SEPT 2017 ISSUE 37

DOWNTOWNER

THE INSIDER GUIDE TO DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES



CITY MARKET SOUTH

Drink, dine and shop your way through this community-centered destination.

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LAZRFIT

Who says working out has to be boring?

This place is laser-focused on changing up your fitness game.

PAGE 12

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LADTR

LONG LIVE DOWNTOWN

THE INSIDER'S VIEW OF DOWNTOWN CULTURE, FOOD, DRINKS, FASHION & THE PEOPLE WHO SHAPE IT.

A FERROCONCRETE PUBLICATION

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Editor-in-Chief: Yo Santosa

Designer & Art Director: Mike Payne

Senior Staff Writer & Digital Director: Janica de Guzman

Assistant Editor: Linda Hosmer

Writers: Brian Chernick, Abel Horwitz, Ivan Navarro, Phoebe Yu

Photographers: Kort Havens, Natasha Lee, Rebekah Lemire, Robiee Ziegler

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DOWNTOWN EVENT CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	30	31	1	2
AN AFTERNOON W/BIFFLE & SHOOSTER: LIVE COMEDY SHOW LA Central Library 630 W 5th St.	RUNDALAY Grand Park 200 N Grand Ave. 7:45AM	YESTIVAL: YES & FRIENDS, A FULL FESTIVAL EXPERIENCE Microsoft Theater 777 Chick Hearn Court	MUZE: LIFE DRAWING - ART WORKSHOP ArtShare LA 801 E 4th Place	THE SOULFIRE COLLECTIVE Resident 428 S Hewitt St. 8:30PM	DANCE DTLA: DJ NIGHTS Grand Park 200 N Grand Ave. 9:00 PM	ACO BACK TO SCHOOL BENEFIT WITH RYX Navel 1611 S Hope St.
2PM Enjoy a live stage show with special guests and archival slapstick musical comedy short films.	Start the week off right with a Monday morning run along with a hundred of your closest friends.	7:30PM Prog rockers, YES, bring their traveling festival to the Microsoft Theater. Todd Rundgren and Carl Palmer's ELP Legacy join.	6:45PM Try your hand at uninstructed life drawing every Wednesday at ArtShare LA. Bring your own supplies. RSVP is necessary.	On the first Thursday of every month, Chinatown's hottest property becomes a hotbed of culinary innovation, as chefs and friends take over.	Dance the night away under the stars at The Music Center's Dance DTLA, now in its 13th year.	5:30 — 11PM Enjoy an evening of drinks, dancing, bites, and silent auction with a performance by RyX and surprise DJs. Proceeds support low-income youth and families.
3 LIL JON W/ JAYKODE + SECRET GUESTS Exchange LA 618 S Spring St. 10PM "Turn Down for What" rapper and producer, Lil Jon, turns up at Exchange LA for a DJ set along with Jaykode and secret guests.	JOHN CAGE: UNTOUCHABLE NUMBERS Ace Hotel Lobby Bar 929 S Broadway 12AM In commemoration of John Cage's 105th birthday, Ace Hotels will be hosting a 24- hour listening event of the sonic philosopher's sounds and silences.	TACOS & TRIVIA TUESDAYS Angel City Brewery 216 N Alameda St. 7PM Taqueria El Severo will be serving up their grilled tacos outside, while inside will be an ongoing game of trivia from King Trivia.	6 MUZE: LIFE DRAWING - ART WORKSHOP ArtShare LA 801 E 4th Place 6:45 PM Try your had at uninstructed life drawing every Wednesday at ArtShare LA. Bring your own supplies. RSVP is necessary.	7 DOYLE BRAMHALL II Teragram Ballroom 1234 W 7th St. 8PM Musician's musician, Doyle Bramhall II, has collaborated with everyone from Eric Clapton to Erykah Badu. See and hear why at the Teragram.	B JESSY LANZA, COOPER SAVER, & JEN FERRER The Standard Hotel 550 S Flower St. 9PM D) sets poolside on the rooftop of the Standard by Jessy Lanza, Cooper Saver, and Jen Ferrer.	JIM GAFFIGAN The Theatre at the Ace Hotel 933 S Broadway 7PM & 9:30PM Best selling author, comedian, and actor, Jim Gaffigan, brings his Fully Dressed comedy tour to the Theater at the Ace.
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
BEAT SWAP MEET Grand Park 200 N Grand Ave. 12PM Peruse collections from dozens of record collectors and dealers from across the country, selling Blues, Funk, Hip-Hop, Jazz, Metal, Punk, Reggae, Rock, and Soul.	DRINKY DRAW Angel City Brewery 216 S Alameda St. 8 — 10PM Enjoy a pint at Angel City Brewery as you practice drawing live models. Art supplies will be on hand if you forget to bring your own.	INDIGO GIRLS The Theatre at the Ace Hotel 933 S Broadway 8:30 PM Indigo Girls bring their unique brand of activist folk-pop to the Theatre at the Ace Hotel.	THE YAWPERS Resident 428 S Hewitt St. 8PM Denver natives, The Yawpers, perform with 'high-brow smarts and down-home stomp' at Resident. 21+	SIANA & ONYI Garcons de Cafe 541 S Spring St. Enjoy live African soul music from Siana & Onyi as you enjoy fine French wine and charcuterie.	DISNEY'S ALADDIN: DUAL LANGUAGE EDITION Los Angeles Theater Center 514 South Spring St. 9PM LATC presents an inclusive dual language performance of Disney's musical Aladdin.	GOGO PENGUIN Teragram Ballroom 1234 W 7th St. 8PM Manchester based 'acoustic electronica' trio GoGo Penguin play the Teragram Ballroom. All ages.
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
SPACELAND BLOCK PARTY Row DTLA 777 Alameda St. 2 — 11PM Sat & Sun Spaceland takes over Row DTLA all weekend long with a block party featuring over 30 bands. Single day and weekend passes available.	TIKI MONDAYS Caña Rum Bar 714 W Olympic Blvd. 5PM Take a trip to Polynesia with Tiki Mondays at Caña Rum Bar. Enjoy island beats and tropical libations	TACO TUESDAYS Mezcalero 510 S Broadway 3PM Enjoy half-off Agave spirits and \$3 Tacos at DTLA's newest addition to the Mezcal scene.	LOW END THEORY The Airliner 2419 N Broadway 9:30PM Weekly experimental hip hop and electronic music. Bring ear plugs.	INAUGURAL ELECTRONIC MUSIC AWARDS Arts District The first ever Electronic Music Awards will be taking place in a yet to be revealed multi-stage warehouse in the Arts District. Listen for the it, or watch on Twitter.	LOS ANGELES CHAMBER ORCHESTRA California Plaza 350 S Grand Ave. 8PM Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra launches its 50th Anniversary Season with Carlos Izcaray conducting.	SUMMER HAPPENINGS: BASQUIAT The Broad 221 S Grand Ave. 8:30PM An evening of music, performance, art and more celebrating Jean-Michel Basquiat and the influences that made him the artist he was.
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
LAS PERLAS BRUNCH Las Perlas 107 E 6th St. 1 — 4PM Enjoy breakfast tacos, mulitas, and tamales on the Las Perlas Patio with live music and \$5 Happy Hour.	ADBC FREE SKEEBALL MONDAYS Arts District Brewing Company 828 Traction Ave. 3PM It's impossible to have a case of the Mondays at Arts District Brewing thanks to Free Skeeball Mondays. Buy beer, and your game is free!	OPENING NIGHT GALA: MOZART - THE EARLY YEARS Walt Disney Concert Hall 111 S Grand Ave. 7PM LA Philharmonic kicks off the season in grand fashion with a party and concert honoring Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart.	FRONT 242 The Regent Theater 448 S Main St. 7PM Belgian electronic and industrial music pioneers Front 242 headline at the Regent. Severed Heads, Romy, and Das Bunker DJs support.	KALE STILES TRIO Garcons de Cafe 541 S Spring St. The Kale Stiles Trio brings their swinging, jazzy vibe to the already lovely Garcons de Cafe.	TELEVISION Teragram Ballroom 1234 W 7th St. 8PM Hailed as one of the most infuential bands of punk and post-punk rock, Television, plays the Teragram Ballroom two nights.	INTERPOL WITH DEERHUNTER AND BATTLES LA State Historic Park 1245 N Spring St. 7PM Interpol celebrates the 15th anniversary of their debut album Turn On The Bright Lights, with Deerhunter and Battles supporting.













