

# **BLACKTOP COFFEE**

If you prefer your coffee black and icy (like, perhaps, the coal you were considering gifting this year), their cold brew is arguably the city's best.

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# **URBAN RADISH**

Urban Radish is a peaceful shopping oasis where shoppers come in to discover new foods, flavors, and cravings.

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# LONG LIVE DOWNTOWN

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

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#### CONTRIBUTORS

A FERROCONCRETE PUBLICATION — ferro-concrete.com Editor-in-chief & Creative Director: Yo Santosa Editor: Scott Meisse Art Director & Designer: Mike Payne Writers: Kandice Che, Janica De Guzman, Rayna Jensen, Cleo Tobbi Photographers: Janica De Guzman, Eslee, Alyse Gilbert, Brett Long

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Food, drinks and things to do - find your next stop.

### 15 EVENT **CALENDAR**

Upcoming events to refill your social calendar.

The Oyster Gourmet is a wooden, nauticallike shell that makes Robinson Crusoe relevant again. Christophe Happillon, is surrounded by eager eyes as he stands in the middle shucking oysters. With an oyster in one hand and a knife in another, he carefully wiggles and cracks open fresh, chilled oysters ready to be slurped back by craving patrons. He is the nucleus, the pearl, and the master écailler of The Oyster Gourmet. After years of successful pop-ups at Church and State, Le Zinque, and Perch, he finally set anchor as the newest purveyor at the Grand Central Market. Shellfish lovers can get their slippery fix starting at \$9. Delivered twice a week from Vancouver to Washington, 3 oysters are served on a bed of ice with a slice of lemon, mignonette and a miniature fork to scoop out the delicate meat. In his distinctive French accent, Happillon presents each oyster to customers and recommends his technique on how to properly indulge. Slurp, chew lightly, and swallow. Drinking the residual juice is encouraged, there is no shame in expressing satisfaction as fellow customers' anticipation gains momentum sitting directly across to bear witness.

Stephan, the ceviche specialist, works by his side preparing mounds of fresh scallop, shrimp or tuna marinated in citrus and served on a half shell. The two work together in the small space, reflexively avoiding collision as they focus on their craft. They put on a comestible show and seafood is their medium.

For a quick and gourmet seafood experience, visit Christophe Happillon at The Oyster Gourmet — slurping necessary.

