

# LA WEEKLY

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LA WEEKLY'S 710 LIST  
FOR 2022

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# LA WEEKLY'S 7/10 BRAND GUIDE

Oil. One of the most treasured mediums in the cannabis world, hash oil and its cousins are so beloved that they even have their own day: 7/10. Why is this? Because 7/10 flipped is OIL, of course! Just like 4/20, 7/10 is a cannabis holiday full of deals, sales and new product releases. If you love cannabis, this is one day you don't want to miss out on! Check out our 7/10 Brand Guide below for the best sales this 7/10 has to offer.



### Rare Cannabinoid Company

Looking to boost your high? Rare Cannabinoid Company was the first to produce pure THCv oils and gummies. THCv increases energy and focus, while suppressing appetite and aiding weight loss. The premium Hawaiian brand also offers CBN for deep sleep as well as Maui CBD, CBDA, CBDV, CBC, CBG, CBGA, and terpenes.

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### Mistifi

This 7/10 try California's best All-In-One vape pens now available in 1g 510 cartridges! Each Mistifi Solventless Cured Resin Cartridge features a complex blend of 3 indoor craft flower strains perfectly balanced for the purest highs free from any



additives. Available in award-winning blends: Over the Rainbow – Uplifting Sativa Blend or Houdini – Relaxing Indica Blend and introducing NEW Oracle – Inspiring Hybrid Blend. Visit [Mistifi.com](http://Mistifi.com) for direct delivery to your door.



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### Huni Badger

Looking for something quick and easy? Dab at your convenience, with the Huni Badger. This portable, electronic nectar collector is designed to go anywhere with you. Powered by rechargeable 18650 batteries, 5-clicks to turn ON and the ceramic tip heats up in seconds, no torch needed. Customizable with different colored vinyl wraps and bubbler attachments. Great customer service and a 3-year warranty. What more could you ask for?

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### PAX

At PAX, we don't need much of a reason to celebrate cannabis. So we're all about making 7/10 a big deal with 20% off site-wide from July 7 through July 10. Save on PAX 3 – our dual-use device for flower and concentrates. Pick up the pocket-sized PAX Era and Era Life for use with oil-extract pods. Stock up on accessories or get into high fashion with our 'More Flowerful' merch. Shop today, with 20% off site-wide, at [pax.com](http://pax.com).



### Empire Glasswork's Mystery Box

Empire Smokes' mystery boxes are unmatched in curation, quality, and value. They personify the Empire's rich history of pioneering premium, yet affordable cannabis accessories for the community. Each box boasts an unrivaled value with a unique diversity of products exclusively available through this campaign. Gift or Discover our standard, with superior gear for tomorrow's adventures.

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### G Pen Roam



The G Pen Roam is an all-in-one portable vaporizer intuitively designed to provide water-filtered concentrate vaporization on-the-go.

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[www.gpen.com/products/g-pen-roam](http://www.gpen.com/products/g-pen-roam)

### Napalm

Napalm Cannabis Co., founded by Alvin 'Xzibit' Joiner, is a Los Angeles-based brand providing premium cannabis products.



Committed to delivering quality and innovative products, whether it's flower, concentrates, or edibles, Napalm brings the fire. The Tank Palm Bundle, one of Napalm's hottest products, consists of a 13.5mm glass tank of 100% Live Resin and features an adjustable airflow valve providing the smoothest hit possible. #bigclouds-only

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### LITTO

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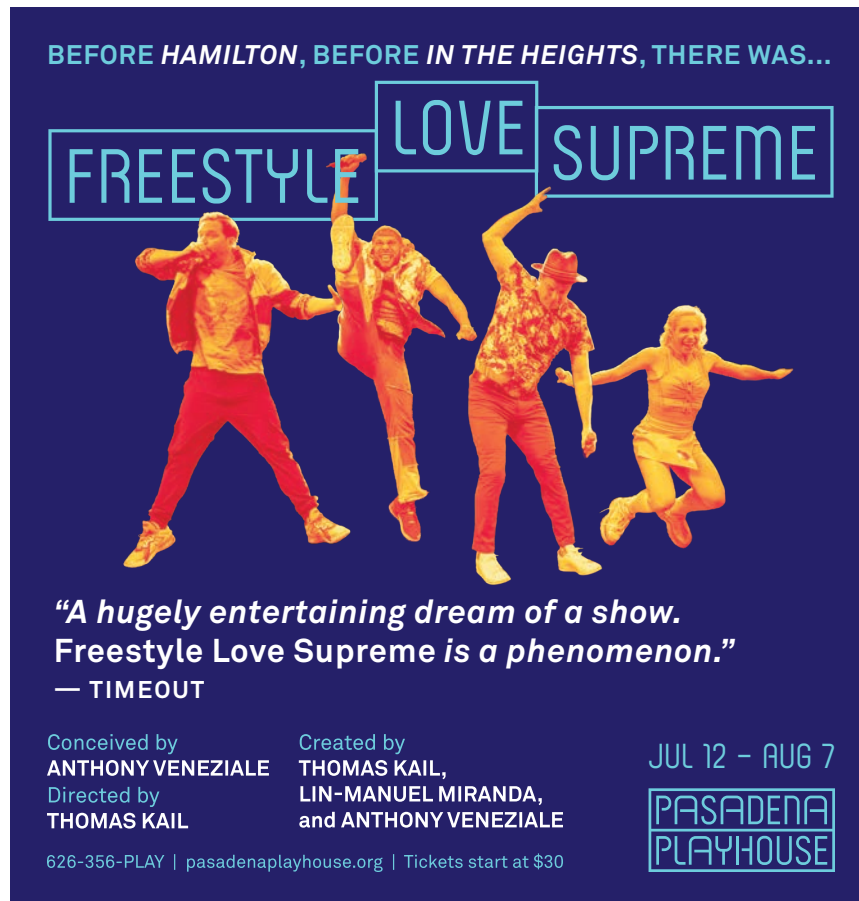
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### Buddies

Buddies™ is a West Coast cannabis brand currently in the California, Oregon, and Washington markets. Ranked #8 in the nation for total sales volume per BDSA, Buddies has dedicated years of experience in cultivation and processing to provide quality products at competitive prices. Buddies understands the craftsmanship and evolution of the industry and what it has become today. In collaboration with Ember Valley, Buddies has recently introduced Cured Resin Dabs into the California market.

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THE 7/10 ISSUE

# THE L.A. WEEKLY 7/10 LIST 2022

We're running down our favorite hash companies so you can have the most fun possible this holiday season.

BY JIMI DEVINE



The 7/10 Holiday Season has arrived and it's time to celebrate some of the best offerings California hash enthusiasts are smoking at the moment.

This year we'll focus on the companies as a whole more than any particular strain. We have faith these names will take you to the mountaintop but there is also some cool new weird stuff for the sake of holiday fun.

While many would argue California's underground cannabis economy has better hash these days, it's fair to say these producers hold up. The various tech used by the companies on this list to extract cannabis solventless or with hydrocarbons is world-class.

Is there some boofy hash in California since there are so many chads attempting to scale up before they crash their daddy/bitcoin money rocket into the sea? Sure. But you won't find it with any of this gang! They are crushing it.

## Fidel's

We had to have the star of our holiday feature in the mix for this list! If you haven't read it yet, Fidel's hand-rolled solventless prerolls helped take the world of exotic infused joints into the stratosphere in recent years since he was first introduced to the concept on a trip to Barcelona in 2018. But beyond the heat, the tale of Fidel is a very L.A. story with a few critical years in a Beirut grocery store mixed in.

## Kalya Rosin



What more can we say about the multiple-time world champs that we haven't said in the past as we have covered their adventure in terpenes over the years. There are absolute heaters all over the place with Kalya, be it collabs with Alien Labs, Dancing Dog, Vesuvio, Sabertooth, or Sierra Nevada Cannabis Co, all galactic level heat. Most of the time, if you show up to a room of rosin boys with Kalya in your pocket you'll have the best hash in the room. Another thing to

note this year is Kalya started to release crazy cold cure rosin. It's a bit more stable for dispensaries and consumers than the fresh-pressed. We love both.

## Cali-X



From the streets of L.A. and London, a new hitter emerges on the rec rosin scene in Cali-X and you're all the better for it. Essentially, Cali-X's Sales Chief Skyler is also a savage in the washroom and on the press. I once thought a famous hash company taught him in exchange for doing sales for them in the past but they said he just showed up like that. The rosin is so juicy and glorious that you'd think Cali-X was founded with the plan to start squishing hash and not growing heat for the masses. And since Cali-X has a bunch of unique flavors grown in-house the rosin is unique too.

