

# LAWWEEKLY

THE NEW BAR IS CREATING  
A NONALCOHOLIC BUZZ AT  
COACHELLA

DAVID BOWIE'S RAIL TRIP  
BEHIND THE IRON CURTAIN

NEWSOM SIGNS LAW  
AGAINST GAS PRICE  
GOUGING

APRIL 7 - 13, 2023  
VOL. 45 / NO. 22  
LAWWEEKLY.COM

## Daily in the Valley

**Coachella  
is back with a  
stellar lineup**  
By Brett Callwood





# LA WEEKLY CONTENTS

APRIL 7 - 13, 2023 // VOL. 45 // NO. 22



CALENDAR...	3
FOOD...	6
NEWS...	7
FEATURE...	8
ENTERTAINMENT...	12
CANNABIS...	13
ART...	14
ADVERTISING	
EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT...	16
BULLETIN BOARD...	16

**L.A. WEEKLY** (ISSN #0192-1940 & USPS 461-370) is published bi-weekly by LA Weekly LP, 724 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90015. Periodicals postage paid at Los Angeles, CA. LA Weekly is available free of charge in Los Angeles County, limited to one copy per reader. Additional copies of the current issue of LA Weekly may be purchased for \$1, payable in advance at the LA Weekly office. Outside Los Angeles County, the single-copy cost of LA Weekly is \$1. LA Weekly may be distributed only by LA Weekly's authorized independent contractors or LA Weekly's authorized distributors. No person may, without prior written permission of LA Weekly, take more than one copy of each LA Weekly issue. For back-issue information call 310-574-7100. The entire contents of LA Weekly are Copyright 2014 by LA Weekly LP. No portion may be reproduced in whole or in part by any means, including electronic retrieval systems, without the express written permission of the publisher, LA Weekly, 724 S. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90015.

**Broad Stage**  
Ashwini Ramaswamy's *Let the Crows Come*  
Photo by Jake Armour



## CALENDAR

# GO EDITORS' PICKS

## ARTS

APRIL 6-12

### THURSDAY, APRIL 6

**Enrique Agudo: Ipseity at Vellum LA.** An installation of eight digital paintings by new media artist Enrique Agudo, presenting visualizations of contemporary notions of identity through the depiction of new deities and their environments, in allegorical scenes about the human self and our relationship to technology. Inspired by the Pre-Raphaelites, these works take on our digital realities in the form of traditional painting, but making use of the most cutting edge technology—integrated gen-

erative animations connected to real-time data in which the digital and the physical are connected. 7673 Melrose Ave., West Hollywood; Opening reception: Thursday, April 6, 7-9pm; On view through May 14; free; vellumla.com.

**Lisa Alvarado: Pulse Meridian Foliation at REDCAT.** Alvarado takes inspiration from social histories such as the textile traditions and public muralism in the Americas, her family's experience as Mexican Americans in the border region, the Chicano Movement, and her musical performances with the band Natural Information Society (NIS), where she plays the harmonium. Pulse Meridian Foliation is composed of a new immersive mural, a collection of double-sided paintings, a series of photos, and a sound installation, engaging with the concept of Nepantla (in-between) as theorized by Chicana feminist Gloria Anzaldúa. 631 W. 2nd St., downtown; Opening reception and performance: Thursday, April 6, 7pm; free; On view through August 20; free; redcat.org.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 7

**Ashwini Ramaswamy: Let the Crows Come at the Broad Stage.** This work for three dancers with live music explores how memory and homeland channel guidance and dislocation. The original, live score features South Indian instruments, electroacoustic cello, and sound sampling/turntables.

Evoking mythography and ancestry, Let the Crows Come uses the metaphor of crows as messengers for the living and guides for the departed. The Indian dance form Bharatanatyam is deconstructed and recontextualized with collaborators Alanna Morris and Berit Ahlgren, who infuse the work with their own traditions of Modern and African Diasporic dance and the Gaga movement from Israel. 1310 11th St., Santa Monica; Friday-Saturday, April 7-8, 7:30pm; \$40; broadstage.org.

**Spring Break Sleepovers at the Last Bookstore.** Limited to only 14 spots for 14 nights, DTLA's favorite temple of books hosts its first-ever Spring Break Sleepover—a unique opportunity for the dedicated bibliophile. Sleep in our antique bank vault, underneath the famous tunnel lights, or in the haunted Horror Vault, if you dare. This 21-and-over sleepover starts with a light reception and some chill music but then you're on your own. Lights out at midnight, but whether you sleep or not? That's up to you. This event is BYOE, or bring your own everything — sleeping bag, air mattress, tent, etc. 453 S. Spring St., downtown; Now through Friday, April 14; \$175; instagram.com/lastbookstorela.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 8

**Jay Mark Johnson: Íslenskir Fossar at William Turner Gallery.** Ten spectacular large format images of waterfalls and geysers





produced in Iceland in October 2021. Traversing the stark volcanic landscape, Johnson focused on the atmospheric turbulence of rushing waters and freezing air emanating from the region's waterfalls and geysers, capturing the dramatic interplay of the geological events within the seasonal low-raking light. In his exploration of the possibilities for timeline photography, Johnson has repeatedly turned his attentions to marveling at the forces of nature, specifically the reciprocal physical interactions of light, water and atmosphere. *Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave., Santa Monica; Opening reception: Saturday, April 8, 5-8; On view through May 27; free; williamturnergallery.com.*

**Amanda Maciel Antunes: Second Birth at Philosophical Research Society.** Second Birth is a split diary, a journey through time, and a series of correspondences between the lives of Anaïs Nin (1903-77) and Amanda Maciel Antunes (b.1987). These two immigrant artists share a deep faith in the potency of the creative process and the collective unconscious. At 21, Antunes learned English from a worn copy of Nin's Diary IV. By fate, she now finds herself living in the Sierra Madre home where Nin lived and worked for nearly 10 years in the 1950s. The resulting, ongoing and evolving practice sur-

rounding this kismet now takes the form of a book (2023, Hexentexte), gallery exhibition, performance event, and more. *3910 Los Feliz Blvd., Los Feliz; Opening reception, book-signing & performance: Saturday, April 8, 6:30pm; On view through April 15; donation suggested; prs.org.*

