian. author Neil Gaiman and macabre master Clive Barker, with appearances by actors from beloved sci-fi and fantasy franchises.



BBQ & BEER FESTIVAL

May 6 & 7, Santa Clarita

Come for the craft-beer kickoff on Friday; return to sample the pinnacle of local pit BBO on Saturday in this best-of-both-worlds festival featuring a variety of live music and entertainment.

RUPAUL'S DRAGCON

May 7 & 8, L.A. Convention Center May the fierce be with you at this dragstravaganza featuring your favorite counterculture celebrities, screenings, panel discussions, lip sync contests, fashion and makeup tutorials, photo opps and more.

► LIL BUCK

May 13 & 14, The Broad Stage

Avid YouTubers can experience the jookin stylings of Lil Buck, the overnight dance phenom who took the media platform by storm in 2011 with his ballet/hip-hop mashup, during his L.A. debut featuring music by equally lauded young cellist Mihai Marica.



GEOGRAPHIES OF WONDER

May 14 - Sept. 3, The Huntington

In commemoration of the U.S. National Park Service's centennial. The Huntington's collection of rare books, manuscripts, photographs, prints and related materials tell the 100-year-old institution's origin stories.

► WEST COAST BBQ CLASSIC

May 15, The Queen Mary

Board the stationary Queen Mary for a finger-lickin' 'cue competition of Texas-sized proportion (with a little Memphis thrown in), featuring backyard-style games, contests, a merchant market and live entertainment from the Scotty Mac Band.

MOZART & SCHUMAN

May 15, Royce Hall

Capping his 19th season as L.A. Chamber Orchestra music director, Jeffrey Kahane conducts Robert Schumann's triumphant C-major Symphony and showcases "awe-inspiring virtuoso" Marc André Hamelin in Mozart's imaginative Piano Concerto No. 17.

THE FRENCHIE EXPERIENCE

May 17, Catalina Bar & Grill

An evening of pop and soul cabaret with American Idol and The Voice alum Frenchie Davis, under the musical direction of Nick Petrillo.

NEIGHBORS 2: **SORORITY RISING**

May 20, Local Cinemas

Don't let the title distract from the Zefron's nipples.



BARBARA KASTEN: STAGES

May 28 - Aug. 14, MOCA at PDC

Widely recognized for her photography, this exhibition highlights Kasten's nearly half-century-long engagement with abstraction, light and architectural form, including early mixed-media works, cyanotype prints and forays into set design.

MACKLEMORE & RYAN LEWIS

May 31, Shrine Expo Hall

Head downtown, past the thrift shop, to catch this high-energy, off-the-wall show where L,G,B and T are simply letters in the alphabet.

JUNE ► THE TRAGEDY OF CARMEN ► MADE IN L.A. 2016



LAZY DAY LIBRARY

Settle in near your favorite piece of pool or beach and dive into these new-release novels waiting to be devoured



APRIL

The Beast, J.R. Ward As Time Goes By, Mary Higgins Clark The Obsession. **Nora Roberts** Extreme Prey, John Sandford Niaht Skv with Exit Wounds. Ocean Vuong

Jerkbait, Mia Siegert Are You Here What I'm Here For?, Brian Booker Highly Illogical Behavior, John Corey Whaley The Trials of Apollo: The Hidden Oracle, Rick Riordan The Art of Being Normal, Lisa Williamson

True Letters from a Fictional Life. Kenneth Logan End of Watch, Stephen King Foreign Agent, Brad Thor Here's to Us, Elin Hilderbrand The Sun Goes Down, James Lear

June 1, Macgowan Hall Little Theater

Peter Brook's adaptation of Georges Bizet's famous opera Carmen, originally inspired by **Prosper Mérimée**'s novella of the same name. Who gets the royalties, no one knows.

JONNY LANG

June 2, The Rose

Twenty years later, Lang's mix of American blues, gospel and rock will still make your boxers drop.

▶ SEEDFOLKS

June 4 & 5, Wallis Annenberg Center

A neighborhood garden is the catalyst for conversation between 13 voices in this Children's Theatre Company performance adapted from Newbery Medal-winner Paul Fleischman's book.

► BIG SKY

June 7 - July 17, Gil Cates Theater

Pulitzer Prize-finalist playwright Alexandra Gersten-Vassilaros and Tony Award-winning director John Rando offer a funny yet poignant cautionary tale about the perils of pretense and fragility of family in this world premiere.