## Royal Key Organics



Arcata's heroes of the heat took a year off to hunt for new exotic cannabis. They were on a search for flavors that will stun us like their the M-Con 8 and Grape Royale of the past that L.A. fell in love with. But Royal Key's quest for the best hash strains on the planet was in mind too as they sifted through their winners. We got a sneak peek of some of the work that's come out of the last 12 months and we can assure you it's as stunning as ever. But it's also worth noting they have com-



pletely transitioned to solventless production. Is it tragic to see the hydrocarbon world champs move on? Sure. Are we excited to see their next wave of dabs and flowers hit L.A.? Absolutely.

### Feeling Frosty

Be it fancy dinners in San Francisco, a lot of Puffcos owned by the people that



work for Puffco, or an exotic hash shelf at a dispensary near you, you're sure to find some Feeling Frosty hash inside. Now a global leader on the elite concentrate scene, the NorCal based farm is growing their own heat to process and

doing collaborations with some of the biggest brands in California. The list includes Lemonnade, Panacea and Powerzzup. The team has such a good eye for flowers that they've been helping judge the Emerald Cup for years.

### Hash and Flowers

No company on this list has climbed further up the concentrate power rankings over the last year than the team at Hash and Flowers. The sails already



had a lot of wind in them before the big Transbay Challenge 2 win in August. At that point, they needed to switch to rocket fuel. And it's not just all Honey Bananas, while there is a bunch, they have done wildly fantastic runs of plenty of other flavors recently like the Wilson F3 and Watermelon Zkittelz. Both were absolutely killer.

### Friendly Farms

Friendly Farms has been one of the



most award-winning cartridge companies of the last few years. A couple of Emerald Cups back, six out of their seven entries placed. In addition to their popular carts they also offer both cured and live resins. Keep an eye out for collaborations with Ball Family Farms and Casa Flor.

### Vital x Powerzzup

What do get when you add an organic cannabis leader, one of the clouziest cannabis companies on the planet, and



a strain that dumps hash? Why it must be the Powerzzup x Vital collab on Fly. According to Brian Malin, a longtime cannabis nutrient entrepreneur and one of the people that wrote the codes for organic cannabis cultivation in California, the strain drops a whopping amount of hash. And even better, it's not a Papaya or GMO cross like so many of the commercial hash strains of the moment are. We asked Fly's breeder Jason Mejia of Powerzzup when the first time he knew he had a serious hash strain on his hands. He told us it was when Cookies breeder Jai "Jigga" Chang made water hash from Snowman back in the day and it gushed. They also have Feeling Frosty test their new gear.

### Biscotti

With an ethos of Italian refinement, the team at Biscotti has been producing quality hash for years. One might even argue the quality of the product con-



tinued to improve over the years as the founder got access to better and better material. Biscotti's hash, rosin, and pre-rolls are always a great value with way more bang for the buck than the price tag. Keep an eye out for collaborations with companies like Golden State Banana.

### 710 Labs

One of the biggest names in hash in America, the hype levels in Colorado



are even higher, but 710 Labs is plenty respected by California hash consumers. Their lineup of cold water and rosin is not only elite in terms of quality but one of the wider ones you'll find as they pull from a vast array of house genetics curated to create exceptional renditions of a variety of strains. They've also pulled off the direct-to-consumer model better than most at the moment if you have trouble getting out to dispensaries to get your hands on the heat.

### Heritage Hash Co

Heritage Hash Co is known for turning the Emerald Triangle's local wares



into elite hash. But their recent effort with Huckleberry Hill Farms' Whitethorn Rose almost swept the commercial solventless categories at the Emerald Cup. Heritage took first place in the wa-





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# FIDEL'S: BARCELONA TO L.A.

Shawn “Fidel” Damirdjian didn’t invent the hash-infused preroll but certainly took the concept into the stratosphere with his elite hash holes.

BY JIMI DEVINE



**L**.A.’s own Shawn “Fidel Hydro” Damirdjian was already a local legend before Fidel’s Hash Holes took it international. And while the “Hydro” may have been dropped in recent years as the Fidel’s brand took off, the third son to enter the game of one of Los Angeles’ favorite cannabis families continues to build his name. He’s now on the verge of opening a massive new facility expected to be competitive with the state’s finest later this summer.

In the months leading up to writing this, we chatted with Damirdjian a lot. We even joined him for his return to Barce-

lona for Spannabis this past March where he originally got the inspiration for the hash hole. The Hash Holes and Donuts party that closed up Spannabis for many was probably the second biggest ancillary affair of the week after the European edition of Ego Clash.

But to understand how things have taken off, you have to start with Damirdjian returning to L.A. after moving to Beirut at age 12.

## Coming Back to L.A.

“When I turned 18 I moved back to L.A. from Lebanon and when I moved back the first thing I did was start working at



my brothers’ hydro shop,” Damirdjian told L.A. Weekly.

He was at the bottom of the food chain with no knowledge of growing cannabis. He was in the perfect place to learn, but it wasn’t always easy being in the family business.

“My brothers had two dispensaries. But within a month of me being here, the dispensaries got raided and the growers got raided,” Damirdjian said. “They lost everything and they had to sell the store. So when they sold the store, I stayed.”

His brothers Serge and Aram would recover and eventually help start Cookies Maywood and Gas No Brakes Fashion.

While Damirdjian may not have brought a lot of cannabis cultivation knowledge back from Beirut, retail operations were a different story. The whole time he was in Lebanon he was working at the family grocery store. By 18 he returned with the managerial skill set that wouldn’t be uncommon in an older teenager at a U.S. supermarket. Those skills translated directly to running a hydro shop even if he wasn’t exactly sure what he was selling out the gate.

By the time he jumped up to the management team, he had his head wrapped around it from talking to customers all day to better understand their needs or what they were doing successfully. The store was only 1,000 square feet at the time. He’d help build it to 18 employees and three locations.

“I did that for nine years. That was my footwork in this industry,” Damirdjian said. “I talked to growers day in and day out for nine years and then I mastered that craft. I grew weed in the midst of that. It just led me to be consistently known for the quality of flowers I have.”

Madmen OG and LA Confidential were among the first strains he worked with when he started cultivating in 2010. As his skills grew, he refined his best practices and taught them to others over the years at the shop, eventually taking the nickname Fidel Hydro as a play on it.

Damirdjian points to the first time he left the grow shop to focus on cultivation as one of the moments he knew he was heading in the right direction. Six months after leaving the hydro shop they asked him to come back for a percentage of the shop. He would put in two-and-a-half more years, but in the end, his vision was just too big for the shop.

## Fidel’s

A trip back home to Beirut to visit family and friends in 2019 would turn the nickname into the building block for one of the most hyped brands in California at the moment.

“I had a childhood friend of mine who does branding packages for big hotels and restaurants. I was working with him. I wanted to start branding my flower. I want to be known for the flowers I grow,” Damirdjian said.

The pair were talking about his nickname Fidel Hydro. They tossed stuff around but were sure in the end that it had to be one word. It had to be simple. They dropped the hydro and the name stuck.

“My homie drew like 200 different logos by hand. He drew one on a package of Lucky Strike cigarettes and it just stood out to me,” Damirdjian said. “It looked really timeless. Either now or 20 years from now, I’ll still feel the same about it.”

Damirdjian explained that the logo gave him the identity but there was plenty of

work to be done. He started doing everything in-house from growing to buying printers so he could package it all up.

"I put all my energy in Fidel's, everything, every ounce of my time, my finances, my physical being. I put it all in something that just kept growing and growing. It gave me the confidence I needed but it just hit me when I was in the hydro shop. I always knew Fidel's was what it is supposed to be," Damirdjian said in regards to that calling he believed was more significant than the shop.

### Creating New Flavors

2019 was also the year Damirdjian started breeding. It was the next step after nearly a decade of perfecting his skills. But looking around the game can create doubt. He refused to let it build in himself. The heat would speak for itself. He loves it. He hopes his dedication to those various cultivation practices will help remind folks he's not just the guy that scaled up the hash hole, as admittedly cool as it is to have the most primo rec preroll in the state.

One of the staples of the breeding is Runtz Mints. It's an absolute heater.

### Hash Holes - Barcelona to L.A.

How does one change the exotic-infused preroll game in California? The concept of a joint with hash in it was far from new in California. We basically started seeding distillate prerolls not long after Damirdjian started cultivating in the early 2010s. They were always boof, maybe even further stacking the chips against the idea of the hash hole.

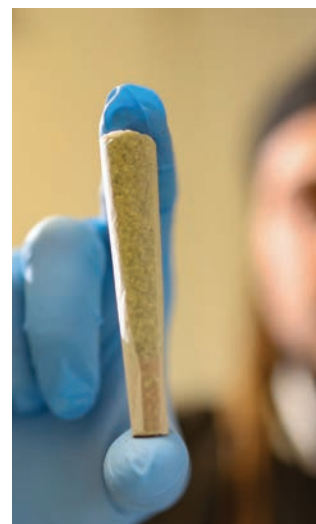
Sure, the idea of rolling some heat hash and flowers with friends was cool. But was it commercially viable? Regardless, Damirdjian would find his inspiration on a trip to Barcelona in 2018 with his brother for his first adventure to Spannabis.