# **THE OYSTER GOURMET**

### **A SLIPPERY FIX**

Written by Janica De Guzman & Photographed by Brett Long

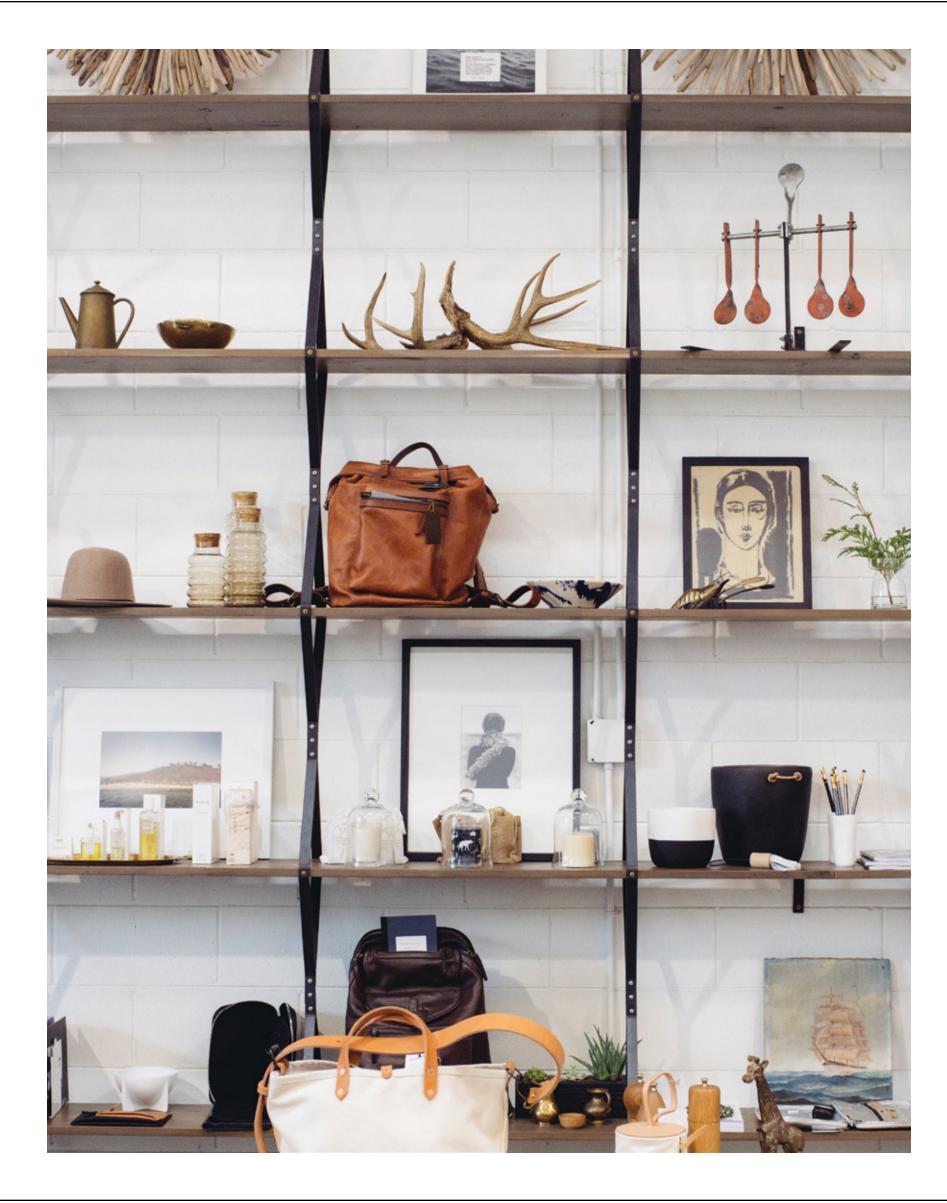
To find out more, go to: theoystergourmet.com













# PART GALLERY, PART **RETAIL SHOP, ALCHEMY** WORKS INCORPORATES EACH ITEM WITH THOUGHTFUL CURATION.

Part gallery, part retail shop, Alchemy Works incorporates each item into the boutique with thoughtful curation. Here, products are not strewn, they are placed. Items like the Almond Longboard resting on top of the green 1971 Series III Defender Land Rover or the Vere Verto leather backpack on display find their place with the help of an experienced hand and a sharp eye. Owned by Raan Parton of Apolis and his wife Lindsay, Alchemy Works became a space

# **ALCHEMY WORKS**

### THE BREATHING BOUTIQUE

Written by Cleo Tobbi & Photographed by Alyse Gilbert

Each experience at Alchemy Works renders a unique encounter with the merchandise at hand. While all retail stores rotate their inventory regularly, Alchemy Works tends to do so at a more unconventional pace. By consistently altering their stores products from designers like Stephen Kenn and Warby Parker, Alchemy Works shuffles around like a three dimensional design blog.

for artists to flourish in the world of retail with a California flair. Raan, raised in California, looks to Alchemy Works as an environment to glint like the golden coast. It only makes sense that the shop made its name in Downtown's Arts District.

One seasonal exception they will make for their exhibited retail is, of course, for the holidays. Custom wrap bracelets from Miansai, notebooks by Public Supply, and Driftwood Christmas trees by Madra Del Mar will deck their halls for the entire month of December. Armor Lux will also display exclusive shirts with custom stitching by Downtown neighbors Lot, Stock and Barrel. Each designer made their holiday items specifically for Alchemy Works and will not be found anywhere else.