NICE COFFEE

IT'S GOOD TO BE NICE

Written By Phoebe Yu Photographed By Robiee Ziegler

Tucked within a concrete enclave surrounded by the City National Plaza's high-rise skyscrapers sits a small but eye-catching jewel box. At 7am, its modular frosted window pane walls open like wings to reveal a coffee bar outfitted with a charcoal steel interior and wood panel accents. The gentle hum of pulled espresso works against the backdrop of honking horns and sounds of construction, all signifying a day's beginning in downtown Los Angeles. It is yet another morning at Nice Coffee, where the java is plentiful and the baristas make a point to remember your name.

Passersby in business attire stand in line, each waiting to order their daily cup of liquid energy before starting the daily grind. So long as Nice Coffee is able to provide you with a "nice three minutes of your day and a good cup of coffee," founder and owner Tyler Wells is satisfied.

Wells' ethos is "all about offering an experience," starting with the staff. "I'm fortunate to have worked with these people for a long time," Wells says while gesturing to his employees. "They're the absolute dream team." By exemplifying the "nice" in Nice Coffee with their friendly demeanor, a seeming rarity in Los Angeles, it is clear that this dream team is one of the reasons customers keep returning. "We have a ton of regulars," Wells says. "It means the world when people walk here as a part of their routine and share a little bit of their morning with us."

By sourcing 49th Parallel Coffee Roasters, Wells aims to make the coffee the focal point of experience. "No one has ever come here and not liked the coffee. It's approachable while being delicious and we're all proud of it."