At the time, his brother had launched Cookies Maywood a few months prior. Damirdjian started helping with some of Cookies' first seed drops and in the process heard about Spannabis.

"I felt the need to be there," Damirdjian emphasized. "I felt the need to go see what the culture is like over there. So I tagged along."

Damirdjian was a young man there to learn more about the game. There was plenty to take in. He got to help Cookies and 3rd Gen Family with the El Toro in Spain. He helped them package that up and got a first-person view of people entering the world of bulk seed sales with people in Europe. He always felt like the youngest person in the room and just remembered to keep his ears open and to try and learn as much as he could from the international hitters that converge on Barcelona.

During the seed drop, a number of



noteworthy characters from the European game come through to see a number of Americans. The American delegation had fire hash. The Spanish culture at the time was more influenced by the California flower market and there were a ton of California-grown flowers.

As Damirdjian watched most Europeans sprinkle their crumbly water hash into joints, he decided to work up some of the American rosin and drop it in the center. Not long after, he would run into Lorenzo from Terps Army in Barcelona and Amsterdam. Lorenzo was doing the same thing.

"I hadn't met him yet. We met in person over there as this culture was being instilled at that particular time," Damirdjian said. "I got to give it to my boy Lorenzo. He kept the habit up. He calls them the Terps Donuts."

He flew back to America and started rolling more joints loaded with hash. People on Instagram would ask what it was and inquire about the hole in the middle. He would politely emphasize what they were looking at wasn't a donut,

it was a hash hole.

"The word hash hole didn't even exist. I just didn't want to call it a donut because I wanted it to be different," Damirdjian said. "I could call it that. But just to me, it's the hash in the middle."

He was also a firm believer that hash holes just sounded cooler than donuts. Some of the early hash hole advertising has joked donuts are for cops.

"Once you started explaining to people what it is, now people call it that. I love it. It's creating its own culture," Damirdjian said. "It just wasn't out there like that. It went from being a smoking habit when I came back from Barcelona to what it is now."

Damirdjian believes we all have ideas we never really follow through on. But what if he did this? What if he took this thing he started posting as a habit and took it to scale? What if he started hand rolling joints and not packing a cone? All the while using elite flower and hash.

He believed people would mess with it. So far he's been proven very right. But at first, it was tough to convince people it

was feasible to hand roll.

"It didn't click with people," Damirdjian said. "And I wanted to sell them for \$100."

Out the gate, Damirdjian's right-hand man Dabber Dan was the most supportive of the idea. He saw the vision. Dan was amongst the early members of the team when Damirdjian started solidifying it in 2018. Head roller Gio and his cultivation lead Kevin were also onboard early.

Damirdjian even has his parents helping out. He has so many printers now he's run out of space and put a printer in their house. He'll order 50,000 containers and have them label the jars and do QC.

Now there is a flurry of imitation hash holes hitting the market.

"Everyone is doing it their way, you know, and it's not really about who was first, who did it best, I guess," Damirdjian said. "To me, it's about who's paving the way for the category because that's what it is. It's a category now."

### Fidel's Grown

Damirdjian expects the number of staff to surge to 60 by year's end as his cultivation operation comes fully online. He's thankful he didn't take any of the cultivation deals that came his way over the years as he waited for his moment to enter the legal market on his own terms.

Separately, it's wild to see someone in his age bracket bootstrap an Adelanto facility solo. It's the land of corporate dawgs but there is certainly cheap square footage and power for those with the resources.

"There's no one else, that's solely me, and I intend on giving out percentages to my team members that are down with me right now. But it's just me. I just haven't sold out. I haven't sold any of it. And people have given me tempting offers. I've been guilt-tripped by people that are worth half a billion dollars for not making deals," Damirdjian laughed.

He always trusted the voice inside and knew where he was heading. That was all he needed. His next vision is a storefront to put all the flower in but right now there is work to be done getting it to the market.

As the flower comes online he also looks forward to further building out his distribution network. He's already in every Cookies and Stizzy store. The flower is expected to be in high demand when it drops later this summer. One thing that points to this fact is that the value of his products hasn't changed with the times as many have seen price dips.

"Something has changed. There's always an adjustment," Damirdjian said. "That's what you gotta do. You gotta adjust. I think different, you know? I'm trying to be at the forefront of it."

Damirdjian's hash holes are available all over California. Keep an eye out for the flower line later this year. [E]

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THE 710 ISSUE

# APPRENTICE TO MASTER: COSMIC EDIBLES TALKS COOKIE DOUGH

We sat down with longtime TV producer Kevin Harris to talk about his jump into edibles and what it took to win The Emerald Cup's Sweet Edible Category

BY JIMI DEVINE

**B**efore his new adventures in cannabis and climbing the mountain to become The Emerald Cup Champion with weed cookie dough, longtime Los Angeles resident Kevin Harris spent 20 years in television.

As a young man, Harris started working at an accounting firm in Seattle after college. He began filing taxes for a casting agent that helped with a lot of commercials in Seattle back in the day. One time, when signing some paperwork, he took a look at Harris and recommended he come read for a commercial he was casting for the popular seafood restaurant Skippers.

Skippers is the biggest local seafood chain in the Seattle area. Harris got a kick out of the idea and went to read to play Skipper in the commercials. He got the part. He essentially served as Skippers' spokesman for a few commercials. The best part was getting his toes wet in the entertainment business.

Harris didn't stick around Seattle long. He moved to L.A. in the mid-1990s and has called it home since.

"That led me to the television business," Harris told L.A. Weekly, "I left the accounting firm and started doing accounting in the film business. Then I transitioned into television and ended up showrunning a bunch of non-scripted documentaries like The Apprentice, Top Gear, American Chainsaw, a bunch of them. And then in 2016, when Donald decided he wanted to run for president, we shut down at that point."

During those early days in L.A., he'd also have a front-row seat to California's transition to medical cannabis after Prop 215 passed in 1996. He would find his way into a Venice dispensary around 2010. That's where he would buy my mom's gummies three or four years later after first having access to a dispensary, and that's when he

decided to make her something better to help her battle with breast cancer.

"The gummies weren't the best. There was lots of sugar and artificial flavors," Harris said. "She was battling breast cancer, I didn't need to feed her with a bunch of artificial stuff. So that's what I thought, let me find something else. Just gravitated towards the bookcase because I'd already always made my grandma's cookies for the family and friends, over 30 years I've been making those cookies."

## Helping Mom

As Harris helped his mom in the midst of the tail-end of his run with The Apprentice, he wanted to figure out a way to make medical cannabis a palatable option for his mom and the cookies won, but there was much work to do.

"I decided to do it because my mother was very familiar with those. And they were her mother's recipe, so I thought it would just make the fight even better for her," Harris said.

Harris next took the further step of making grandmother's recipe vegan, so mom would have no problem eating them every day. He struggled with the idea at first thinking it would be impossible or they would be judged against the original's deliciousness.

"I just kind of started messing with it. Some friends that were vegan told me there were some really good alternatives that had come to market," Harris said. "A lot of it's exactly the same, they just don't use bone fragments to break up the sugar and stuff like that."

Harris went on to break down his own relationship with cannabis prior to helping his mom out. While he would dabble in college, being an NCAA athlete running track at Western Washington University made it tricky. He'd come across the occa-



sional joint but didn't feel like part of his world in the way it did when he got to California. He guesstimates he's been a daily user for about 15 years now. I can attest, we smoked a cannon of Zoap together the last time we linked up. Harris puffs tough.

### Founding Cosmic

Two years after that first batch for mom, Harris would make the first medical batch for the Prop 215 market after founding Cosmic Edibles in 2016. It was exclusively cookies. Mom was a big supporter, and at that point, in better health. Family and friends participated in the early funding round leaving Harris to serve as founder and operating partner.

But he wasn't all in. After working on *The Apprentice* from 2004 to 2016, he'd built too much to toss it away for a weed cookie dream at that point. Furthermore, he always planned on taking the turtle approach. Moving slowly would make it easier to survive the emerging market.

"I wanted to be able to keep up with it. And we wanted to be able to last as long as possible. You know, I did know from my economic days that emerging markets are all about lasting," Harris said. "The longer you can make it, the better off you'll be."

The business plan was lean and mean. Harris believes that was what helped the most as Cosmic survived the peaks and valleys of cannabis in California after legalization. When times are good, they're great, but even when they haven't been, it hasn't forced the company to close shop like so many of its peers.