► HOLLYWOOD FRINGE FESTIVAL

June 9-26

Fifty-two shows comprise this year's experimental celebration of the performing arts, including Penisaria, an operatic parody exploring John and Lorena Bobbitt's relationship, and Suckin Injun, the story of two trailertrash vampires.



L.A. PRIDE

June 10-12

Sashav! Shantav! This year's celebration is more 'music festival' than ever, and we can't wait to see who will be gracing its stages.

June 12 - Aug. 28, Hammer Museum

The third iteration of this unifying biennial exhibition extends into dance, fashion, literature, music, film and performance, highlighting local artists who collectively weave our cultural fabric.



► ANATOMY THEATER

June 16-19, REDCAT

Opera meets autopsy in LA Opera's off-kilter show about an English murderess whose progression from confession to public dissection reaches the highest boughs.



L.A. VEGAN BEER & **FOOD FESTIVAL**

June 18, Rose Bowl Stadium

All the kombucha and cold ones you can handle, plus vegan food trucks, vendors, restaurants, craft marketplace and live music.



► SMORGASBURG

June 19, Alameda Produce Market

The Brooklyn-born flea-meets-food market sets up its West Coast outpost every Sunday on five acres, sure to satisfy your appetite for cutting-edge cuisine and other vendor-type stuffs.

► INDEPENDENCE DAY: **RESURGENCE**

June 24, Local Cinemas

They totally killed off Will Smith, but Jeff Goldblum returns to kick alien ass 20 years later.

▶ OYE MI CANTO: FROM L.A. **TO HAVANA**

June 26, Alex Theatre

The Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles hosts the newly formed gay men's chorus from Havana, Cuba, Mano a Mano, for a historic performance 55 years in the making.

► IN FOCUS: LGBT PROGRAM

June 26, AT&T Center

Six LGBT films, including a documentary and one narrative feature starring Joel McHale and Michelle Monaghan.



The Dish

Five local eateries with famous owners. Some are uninspired and overpriced. Some are real L.A. gems.

By Patrick Rosenquist



ROA

Santa Monica Opened: 2001 Owned by: Ryan Seacrest

Your favorite media magnate is a financier for this upscale steakhouse chain (two in Southern California, one in Abu Dhabi). Reviews are typically positive—the dry-aged New York strip has been singled out as one of the best steaks served in the city. The prices reflect the quality—you can dine on a whole lobster for \$75 or a Tomahawk steak for \$98 (which serves two, in case that lessens the sting). The rest of the menu doesn't stray far from steakhouse favorites—there's even a wedge salad if you're feeling retro—even if you don't usually find goat cheese baklava served at most chop houses. 101 Santa Monica Blvd., (310) 899-4466, innovativedining.com



elebrity-owned restaurants are far from a new trend, as stars have been opening eateries since Hollywood's heyday, but there seem to be a lot more springing up lately.

One of the latest local additions is Trejo's Tacos, owned by—you guessed it—Danny Trejo. The Mid-Wilshire spot got pretty middling reviews: Why does a taco joint need a valet, and how on earth do you serve food in cold tortillas? And, bizarrely, one of the promotions for the restaurant is a three-minute VR video where you can

savor the experience of lunching with the *Machete* actor without leaving your house or offending your taste buds.

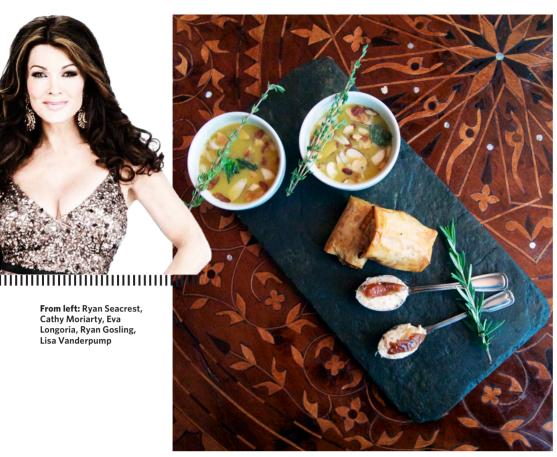
Bland, overpriced and gimmicky are pretty much the trifecta of celebrity restaurants, but we wanted to know, do any celebrity restaurants go against that stereotype? We've rounded up five restaurants with famous owners—some of which repeat Trejo's shortcomings, some of which are pretty good. None of them, however, made a VR video, so Trejo's got a leg up on that front.