**Coady Brown: Rabid Heart at Shulamit Nazarian.** Brown's paintings thoughtfully orchestrate psychologically charged environments that pulse with a sense of cinematic mystery and wonder. The figures that inhabit this world are rendered with a careful awareness of the politics inherent in depicting feminine and androgynous figures, illustrating a dedication to methods of representation that shield figures from the binds of voyeurism and over-determination. Brown's practice examines how groups, couples, and solitary figures navigate self-presentation in private and public life. Located across domestic interiors, nightclubs, and transitory public settings, figures are compressed into tightly framed, intimate spaces that expose the subtle complexities of interpersonal connections and relationships. *616 N. La Brea, Hollywood; Opening reception: Saturday, April 8, 6-8pm; On view through May 13; free; shulamitnazarian.com.*

## MUSIC

### APRIL 7-13 Wallie the Sensei The Roxy Theatre

One of our first music interviews of this year was with rising Compton rapper Wallie the Sensei, and for good reason. His Here 2 Stay release gave us a great start to 2023. "My city is the reason I am who I've become, even outside of music," he told us. "The way I dress, how I talk and my overall experiences as a man. The music is only giving you a small feel of how it really is growin' up here. It's a much smaller place than what people think it is. From the way of life to the slang, everything is different. I'm a product of where I'm from." *8 p.m. on Friday, April 7 at the Roxy, \$20, theroxy.com.*

### New Edition Kia Forum

Bell Biv DeVoe, Bobby Brown, Tresvant and Gill - they'll all be there on this New Edition Legacy tour. Brown remains a polarizing figure for Whitney-esque reasons, but New Edition's songs are eternal and he's not the only guy in the band. On that subject, Guy also performs, as does Keith Sweat and Tank. Phew — there's a lot going on there. *7 p.m. on Saturday, April 8 at the Kia Forum, \$74.50+, thekiaforum.com.*

### X Teragram Ballroom

The pandemic had barely gotten started when X dropped their awesome Alphabetland album and, even though it wasn't written about the situation we had found ourselves in, it provided the perfect soundtrack. "Like a lot of music that speaks to people, the environment of what's happening starts changing the interpretation of it," John Doe told us in 2020. "Too bad for all of us in the world, but it seems to be speaking to some subjects that have maybe been ignored for a while." James Intveld also performs. *7 p.m. on Tuesday, April 11 and Wednesday, April 12 at the Teragram Ballroom, \$35 teragramballroom.com.*

### Roxy Blue Whisky A Go Go

Think about the hair/glam metal scene that once reigned supreme on the Sunset Strip, and Roxy Blue are unlikely to be the first band that springs to mind. For one thing, they didn't form until 1990 when the music was well on its way out as a commercial force. That said, the Tennessee band should be appreciated by more people and here's your chance. Steel City, Band Inc., Stonebreed, Alice Loves Alien, Renegade Cartel, and Lost Hearts also perform. *7 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12 at the Whisky A Go Go, \$20+, whiskyagogo.com. [R]*



# GRAND OPENING

**Valencia**  
River Oaks Shopping Center  
Magic Mountain Parkway & McBean Parkway

**Glendale**  
Glendale Marketplace  
Bottom Level, Across from Ralphs



**Total Wine**  
SPIRITS • BEER & MORE

5 | LA WEEKLY | April 7 - 13, 2023 | WWW.LAWEEKLY.COM

## Lowest Prices, Best Selection

Tito's Handmade  
Vodka 1.75L  
**26.49**



Jameson Irish  
Whiskey 1.75L  
**36.99**



Josh Cellars  
Cabernet  
Sauvignon  
California  
750ml  
**10.97**



Ed Edmundo  
Cabernet  
Sauvignon  
2021 Argentina  
750ml  
**10.99**



Modelo Especial  
24-12oz loose btls  
**25.99**



Sierra Nevada  
Pale Ale 24-12oz  
loose btls  
**28.49**



WINERY DIRECT® COUPON | Valid 4/6/2023-4/13/2023

ONLINE CODE 9136

WINERY DIRECT®

Look for  
these signs  
and save

# \$10 Off \$50 Wine

Save \$10 on your purchase of 750ml and 1.5L Winery Direct® wine totaling \$50 or more.

(Maximum discount \$10 with this coupon.)

**Excludes items with prices ending in 7.** Cannot be combined with any other Total Wine & More Coupon or in combination with the Mix 6 Discount. Coupon valid in Valencia and Glendale, CA only. Not valid on previous purchases. Limit one online code per customer. Coupon valid 4/6/2023-4/13/2023. Valid in-store, on the Total Wine app or at TotalWine.com. For in-store purchases, must present coupon at time of purchase. One-time-use coupon.



4000009136

### GLENDALE

Glendale Fashion Center  
221 North Glendale Ave.  
Glendale, CA 91206

Hours: Sun-Sat 9am-10pm  
(747) 221-8900

Grand  
Opening!



### VALENCIA

River Oaks Shopping Center  
24267 Magic Mountain Pkwy.  
Valencia, CA 91355

Hours: Sun-Sat 9am-10pm  
(661) 310-0200

Grand  
Opening!



VISIT TOTALWINE.COM  
FOR DELIVERY,  
CURBSIDE AND  
IN-STORE PICK UP

**LOWEST  
PRICES**  
for over 30 years

Prices and coupon valid 4/6/2023-4/13/2023. Total Wine & More is not responsible for typographical or human error or supplier price increases. Prices may vary. Rebate offers vary. While supplies last. Limit one offer per transaction. Rebate offers valid in-store only, see store for details. Products while supplies last. We reserve the right to limit quantities. All beer prices + CRV. Loyalty points not redeemable on gift cards, classes, tastings, deposits, rentals and ice. Total Wine & More is a registered trademark of RSSI. © 2023 Retail Services & Systems, Inc. All rights reserved. Please drink responsibly. Use a designated driver.

0406GO\_LAX\_TAB\_ID9140

FOOD

# THE NEW BAR IS CREATING A NONALCOHOLIC BUZZ AT COACHELLA

BY MICHELE STUEVEN

**L**A's Latina-owned, alcohol-free bottle shop, The New Bar, is Coachella's first-ever official non-alcoholic partner. With growing popularity around booze-free options and a rise in attendee use of #soberchella (yes, there's a dedicated subReddit to this), the partnership is set to satisfy many palates and change the way mainstream events catering to younger audiences think about nonalcoholic options.