Harris does admit the leanness of the operation was conducive to the pacing of the growth. They wouldn't have been able to double the size of the operation in a month. Nevertheless Cosmic continues to grow, Harris estimates they're in about 10% of the state's dispensaries. Sometimes he even makes the drops himself. Part of the leanness is that everyone at Cosmic does everything. Well, almost everything; every batch of cookie dough the company has ever produced to package or put into cookies was mixed personally by Harris.

Times are weird in the world. We asked Harris how sturdy the supply chain is around the quality of products he wants to work with. When replying, he explained the amount of time he spends researching those kinds of things, as he brings new flavors to market.

"I'm really doing my homework to make sure that we can do it in big quantities and we can do it for an extended period of time," he replied. "So I make sure that I have multiple sources for the ingredients that I use."

Harris finds it interesting that there's no regulatory body on the word vegan.

"There's nobody saying you have to do X, Y, and Z," he laughed. "Vegans are the ones regulating that word; it's the community,



which is wild."

Harris hired a food scientist to make sure he would not face the communities' wrath. He said the most expensive day was \$3,000, but he was convinced that day alone had saved him \$100,000 in headaches.

"I was all ears and absorbing everything," Harris said. "I saw it as \$3,000 now and avoid all these pitfalls that I could run into along the way, and he's gonna save me from basically learning the hard way."

### Navigating Los Angeles

Cosmic started production in Manhattan Beach; Harris would spend the next year searching for a viable location in Los Angeles. He couldn't find anything. When brokers would find somewhere, it would be extremely dilapidated and they'd promise to clean up the glass and get the homeless folks out before he moved in.

"I was almost giving up because I was just, man this is ridiculous. Because the rents were astronomical for basically a teardown," Harris said.

Eventually, they'd find their home in Los Angeles despite some very tempting offers from Long Beach. Construction started in 2017. Harris argues the eight months it took him to get all his licensing in order blew people away. Even if manufacturing permits without volatile gasses attached to them are generally quicker than cultivation and retail, Harris pulled it off at breakneck speed.

He said there were two main things that allowed him to fast-track everything. First was the kitchen consultant he brought in.

"I hired a kitchen consultant who does restaurants. He works with the health department to navigate the permitting process for you," Harris said. "You pay them a fee and they basically designed it all to get all the plans approved for you, oversee inspections. You still have to hire the contractors."

The facility was now a fully licensed commercial kitchen. When the city came out to license him for cannabis stuff, they were looking at a health department-permitted kitchen. Turning the location into a cannabis manufacturer proved swift.



But the risk of not getting the permit was always there. Harris would have just ended up with a kitchen instead of a cannabis company. This was also the biggest risk he took in picking L.A. over Long Beach. Long Beach had essentially guaranteed him a permit.

Coming from entertainment, he also was stunned at the level of regulatory oversight throughout the whole process.

"It's unbelievable. They come in, check on you, look for problems," Harris emphasized. "I have lost a lot more sleep to that than probably in the whole process of building it out, making products, making them great packaging and all that stuff"

But he was approved in the end. Harris said grossly underestimated the amount of oversight they would face, but noted he also grossly underestimated how sales would go.

### The Differences between Showbiz and Cannabis

Now that he's deep into his cannabis adventure, we asked Harris what the biggest differences were in dealing with people in the entertainment industry and cannabis?

He spoke on the question from the perspective of launching a production company and the competitive bloodbath that comes with it compared to the more chill atmosphere of showrunning.

"When I was showrunning, like *The Apprentice*, it was a much easier process because they would just hire me to run their show," Harris said. "I basically got to the point where I was doing my own ideas, and selling them and owning them. But that part of it was much harder when I was in competition with all those other producers selling ideas."

Harris felt like you'd put a year of time into those projects before you'd find out if you'd make any money.

"If you pitched 20 projects, you might have interest in one or two of them. And of those, one or two you might get one of them into a pilot," Harris said. "If you're doing about one pilot per 20 pitches, you're doing pretty good."

Over about four years, Harris would

get a full series order and 12 pilots. He realized he could make a lot more money tapping other people's projects into his network than showrunning.

### Spinning Plates

Harris emphasized how hard it would be to say goodbye to showbiz completely after dedicating so much of his life to it.

"I haven't let it go because I had such a reputation that I had the ability to pinch anywhere in town," Harris said. "I can call almost any of the network executives soft pitching ideas. So it's the thing that I built up for 20 years that I didn't necessarily want to just let go of... And in the time period in the five years that we've been operating Cosmic, I've sold two projects during that time."

Harris spoke of the dopest idea to recently fall in his lap. It's about a gay American couple who packed up everything to move to France, rebuild a Chalet, and turn it into a bed and breakfast.

"They're going to do me a little tour video walking around telling you what they're going to do to the property," Harris said. "Then I'm going to take that and I've already talked to HGTV about it."

Even though weed cookie dough is dope and he loves trophies, TV is attached to his DNA at this point. He can't deny his primal urges. He can't let that stuff go. Because when he sees an idea that he thinks should be on television, he can't stop thinking about it.

But the rise of Cosmic continued. As the company grew, he would only be able to dedicate so much of himself to television production compared to years past.

"There was a moment, I would put it in somewhere around 2017, that I was still kind of doing both jobs full-time," Harris said. "And I got to a point in 17 where I literally had to take one foot off the dock and jump into the boat because the boat in the dock separated too far away for me to do both."

So while he left the day-to-day aspects of things like building boardrooms and front lighting, he was never all the way out.

### Multistate Cookie Dough

Cosmic has room to grow at home, but the company will be on both coasts in the not-too-distant future. They're already working with a manufacturer in Massachusetts, they're also now eyeing a deal in Michigan. They would come in and set everything up for their out-of-state partners, who would then just run it like a franchise.

"We go in, train them, give them all the keys to the kingdom, get all the packaging, set up the same operation there and they operate it," Harris said.

Look for Cosmic Edibles at a dispensary near you. 🍪



# KETANJI BROWN JACKSON OFFICIALLY SWORN IN AS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE

The U.S. Supreme Court officially welcomed Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson as Justice Stephen Breyer retired

BY ISAI ROCHA



SHUTTERSTOCK  
Chief Justice of the United States John G. Roberts, Jr., administers the Constitutional Oath to Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson in the West Conference Room, Supreme Court Building. Dr. Patrick Jackson holds the Bible.

Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson was officially sworn into the Supreme Court Thursday, June 30, becoming the first Black woman to serve in the country's highest court.

Jackson is now the 104th Supreme Court Associate Justice in U.S. history, with Chief Justice John G. Roberts Jr. administering the Constitutional Oath and Associate Justice Stephen G. Breyer administering the Judicial Oath at the Supreme Court's West Conference Room.

"As all the members in the court, I am pleased to welcome Justice Jackson to the court and to our common calling," Justice Roberts said after Brown took her oath.

Jackson replaced Justice Stephen Breyer, who retired after serving with the court for 27 years.

"This past January, I wrote to inform you of my intent to retire from regular active service as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, upon the Court rising from its summer recess," Breyer wrote to U.S. President Joe Biden Thursday. "It has been my great honor to

participate as a judge in the effort to maintain our Constitution and the Rule of Law."

Jackson, 51, is also now the second-youngest court member, behind only Amy Coney Barrett, 50, who was selected to the Supreme Court in 2020 by former President Donald Trump.

When the U.S. Senate voted 53-47 to confirm Brown in April, she received full support from Democrat senators and three additional "yes" votes from Republican senators, with the rest of the party voting against her confirmation.

"I'm thrilled to see Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson sworn in today as the first Black woman to serve on the Supreme Court! As a former public defender, she'll bring an invaluable perspective to the bench," U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren said Thursday. "I also want to thank Justice Breyer for his extraordinary public service."

## CITY COUNCIL PASSES \$25 MINIMUM WAGE FOR HEALTH CARE WORKERS

The Los Angeles City Council Unanimously voted on June 29 to pass a \$25 per

hour minimum wage for private sector health care workers.

The ordinance would extend to private sector workers in hospitals, integrated health systems and dialysis clinics.

"We applaud the Los Angeles City Council for leading the way toward protecting public health and addressing a staffing shortage that threatens Angelenos' care," Dave Regan, president of SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West, said in a statement Wednesday. "By ensuring health care workers earn a fair wage that reflects the vital work they do, Los Angeles can retain and attract the workers needed to ensure the quality of health care doesn't decline in

The coalition also argued the ordinance would negatively affect underserved populations of the city and should have been put to a vote in the November elections.

The ordinance now will be sent to Mayor Eric Garcetti to sign into law, but a timeline for enforcement has not been announced, as of this writing.

## GAS PRICES HIT JULY FOURTH RECORD AS NEW TAX ACTIVATES

Los Angeles saw a Fourth of July record for gas prices just as the state's new gas tax increase took effect.

The L.A. County average for regular grade gas was \$6.285 per gallon on July Fourth, with the previous record high set in 2008 at \$4.597 per gallon, according to prices recorded by the American Automobile Association.