Because of the pace of rotation and activity in the shop, the space breathes and has a mind free from the confinements of traditional retail expectations. Products do not come off the rack because of seasonal shipments, but rather, the pieces move when a customer makes a purchase. Alchemy Works bends to accommodate to LA's style rather than forces it to be what it's not.

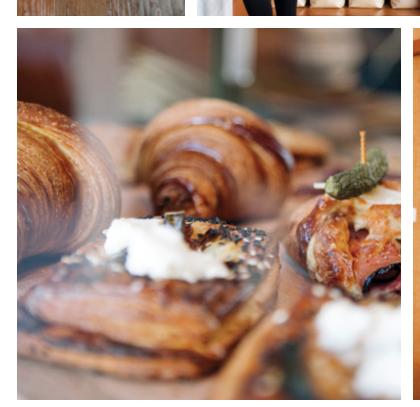
To find out more, go to: alchemyworks.us







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ASSAM	5
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# BLACKTOP COFFEE

#### **STRAIGHT UP, BLACK**

Written by Rayna Jensen & Photographed by Eslee

Bah, humbug. Is there anywhere to get a latte around here without all the jingle bells and whistles? Blacktop Coffee, the new project of former Handsome Coffee Roasters founder Tyler Wells, has a no-fuss menu that's exceptional yearround. Plus, it's got a cozy spot in the tight-knit community of the Arts District, so you'll be able to feel the holiday spirit without having to drink it.

If you prefer your coffee black and icy (like, perhaps, the coal you were considering gifting this year), their cold brew is arguably the city's best. Their tap uses a nitrogen system to aerate each glass for a full, nuanced flavor. It's the quality and process you'd anticipate from the founder of Handsome, though Blacktop is less rigid – adding milk and sugar is allowed.

But if you're feeling festive, their chai is a must. The fiery blend of spices, maple syrup, and steamed milk is intrinsically Christmasy, like what you might expect from eggnog if eggnog was cool and foreign and didn't need alcohol to have a good time.

Looking to defrost a little more? Their mochas are made with tabs of solid chocolate, and are rich, drinkable, and not so sweet that you'd think Buddy the Elf got a day job as a barista.

So skip the line and the artificial Christmas tree at the local corporate coffee house and stop by Blacktop. Maybe skip the lumps of coal, too - your friends and family will thank you if they find a bag or two of artisanal coffee beans in their stocking instead.

To find out more, go to: blacktop.la



# ARTISTS & FLEAS

## FROM BKLYN TO DTLA

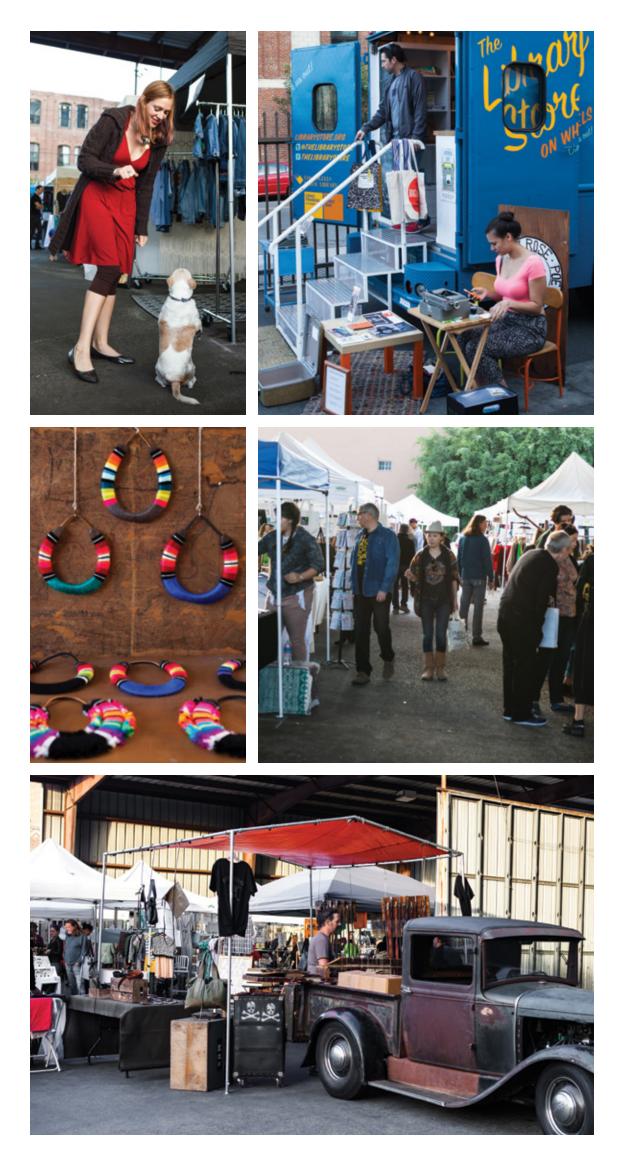
Written by Kandice Che & Photographed by Eslee