At the bar will be Spiritless' distilled nonalcoholic spirits Kentucky 74 and Jalisco 55, French Bloom's alcohol-free organic Le Blanc, Le Rosé sparkling wines and Seedlip's nonalcoholic spirit, Garden 108.

Three of the nonalcoholic craft cocktails to be offered exclusively at The New Bar in Indio Central Market and Main

Stage VIP include:

Mojave Agave - Spiritless Jalisco 55, Hibiscus Tea, Lime, Agave

Super Bloom Spritz- French Bloom's Le Blanc Sparkling Wine, Optimist Cali Amaro Aperitif & Soda

Polo Buck - Spiritless Kentucky 74, Ginger Beer, Strawberry, Mint and Lime

The New Bar has made it easy to make the desert-inspired cocktails at home with a limited-edition Desert Bloom Kit (\$95), Festival Spirit Kit (\$70) and Coachella Kit (\$150). They also have "Road to Indio" merchandise available for national shipping.

According to the Venice-based New Bar founder, Brianda Gonzalez, the partnership illustrates the growing demand among Generation Z and young Millennials for alcohol-free drinks, and events



Elevate. Your. Munchies.

**PBJ**

Located in Grand Central Market - DTLA We Cater Too! **PBJ.LA**

Best **PB&J** On The Planet.

are responding by offering more options that cater to this demographic.

A survey conducted by GlobalData found that 29% of Generation Z consumers (born between 1997 and 2012)

are actively trying to reduce their alcohol intake. Sales of no- and low-alcohol beverages also surpassed \$11 billion in market value in 2022, according to IWSR Drinks Market Analysis. [1]



# MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS FOUND GUILTY OF BRIBERY

Mark Ridley-Thomas was found guilty of a bribery scheme while serving on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

BY ISAI ROCHA



**F**ormer L.A. City Councilman and county Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas was convicted on one charge of bribery, one conspiracy charge, a charge of honest services mail fraud and four counts of honest services wire fraud.

The charges stem from an alleged scheme during his time on the L.A. County Board of Supervisors in 2018. Ridley-Thomas, 68, was accused of voting in favor of an amendment for a Telehealth

contract with the Department of Mental Health at USC, in exchange for his son, Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, being hired at the USC School of Social Work.

In September 2022, former USC Dean of Social Work Marilyn Louise Flynn, 84, agreed to plead guilty for charges connected to the Ridley-Thomas case.

The guilty plea was for a federal charge that she bribed Ridley-Thomas by funneling \$100,000 he provided from his campaign account, to the United Ways of

Southern California organization. After the \$100,000 payment was processed in May 2018, Flynn said she met with Ridley-Thomas to discuss his vote in favor of the amended Telehealth contract, or the “master contract stuff,” as it was referred to in conversations.

Attorney Daralyne Durie, who represented Ridley-Thomas, said that the former supervisor had already previously shown favor toward the Telehealth contract and argued allegations of bribery for such support did not make sense.

The federal charges against Ridley-Thomas were first presented in October 2021. At the time, he had just been elected to the Los Angeles City Council after finishing his term as a supervisor. After the charges, Ridley-Thomas stepped away from his council and committee duties.

The district judge set an Aug. 14 sentencing date for Ridley-Thomas.

## NEWSOM SIGNS LAW AGAINST GAS PRICE GOUGING

California Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law that would attempt to combat alleged gas price gouging.

The law allows the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to set a maximum gross gasoline refining margin, regulating the amount of profits an oil company can make from gasoline sales and setting a fine for oil companies who exceed it.

“With this legislation, we’re ending the oil industry’s days of operating in the shadows,” Newsom said in a statement. “California took on Big Oil and won. We’re not only protecting families, we’re also loosening the vice grip Big Oil has had on our politics for the last 100 years.”

The Senate bill was presented by California Sen. Nancy Skinner, pushing the Senate and state assembly before heading to Newsom’s desk to sign into law.

“California has sent a clear message to the oil industry,” Skinner said. “Open your books and prove you’re not price gouging, otherwise Big Oil will pay the price — not consumers.”

By California law, oil companies have been required to submit monthly reports to the state, outlining its gasoline refining and production. That is where the commission evaluates an oil company’s margins.

If a company is fined, the money will go into the “Price Gouging Penalty Fund,” with the law stating it will be “used to address any consequences of price gouging on Californians.”

In 2022, the state of California saw historically high gas prices in the midst of tense global affairs and summer travel.

The state saw a peak average of \$6.43 per gallon for regular unleaded on June 14, 2022 and Los Angeles County saw an even higher average of \$6.49 per gallon on

Oct. 5, 2022.

Prices have decreased since the 2022 highs, although California still sees an average of \$1.36 higher than the national average, with 54 cents per gallon coming from a state gasoline excise tax.

The new gas law will take effect this summer, June 26. In 10 years, the California State Auditor will be tasked with determining if the possible penalties worked in reducing dramatic gas price increases, and provide a report on June 1, 2033.

## TAX DEADLINE EXTENDED AGAIN FOR MOST OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

After a slew of damaging storms to start the year, the IRS and California Franchise Tax Board extended the 2022 tax filing deadline to Oct. 16 for most California counties, including Los Angeles.

The original deadline of April 18 was previously extended by a month to May 16, but as powerful storms continued to hit the state, the IRS decided to extend it further.

Now, 41 of California’s 58 counties that were declared disaster areas by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) may take advantage of an extra six months of filing time without needing to file for the extension.

“The IRS automatically provides filing and penalty relief to any taxpayer with an IRS address of record located in the disaster area,” the IRS wrote in a press release. “Therefore, taxpayers do not need to contact the agency to get this relief.”

Most Southern Californians filing individually, or for businesses, qualify for the extension, short of those filing in Kern and Imperial County. The deadline applies not only to federal taxes, but state, as well.

Changing the tax filing deadline is consistent with the federal assistance granted after Biden declared a state of emergency in California on Jan. 9. Deadline extensions are typically given for natural disasters across the country and have previously been given to California counties who were affected by wildfires in 2021.