The record price comes on the heels of California's latest state gas increase, which activated a 2.8-cent increase per gallon on July 1.

The latest gas tax stems from a state senate bill passed in 2017. The Road Repair and Accountability Act was passed with the intention of investing \$54 billion in California road, freeway and bridge repairs over the next 10 years.

Despite the new tax and July 4 holiday record high, average prices are gradually decreasing from the all-time high set on June 14 at \$6.462 for regular grade fuel.

Efforts to decrease prices for consumers, by both Democrat and Republican state legislators, have fallen short as Republican leaders unsuccessfully called for a temporary suspension of all state gas taxes, which may have relieved up to 51 cents per gallon, and Democrat leaders unsuccessfully pitched a \$400 gas rebate.

Governor Gavin Newsom signed a general inflation-related executive order, where California single tax filers could receive between \$200 and \$350 checks, while some joint filers with dependents eligible for up to \$1,050 payments from the state.

While not specific to car owners and gas consumption, as originally intended, the bill will send payments to an estimated 23 million Californians.

"Millions of Californians will be receiving up to \$1,050 as part of a NEW middle class tax rebate," Newsom said. "That's more money in your pocket to help you fill your gas tank and put food on the table."

On a federal level, President Joe Biden proposed a three-month gas tax holiday be embedded in his Build Back Better bill, which would suspend 18.4 cents of federal gas taxes per gallon.

As of this writing, two U.S. states, New York and Connecticut, have temporarily suspended gas taxes, with Connecticut suspending them until Nov. 30, and New York taking a tax holiday through the end of 2022. ■

ENTERTAINMENT

# ALICE COOPER TALKS COVID BANDS, JOHNNY DEPP, AND NEW TV SHOW *NO COVER*

BY LINA LECARO



The generic nature of TV music competitions like American Idol and The Voice have become a real turn-off for those of us who love music, especially rock 'n' roll music. Anybody can do a karaoke take on a pop or even a rock hit on TV, but real rock magic is found in real rock venues, from clubs to arenas. Despite the pandemic's threat to live music, it endured. Alice Cooper is helping it to survive in more ways than one.

During the height of COVID-19, the music legend joined Bishop Briggs, Gavin Rossdale, Lzzy Hale and Tosin Abasi as a judge on the new music competition show *No Cover*. The first season, filmed at the Troubadour, just rolled out on YouTube with some really diverse artists performing all original music. We Zoomed with Cooper to chat about the show, his advice to aspiring rockers, his pal and bandmate Johnny Depp, and a whole lot more.

**LA WEEKLY:** *Loving No Cover and how it exposes the world to new young bands. What has been your experience as a judge on the show and what have you been looking for?*

**ALICE COOPER:** Well, you know, young bands especially, it's all about the songs. How good are the songs? A long time ago, I watched American Idol. I said, this could be better if they write their own songs. Anybody can do a Burt Bacharach song or a Beatles song. That doesn't really show talent, that just shows the guy's a good singer. But for a band to write their own song, and then get on stage and then make me believe it, that's where the real talent is. And most of the time these bands are just brand new.

I learned a whole new phrase – COVID bands. COVID bands or bands that got together during COVID that have never

[Hale] pretty well. It was just one of those things where I met everybody and everybody got along so well.

You know, for me, if I saw a lead singer up there singing and he kept looking away from the audience or he kept singing up here or over there, I'd tell him the audience wants you to be the focal point. That means don't ever look away from them. You know, you have to stare them down. You have to be you, and you are the star up there. You're bigger than life. So, you know, don't come up here and be shy. That's not what a rock singer is. I tell my band this all the time. When you're on stage, I want you to reek of ego. When you're off stage, I don't want any ego at all.

*I mean, you're a legend, obviously, so just getting that kind of insight from you – someone who is such a showman – I would imagine that these new artists found a lot of value in that.*

Well, you know it's 50, almost 60 years of being on stage. And I still really enjoy young rock bands, I really want them to be high-energy. They remind me of when my band was in high school. We couldn't be on stage long enough. We wanted to be up there for eight hours.

And then I've just got to say, now later on, you've got to be a star. If you're going to be a star, you have to think you're a star. You can't just go out there and just be face value, you have to understand that you are a star, or the audience will not regard you as one.

*Why do you feel that a show like this is so important? You said you're looking for something beyond cookie-cutter, but most music competitions tend to be just that. How is it different?*

The fact that they can write a song is important. But also asking, what are you about? What is your goal on this thing? Is it just to sell records? You might have a look, but what are you really about here? You know, and a lot of them have not gotten to that point yet. They're just a good band. But they haven't really developed the personality of the band yet. You know, Led Zeppelin had a personality and the band had a sound. The Rolling Stones, same thing. When you heard that song, you knew it was the Rolling Stones, you knew it was Led Zeppelin.

*It also makes an impression that the show is filmed at The Troubadour. Beyond the amazing history of the venue, we were hearing that it was struggling and might close. It feels fitting in a way to be at this legendary venue that was threatened at one point and seeing you guys there watching live music. You must feel great that live music is back.*

It was a breath of fresh air. The last show my band did was before the pandemic in Australia, and it was 95,000 people. And we're sitting there going, oh, man, this is gonna be great. The next thing you know,

played in front of an audience because there's no place to play. So a couple of these young teenage bands that were going nowhere were COVID bands. That's the first time in history that's ever happened, I think.

*Ash Avildsen of Hit Parader and the Amazon show Paradise City created the show. Can you tell us how you became involved in his project and what you aimed to offer to the contestants?*

Yeah, they gave me a call. I knew Lzzy



we're off for 18 months. We never saw that coming. And so getting in there, and watching these bands, we all had to have masks on until we sat down. We all had to get checked every day. We had to deal with a lot of stuff that we didn't want to deal with. But we understood it.

*When you look at the music charts, rock and roll is not the cool, hot thing right now. What can we do about that, Alice? What can these bands do to bring rock back into the pop charts and get more popularity again?*

I kind of look at this a little bit differently. There was a time when we first started playing, that rock bands were outlaws. We were on the outside looking into the party and we weren't invited to the party. It was more pop music, and dance music and disco. I think we're back to that point. I think it's kind of healthy that rock bands now are not number one, number two or number three. We're back to the point of being rebels again.

*So not being part of the mainstream – do you think that provides a freedom of sorts?*

Gene Simmons said rock is dead, but I think he was talking financially. I think there are kids in garages right now learning Guns n' Roses, learning Aerosmith, learning Alice, learning Ozzy... Young 16-year-old kids rocking, just rocking. That's healthy. That's really healthy. I don't think rock is ever gonna die. When you talk about hard rock, like the Stones, The Who and all that, that's the only music that's lasted. Grunge was here for a while. And punk was here for a while. Emo was here and all this, but hard rock bands just kept going. So if you're in a hard rock band, you can go as long as you want to go.

*And you're a big part of that. I'm so glad that you're still out there touring. So is there anything else you're working on that we can mention, other than just touring?*

Well, I just got out of the studio with Bob Ezrin. The last album, surprisingly, went to number one, Detroit Stories. That was a

surprise to us. Also, Hollywood Vampires – Johnny Depp, Joe Perry and myself – did a version of the Bowie song "Heroes," with Johnny singing. It went number one in England. Number one in America. Number one in Australia, and it kind of feels like it's the public supporting Johnny.

*Right. I forgot about Hollywood Vampires. Such a great band. I reviewed you guys at the Roxy when that record came out. Would love to see more.*

I mean, Johnny has been busy.

*Yes he has. I don't want to get into your personal friendship, but what do you have to say about him?*

I'll tell you what, that band is so much fun to be in. We've been together seven years. There's never been one argument. Everybody in the band is like the softest guys, until we get onstage. Johnny never argues about anything. He's the easiest guy in the world. I'm the easiest guy. Joe's the easiest guy. So it's just like a bunch of friends, a bunch of brothers getting together and playing, and we just enjoy playing. It's the same thing with my band. All my guys in my band, Nita Strauss and all this. Everybody's best friends. So there's ego trips going on.

*And you're all so talented. Hopefully there's more on the horizon with your music and the TV show. I think that one of the streaming networks should pick up No Cover so even more people can see it beyond the YouTube audience.*

We didn't know when we did it, where it was gonna go. I'm glad it's on somewhere.

*Well I really see a fan base for it. It's kind of reminiscent of the Rockstar: INXS and Supernova shows Mark Burnett did in the early 2000s. I think rock 'n' roll fans want our own American Idol and the original music just takes it to another level.*

I thought that I would have seen everything. There were two or three bands in this thing that totally made me go, OK what? That's something different. There's no stopping the bands at the very end of this thing. They're that good. [A]

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# THE KID'S GOTTA LOTTA MOXIE

BY BRETT CALLWOOD



**E**lena Charbila's journey to becoming Kid Moxie, an L.A.-based cinematic electro-pop artist extraordinaire, is one that is long and storied. Originally from Athens, Greece, Charbila was a child actor who was familiar with TV work from an early age.