There's a crowd of people spilling onto the sidewalk in front of an old truck service station on Mateo Street. Most of them are carrying on lively conversations, while others mosey by jiving to the funky rhythms whirling through the air. A sweet woman greets you as you begin to survey the scene, offering a smile and a flyer that familiarizes you with what is seemingly a common swap meet. But what you discover is something more than your run of the mill outdoor market. As you make your way down the aisles, you'll observe vendors exchanging stories and passions, families sharing chef-inspired sandwiches and organic juices, girlfriends combing through artfully curated vintage clothes and handcrafted housewares. This place is a treasure trove of beautiful merchandise and equally beautiful people.

Artists & Fleas is a crossbreed of a flea and craft market. Their first market took place in Williamsburg, right before Brooklyn emerged as the epicenter of all things au courant. Now they're importing the same concept of community building 3,000 miles away to Los Angeles. Since May, Artist & Fleas has been setting up shop in the Arts District every third weekend of the month, rotating through a carefully curated list of approximately 50 vendors.

The artistic energy that's thriving in this enclave of Los Angeles is electrifying, and Artists & Fleas is curating a beautiful gathering place of people surrounding this creative commotion.

Catch the next market on December 20 & 21. To find out more, go to: artistsandfleas.com



A	<b>DRINK</b> <b>BLACKTOP COFFEE</b> 826 E 3rd St blacktop.la
	EAT
B	<b>THE OYSTER GOURMET</b> 317 S Broadway — Grand Central Market theoystergourmet.com
С	<b>URBAN RADISH</b> 661 Imperial St urban-radish.com
D	<b>BACHEMY WORKS</b> 826 E 3rd St alchemyworks.us
D	ALCHEMY WORKS 826 E 3rd St
	ALCHEMY WORKS 826 E 3rd St alchemyworks.us ARTISTS & FLEAS 647 Mateo St



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# DOWNTOWN FAVORITES



#### CASEY'S IRISH PUB

613 S Grand Ave — 213nightlife.com/caseysirishpub Call all pickle back fans and start the pub-crawl at this Irish bar. A shot of Casey's house made pickle juice will chase away the whiskey burn. Get rowdy and challenge your friends to a game of pool.



#### **BLUE WHALE**

123 Astronaut E S Onizuka St #301 bluewhalemusic.com

Don't be fooled by it's strip mall location. Blue Whale is serious about live music. Bring a date or just yourself, come here for the food, drinks, and smooth jazz any day of the week.



#### **BROADWAY BAR**

830 S Broadway — 213nightlife.com/broadwaybar Be wary of the line out front but once inside energy quickly escalates. The good vibes and strong drinks turn this lounge into a dance club as night falls. Grab a slice of pizza from Two-Boots next door to soak up the lingering fun you just had.