In addition, Nice Coffee offers donuts crafted by Wells, breakfast burritos from The Rooster Truck, Sugarbloom pastries, and an occasional selection of flower arrangements, all on differing days of the week. "I thought coffee as a standalone thing was very exhausted and difficult. If you pair it with food, it makes sense," Wells explains.

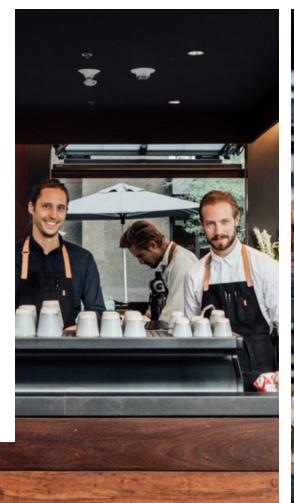
Three years prior to Nice Coffee, Wells sold his first project, Handsome Coffee, and began consulting for coffee shops all over Los Angeles. "I realized I loved starting things. With my background in construction management and culinary operations, [consulting] was a great fit for my unique skillset," Wells says.

Now, nearly five months since Nice Coffee's opening on April 14th, Wells hopes to serve its corporate professional customers to the fullest. "Most of our customers live a life that runs either up, in a tall building, or down, where the amenities are underground. We wanted to create a place that activated the environment," Wells elaborates. "Historically, as coffee guys there are things we don't like to do but we checked our egos and started giving people what they're asking for, like decaf espresso."

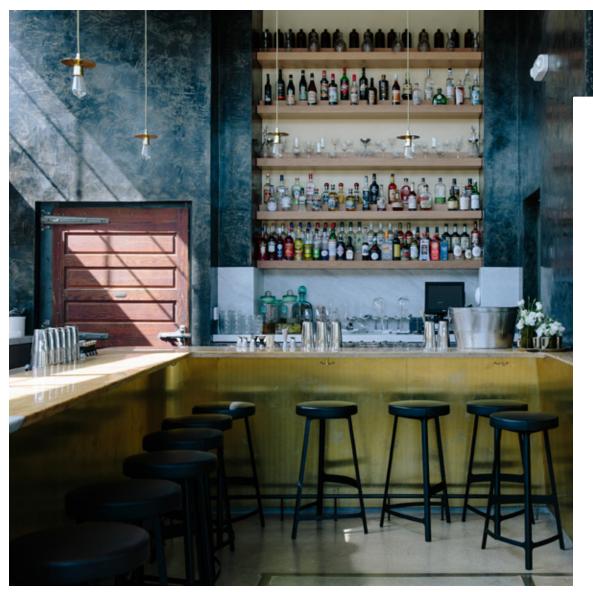
Ultimately, Nice Coffee has one goal. "We want to be nice to people. We're an honest and simple coffee bar and we haven't had anyone storm out of here yet," Wells chuckles. Nice is the new way to coffee.

FIND IT HERE: 515 S Flower St. nicecoffee.com













CITY MARKET SOUTH

COMMUNITY CENTERED

Written By Ivan Navarro Photographed By Natasha Lee

Occupying 2.5 acres of the Original City Market wholesale produce center is the 75,000 sq. foot campus of City Market South – An urban mixed-used space spread across eight buildings at the intersection of the Fashion and Wholesale Districts. Opening in the Spring of 2017, City Market South was designed as a modern community space for people to gather, dine, and relax. The open-air complex features a pedestrian only central plaza surrounded by creative workspaces, retail spaces, and the newly opened Bologna style restaurant, Rossoblu.

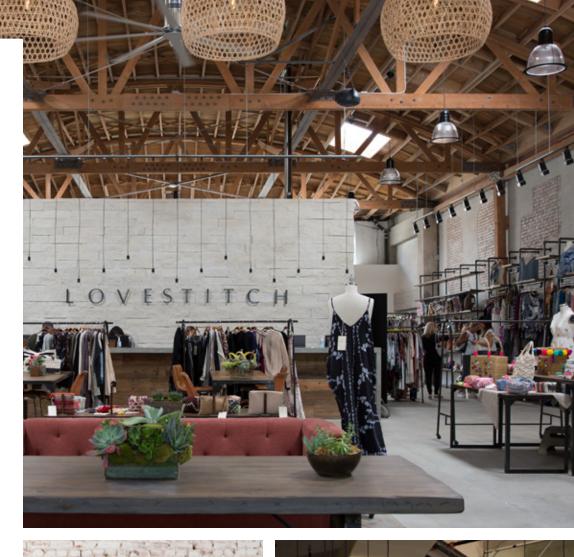
Originally founded in 1909 as a co-op for farmers seeking a central distribution center in Los Angeles, The City Market thrived until the 1960s when fruit and vegetable spaces began to be replaced by the thriving Fashion District. As farmers were required to own stock in the original City Market, many of their descendants remain current shareholders today, including Peter Fleming, current CEO of The City Market of Los Angeles, and great-nephew of original co-founder Edward J. Fleming. By the late 2000s, Fleming recognize a need to revitalize the existing space and enlisted the help of developers Mark Levy and Kevin Napoli, partners at LENA Group, Inc. "The place had an

energy and human scale that we felt right away. And in spite of a location that wasn't on anyone's radar yet outside of the garment world, it had a critical mass that made it worthy as a destination and not reliant on foot traffic," says Napoli.