PUMP

West Hollywood Opened: 2014 Owned by: Lisa Vanderpump

Billing itself as "The Sexy Garden Restaurant" and sporting a weekend shindig called "The Sexy Gay Brunch," the Real Housewife's temple to all things sexy is one of the latest additions to her 26-restaurant empire. If the establishment had a theme, it would be Vanderpump herself—on the cocktail menu, you can find a Pumpopolotan (it's a Cosmo, in case you couldn't tease that out), a Pinky Pump Burger (with feta and caramelized onions) and Vanderpump Fish and Chips. The prices are reasonable, and most cocktails top out at \$14, but the real draw (besides a potential Giggy sighting) is the location. The patio contains century-old olive trees and an eclectic array of decorations, meant to capture a chilled-out California vibe and, therefore, hungry tourists. 8948 Santa Monica Blvd., (310) 657-7867, pumprestaurant.com



Tagine

Beverly Hills Opened: 2004 **Owned by: Ryan Gosling**

This Moroccan restaurant boasts a pricey menu, an intimate setting and an extensive wine list. Sure, you can find that combination at a number of Beverly Hills hot spots, but you know what makes this restaurant unique? Aside from serving a vegan couscous dish that—somehow—manages to cost \$21, co-owner Gosling fashioned the "smoked mirrors" that line the walls by hand! We have no clue how one goes about smoking a mirror, but we'd imagine it's hard work (and best done shirtless). The centerpiece of the menu is a series of tagines, a slow-cooked sweet-and-sour stew. 132 N. Robertson Blvd., (310) 360-7535, taginebeverlyhills.com





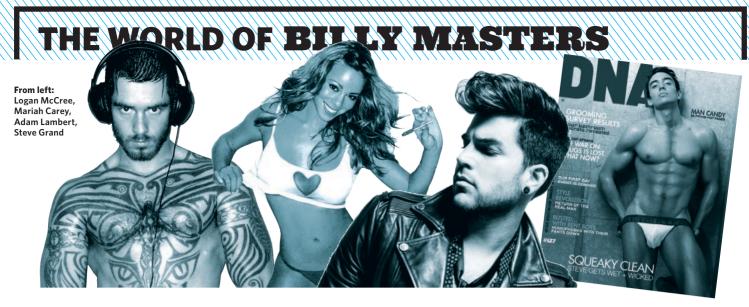
Mulberry Street Pizzeria

Beverly Hills Opened: 1992 Owned by: Cathy Moriarty

Not every celebrity-owned restaurant has to be a spectacle. This place was opened in part by Academy Award-nominated actress Cathy Moriarty over two decades ago. She's since left the business, but her former partner continues to crank out East Coast-style pies. There are now four locations in total. two in Beverly Hills and two more in the Valley. Moriarty isn't the only celebrity with

a connection to what bills itself as "The World's Most Famous Pizzeria"-coowner Richie Palmer was married to Raquel Welch for nearly a decade. 240 S. Beverly Dr., (310) 247-8100, mulberrypizzeria.com ■





ADAM LAMBERT AND STEVE GRAND REWRITE HISTORY, DON'T TOUCH THE DIVA, A PORN GOD PICKS UP THE HOSE

I recently told you that **Sophia Loren** was charging \$750 for a meet-and-greet. Apparently Mariah Carey is charging \$700 for a similar experience. But let's be clear: it's a meet and a greet, not a touch, hug, kiss or fondle. Fans in line were told to walk over to her, stand next to her, pose and move on. Well, you can't blame Mariah. She can barely move since she's always poured into a dress at least four sizes too small. You jostle her the wrong way and the whole infrastructure could be compromised! Fans were told Mariah might touch them if the spirit moved her ... assuming the spirit could move.

How Adam Remembers It

Years ago, I worked with a very famous performer a true triple threat. Make that a quadruple threat, because my life would often be jeopardized if I questioned anything this person said. It was difficult when I heard complete fallacies in interviews. I once tried to privately correct some of the inaccuracies; I was told the facts were wrong. This person claimed to have been "almost nominated for an Oscar" (how are you "almost nominated"?), later describing how it felt to be nominated. Years later, I saw a TV interview where this person talked about winning an Oscar. When no one questions you, the truth becomes irrelevant.