When she started dabbling in music, she played bass in goth and rock bands, and eventually landed bigger gigs backing the likes of Canadian jazz singer

Michael Bublé. Having left Greece and starting to establish herself, Charbila made the decision to do her own thing and Kid Moxie was born.

"I just figured, about 10 years ago or so, that I wanted to take control and play my own music," she says. "My own notes. Write my own scripts, and perform them the way I wanted to. That's when I started doing my solo stuff."

Naturally, her sound has evolved. She admits that she cringes when looking

back on some of her "homemade, riot grrrrl pop."

"It doesn't feel right for what I want to be now," she says. "So I would say now, I do retro-futuristic pop, or cinematic pop. Every song is based on a scene that's playing in my head. I love soundtracks – that's what I'm into and what I also do, apart from my pop stuff. But even my pop music is very cinematic. Even if it has words."

Kid Moxie never lived in Athens as an adult, though she's aware of strong synthwave and goth scenes in Greece and across Europe. She first moved to San Francisco for school, before settling in Los Angeles.

"I'm so, so in love with the city," she says. "My new album is about love, sex and L.A. That's what I like to say, because those are three things that have really shaped me in many ways. I fell in love with L.A. – it was like instant. I love the feeling, even if it's an illusion, that anything can come true. I live in that space way better than any sort of harsh realism that 'you cannot do this,' there's a limit to this." No. This city is like, "You can be whoever you want. I feel like everybody comes here to become something different than what they were before, and that's why I came here – to become closer to myself, actually."

It wasn't long after she moved to Los Angeles that Elena Charbila became Kid Moxie.

"When I first moved to L.A., I noticed a bottle of Moxie Cola in the garbage, and the logo was so interesting to me," she says. "I loved the 'X' especially. I was looking for a band name at the time, and I was like, 'I need to do something that has Moxie in it because it just sounds powerful and badass, and genderless.' I wanted a name that was genderless, feeling like I was experimenting a lot. I was like, 'Kid – Kid Moxie,' it all came together. I didn't mind people thinking I'm a dude from the name."

So the foundation was in place, and Kid Moxie was up and running. Still, as much as she loves L.A., she doesn't yet feel connected with the scene here.

"I don't really feel part of any music scene, to be honest," she says. "I feel like I'm in my own little bubble, especially the last few years. I never really felt like I belonged in a collective as much. It was always feeling very individual. It was me, my laptop and the city. But that's where I felt more like myself, more productive and creative."

The new album that she mentioned is *Better Than Electric*, and it was mostly written and recorded in L.A., during the pandemic.

"I did travel to Europe and finished it in Germany with the producer Faderhead – a dark, hardcore electro dude,"

she says. "My stuff is very dreamy, and he brought in the bass, the grime and the dirt that sometimes creeps up on the album. Also, the producer Maps on Mute Records from England was attached, produced and helped me with it. But it was mostly done here at my home studio in Downtown LA, looking at the skyline and feeling very *Bladerunner*-y, especially during the pandemic. That was the vibe."

The pandemic, she says, affected the timing of the album's rollout but ended up aiding the creative process somewhat.

"I felt that things were still, and when you're still, you can go deeper in many ways," she says. "The stillness helped me personally, with many things, and one of them being exploring the sounds more. Digging further in. What is better than electric? And what does this mean? I still don't know, by the way. It struck me as a title. I don't know what this means, but it feels powerful and I'm all about surrealism. Not knowing what things are but knowing how they make you feel. I just held on to that feeling."

As she says, the themes that tie the album together are love, sex and L.A. A great example of that is new single "On a Sunday Night."

"Sunday is a little more lonesome than Saturday," she says. "On a Saturday night, it's more clubby. On a Sunday night it's like, who goes out on a Sunday night and what do they do? I'm always obsessed with the notion of a Sunday night for people that don't have normal 9-5 jobs. It's the most romantic night in my head, for some reason. And the darkest, in a way. The video is basically part of a trilogy. 'Better Than Electric' was love. 'Shine' was sex. 'On a Sunday Night' is dreams and Los Angeles. I'm playing a chauffeur, picking up passengers in West Hollywood in this old '70s Cadillac and giving them the experience they need. It's a fantasy Uber in Hollywood."

With the album and singles out, Kid Moxie already has plenty planned for the rest of the year.

"I'm writing the soundtrack for a show called *Milky Way*, directed by a Greek director who won the *Palme D'Or* in *Canne* last year, Vasilis Kekatos," she says. "I just finished an EP, a synthwave EP of live songs between two girls. Me and NINA, a German synthwave artist. She's like my German doppelganger. We recorded it in Berlin a few months back and it's coming out at the end of the year. It's all about '80s, synthwave, retro futuristic goodness, sang by two women, to each other."

The fun, apparently, never ends.

Kid Moxie's *Better Than Electric* album is out now. [X]

# SMALLHOLD URBAN MUSHROOM FARM SPROUTS UP IN THE CITY OF VERNON

BY MICHELE STUEVEN



It only has a population of about 200, but the city of Vernon has a long history that dates back more than 100 years. Known mainly for its factories and as an industrial hub since 1919, it's had its share of political corruption charges and has been the longtime owner of major meat packing plants like Farmer John which took their own hits during the pandemic. Its biggest business is food manufacturing.

If you maneuver your way through the potholes and streets scarred by the thousands of big rigs that pass through daily, you'll find the Smallhold Mushroom Farm under the City of Vernon

Water Tower. The Erewhon distribution center is just across the railroad tracks.

Urban mushroom farmers Smallhold, pioneers in indoor agriculture technology, have opened the first Certified Organic Mushroom Farm in Los Angeles County in a 34,000 square foot facility in Vernon. They have made their locally farmed specialty mushrooms like lion's mane, blue and yellow oyster, trumpet and shitake – normally only found at farmers markets – available in grocery stores like Whole Foods, Erewhon and Lassens and can be ordered online at Good Eggs and Imperfect Foods.

Gjelina restaurant in Venice receives



about 30 pounds of oyster mushrooms from Smallhold every two days for the mushroom toast, its most popular dish.

"They grow really incredible consistent oyster mushrooms," chef Rafa Martinez tells L.A. Weekly. "When you grill them they are not over-loaded with water, and are not woody either, which allows for a perfect tenderness. They really crisp perfectly on the outside, while keeping a tender inside. And it's consistent."

"You don't often see them in the stores because people don't know what to do with them," says co-founder Andrew Carter, who started growing mushrooms in his basement. "We'd like to change that. They really don't benefit from long distances. Forget about the carbon footprint for a minute, just shipping them from far away, they get damaged and have a short shelf life, so you have to ship them in very unsustainable material. All the mushrooms you find in the grocery store use tons of plastic or styrofoam so they get sweaty and slimy from bacterial infections. We put them in compostable clamshell cardboard containers, so if you remove the little window it's home compostable. It doesn't have to go to some crazy recycling plant. You can just tear it up and put it in your yard."

Originally from Los Angeles, Carter is an indoor agriculturist and vertical farming expert, having spent time working for Tree People and later started growing mushrooms in shipping containers back east. Smallhold also has farms in New York and Texas.

Walking into the 60-degree light-controlled industrial farm pods filled with an earthy aroma is like stepping from the 7th Street Bridge into a Grimm's fairy tale. Bags of sawdust that were originally a byproduct of the timber industry headed for landfills are inoculated with mycelium which after about three or four weeks completely envelops the sawdust and is ready to fruit. The bags are exposed to specific light

and temperature conditions and start to sprout up and produce mushrooms in two to three days. Smallhold grows about 15 different varieties of digester mushrooms.

"Funghi have their own way of doing things, it's not like anything else," says Carter. "As humans, we're always trying to compare them with things that we're used to, but they are very different. The mycelium is a living thing and it releases enzymes like your stomach would, so it's digesting the sawdust and uses that to create its energy. We don't have to use fertilizers. We use waste as food for these things. Our carbon and water footprints are extremely low. There is no food that uses less water, it's a very sustainable product and we've got a 30% smaller carbon footprint than typical mushroom farming."

Unlike the work condition complaints that plagued Farmer John's during the pandemic, Smallhold is determined to pay workers a living wage and thinks planting roots downtown will change the face of the city's longtime industry.

"Vernon has a lot of different history including industrial waste and other issues that have taken place here," says Carter. "Bringing an operation like Smallhold into the neighborhood, we want to help the environment around us. I think it's the best place we could possibly be doing this."

Don't know what to do with blue oyster mushrooms?