The state was hit with six atmospheric rivers in the first week of January, with several more rain-, wind- and snowstorms causing damage since then. It is estimated that 24 trillion gallons of rainfall struck the state, causing severe flooding issues, destruction of property, destruction of roads, destruction due to wind-fallen trees and poles, and mudslides in foothill areas. In February, Southern California saw record snowfall, causing road closures, accidents and a State of Emergency in San Bernardino as residents were trapped by snow-capped roads with many not able to leave their homes.

Counties not listed as a FEMA disaster area will still be required to file on April 18. ☐



MUSIC

# DALLY IN THE VALLEY

Coachella is Back With A Stellar Lineup

BY BRETT CALLWOOD

It's Coachella time again, so we know what that means. Outfits are being chosen, accommodations booked, and the lineup is being carefully scanned as attendees circle the acts that they simply cannot miss. There's nothing quite like a giant music festival, and they don't get any more gigantic than Coachella

(at least not in this country).

As ever, the lineup is impressive in its diversity of genre, era, gender and culture, and simply the high level of quality. Headliners Bad Bunny, Blackpink and Frank Ocean have enough pulling power between them to excite a massive amount of people from a huge array of fanbases.

But the lineup is overflowing with gems, top to bottom, Friday to Sunday (both weekends).

Perhaps the most "vintage" band on the bill is Blondie. The band that arguably invented pop-punk by being both of those things back when nobody thought that you could, has always managed to attract

a varied fan base, thanks to the genre-defying music and the undistilled charisma of frontwoman Debbie Harry. They perform on the two Fridays.

"My nieces are very excited about going," says Blondie drummer Clem Burke. "Within Blondie, our audience is pretty widespread over the generations. Our





audience and music is pretty diverse, so it seems to translate to a lot of different generations. We played in Mexico City last night, we did an arena show. The audience was quite young and they were very receptive. We're kind of on a roll. We've been on an arena tour of the UK and that was a very mixed audience. So I don't think it'll be challenging. I think the legacy of the band is the music, the songs. And I think a lot of young women appreciate what Debbie did in the '70s and what the band did in general. It all goes hand in hand."

In-between the Coachella weekends, Blondie plays a headline set at the Greek Theatre. Naturally, that will be a longer set than the festival show they present at Coachella, but the band never disappoints regardless of the setting.

"We're probably going to have a special guest or two [at Coachella]," Burke says. "A few surprises. When we're doing a festival and we're not the headliner, we usually do about 60 minutes from our two hour show. A lot of hits, a couple of deep cuts, and then a couple of surprises. We'll

be ready for it. We're playing the Greek in between the two Coachellas. That'll be the full Blondie show."

Appearing on the Sundays are alt-rockers Momma, a band that has recently been out on tour with Death Cab for Cutie. They're psyched to be on the Coachella bill

"I was actually pleasantly surprised with the lineup," says Allegra Weingarten. "I've been a fan of Underworld for a couple years, and never thought I'd ever have the opportunity to see them live. Same with the Chemical Brothers and Gorillaz. So I'm really, really excited. As always there's kind of a shortage of rock bands, but that's OK. We were all kind of hoping for Blink 182 to headline."

Weingarten says that they haven't really planned the set out.

"That sounds bad, haha," she says. "We're probably gonna try to put some cool visuals up during our set. But we don't necessarily have any tricks up our sleeve. We're just gonna wear some cool outfits and shred. Easy!!"

Etta Friedman says that they are plan-



Ashnikko

ning on having a great time though.

"We have friends who are also playing the festival, so I am really excited to hang out with all of them in the desert," she says. "Plus, my brothers are going to

be there the first weekend, and we always have the best time together."

Genre-blurring pop star Ashnikko is equally thrilled.

"This year's lineup is insane," she says.





“Frank Ocean, Jai Paul, Rosalia, Björk!! I don’t know about y’all, but I am going to have a GOOD time. I have never performed at Coachella, but it has always been the dream festival to play. I feel so grateful that they asked me. I went last year just as a guest and had a silly little time watching Idles, Carolina Polachek, and BROCKHAMPTON.”

The singularly-monikered Chris, of Christine & the Queens, has performed at Coachella before.

“I did perform twice there, on my two previous records,” Chris says. “The first Coachella was very impressive, quite a milestone for a French artist like me at the time. Got me dreaming a bit bigger but you also know as a performer, a stage is a stage, I remember the sand in my nose and my dancers so thrilled to be there and our white t-shirts in the desert, and my big stilts cause I did Saint Claude perched on them, theatrics as always. The second Coachella was a deep performance at night, then my whole life changed so I remember less the festival than the city where my world shifted for ever. Love you mum.”

Rising alt-pop star Bratty, from Mexico, is about to embark on her first ever tour

of the United States as she promotes her third album. In fact, this will be her first-ever visit to the US. Obviously, it’s her first Coachella, though she has played other large festivals.

“You know there’s going to be people that don’t know you, and you don’t expect how it’s going to come across at the end,” Bratty says. “You have 20 minutes or a little time, so you have to play super fast and connect super fast. It’s fast, and you have to expect that a lot of people won’t know who you are, so you have to present your product in the best way. You know people who attend your own concert know you, they know who you are and they know your songs. It’s a different feeling. It’s more intimate, more like talking to friends.”

Bratty will be performing new songs at Coachella.

“We’re going to play new songs from the third album,” she says. “We’ll play the hits, obviously. We’re planning to elevate the shows in general. The costumes, stage production, visuals. We’re focusing on a show that is more professional. I’m going to release a new song and hopefully we’re going to be playing that at Coachella, too.”

Brit-based, multi-national, instrumen-

tal party band Los Bitchos say that festivals are where they’re in their element.

“I think one of the things I’ve enjoyed about being in this band is getting to play so many cool festivals,” says drummer Nic Crawshaw. “I’ve grown up watching other bands play outdoor shows and it looks like such a good time. There’s something about festival crowds that is really unique. It’s just a great time.”

They insist that their set is going to be a ton of fun, full of bangers.

“We’re gonna throw in a couple of newbies as well, I’m hoping,” says guitarist Serra Petale. “We’ve been playing our debut album quite a lot in the last year, which has been amazing, but we’ve been working on some new stuff together. It’s been a real buzz to be able to play those, just to pepper those in over the last few weeks while we’ve been on tour.”