5

#### **BIG MAN BAKES**

413 S Main St — bigmanbakes.com Come here for one thing and one thing only - to fulfill cupcake cravings. Moist, decadent and big, the Big Man serves red velvet, carrot cake, and double chocolate cupcakes. Pick up a cupcake and see the Big Man himself.



#### 529 S Central Ave — fishermansoutlet.net The wharf without the wharf, Fisherman's Outlet is LA's seafood gem. Grilled, steamed or fried seafood - however you like it, roll up your sleeves and put on a bib because the garlic butter sauce isn't used lightly.



#### STARRY KITCHEN

943 N Broadway — starrykitchen.com No bread trail and no signage, Starry Kitchen is hidden within the Grand Star Jazz Club - it's a hunt for true Southeast Asian flavors. With a speakeasy vibe and open just a few times a week, be sure to call in to reserve the sought after Singaporean chili crab.



#### 912 E 3rd St #105 — matteohome.com Lush Italian linen sheets that make the bedroom a sanctuary. High quality bedding, towels and clothing. Investment pieces

High quality bedding, towels and clothing. Investment pieces for a quality night of sleep.



#### THE SPRINGS

608 Mateo St — thespringsla.com A hub for health and wellness, The Springs is a healing center, yoga studio, vegan cafe, and juice bar. Schedule an appointment for infrared sauna and a cranial massage. It's a one stop for rejuvenation.



#### 631 West 2nd Street — redcat.org

In contrast to the sophistication of the Walt Disney Concert Hall, Redcat is the avant garde younger sibling. Hidden within the belly of the Disney Hall lies Cal Art's avant garde performance space. Come here to catch a show and have a beer.





meats are encased within a vitrine conveniently



# **URBAN RADISH**

#### **SHOP HUNGRY**

Written by Janica De Guzman & Photographed by Alyse Gilbert

Urban Radish is an epicurean mecca of the Arts District. Within an 8,000 square foot warehouse on Mateo Street, the upscale grocery boasts a selection of gourmet foods, seasonal produce and imported wines — just the right ingredients to make a modern day Julia Childs out of anyone. In July of 2013, Michael Aivazis and Carolyn Paxton introduced Urban Radish to the Arts District to create a community where local residents can walk to pick up a few high quality foods or grab ready to eat, organic meals. For a gormandized community, home to restaurants such as Bestia and Church & State, a grocery selling romanesco cauliflower and jamón ibérico could not be more timely.

Varieties of organic pasta, teas, jams, sauces, and oils stock the shelves in packaging that looks like The Dieline's Top Ten List. Meandering through the aisles provokes an inclination to host an intimate dinner for impressive feasting, because ingredients this gourmet, must be shared. The produce section is set up like a European farmer's market: bundled, vibrant, and dripping in dew. These vegetables can easily turn a salad into a leafy work of art. Imported cheese and cured

next to the wine selection. They're the necessary elements for the holy trinity of aperitifs: stinky cheese, aged meat, and velvety wine.

# **URBAN RADISH IS A** PEACEFUL SHOPPING OASIS WHERE SHOPPERS COME IN TO DISCOVER NEW FOODS, FLAVORS, AND CRAVINGS.

Just steps away is the quaint, wi-fi equipped patio which sets the stage for gourmet snacking and live Brazilian jazz. Every Wednesday night and Saturday afternoon, customers work on their laptops, sip on wine, and listen to soothing jazz all while forgetting their initial purpose for milk and eggs.

Urban Radish is a peaceful shopping oasis where shoppers come in to discover new foods, flavors, and cravings.

To find out more, go to: urban-radish.com



# COMMODITY

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# downtown STREET STYLE

No two streets are alike. Discover the eclectic style of LA Downtowners.