Preserving the fabric of the neighborhood was top priority, which meant conceptualizing a space that retained original architectural features while offering modern amenities and facilities. "Angelenos are a diverse and global crowd. They travel. They experience life in cities all over the world and they want their lives to continue to improve just like everybody else. As developers we are planners, too," explains Napoli. After three and half years of development, City Market South features an expansive central square and bocce ball court, along with lush landscaping and pedestrian friendly pathways. Creative tenants include MASA Studio, Drive Media, and LENA Group offices. Cognoscenti Coffee and Rossoblu are the first in a line of food and beverage concepts that include San Francisco's Slanted Door and a cocktail driven food and beverage concept set to open later this year.

Future plans include City Market South Social House, which will offer 16,000 sq. feet of creative and event space as well as 5,000 sq. feet of adaptable outdoor space including private garden and event hall. "City Market South will be collaborating with various partners in the art, music, film, culinary space as well as together with the Fashion District BID as programming is planned for the year" says Kevin Napoli. For now, the focus is on completing tenant build-outs, which are set to be complete by early next year.

FIND IT HERE: 1057 S San Pedro St. #201 citymarketsouth.com











NICE COFFEE

515 S Flower St. nicecoffee.com



RHYTHM ROOM

206 W 6th St. BSMT rhythmroomla.com



MOVE



CITY MARKET SOUTH

1057 S San Pedro St. #201 citymarketsouth.com

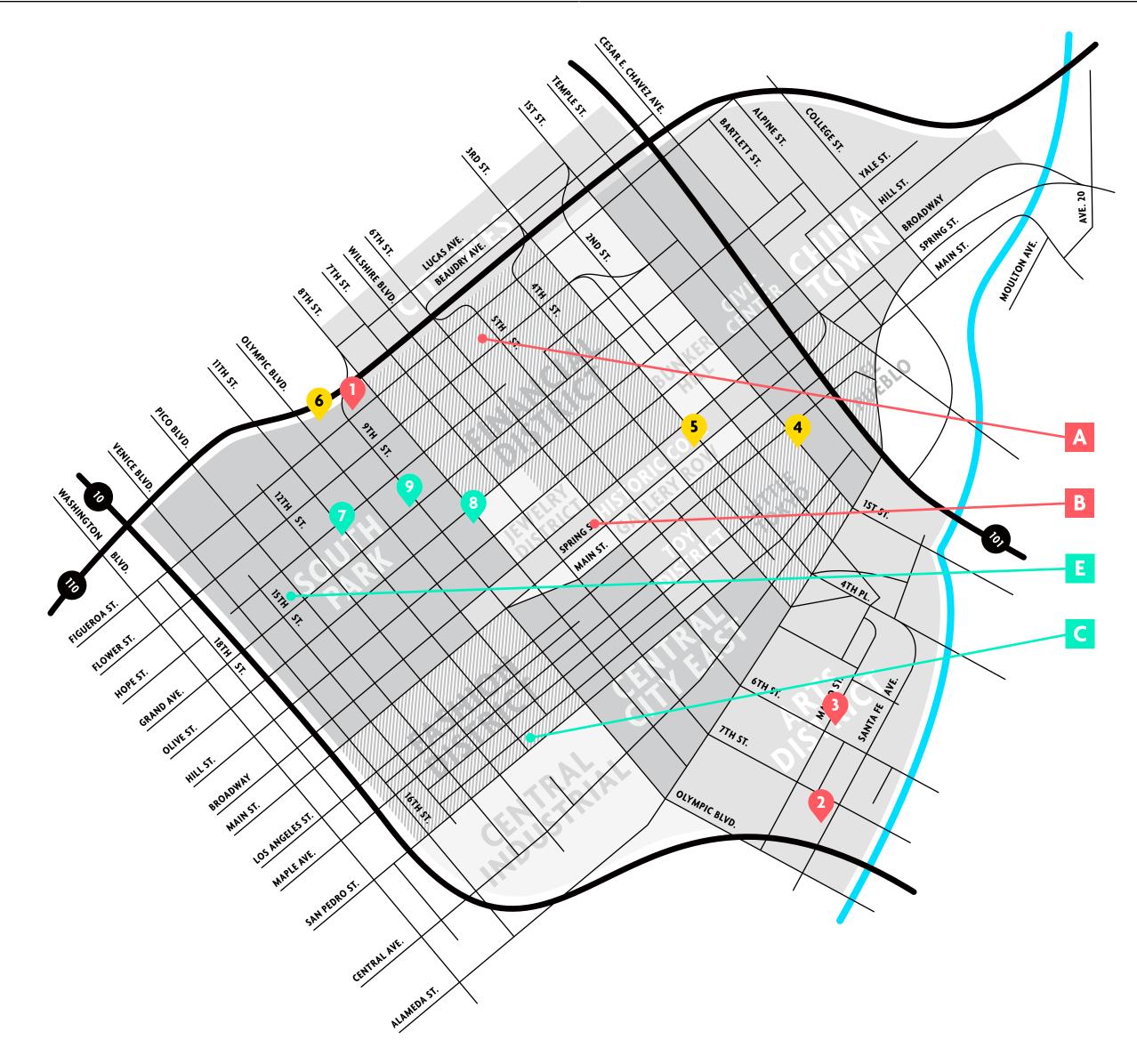


LAZRFIT

400 W Pico Blvd. lazrfit.com

CITY STREETS FREEWAYS LA RIVER METRO RAIL STATIONS

*MAP SIMPLIFIED & NOT TO SCALE



DOWNTOWN FAVORITES



18 SOCIAL LOUNGE

899 Francisco St. — hotelindigola.com

Situated high inside inside Hotel Indigo, 18 Social Lounge offers breathtaking views of downtown LA and a plush modern interior. Light bar fare and classic concoctions, barrel-aged spirits, and a selection of locally sourced wines and beers, create a lovely space to unwind after work.



RABBIT CREW COFFEE & TEA

1019 S Santa Fe Ave. — facebook.com/rabbitcrewla

In addition to the requisite coffee house fare, Art District's newest coffee spot, Rabbit Crew Coffee & Tea, serves up particularly good toasts, like Ricotta Blackberry and, of course, Avocado. Their matcha latte is no slouch either.



THE SPIRIT GUILD LOS ANGELES DISTILLERS

586 Mateo St. — thespiritguild.com

Take in a distillery tour and tasting at The Spirit Guild in the Arts District. Specializing in the fruits and flavors of California, house favorites include their vodka and Clementine-infused gin. Tasting tours $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right) \left($ are \$10 with discounts applied to bottle purchases.



SARI SARI STORE

317 S Broadway — Sarisaristorela.com

Margarita and Walter Manzke of Republique fame, have opened a Filipino food stall in Grand Central Market. Elevated takes on rice bowls hold court, while sweet treats like Halo-halo featuring strawberries, watermelon ice, coconut, and leche flan are not to be missed.