We can expect new music from the Christine & the Queens set.

“As much as I’m allowed ahead of the album release, but what a release indeed to finally flesh them out inside my bones - for the next album is a heart opener,” Chris says. “Theatrics, poetry. Angels in America inspired set. Killer musicians. A stage design that nods to all i love about

musicals and art brut. The stage will give you a sense of the journey I went through, a high distillation of my encounter with the angels. Wings. Little altars. Beings of light. Friends. True love.”

Regardless of age and genre, all of the artists are thrilled to be performing at Coachella, and checking out other acts.

“The Gorillaz are on the same day as us, and I really like them,” says Clem Burke. “Damon [Albarn] is a diverse musical talent. Blur are headlining two shows at Wembley Arena after this in the summer. But Gorillaz, I’m looking forward to seeing. Or seeing their visuals - you don’t really see the band.”

“I’m so excited to see Blackpink, Rosalia, Snail Mail,” says Bratty. “If I take a picture with some of them, that will be great. Say hi backstage.”

And Agustina Ruiz of Los Bitchos says, “I can’t wait to see Blondie. We’re playing on Sunday. Shit, is Blondie on the Friday? We’re there on Saturday and Sunday. That is devastating news. I’m looking forward to seeing Björk. Also, Blackpink because we’ve never seen anything like that before.”

For all of the festival information, visit [coachella.com](http://coachella.com).



MANTRA  
MVMT



MANTRA  
MVMT

# “PARADIGM SHIFT”

**AWARENESS  
EDUCATION  
ADVOCACY  
RESEARCH**

**LOVE  
CONNECTION  
FREE WILL  
MASTERY**

**AUTHENTICITY  
INTENTION  
TRANSFORMATION  
ASCENSION**

**BLISS  
ECSTASY  
CELEBRATION  
AWAKENING**



MANTRA MVMT IS A NON PROFIT COMMITTED TO CREATING A COMMUNITY THAT SUPPORTS THOSE WHO SEEK TO LEARN AND UNDERSTAND THE THERAPEUTIC POTENTIAL OF PSYCHEDELICS. WE STRIVE TO BE A TRUSTED SOURCE OF INFORMATION, A VOICE FOR ADVOCACY, AND A CATALYST FOR PROGRESS IN THE FIELD OF PSYCHEDELIC RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

**JOIN THE MOVEMENT**

[WWW.MANTRAMVMT.COM](http://WWW.MANTRAMVMT.COM)

@MANTRAMVMT





ENTERTAINMENT\UNBINGED

## REVIEWS

From *Swarm* to *The Power*, Statement Pieces Take Over Streaming

BY ERIN MAXWELL



Streaming services, cable TV and Primetime television are fighting for your viewership now more than ever. UNBINGED is here to help you weed through it all, with reviews of the latest shows that highlight what we love, what we hate and what we love to hate-watch, too.

*It has been said that the medium through which we choose to communicate might hold as much value as the message itself. So where does that leave streaming content hoping to make a statement? The hottest new shows seem to be driven by an important message, but will folks stick around to learn something or gain insight if they're indifferent to the story or characters? This month, UnBinged sets out to unravel the intent and content worth watching via Prime Video's *Swarm* and *The Power* and Apple TV+'s *Extrapolations*.*

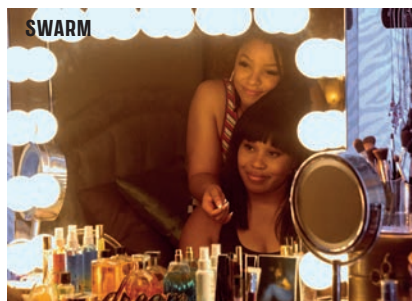
**Swarm (Prime Video)**

What happens when a fan becomes a fanatic? When “crave” becomes “craze”? What happens when a social media hive mind hurls the wants and needs of thousands onto an already fractured mind? For those who are unable to corral their emotions, that is where the real horror begins, as they become a real danger both to themselves and others. And in Amazon Prime's *Swarm*, we find out exactly where this might lead.

A modern take on Martin Scorsese's *The King of Comedy*, sans much of the aforementioned comedy, *Swarm* is a disturbing look at the dark side of fandom and social media. Created by Donald Glover and Janine Nabers, the psychological thriller follows Andrea “Dre” Greene (Dominique Fishback), a young woman who lives her life through extremes, particularly her love for pop diva Ni’Jah.

Dre lives and breathes Ni’Jah. It consumes her every waking thought. When she is not listening to Ni’Jah, she is running her fan account, and targeting anyone who besmirches her name. The series uses an anthology format to follow Dre through the years, as she meets new and interesting people...and kills them.

Joe Goldberg might have made stalking and unhinged behavior cute and cool, but *Swarm* is a more sinister look at infatuation. There is little about Dre that makes her appealing. Unlike other recent TV psychopaths who try to justify their deadly deeds, she doesn't. She doesn't have a code like Dexter or charm like Dr. Lecter. She's a serial killer, and a vicious one at that. Fishback plays Dre with a sad depravity that sends her spiraling at the slightest affront. Driven completely by her Id, the character simply removes everything - and everyone - that makes her unhappy. *Swarm* stands



out among the many shows that try to offer up villains as anti-heroes, crafting a malefactor based on menace and manipulation.

Pointing out the dangers of group intelligence and how easy it is for broken people to turn to the internet hugbox for love and approval, the show challenges us to follow a lead that is abhorrent in every facet of her life. Television has a way of canonizing psychopaths and turning sociopaths into swoon-worthy hunks. But not with Dre, and thanks to Fishback's natural charisma and the depth of the material, we can't look away.

**Extrapolations (AppleTV+)**

At this point, most rational folks understand that climate change is very real, very destructive, and very scary. There is no doubt that there will be repercussions if we don't change our ways. But do you want a front seat to watch the end of humanity? AppleTV+ certainly thinks you do. From writer, director and exec producer Scott Z. Burns (*Contagion*, *An Inconvenient Truth*),

*Extrapolations* features several stories connected by a theme of climate change and the dark future that humans will have to face if we don't change our habits.