That was a long-winded way to get into a story about Adam Lambert. The pop star has had one of the most erratic career trajectories I've ever seen. After languishing for years in musical theater, he enjoyed a meteoric rise on American Idol. He may have come in second, but he trumped Kris Allen in his post-Al career. Then, the inevitable lull. He rebounded as the frontman for a reconstituted Queen. It brought him a huge payday. But without new material of his own, he risked becoming a tribute artist.

Now he prepares to fill yet another legendary singer's shoes—Meat Loaf's in The Rocky Horror Picture Show Event. But Lambert claims this wasn't the role FOX wanted him to play. "They actually asked me early on—this is sometime last year—to look at the role of Frank-N-Furter. I was really flattered, and I thought,

yeah, that could be quite fun. But [with my] schedule, [it was] just not looking likely. And on a side note, I kind of felt like in 2016, to be cis and playing the role of a trans character, it felt inappropriate to me. ... I think casting Laverne Cox was so brilliant." Because, eh, transvestite, transsexual ... it's all the same, right?

A Grand Career in Modeling

If ever Pantene revives their "Don't hate me because I'm beautiful" campaign, might I suggest Steve Grand as the new spokesperson? Poor Steve is just too pretty for his own good. For those who don't know who Grand is, he's an out-and-proud singer whose campaign to finish his All-American Boy album became the fourth most-funded music project in Kickstarter history. But the body of work Grand is best known for is his body.

To be fair, Grand is a very good-looking guy with an amazing physique, which he's flaunted to acclaim with selfies, workout videos and underwear shots. Why not show it off, especially if it translates into attention and money? But that comes with a price. In a widely circulated interview, Grand made some of the following statements: "I'm such an easy person to target. Young, good-looking, white, gay men—we love to hate those people" and "I never was a model. I never got paid for any of it. I'm just another guy who has photos online of me in my underwear and that's really all it is. ... I just wanted to take pictures of myself with my clothes off."

First, some fact-checking. Despite assertions to the contrary, Steve Grand was most certainly a model. In 2010, he did one of his most revealing photoshoots under the name of Steve Chatham-and I assume DNA magazine pays their cover models. There were other risqué shoots under the name Finn Diesel. They probably slipped his mind. What outraged fans was that this hot, young white guy was lamenting his plight and describing himself as a "target." My favorite post said, "Don't hate Steve Grand because he's white; hate him because he's clueless." That sums it up. Grand tried to smooth things over on Twitter: "I say a lot of things. Some of those things don't always come out quite right. I can do better, and I'm going to continue to try and

do so." As long as he's still showing skin, I'm OK with that. Just don't ask me to hum any of his songs.

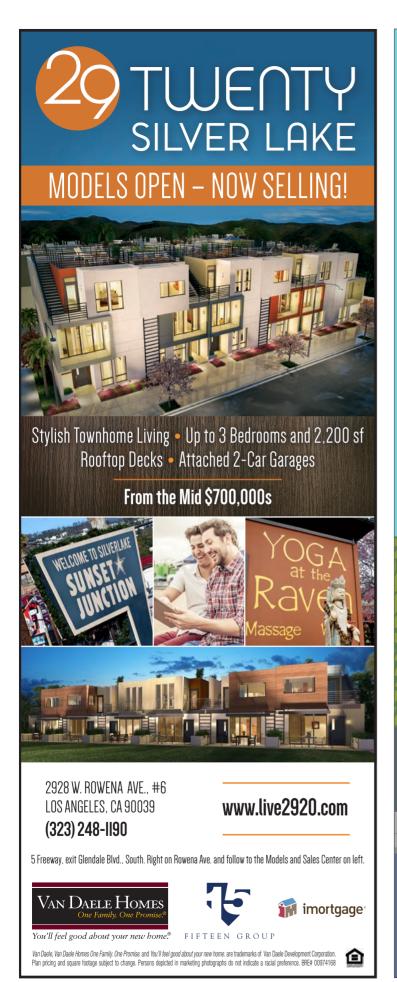
Wedded Bliss

In some happy news, the enormously talented **Marc** Shaiman just married his beau, Louis Mirabal. The wedding coincided with Lou's retirement ceremony from the US Navy. My Play Mama, Jenifer Lewis, kicked things off by singing the National Anthem. During the flag ceremony, Nathan Lane read "Old Glory" while accompanied by Shaiman's score from The American President. The wedding itself was officiated by **Tom Kirdahy**, producer and spouse of **Terrence** McNally. And at the reception, the fabulous Darlene **Love** sang "(Today I Met) The Boy I'm Gonna Marry" with Shaiman at the piano. We'll share videos from the event on my site. Guests in attendance included Bette Midler, Patti LuPone, Whoopi Goldberg and numerous others. Congrats to the happy couple.