Carter says roasting is the best. Stud a few whole clusters of oyster mushrooms with slivers of garlic dusted with chipotle powder or smoked paprika and fresh thyme sprigs. Rest them on top of sliced onions in a cast iron skillet or roasting pan, drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Roast at 400 for about 45 minutes, then crank up to broil for five minutes. The urban farmer says don't be afraid of overcooking mushrooms. Garnish with fresh corn and pickled radishes and serve with tostadas or tortillas. 🍄

ART

# MEET LIGHT AND MATTER ARTIST MATTHEW BRANDT

BY SHANA NYS DAMBROT

Photography is more than light, more than pixels, and certainly more than information, it is made of matter, material, place and time. Artist Matthew Brandt is always devising new ways to make all of this clear and inherent in his photographs — large-scale, often fantastically colored and evocatively textured landscapes and portraits — by means of labor-intensive processes from photography's early days and sometimes physical artifacts of the sites where they were captured. Particularly enamored of the rough-hewn and storied lands of the American West, Brandt seeks to describe and transport the landscape's histories, damages, and glories through his unique photo-based multimedia language. *Light & Matter* — a wide-ranging survey of Brandt's career — is currently on view at Forest Lawn Museum in Glendale.

**L.A. WEEKLY: When did you first know you were an artist?**

**MATTHEW BRANDT:** I can't remember the age, but when I was very young, I gave my mom a portrait of herself reading an *Elle* magazine. And it made her laugh.

**What is your short answer to people who ask what your work is about?**

Material photography.

**What would you be doing if you weren't an artist?**

Working at a printing lab in Burbank.

**Did you go to art school? Why/Why not?**

Yes, making things was the only thing I was good at and loved to do. Also college tuition was free at the school I attended at

Matthew Brandt



the time.

**Why do you live and work in L.A., and not elsewhere?**

I was born here, and I suppose I'm a simple kind of guy.

**When was your first show?**

In 2009 at Cardwell Jimmerson Contemporary Art in Culver City; it's now closed.

**When is/was your current/most recent/next show or project?**

A show at Forest Lawn Museum that closes September 4th.

**What artist living or dead would you most like to show or work with?**

Nikola Tesla.

**Do you listen to music while you work?**

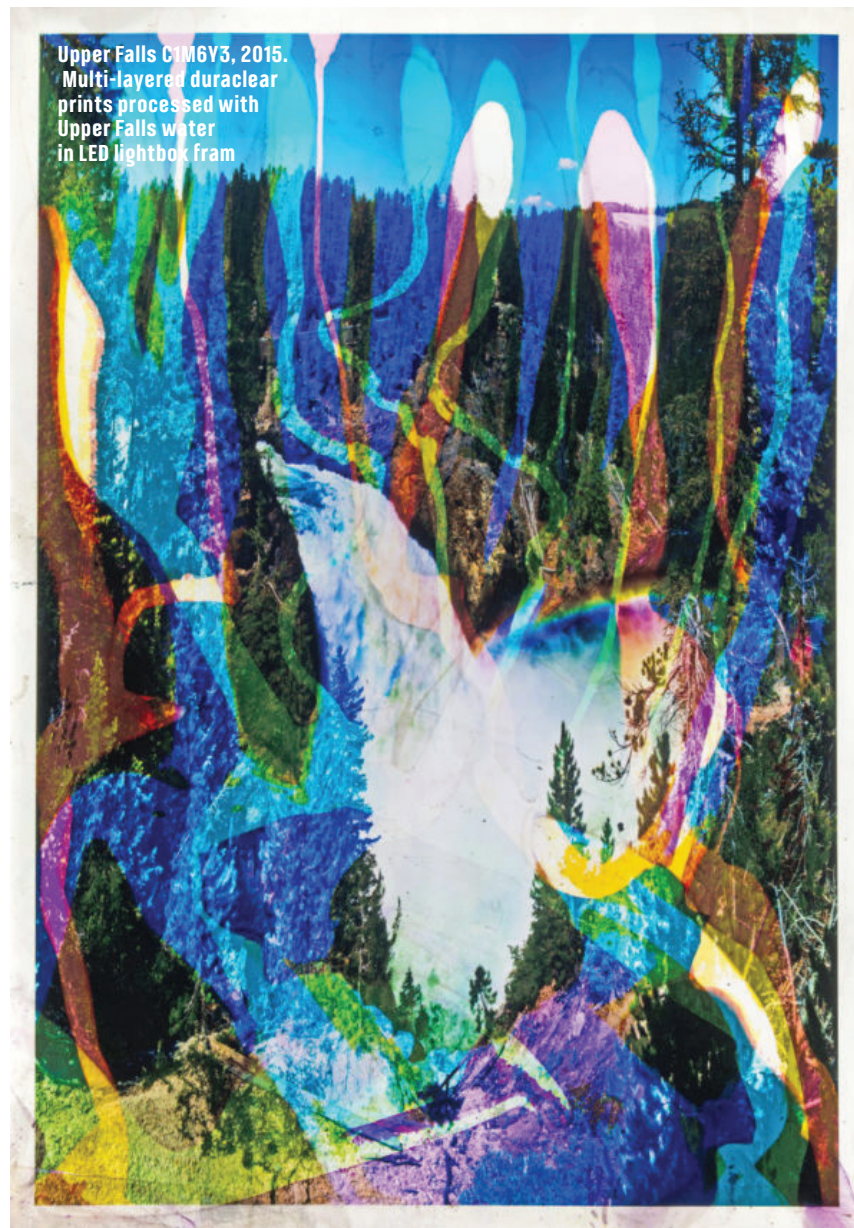
If so, what?

There is often public radio, KCRW, KJAZZ, KDAY etc... playing faintly in the background.

**Website and social media handles, please!**

[matthewbrandt.com](http://matthewbrandt.com)

IG: @phatbrandt

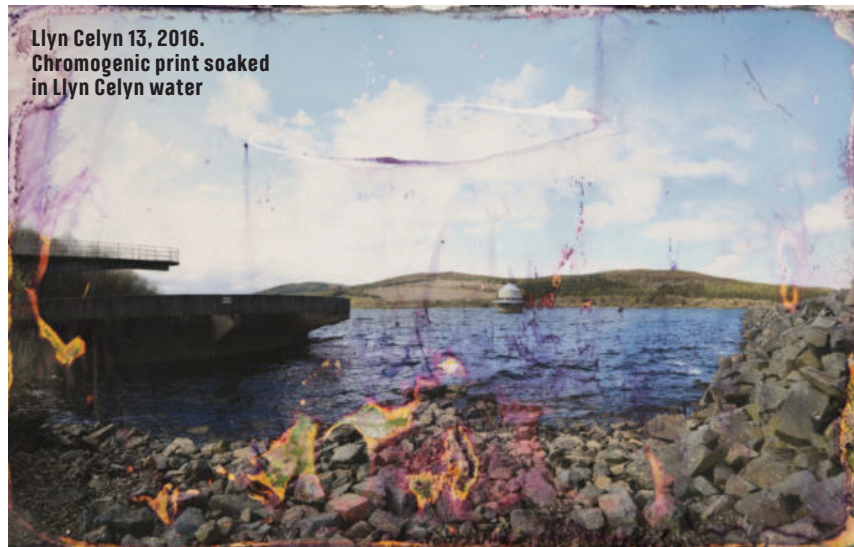


La Brea D2AB2, 2013. Heliograph, sun cured tar collected from La Brea Tar Pits, Los Angeles, CA, on aluminum, 60 x 88 inches



COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

Llyn Celyn 13, 2016. Chromogenic print soaked in Llyn Celyn water



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**Speech Language Pathologist (Job Location - Los Angeles, CA):** Req'd. Master's in SLP and California SLP license. Send resume to: Satish Krishnappa, CEO, Therapy Mantra, Inc., 2031 Nordic Avenue, Chino Hills, CA 91709.

ServiceTitan, Inc. seeks Go-To Markets Associate Manager, New Markets in Glendale, CA to drive product strat 2 entr new mrkts thru mrkt seg anlys in prtnrshp w/ prdct mangrs. Telcom is avail 4 ths pos. Send Resume to: rmlaughlin@servicetitan.com. Subject: Ref# GT-MAM0622.

ServiceTitan, Inc. seeks Sr. Site Reliability Engineer in Glendale, CA to dsgn, dev & dlvr th nec sftwr eng soltins 2 mnge Azure cloud environ 2 min faild cust intrctns. Telcom is avail 4 ths pos. Send Resume to: rmlaughlin@servicetitan.com. Subject: Ref# SSRE0622.

Accessories Designer needed by Hugga, LLC in W. Hollywood, CA to design and manufacture handcrafted handbag and accessory lines for hospital patients. Reqs. 3 yrs full-time exp. as Leather Craftsperson, Handbag/ Maroquinerie Artisan, or related position. Exp. must include handbag restoration, pearling, hand-stitching leather handbags, hemstitching, cleaning leather handbags, fabricating handbags from start to finish, and experience working with bags crafted from crocodile, lizard, and ostrich skin. Mail resume to: Sabrina Bitton, 8500 W Sunset Blvd E707, West Hollywood CA 90069.