THE HON SHABU SHABU

210 W 3rd St. — thehonshabu.business.site

The Hon Shabu Shabu restaurant has taken up residence on 3rd Street, between Broadway and Spring. Ingredient options include ribeye, chicken, lobster, salmon, and shrimp. Hand Rolls and Poke and Udon are also available.



MR. MASALA

949 S Figueroa St. — mrmasalala.com

Mr. Masala has taken up residence in the former EJ's Bites location on Figueroa St. A large selection of meatless options should keep vegetarians happy and delivery is available if you're a local worker bee.



LE BOX BLANC

1100 S Hope St. — lbbofficialstore.com

Web retailer, Le Box Blanc, has opened its first brick and mortar outpost in South Park. Located next door to Prank Bar, Le Box Blanc carries offerings from labels such as Elizabeth and James, Vince, Halston Heritage, and IRO.



FLOWERBOY PROJECT AT THE FREEHAND LA

416 W 8th St. — flowerboyproject.com

Flowerboy Project florist has a new boutique located on the ground floor of the Freehand Hotel. In addition to floral arrangements, customized vintage clothing and paper goods are on offer.



FIDM SCHOLARSHIP STORE

919 S Grand Ave. — fidm.com

Stocked with designer label donations and one-of-a-kind, student made pieces, FIDM's Scholarship Store is a great place to bargain hunt for accessories, clothing and fashion paraphernalia. If you're handy with a sewing machine, fabrics can be purchased for as little as \$1 per yard.







10

RHYTHM ROOM

GAMES AND ALL
THAT JAZZ

Written By Brian Chernick
Photographed By Rebekah Lemire

As you make your way down what used to be squared stairs — now worn and rounded by the century of marching feet — you feel the warmth of the incandescent bulbs strung up in a chandelier made of brass trumpets and a solitary trombone.

That same warmth is felt throughout with each and every discovery of the excruciating detail put into the jazz and games inspired Rhythm Room.

The place is a lovechild between Cindy La and Vince Vong who after spending a decade in New York in the fashion and tech industries, returned to their hometown of Los Angeles with one goal in mind — "Let's do something fun."

The Rhythm Room achieves a trifecta of great music, fun games and simple drinks. Instead of designing a bar that happens to have games to play, the duo crafted a full-on recreation room around a fully equipped bar. The once forgotten Los Angeles prohibition-era treasure chest, buried beneath the Haywood Build, was unearthed and polished with careful consideration to avoid glamming it up, but to restore its history and commitment to community.

"We want the vibe to be inviting to all, welcoming to everyone," Cindy said. Once inside an open space occupied by a couch invites guests to have a seat, take a load off and enjoy one of the books in part provided by the

owners but primarily by the people of the city in a "give one, take one" system.

If you're feeling more competitive the second half of the bar is dedicated to an expansive repertoire of games including pool, table tennis, darts and shuffleboard.

The comprehensive collection of classic and modern board games including Catan, Battleship, Connect Four, Scrabble and more are all free to play while you sip on a tasty beverage.