Photographed by Janica De Guzman







**9TH STREET** Cristo & Chief

**BROADWAY** Victoria



MAIN STREET Sophie



**9TH STREET** 

Jade & Travis



BROADWAY Louis

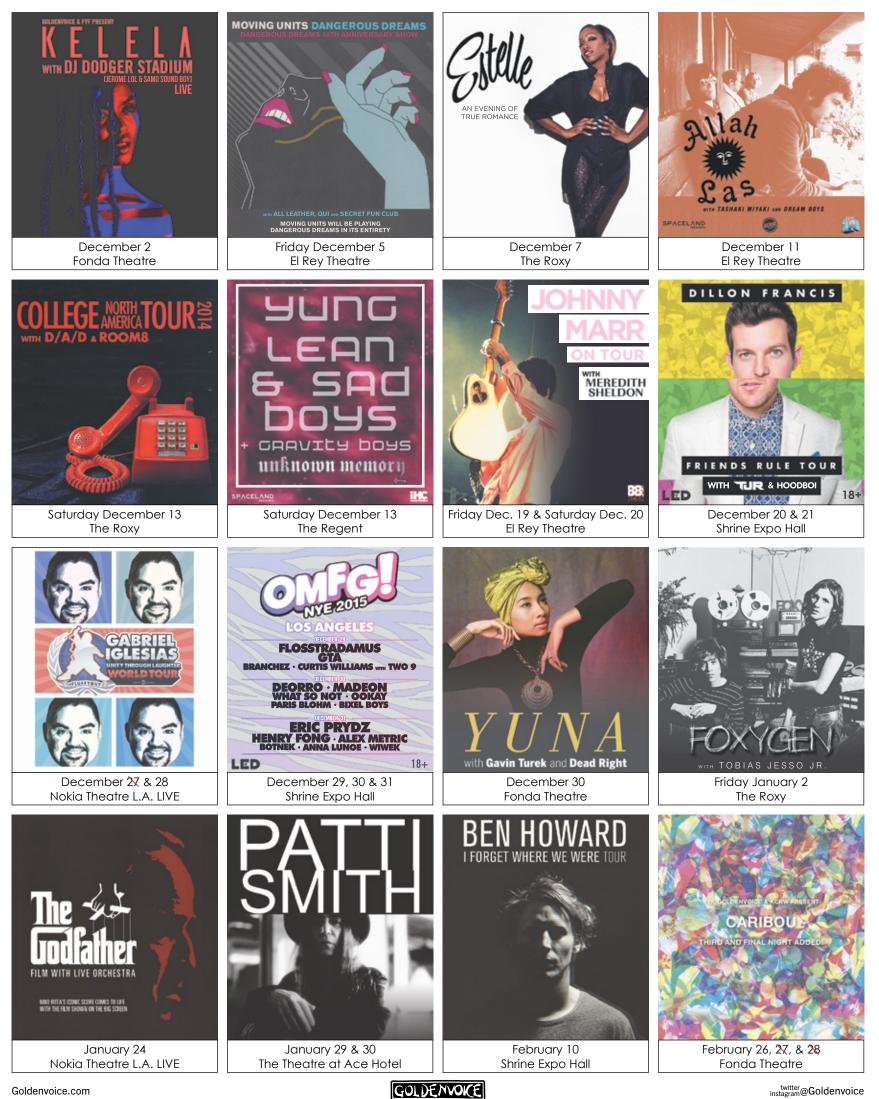


**9TH STREET** Natalie



**8TH STREET** Grant

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## SUNDAY

DUBLAB **VIBING TIM** Rooftop at the Ace 929 S Broadwa

> Rooftop DJ Sets e Sunday Funday. Oh,

THE ROCK 'N' FLEA MARK The Regent The 448 S Main Stre

A collection of imp hand picked vend ranging from vintage to instruments

### 14

TASTE OF TAM **FOOD FESTI** Plactia Olvera 125 Paseo De La Pl

Peruse mouth wat varieties of this Me holiday favorite fro top vendors, set unique gifts and live

