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FREE VENICE

SINCE 1968

BEACHHEAD



February
 2018
 #433

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THE LOVE FOR THE OAKWOOD CHURCH CONTINUES



By Jon Wolff

The following is from a recent conversation with Venice Elder, Jataun Valentine about the fight to preserve the historic First Baptist Church on Westminster Avenue and 7th Avenue in the Oakwood Community in Venice.

Jataun Valentine: I was raised here in Venice. There's a lot of History in Venice. I think that needs to be preserved. Especially something like First Baptist Church because it's a black church and it's been here for a while and a lot of people put their sweat into it. A lot of people. When it was a small church, the congregation got bigger. They put up their houses for deeds to get the church built. I think it's a shame what's happening now. It's just being handled like it's nothing. The Holmeses and the other people really put their heart and soul into it. It needs to be preserved. It needs to be told.

Jon Wolff: Yes. And the new owners and the Venice Neighborhood Council have plans to turn it into a single-family home.

JV: Now, the way the Neighborhood Council is, they're not what you'd call the Heart of Venice. They don't really know the History. Nor do they care. And too many things are going before them that they're voting for, for the developers. I think things like the church need to be saved.

JW: Definitely. What would you say to the ones who bought it now? What would you ask for them to do?

JV: I would ask for them to find out if it was bought legally. That's a concern of a lot of people.

JW: There's evidence that it might have been a fraudulent sale.

JV: If it was, I would ask them to back off and admit that it was wrong and let it be a church.

JW: What other History can you tell about the church and about the area itself?

JV: Everybody knows who Irving Tabor was. And his wife, Ethel Tabor. She was one of the members from the very beginning. She put a lot of time and effort and money into the church. Like a lot of what I call the "Pioneers". And it was a staple. It was something that was always respected. To the people that had lived here a long time, the First Baptist Church was their main hold.

JW: You're related to the Tabors.

JV: Yes. My grandmother is a Tabor. Jenny Tabor, who is my grandmother, was Irving Tabor's sister. Irving Tabor went on to become Abbot Kinney's chauffeur. And also a friend. Even though California wasn't a slave state, Abbot Kinney never stayed at a place where Irving Tabor couldn't stay when they were travelling and going to different places. Irving Tabor was a businessman too. All the Tabors and the sisters, they all ended up having a trade. In fact, my grandmother's husband was Alphonse Joseph Henry. That's my grandfather. He was the first black cement contractor. Irving Tabor found a way to have a place for the family to stay. Because remember, it was covenanted then that the blacks were all on certain streets. The church has always been a mainstay, especially for the black people going way back into slavery.

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Jerde leaving Venice! Snapchat moving in? The Freak Show still homeless

Within the next month or so, and after almost 30 years, world-renown architecture firm Jerde Partnership will be moving its global headquarters from their location at 913 OFW to an office Downtown. "Moving to Downtown from Venice Beach reestablishes our company as a Los Angeles architectural firm," Paul Martinkovic, an executive of Jerde, said in a company statement. "In Downtown, we have 360 degrees of quality of life, better commutes and accessibility to more affordable housing for our existing employees." What Martinkovic did not mention is the stress and legal battles that Jerde has had to endure ever since Jon Jerde passed away and Snapchat started gobbling up every property they could find in our beloved town.

Most people know the Jerde location on 909-913 Ocean Front Walk as "The Freak Show" building. The historic Freak Show was there about 12 years before they were unable to renew their lease this past April of 2017, and the changes within the building owners, land owners, lease holders, management companies, parking spaces and tenants the last few years is the epitome of typical real-estate collusion and is confusing to say the least. Confusing probably for a reason – confidentiality.

Real estate developers nowadays are shadier and slimier than your average car-salesmen and unethical lawyers. They are heartless and pick on the little guy and use smoke and mirrors to gain greater wealth and control and are the loudest to cry when something doesn't go their way, all while sitting on more money most people could dream of. They continue to tear down things most people love and replace them with something everybody hates while side-stepping the laws and using shell companies and trusts to hide owner identities. According to Zillow, many luxury property purchases over \$3M in the US have been built by shell companies and LLC's rather than people. The Treasury Department's Financial Crimes Unit says shell companies are one of the most common ways of laundering money through real estate and more importantly they can provide an extraordinary level of secrecy, making it impossible for even the seller to know who they're making a deal with. When the Bush administration pushed through the Patriot Act after the 9/11 attacks, it essentially gave big property sellers a pass. Under the law, banks have to find out who owns shell companies before doing business with them, but the

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Venice Valentine

By Lisa Robins

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, I interviewed a sampling of Venetians I encountered along my way: asking where they came from, how long they've been here, and what they loved and hoped for Venice.

At Manny's bike shop on Lincoln, I bumped into an old friend and tested my questions out on him. He's from the east coast and went to high school outside of Philly. Lived in Venice for almost 20 years. He makes a living as a television producer, along with rental income from his properties. When I asked what he loves about Venice he responded, its "eclectic nature...the combo of proximity to the ocean-edge of the US...it's diverse...artistic...freedom of expression." He wishes for Venice to down-size - curb development-"spend less time and energy regulating what people are doing on their own private property and improve public property...it's shameful- the streets, pavement, public spaces."