The featured drink is named Pulp Friction, a nostalgic throwback to your neighborhood ice cream truck. "This is one of our favorites because it's very close to home," Vince said. "The ingredients really resonate with where we grew up and what we feel LA is about. It's the San Gabriel Valley, it's the San Fernando Valley and Huntington Park down the street."

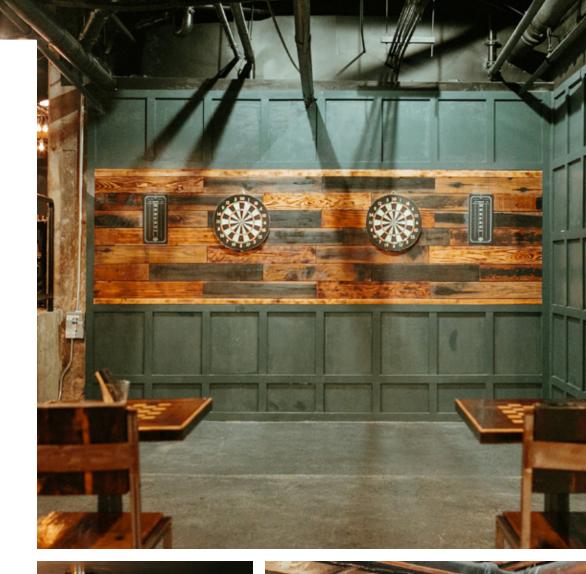
The jalapeño infused tequila drink, rimmed with salt and Tajin, balances the sweet tamarind purée made in-house with the citrus of lemon and leaves a delightful, spicy finish.

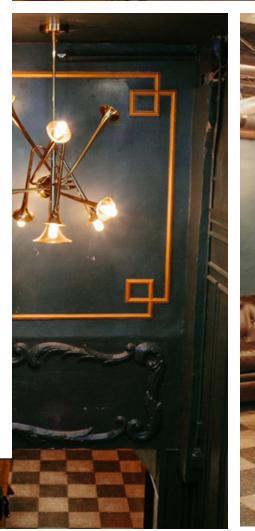
The true beating heart that gives the room its rhythm is the live jazz performed every weekend. Cindy and Vince developed their palate after spending countless hours in the jazz clubs and piano bars of New York and New Orleans.

Now they want to share it and let the sounds serve a soundtrack to the LA streets, hopefully inspiring its patrons to move their minds and their bodies.

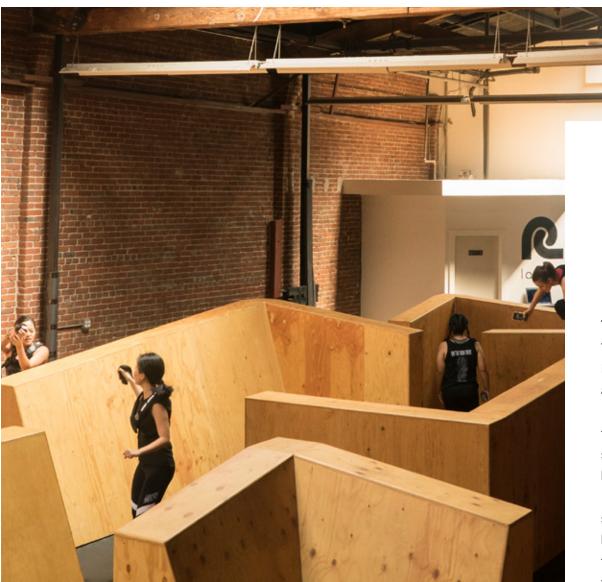
They will tell you their dream would not be a reality without the support from their team whom they see as family. And now they are welcoming Angelenos with arms, and doors, wide-open inviting everyone to join in on the family and all that jazz.

FIND IT HERE: 206 W 6th St. BSMT rhythmroomla.com

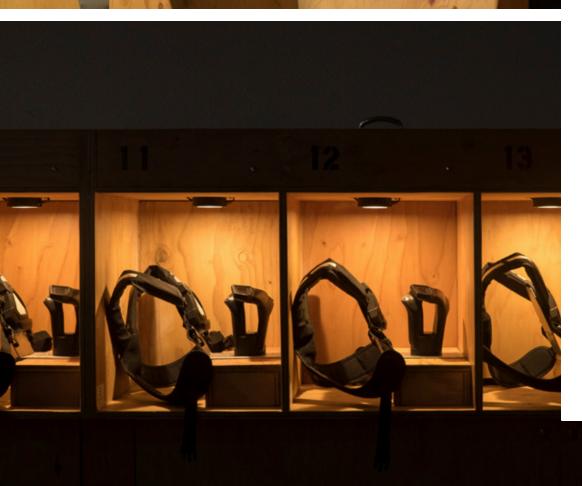








12



LAZRFIT

TAG! YOU'RE FIT!

Written By Abel Horwitz
Photographed By Kort Havens

The first thing you need to know when you walk into LazRfit, the new gym at the corner of Pico and Grand, is that you're there to play laser tag.

The second thing you need to know is that this ain't no child's game. "You're gonna run," says owner Lucie Robert. "We don't let you hide. You have to move."