## 21

BABY KETTI KAREOKE Rooftop at the Ace 929 S Broadwa

From Serge Gainst and Jane Birkin to I House and 2 Chainz, karaoke that doesn'

## 28

CHINATOW **NEIGHBORH** CLEANUP Chinatown Central 943 N Broadwa

Grab gloves, shape neighborhood, then yourself with food beer at Angel City Br

Goldenvoice.com

# **DOWNTOWN EVENT CALENDAR DECEMBER 2014**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
DUBLAB VIBING TIME ooftop at the Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway IPM Rooftop DJ Sets every nday Funday. Oh, and it's free. (weekly).	INHERENT VICE Theater at The Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 8PM Paul Thomas Anderson's epic film adaptation of the Thomas Pynchon novel. Star studded guests in attendance.	<b>TREEL LIGHTING</b> <b>CEREMONY</b> Millennium Biltmore 506 S Grand Ave 6PM — 9PM Feat. the Harmony Vocal Ensemble & the City Ballet of Los Angeles. Followed by Children's Holiday Story Time.	SPEAK EASY OPEN MIC The Last Bookstore 453 S Spring St 745PM — 11PM The perfect opportunity to test our your new material! Sign-up starts at 7:45 PM	THE ORIGINAL DRINK AND DRAW SOCIAL CLUB Casey's Irish Pub 613 S Grand Ave 8PM — CLOSE Confront your confounding creative block with a pen, paper, and pints. (weekly)	PROHIBITION REPEAL PARTY Angel City Brewery 216 S Alameda St 7PM - 11PM Come celebrate the end of the Great Experiment! Live prohibition-era music, hors d'oeuvres, beer cocktails and a specialty keg.	BLAIR TOWNSEND OPENING RECEPTION Austere Gallery 912 S Hill St 6PM — 9PM Celebrating the unique life and works of Blair Townsend, swanky after- party at the Ace Hotel.
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
HE ROCK 'N' ROLL FLEA MARKET The Regent Theater 448 S Main Street 7PM collection of impressive hand picked vendors nging from vintage wares to instruments.	REEL TO REEL : JACO The Grammy Museum 800 W Olympic Blvd. 7:30PM The culmination of Metallica bassist Robert Trujillo's 4-year ode to legendary jazz bassist Jaco Pastorius.	GREEN UMBRELLA: EUROPEAN AVANT- GARDE The Music Center 135 N Grand Ave 8PM Mind-expanding contemporary music led by Matthias Pintscher	JAZZ WEDNESDAYS Urban Radish 661 Imperial St 6PM — 9PM Meet your neighbor with live music, fresh dinner specials 300+ hand picked wines at this chic organic market. (weekly)	LATIDO THURSDAYS Caña Rum Bar 714 W Olympic Blvd 9PM KCRW's Anthony Valadez spins Cumbia, Dub, Afrobeat, and just about anything else with heavy, unrelenting bass. Bring your dancing shoes. (weekly)	LOS ANGELES 3D CLUB FESTIVAL Downtown Independent 251 S Main St 7PM Fasten your glasses with a showcase of independent, stereoscopic 3-D filmmaking from around the world. (until Sunday)	THE GODFATHER Million Dollar Theater 200 N Grand Ave 10AM — 5PM Sit back with one of the classics in this downtown landmark, one of the oldest preserved movie palaces. Feat. Kenneth Turan of LA Weekly.
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