Playing With Fire

Logan McCree is making a drastic career change. He's retiring from gay porn to become a firefighter in Scotland! Logan, whose real name is **Philipp Tanzer**, was previously an Army medic and wants to continue being of service to the community (which is kinda what he did in his last job). He's open about his past, but nobody seems to care. One of his fellow firefighters said, "We would all have preferred it if he was a female porn actress, but he is what he is. None of us have a problem with his past. I haven't seen any of his movies, but apparently he's very good." I hasten to add that, despite his gay porn past, Philipp hopes to marry a woman. Nobody's perfect.

When Scots are putting out fires with their bags and pipes, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Let me remind you that there's even more dish at BillyMasters.com, the site that's not afraid to show what's under the kilt. If you have a question, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com, and I promise to get back to you before Adam Lambert wins his next Grammy <wink>. Until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.







CAPES & COCKTAILS

This year's White Party Palm Springs kicks off with a superhero-themed dance party, featuring a live concert by Kristine W, at the Palm Springs Art Museum By James F. Mills

> s White Party Palm Springs gets underway, Superman will be in attendance. So will Batman. And Wonder Woman. And Spider-Man, too.

This year's big circuit party event kicks off on Friday, April 8, with a superhero-themed "Art of Justice" party held at the Palm Springs Art Museum. Guests are asked to raid their closets, pull out their sewing machines, go to the thrift store or rent a costume and become a super-powered alterego for the night.

"Who doesn't have a cape hanging up in their closet, or who doesn't want to express their inner superhero?" says Maile Vreeken, the museum's fundraising and development administrator. "This will be a fun party, and we can't wait to see how people dress up or accessorize as their favorite comic book hero. This is the night for superheroes!"

If you don't equate superheroes with art museums, you're not alone. And that's the entire idea behind this party, dubbed Meet the Museum.

"There's been a renaissance in culture in the past decade, and art museums are being redefined," says Vreeken. "It's not just about walking into a library environment where you have to be quiet and just enjoy the painting on the wall. Art means something to everybody. It should be accessible and open to everyone. Art is fun. And what better way to get that idea across that a costume party?'

All of the museum's exhibitions and galleries (except the glass gallery) will be open during the party, which also features an open bar, hors d'oeuvres, henna tattoos, superhero caricature-drawing stations, dance tunes by DJ Corey D and local drag star **Bella da Ball** as the event's MC. The party's pièce de resistance is a live concert by singer **Kristine W**, who has had over a dozen dance floor hits, including "Love is the Look," "Fly Again," "Feel What You Want" and "Love Come Home."

This party is part of the museum's annual membership

drive, and the ticket price includes a full year's membership. (Those who are already museum members can purchase party tickets separately.)

"If there's an exhibit you're been wanting to see, this is the perfect time to come see it and attend a great party, too," says Vreeken. "If you've got friends in the desert from out of town, you can take them to the museum and this fabulous party at the same time. If you want to enrich your experience while visiting Palm Springs, the Palm Springs Art Museum is the perfect place to do it, and you get a party at the same time!"

This is the 11th year the Meet the Museum party has taken place, and it's a party that has always been held during White Party weekend. In 2005, the first year Meet the Museum was held, White Party and Dinah Shore weekend both coincided, so the party was conceived as a way to add an element of culture to the weekend. In ensuing years, Meet the Museum sometimes got lost amidst all the other goings-on. This year, though, the museum has decided to re-emphasize that connection to White Party, which is also a co-sponsor of the party.

Kristine W, who cites Wonder Woman as her favorite superhero, is particularly excited about the chance to perform. "The party sounds fabulous!" she says. "What better way to kick off the iconic White Party weekend than to get your superhero vibe on! Plus, I've never performed in an actual art museum before! Bucket list!"

Kristine promises to belt out her hits as well as a few covers, as she does in her Las Vegas shows, plus a tribute to her all-time favorite singer, Donna Summer.

For those who don't find the idea of donning a superhero outfit super-exciting—well, you're still welcome to attend, too. "If you don't feel like celebrating Halloween in April, the party is still a chance to come out for a great party," says Vreeken. "A lot of attendees will just come dressed for a cocktail party, or as we like to call it in the desert, 'desert chic.'"