"We designed it so that there are no hidden spaces and it isn't dark inside," says Philippe, her husband and business partner. "The game takes five seconds to figure out and a long time to master."

The couple, both French, met through sports and started playing laser tag for fun. "I noticed how much weight I was losing," says Lucie.

"People think that laser tag is a children's game but I realized that I was getting a workout."

In addition to being virtually impossible to hide and rest, once you are hit you have to move a certain amount in order to start shooting again. There are no teams (as of right now) so it's everyone for themselves, with the leader lighting up in blue "so everyone knows who to shoot," smiles Philippe.

They also shortened the game, making it an 8–12 minute sprint depending on your skill level. "We started with every game at 12 minutes," says Philippe, "but for many people those last four minutes are impossible."



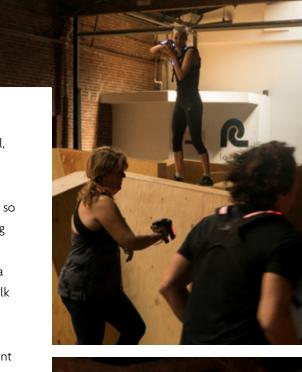
"Normally," Wiggins explains, "we walk in a forward motion. You walk to your car, you walk to your desk. You're not really utilizing these muscles the way they're intended to be used. With LazRfit you're running in so many different directions, jumping off of the structures and trying to dodge being shot at. You're working a lot of different muscles this way."

In the end, the goal isn't just to win. The equipment and gun (which they designed and built) includes a pedometer that tracks your steps, the calories you burn, and your accuracy. Sure, you can attempt to beat Philippe and Lucie at their own game (good luck with that) but you'll also walk away having burned 800+ calories after two short burst workouts.

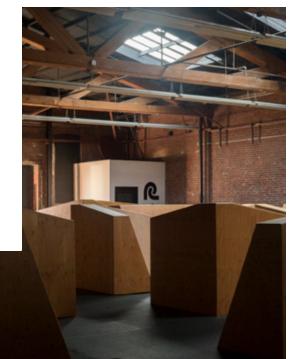
So why come to LA rather than start it in Paris? To the couple, it was a no-brainer. "People here really want you to succeed," says Lucie. "They're very encouraging and welcoming of our new idea."

"All over the world, if people see you starting something new in Los Angeles they feel like you're making something successful," says Philippe. "We love it here. We live downtown, and love that we can walk everywhere. It's like Paris in that way."

FIND IT HERE: 400 W Pico Blvd. lazrfit.com







FIGAT7TH FREE

UNSILENT

CLASSIC SILENT FILMS WITH WORLD PREMIERE SCORES PERFORMED LIVE

FIGAT7TH / 735 S FIGUEROA ST

Thursday, September 28

The Goddess

(1934, directed by Wu Yonggang)

Score Written and Performed By
JUANA MOLINA

Friday, September 29

The Passion of Joan of Arc

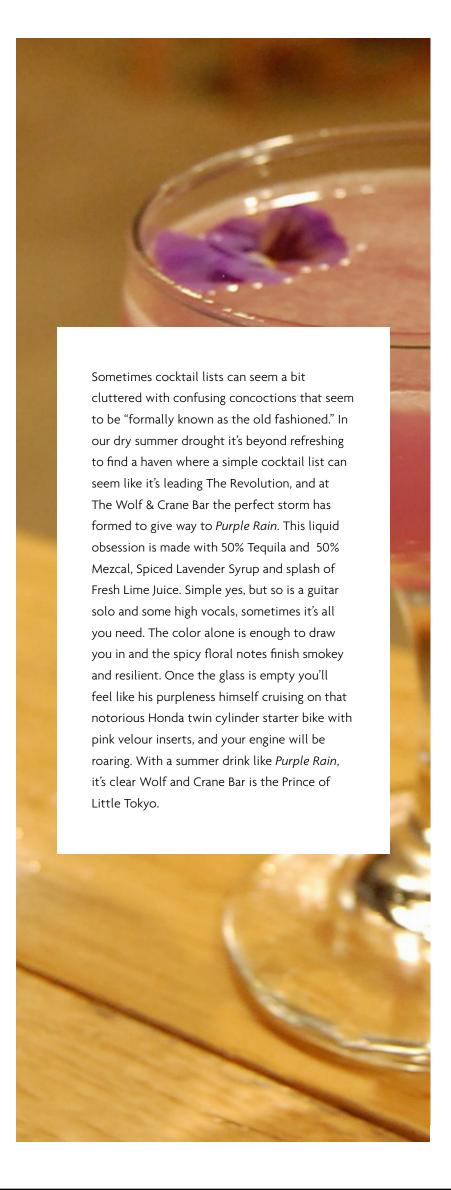
1928, directed by Carl Theodor Dreyer)