In 2037, a major forest fire affects every corner of the Earth and people are struggling to find water, while industrialists smirk their way through protests to make money on the back of Mother Nature. By 2046, elephants, whales and tigers are kaput, and little ones need to stay out of the sun. In 2046, major cities are combating daily flooding. With each episode, the world and the future gets more dismal as humanity races towards self destruction.

*Extrapolations* wants to be essential viewing with a significant statement, but is it entertaining? Barely. Filled with A-list actors (including Meryl Streep, Diane Lane, Kit Harington, Ed Norton and Daveed Diggs, to name a few), it also offers real facts and an unflinching look at potential grim realities, and that may be the problem. The show's truth is a difficult pill to swallow. There isn't much humor here and it's not very relatable. The brief attempts at satire fall flat - Matthew Rhys's Junior, whose contempt for Mother Earth comes off more cartoonish than a mustache-twirling Snidely Whiplash.

No one wants to say, “Hey, your global warming series with an invaluable message



is a bummer,” but audiences need the ability to relate to the material and some moments of levity, otherwise the experience becomes a lecture. This is a series built on good intentions, but it lacks engaging characters, clever dialogue and approachable situations. It will probably largely be ignored - just like most climate issues.

**The Power (Prime Video)**

From every corner of the Earth, women are discovering their inner strength as they develop the ability to release powerful electric bursts at will. Thanks to this new mutation, the one-time “weaker sex” becomes the dominant gender on Earth, and Amazon Prime's *The Power* is eager to show, power might be able to balance the occasion scale, but it can also corrupt.

Based on the sci-fi novel by Naomi Alderman, *The Power* examines what happens when the powerless are given the ability to counterbalance hundreds of years of injustice. All young women everywhere develop superhuman abilities, and as they become more omnipotent, men become more afraid (and more justified in sinister actions as they attempt to regain control).

But for some it's a blessing, like when Allie's (Halle Bush) foster father learns an important lesson about preying upon the vulnerable. Or for Roxy (Ria Zmitrowicz), whose power gives her the opportunity to prove herself to her dad. For former gymnast Tatiana (Zrinka Cvitesic), it's a chance to finally have some authority over her own life. Meanwhile, as *Seattle*'s Mayor Margot Cleary-Lopez (Toni Collette) attempts to rationalize and understand the new evolutionary step to a terrified nation, her daughter Jos (Auli'i Cravalho) discovers her own potential.

The story takes center stage here, often overshadowing the performances, which are considerable (especially the always-fantastic Collette). Unfortunately, *The Power* might have an uphill battle with viewers thanks to superhero fatigue, even with its strong commentary on women's rights. Moreover, character insights that might add a fresh dimension to the show take a backseat to the overall message. This cautionary tale of “what if” for misogynists around the globe is good enough to overcome these flaws with the right audience. [A]



# LA PREPS FOR FREE SEED DAY

We sat down with Masonic Smoker to hear of the rapid rise of Free Seed Day before the third edition at his shop on Fairfax next week

BY JIMI DEVINE



Since we first sat down with Masonic Smoker back in early 2021, he's continued his rise on the genetics scene, locals might argue one of their favorite Masonic impacts on

the community in those two years is Free Seed Day.

This year, Free Seed Day will take place on April 15 at Masonic's on Fairfax.

Now one of the most significant events on the calendar for Angelino cultivators, the event initially got its start as an homage to Free Comic Book Day. Before the pandemic, Masonic had been participating in Free Comic Book Day for a decade.

"I was hanging out at my store and then Free Comic Book Day is usually on the first Saturday of May, but because of COVID they kind of like messed it up," Masonic told L.A. Weekly. As he sat in his ship dealing with the FOMO of

Day, and here we are."

Masonic went a bit more into the development process for that first incarnation of Free Seed Day. He noted he is generally pretty off the cuff, but when he saw a solid response to the feelers he was putting out there about the idea, he knew he was on to something.

"Then I also went out of my way to shamelessly ask some of the bigger names in the seed industry to chip in on the day, and as soon as exotic Mike said he was down with it, everyone else kind of like followed suit," Masonic told L.A. Weekly.

When asked if getting the big name early helped set the course, Masonic said at the moment it helped a lot. But people were also receptive to his argument people would be helping themselves, breeders and the community all at once.

The turnout for year one was solid. Masonic estimates it was between 300 to 400 people, but he notes it's kind of hard to remember the first one because the second was huge. More than doubling in size, Masonic estimates Free Seed Day 2022 saw between 800 to 1,000 people take part.

With the exponential growth rate, we asked Masonic how many bodies he can realistically move through the shop during the festivities. He plans on having 1,000 bags ready to go. He estimates the value of those bags to be between \$300 to \$500 each. But don't worry if you are person No. 1,001.

There are probably five breeders hanging around at any given time. So if there's an overspill of more than those 1,000 that I didn't keep in mind, well, we don't necessarily have like a whole bag for them, but there are free seeds there for you. And there's a bag that we can put them in," Masonic said with a laugh.

While Masonic is trying to avoid having people line up too early this year, he understands the enthusiasm. The early bags for those who waited the longest will certainly have some gems in them. Regardless, there will be plenty of love to go around even if you can't do the whole urban camping experience.

"The reason for Free Comic Book Day is to kind of breathe a breath of fresh air into whatever storefront that they have, right? So in this case, the comic books that are for free are the seeds from Exotic and Bloom. The way that we pay for them in our case is like we go out of our way for like two weeks and we divvy them up. And we have the storefront to actually facilitate a free seed day," Masonic noted, hoping folks might grab a T-shirt while they're at the shop. He's got something for all tax brackets. **LA**



# CHANGING TRAINS: DAVID BOWIE IN THE SOVIET UNION

A New Exhibition Highlights The Rocker's Rail Trip Behind The Iron Curtain

BY SHANA NYS DAMBROT

Lee Black Childers, Geoff MacCormack, David Bowie at the May Day Parade in Red Square, 1973



(COURTESY OF THE ARTIST)

How exactly did David Bowie end up on a lengthy train trip through the Soviet Union in 1973? And who gave him a 16mm film camera, even though he definitely was not supposed to be filming, especially in Moscow? And who is the cheeky friend behind the lens capturing Bowie in moments from the introspective to the exuberant, hung-over, and inspired?