ASTE OF TAMALES FOOD FESTIVAL Plactia Olvera 125 Paseo De La Plaza 10AM - 6PM Peruse mouth watering arieties of this Mexican oliday favorite from LA's top vendors, set with ique gifts and live music.	ALE ACADEMY VI Angel City Brewery 216 S Alameda St 9PM — 2AM This month will focus on food pairings, highlighting sweet desserts and cheeses with an selection of specialty brews. (monthly)	<b>TACO &amp; TRIVIA</b> <b>TUESDAYS</b> Angel City Brewery 216 S Alameda St 7PM — 9PM Pull up a chair for good eats and quick thinking (weekly)	HANDEL'S "MESSIAH" Walt Disney Concert Hall III S Grand Ave 7:30PM One of the greatest choral works of all time is Handel's beloved oratorio, as sung by the LA Master Chorale.	THE ORIGINAL DRINK AND DRAW SOCIAL CLUB Casey's Irish Pub 613 S Grand Ave 8PM — CLOSE Confront your confounding creative block with a pen, paper, and pints. (weekly)	MUSEUM OF LOVE & NEW BUILD The Regent Theater 448 S Main St 8PM Spaceland presents the Hypnotic Side Projects from Pat Mahoney of LCD Sound System and Al Doyle of Hotchip.	ARTISTS & FLEAS 647 Mateo Street 11AM — 5PM Brooklyn flair in an LA Flea. This New York market rocks DTLA with a mash-up of vintage dealers, fresh designers, and deep eats.
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
BABY KETTEN KAREOKE poftop at the Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 8PM From Serge Gainsbourg and Jane Birkin to Beach buse and 2 Chainz, this is araoke that doesn't suck.	MUSTACHE MONDAYS La Cita Bar 336 S Hill St 9PM — 2AM Quirky local flavor and LGBTQ talent? It's going to be a late night. (weekly)	AZOTEA : CANYON, GOZAR & AZUL Rooftop at the Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 6PM — 9PM Latin groove, Middle Eastern funk, Northern soul, African Reggae and Southeast Asian beats.	CHRISTMAS EVE DECORATING Midnight Mission 601 S San Pedro St 9AM — 5PM Give a helping hand at one of Downtown LA's landmark missions! Register online at midnightmission.org	HOLIDAY ICE RINK Downtown on Ice @ Perishing Square 532 S Olive St IPM - 9:30 PM Celebrate the Holidays in a festive Winter Wonderland caped by a busy Metropolis. (November 13th- January 19th)	AERIALISTS WITH DJ JOE GRETO The Edison 108 W 2nd St 9PM Aerialists dance through the heights of The Edison's Industrial Cathedral accompanied by a blend of yesterday's funk and soul.	SOFT Rooftop at the Ace Hotel 929 S Broadway 8PM Through choreography and performance art, music, and design, SOFT allows you to absorb DTLA with the artists that collectively inspire it. (Every 2nd & 4th Saturday)
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
CHINATOWN NEIGHBORHOOD CLEANUP hinatown Central Plaza 943 N Broadway 12PM - 3PM rab gloves, shape up the ighborhood, then reward	FLOSSTRADAMUS Shrine Expo Hall 665 W Jefferson Blvd. 9PM Rock the Electro Mosh Pit as DJ's J2K and Autobot take the stage. Part of OMFG NYE!, presented by	MUTT & MINGLE Pussy & Pooch 564 S Main St 6PM - 8PM Join us for our monthly mixer and enjoy special treats, toasts, and plenty of in-store tail-wagging. (last	COUNTDOWN TO 2015 Grand Park 210 North Grand Avenue 7PM - Midnight Ring in the New Year with a unique civic gathering that brings Angelenos, their	THE ORIGINAL DRINK AND DRAW SOCIAL CLUB Casey's Irish Pub 613 S Grand Ave 8PM — CLOSE Confront your confounding creative block with a pen,	ANGRY HOUR La Cita Bar 336 S Hill Street 4PM — 9PM Punk Rock, Cheap Booze, and Bad vibes! S5 cover and free pizza. (weekly)	ARTS DISTRICT FLEA MARKET 453 Colyton Street 11AM — 7PM Etsy in real life! (Open Friday, Saturday, & Sunday weekly)



#### VIEW OUR FULL CALENDAR AT LADOWNTOWNER.COM/CALENDAR

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