Trifecta Multimedia, LLC seeks QA Automation Engineer in Los Angeles, CA to design, develop, & optimize software testing methodologies & frameworks. Req: Master's (or for. equiv.) in Electrical Eng., Comp. Sci. or related. Must have 1 yr of post-baccalureate exp. testing iOS & Android applications on mobile & tablet hardware; testing HTML 5 applications on mobile & tablet hardware; testing enterprise level web sites or web applications using multiple browsers & browser versions; &

utilizing JIRA, Mantis, or Test Case Management to create tickets & test software products. Employer will accept a Bachelor's degree in the stated field & an additional 2 yrs of exp. testing iOS & Android applications on mobile & tablet hardware. Resumes: Please apply at <https://careers.wcgclinical.com/careers/FolderDetail/QA-Automation-Engineer/3150>

Marv's Car Wash has an opening at its Canoga Park location for a Book Keeper to maintain financial records, including purchases, sales, receipts and payments. Qualified applicants should mail resume (no calls or emails) to Attn: Darren Kessler, 20238 Satcoy St., Canoga Park, CA 91306

Youth Group Evangelist: Lead youth group; Bachelor's degree in Christian Education, Theology, Youth Group Ministry or related; The River of Living Water Church 4639 Beverly Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90004.

Matt & Nat Bakery Grp dba Rossmoor Pastries seeks Master Baker & Executive Pastry Chef Production in Signal Hill, CA to lead, supervise & direct a team of at least 80 bakery staff. Reqs. Three years' exp. as Executive Pastry Chef applying classical French pastry techniques. Exp. must incl. development, design & creation of new culinary techniques & ideas, introducing new items/recipes that are a hybrid of conventional French products, overseeing kitchen's pastry & baking functions incl. menu development inventory & cost control using HMI software, Risco, Z-Bake Production Scheduling software & ESHA Nutrition Labelling software. Mail resume: Rossmoor Pastries c/o R. Kleijn, 2325 Redondo Ave, Signal Hill, CA 90755.

Energie Corporation in Venice, CA seeks an Energy Engineer II to collect & record energy use and efficiency performance data. No trvl. Work from home benefit. Send CV through company website: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9xxxpn>

Elevance Health, Inc. seeks an Application Architect in Woodland Hills, CA to establish and setup business environments with technical/system configurations with all required business components. Apply at [www.jobpostingtoday.com](http://www.jobpostingtoday.com), Ref#14142.

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by conducting biz. studies based on past, current & comparative perf. for devel. of financial forecast model. Identify & improve co's. financial perf. by dsng'g., analyz'g., & implem'g. internal financial monitor sys. & audit procedrs. For corp. financial mgmt. Prep. & eval. financial reports re: income stmts., cash flows, balance sheet, & other financial stmts. Req. Master in Business Admin. concentration in Finance. Send resume to Li Xiuli, Zach Technology Inc., 120 Commerce Way, Walnut, CA 91789.

Contract Associate **Manager** (Accenture LLP; Los Angeles, CA): Work with account leadership, client, commercial and business stakeholders to perform the day to day delivery activities which include deliverable management, statement of work drafting support, and contract interpretation support. Must have willingness and ability to travel domestically approximately 80% of the time to meet client needs. Multiple Positions Available. For complete job description, list of requirements, and to apply, go to: [www.accenture.com/us-en/careers](http://www.accenture.com/us-en/careers) (Job# R00109288). Equal Opportunity Employer - Minorities/Women/Vets/Disabled.

Client Account Manager - Capstone Logistics, LLC., Venice CA. Achieve organic margin & revenue growth from esteemed portfolio of clients, while leading tactical execution of transport. Industry's most unique & innovatv client exp. Reqs BS in Global Supply Chain Mngmnt/Industrial Engg/rel. & 2yrs profess. exp in Logistics & Transport., incl. client-facing mgmt exp, mng detail on multiple projects & work across co. dept & motivate others. Demonstr. profound understanding of supply chain sol'ns & srvc offering. Demonstr. knowledge of indust. termin., mrkt trends & best pract. of inside sales & cust. srvc. Demonstr. outstanding negotiation skills. Demonstr. critical thinkg & prblm solv. skills. Excel. Written/oral comm. skills. Resume to: Bri Noparstak, HR Opers Mgr, Capstone Logistics, LLC., 640 N. LaSalle, Ste 555, Chicago, IL 60654 or [bri.noparstak@capstonelogistics.com](mailto:bri.noparstak@capstonelogistics.com).

**Farmers Group (Woodland Hills, CA) seeks Agile Development Team Member V** to design/develop/test &/or deploy system functionality & support systems such as Service Request Manage-

ment/Foremost STAR/Duck Creek & Express & work on building new & enhancing existing applications. Remote work option. Apply at [Farmers.com/Careers](http://Farmers.com/Careers). Job ID: 14403

IT Professionals

(Canoga Park, CA): Software Architects, Software Engineers. May also req travel to various unanticipated client sites nationally. Multiple positions. Send resume to Dhanu Global Enterprises, Incorporation, Attn: HRCC, 22048 Sherman Way, Ste 308, Canoga Park, CA 91303.

Business Development Specialist (Japanese Specialty Products): Carson, CA; Bachelors in any field, ability to speak, read & write English & Japanese. Research & analyze market data to promote sales. Resumes: HR (Attn PMAI-1), Pacific Marketing Alliance, Inc., 21112 S. Figueroa Street, Suite B, Carson, CA 90745

### LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT 2022122906  
The following person is doing business as COMPARTIR 200 S Soto St Los Angeles, CA 90033 LA COUNTY. REGISTERED OWNER(S): COMPARTIR CATERING LLC 200 S Soto St Los Angeles, CA 90033. This business is conducted by an LLC. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 01/2022.  
NOTICE- IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBDIVISION (A) OF SECTION 17920. A FICTITIOUS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE I WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK, EXCEPT, AS PROVIDED IN SUBDIVISION (b) OF SECTION 17920, WHERE IT EXPIRES 40 DAYS AFTER ANY CHANGE IN THE FACTS SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 17913 OTHER THAN A CHANGE IN RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF A REGISTERED OWNER. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED BEFORE THE EXPIRATION. EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2014, THE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE AFFIDAVIT OF IDENTITY FORM. THE FILING OF THIS STATEMENT does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law



# LA WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS

(see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code.) Publish 06/24, 07/01, 07/08, 07/15/22 LA Weekly.

AMENDED SUMMONS  
DOM GALLERY INC  
dba DOM THE LAND, a  
California corporation;  
FX SPORTS PRO INC, dba  
FAMPION SPORTS aka  
FAMPION X, a California  
corporation; BOYZ NEW  
YORK, INC., a California  
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service. If you cannot  
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may be eligible for free  
legal services from a  
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program. You can  
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org), the California  
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Center (www.courtinfo.  
ca.gov/se/fhelp), or by  
contacting your local  
court or county bar  
association. NOTE: The  
court has a statutory  
lien for waived fees and  
costs on any settlement  
or arbitration award of  
\$10,000 or more in a  
civil case. The court's  
lien must be paid before  
the court will dismiss  
the case. The name and  
address of the court is:  
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Case Number:  
21STCV46110 The name,



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address and telephone  
number of plaintiff's  
attorney is: Phoebe P.  
Liu, Division of Labor  
Standards Enforcement,  
320 W. 4th Street, #600,  
Los Angeles, CA 90013;  
Tel: 213-897-1511  
Date of Filing of First  
Amended Complaint:  
4/19/2022 Sherri R.  
Carter Executive Officer/  
Clerk of the Court, Clerk  
by N. Osollo, Deputy



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

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<sup>†</sup>After monthly allotted 5G/4G LTE data, next 20 GBs at 512 kbps, and remaining data at 128 kbps. Video typically streams in SD (480p). Lower speeds may affect audio and video streaming, access to certain websites and content, or the use of available applications. 5G access requires a 5G-capable device. 5G is not available in all areas. Data usage is subject to our Acceptable Use Policy (AUP). After 55 GBs of data usage in a month, data service will be placed on hold to confirm usage complies with AUP. Customers using data consistent with AUP may receive unlimited additional data in 10 GB increments for the rest of the month by contacting Customer Care. Available speeds will be determined by your particular service plan and may depend on other factors, including your device and network availability. For additional information about broadband speeds, including network limitations and our AUP, visit [www.standupwireless.com/broadbandTD](http://www.standupwireless.com/broadbandTD). Promotional offers may be modified or withdrawn at any time. Taxes and fees included. Visit [www.standupwireless.com](http://www.standupwireless.com) for complete terms and conditions.

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