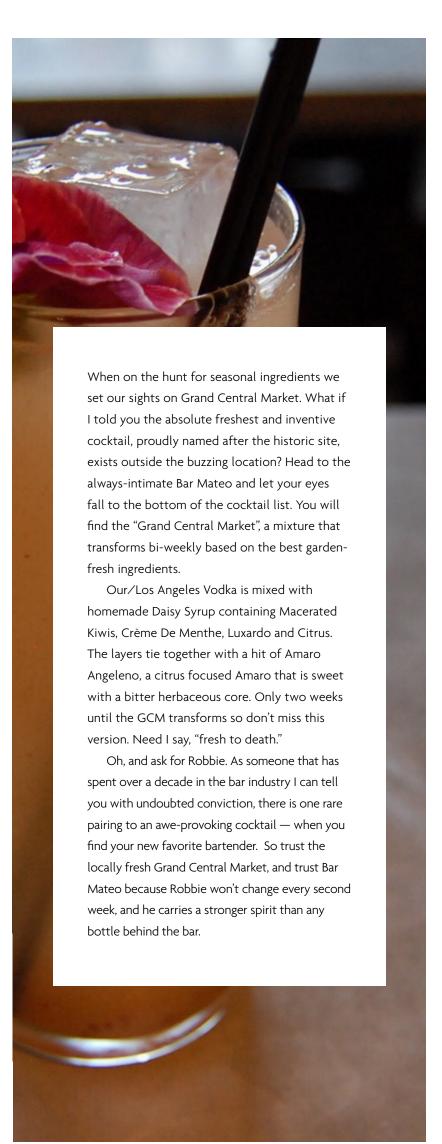
Score Written and Performed By
JULIA HOLTER

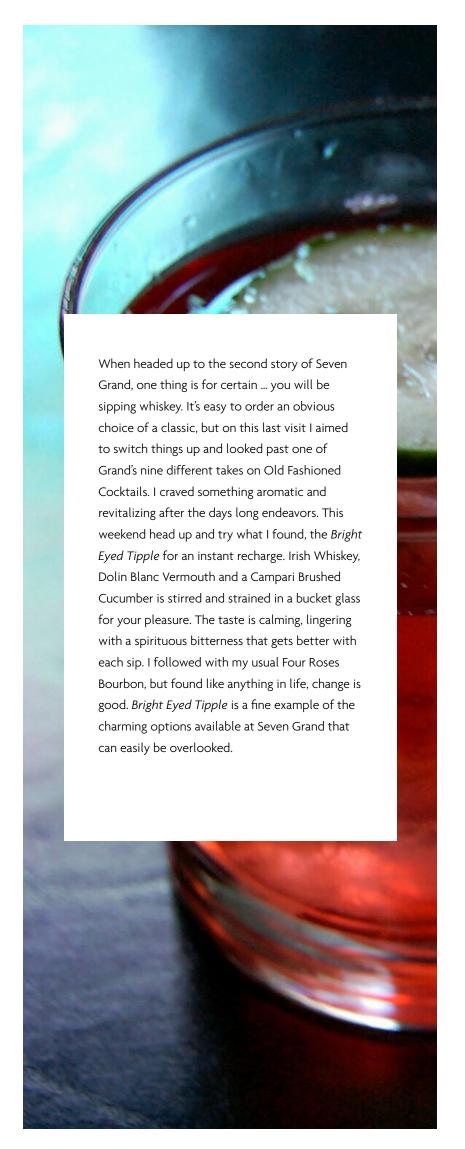
Thursday & Friday
Opening Act and Short Film By
NOVELLER

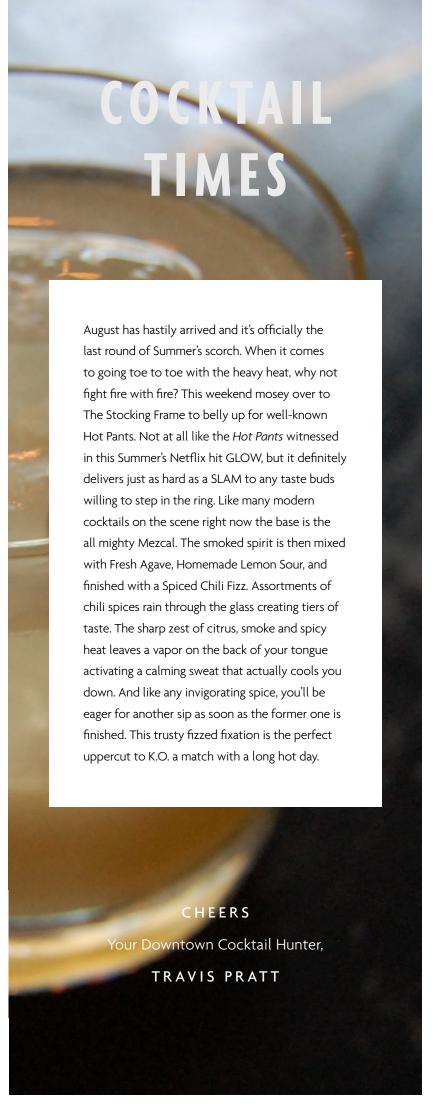
DJ at 7 pm, Opener at 8 pm

arts Brookfield









Anna Maria Maiolino is organized by Helen Molesworth, Chief Curator, and Bryan Barcena, Research Assistant for Latin American Art, The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles.

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The Getty Foundation

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THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2017