MEET THE Palm Springs Art Museum April 8 psmuseum.org



Calendar

Sun | April 3

SUNDAY T DANCE

Hunters

DJ Chub Jim spins dance tunes at the weekly dance party, starting at 2 p.m. hunterspalmsprings.com

Thu. | April 7

PIANO MEN TRIBUTE

McCallum Theatre

The music of two pop music greats, Elton John and Billy Joel, performed by Broadway veterans Craig A. Meyer and Donnie Kehr. mccallumtheatre.com

Sat. | April 9

Purple Room

The singer-actress pays tribute to the late Amy Winehouse. purpleroompalmsprings.com



Sat. | April 9 JARROD SPECTOR & **KELLI BARRETT**

Annenberg Theatre

The recently married Broadway vets celebrate music created and/or performed by married duos, like Carole King and Gerry Goffin and Sonny and Cher. psmuseum.org

Sun. | April 10

OPERA IN THE PARK

Sunrise Park

Great opera arias are performed in a free show that starts at 1 p.m. palmspringsoperaguild.org

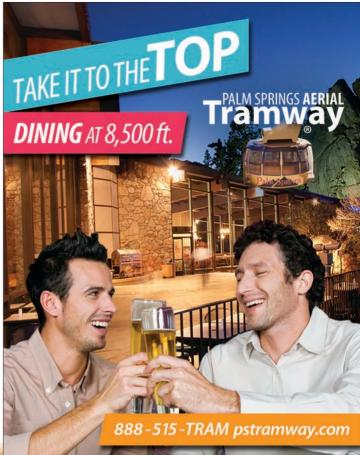
Through April 11

COCK

Desert Rose Playhouse

man takes a break from his boyfriend and takes up with a woman in Mike Bartlett's acclaimed drama. desertroseplayhouse.org





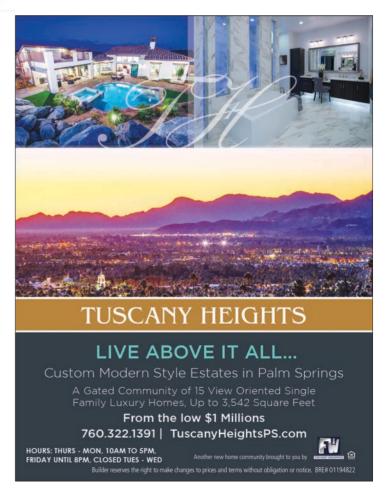


THE RHYTHM NATION

GET INTO THE GROOVE as the Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus offers its spring concert featuring such toe-tapping, finger-snapping, hand-clapping tunes as "We Will Rock You" and a flamencothemed "Ritmo."

"Douglas Wilson, our artistic director, has put together a production that will incorporate lots of rhythm, and it's a very fun concert," says David Sanchez, board president of the chorus. "Our members have been learning how to play the drums on several songs, so there are congas and bongos, castanets and tambourines, snares and rattles. We've never used drums in a concert before, so it's exciting."

The concert, titled Fascinatin' Rhythm, will be performed Saturday, April 16, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 17, at 3 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center on Alejo Road. In July, the guys will travel to Denver to perform the same concert for the GALA Choruses international LGBT chorus conference that is held every four years. Go to psgmc.com for more info and to purchase tickets. -J.F.M.



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LA Thai Massage 1523 N. La Brea - (323) 652-1492

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- Improves complexion
- Helps sustain elasticity in skin
- Helps to reduce cardiovascular disease
- Helps control cholesterol levels
- $\bullet \ \ \text{Increases nitric oxide production} \\$
- Improves nutrient delivery

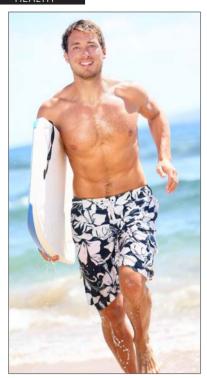
Men's Night Formula Benefits:

- Improves quality sleep
- Increases growth hormone levels
- Burns fat
- Cleanses and removes more waste from the body
- Helps to regenerate aged skin cells
- Helps increase testosterone levels

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MARKETPLACE

HEALTH



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Dialog Cafe

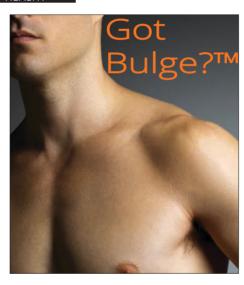
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