Geoff MacCormack, also known by the stage name Warren Peace, had been friends with David Bowie (David Jones as was) since they were 8 years old — a friendship which, as they got older and the '60s went into overdrive, was increasingly defined by a shared love of music. In 1973, Bowie rang his friend and drafted

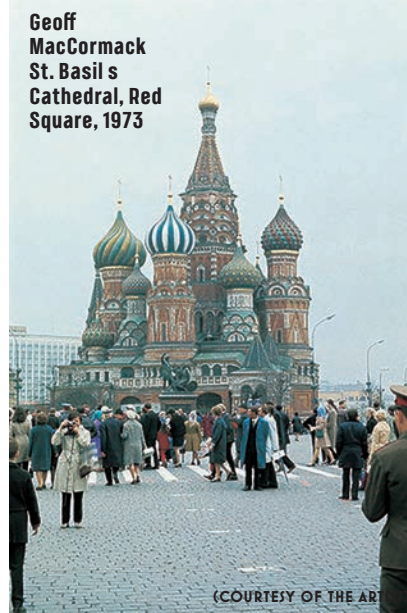
him into his backing band, the Spiders from Mars. After three years of song, drums and dance on stage and adventure off it, plus six albums, five tours and a feature film, MacCormack had a devastatingly unique photographic archive and a treasure trove of stories to show for it.

The complete up-close and personal story of those formative years in Bowie lore (1973-76) is showcased in MacCormack's appealing monograph, *David Bowie: Rock 'n Roll with Me* (ACC Art Books), but the Wende Museum's new exhibition, *David Bowie in the Soviet Union*, focuses specifically on perhaps the most curious episode of them all — that time they all ended up taking the train across the USSR.



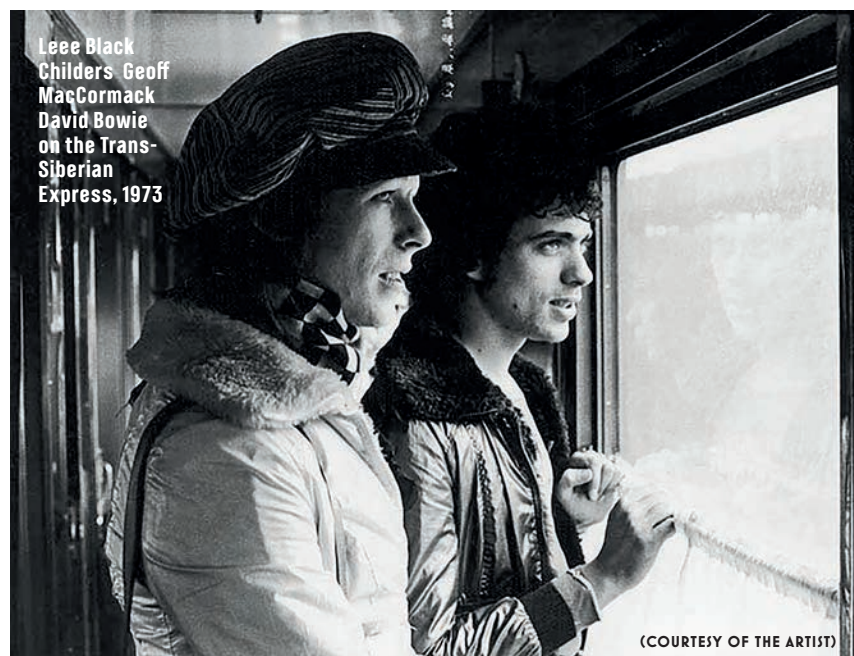
David Bowie, Geoff MacCormack in front of the Trans-Siberian Express, 1973

(COURTESY OF GEOFF MACCORMACK)



Geoff MacCormack St. Basil's Cathedral, Red Square, 1973

(COURTESY OF THE ARTIST)



Lee Black Childers, Geoff MacCormack, David Bowie on the Trans-Siberian Express, 1973

(COURTESY OF THE ARTIST)

“A psychic told him he was going to die in a plane crash,” MacCormack tells the *LA Weekly*, “so for years, he did all the traveling and touring exclusively by train, bus, car and boat!” Following the Japanese leg of the Ziggy Stardust/Aladdin Sane tour, in April 1973, when it was time to head out of Japan (Yokohama) and back to Western Europe (Paris), they settled on the Trans-Siberian Express. MacCormack picked up a quirky Nikkormat camera on a whim on their way out of Japan and learned to use it on the train — with David Bowie as his experimental muse and the dregs of Siberian winter giving way to a brassy, wet Spring as his backdrop.

MacCormack's photos of this jour-

ney show Bowie in a relaxed, playful stance, up for anything, and eager to see the other side of the mysterious Iron Curtain. It's clear the mean are real friends, and actually there was an official tour photographer — Lee Black Childers — who was very much on scene when it came to more public circumstances. What MacCormack did was much more like any pair of friends having a rollicking, surreal vacation. They drank with Russian soldiers, took sly pictures of characters on the string of train platforms and byroads, and met and sometimes performed impromptu for tourists and fans — though according to MacCormack, very few people on the Siberian train had any idea who



or what the Spiders from Mars were in 1973 Russia.

Guest curated by Olya Sova, who had previously mounted versions of the show in St. Petersburg and London, the Wende Museum exhibition combines a suite of these photographs with a rather marvelous if rather shaky short movie Bowie made of footage he took himself with a contraband 16mm film camera. (Some of MacCormack's captures show Bowie engaged in this jocular spy craft, shooting not only from the moving train window, but from vantage points above Moscow's May Day Parade, which they made a

point to witness.) The film isn't available anywhere online, so if you want to see a bit of history through Bowie's eyes, head to Culver City. The Los Angeles iteration also features a free, bespoke playlist by dublab's Alejandro Cohen, which makes for a rather functional, if moodier than the usual, exhibition guide.

*MacCormack will celebrate the book at the Morrison Hotel Gallery in West Hollywood on Thursday, April 6; David Bowie in the Soviet Union is on view at the Wende Museum, 10808 Culver Blvd., Culver City, through Oct. 22; free. For more information visit [wendemuseum.org](http://wendemuseum.org).*

TERRAPIN STATION ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS  
**LOS ANGELES PREMIERE**  
**BOB MARLEY**  
**ONE LOVE EXPERIENCE**  
**NOW OPEN!**  
**OVATION HOLLYWOOD**  
ON THE CORNER OF HOLLYWOOD AND HIGHLAND  
**TICKETS START AT \$20!\***  
**BOBMARLEYEXP.COM**  
  
fever TERRAPIN STATION ENTERTAINMENT Ovation PLUS FEES.

**\$\$\$ Top Dollar Paid \$\$\$**  
  
**WANTED HOTWHEELS**  
**1968-1985**  
**COLLECTOR WILL PAY TOP DOLLAR**  
**(562) 708-9069**  
[acmcollectables.com](http://acmcollectables.com)  




**LOOKING FOR NOW?**  
*Look No Further.*

**SQUIRT**.org



Join the action at [www.squirt.org](http://www.squirt.org) today.

**ANXIOUS? DEPRESSED?  
 RELATIONSHIP ISSUES?**


*We are here to help.*

**Fuller Psychological and Family Services**

Receive therapy in person. Or from the comfort and safety of your home with clear video and audio through your smartphone, tablet, or computer.

Convenient. Private.  
 HIPPA-compliant. Affordable.

626.584.5555  
[fuller.edu/fpfs](http://fuller.edu/fpfs)



**FULLER**  
 PSYCHOLOGICAL & FAMILY SERVICES  
*The clinic of the Fuller School of Psychology*



# LA WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS

## EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

**Lead Data Engineer (West Hollywood, CA):** Work as part of the data engineering team to acquire and integrate new data sources into the larger data ecosystem. Telecommuting permitted from anywhere in the U.S. \$154,422-\$200,000/yr. Resumes to: John Burkle, HR, Live Nation Worldwide, Inc., 325 N Maple Drive, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210.

**Senior Marketing Manager,** International (New Milani Group, LLC; Culver City, CA): Manage day-to-day business operations of direct markets in UK, Australia, Taiwan. Salary: \$106,575.04/year. Resumes: HR, New Milani Group, LLC, 10000 Washington Boulevard, Ste. 210, Culver City, CA 90232.

Cumming Management Group Inc seeks **Director, Cost Management** in Los Angeles, CA: Responsible for preparing fee proposals and negotiating professional services agreements, as well as preparing and providing quality assurance to project cost estimates. Telecommuting permitted. Salary range: \$135,000 - \$155,000 per year. To apply, submit resume to: tami.hoyt@cumming-group.com w/ ref. no. **RADCMLA**.

Marketing Associates - collect and analyze market data. Req. Any Bachelor's degree Wage:\$44,803/YR. Mail resume: FAR EAST METALS, INC. 531 E Carson St #D Carson, CA 90745

**AVP, Sr. CRM Developer.** Bank of Hope, Gardena, CA. Resp. for overall dvlpmnt., dsgrn., & config. of Dynamics 365 apps. Bachelor's deg. in comp. sci., comp. engr'g., or rtd. + 5 yrs. exp. req'd. Salary: \$147,410/yr. Email Resumes: hr\_recruiting\_team@ban.kofhope.com. Incl. ref. code SSSCD on subject line.

**Database Administrator.** Req'd: Bachelor's in MIS, Data Sci., or related. \$60,466-\$64,480/year. Mail resume: People & Logistics America, Inc. 5353 W. Imperial Hwy, Ste 600, Los Angeles, CA 90045

Buda Law Group seeks (2) FT Immigration **Paralegal Managers** in Arcadia, CA to prep Immigration Related Forms & Letters. Have knowl & exp for employment & family immigration cases. Prepare affidavits or other docs, such as legal correspondence, & organize & maintain docs in paper or electronic filing system. Prepare legal documents, including briefs, pleadings, appeals, app forms, & contracts. Prepare cases for submission to the USCIS by performing tasks such as printing & organizing exhibits. Investigate facts & law of cases & search pertinent sources, such as public records & internet sources, to determine causes of action & to prepare cases. Meet w/ clients & other professionals to discuss details of case. Manage 1-2 other subordinate Paralegals. Chinese Language ability pref'd. BA of Law or Business req'd. 36 mos exp as a Paralegal req'd. Email resume or CV & Cover Letter to john.buda@budalawgroup.net

## Lion's Spa



4214 BEVERLY BLVD. #203

213.915.0382  
213.436.8804

**HR Manager:** Master's degree in HR, BA or rel; 1 yr exp in talent sourcing, selection & recruitment strategies; High proficiency in SQL, Word, Excel, Outlook, & PowerPoint; Knowl of biz & ops mgmt principles incl organizational design & dev, employee relations, training, & dev; Exceptional comm & problem-solving skills. Salary: \$118,040. Apply to TRIPALINK, CORP. at 800 S Harvard Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90005. Email: xianhui.tripalink@gmail.com

**EVENT COORDINATOR:** Assist exhibition projects, Req. Associate degree Wage:\$40,000/YR Mail resume: AAAZA, INC. 2700 W 3rd Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90057

**Graphic Designer** Job Site: L.A., CA, Current Air Clothing, Inc. B.A. Req'd. Salary: \$55k/yr. Send resume 1015 S. Crocker St. #R-7 L.A., CA 90021

**Market Research Analyst** Job Site: L.A., CA, Let's Go Apparel, Inc. BA degree req'd. Salary: \$44,803/yr. Send resume to 747 E. 10th St. #113 L.A., CA 90021

# LA WEEKLY Bulletin

## Injured at work? Workers Comp Law Firm READY TO HELP!

For a **FREE** consultation, please call  
310-664-9000 x 101 or text 310-849-5679  
Website : [www.workinjuryhelp.com](http://www.workinjuryhelp.com)

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

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

## SECURITY GUARDS NEEDED

**Rio Gentlemen's Club - 13124 S Figueroa St, Los Angeles, CA 90061 \$18 to \$20 an hour. Outside security needed for padowns, ID checks and monitoring parking lot of the club. Please contact Dave Carlson at [Rmckinney@jjmfirm.com](mailto:Rmckinney@jjmfirm.com)**

**Goldendoodles Standard. Red Standard Poodles.**  
First Vaccines and deworming. Excellent therapeutic family dogs. please text or call Lisa 424-227-2646.  
Instagram @redpoodlesndoodles