"I've seen people shot in the street, in front of the store", said an employee who's worked the same job on Lincoln Blvd. for 30 years. He declined to be interviewed - doesn't want to anger any of the locals. A 30 year business owner on Lincoln also declined my questions, but said he "doesn't like any of them...you know what I mean- the new restaurants...all of this- we gotta fight them...you know what I mean".

At the Robert Levine (Venice Family) Clinic on Venice Blvd a young Latino man waiting for the mother of his tiny baby also didn't want to be interviewed, but then said, "Venice is awesome...everything is in it... nice place...nice people...all the countries" He's a tattoo artist, which is exactly what he wants to do.

I spoke to a young lady from Shreveport, Louisiana who's lived in Venice for 2 years. Works at Burro, walks dogs, does pet and baby-sitting - dream job is acting. She moved to Venice to be with her boyfriend- wouldn't have thought about it without him. He says "It's more chill than anyplace else"...he likes to be close to beach because "he's hot all the time". She notes, "It's changing fast"...she sees new houses, "huge things", going up all the time. "It would be nice if some of the older places stayed."

All the way from Istanbul, Turkey, a man I know has been in Venice 11 months. He doesn't work here- goes to SMC studying ESL. He believes Venice is "like Paradise...good weather, people, neighborhoods...helpful, peaceful." His hope for Venice is "mystery".

A fellow activist friend, an immigrant in-utero, attended high school in Northern Ca. and came to Venice 20 years ago. She works as a physician at LA County USC Hospital, saying, "That's the place I want them to bring me if I were in an accident or got shot". What does she love about Venice? "A long list...ocean...canals ("like the Dutch", a friend piped in)...big city but an enormous ocean in short walking distance...less to love about Venice than there used to be...diverse...lots of art-artists and political activity." Her hope for Venice?

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Dear Beachhead

i am writing in regards to over amped telephone poles, cell towers, gwen towers, smart meters and all power lines coming and going from everywhere in venice at this time.where can i write to in regards to this situation as well as the industry rright behind my house here in venice off lincoln, i am right in the alley way, no protection, from the city, no protection from smog shop, car wash, mechanic shop and car rental "sixt" this is a crime against humanity and all lifes breath,this is noise and air pollutants to all living beings,where can we get some legal assistance, we are in need of an attorney whom will take on city of venice gangsters and state of california, i thank you

Teresa L Mason

Dear Beachhead -

Enclosed please find a check for \$100.00 to support the paper. We would like to dedicate this donation in the name of Moe Stavnezer, a champion of the environment and social justice and our great friend.

Thank You,

Tina Morehead nad Steve Effington.

Oakwood Church - continued from page 1

It was one of the mainstays. Everybody has always had respect for the First Baptist Church and all of the churches that are around here.

JW: What do you think makes it so easy for the new owners to just paint over all that History?

JV: Well, they don't really know the History and they don't want to hear it. They don't try to find out. It's just a building; it's not a church, something to be respected and to worship in.

JW: What do you think it will take to change their minds?

JV: If they know the truth and if they listen. That's why, every Sunday, someone is down there at First Baptist Church to let them know what's going on.

JW: And all the people that are passing by every Sunday get the information.

JV: They're getting the information and, hopefully, the ones that own it now will find out if it was bought illegally.

JW: Maybe more and more people in Venice that learn about this will make a difference. And they can come out for the events at the Venice Library this month.

JV: We'll continue doing things every Sunday down by the church. We'll reach out with Black History Month there at the Library and they'll go to the Library and ask questions.

JW: The gatherings on Sunday are getting stronger and more people know about it. We're not slowing down.

JV: We can't. That's what they probably think we'll do. People here in Venice usually keep on until there's some sort of answer or conclusion. So we have to continue.

JW: Yes ma'am.

4^{OUT} OF 5 LOSERS AGREE
"SNAPCHAT IS GREAT"



A RECENT SURVEY FOUND THAT 80% OF LOSERS CHOOSE SNAPCHAT AS THEIR PREFERRED TECHNOLOGY FOR WASTING TIME AND SENDING LAME GRAPHICS TO OTHER GUTLESS, NO-TALENT LOSERS LIKE THEM





“RESIST” Star Wars placard

The Crowd At the Women’s Revolution

By Henry Rosebuds

January 20, 8 AM I’m riding downtown in a standing room only pussy cap crowded Expo line car, and do not give up my seat to anyone. Right on, look how far we’ve come, right? Time’s Up for all that old timey gender-role shit.

When a pretty face flashes a smile, I immediately desire to wine & dine her, but I do not hit—there’s a wrong word—on her. Metro Rail’s male PA keeps saying: Do not sexually harass or touch anyone on this train, giving the sheriff’s number to text if someone does.

In the Times: “Paul Booth, Antiwar Figure, Dies at 74.” In 1965 in D.C., he organized the first major march against the Vietnam War. What a woke obit to wake up to today!

9 AM Wokest Pershing Square placard seen so far: “RESIST,” across a Star Wars storm trooper wearing a helmet with that yellowy you-know-who type of coif.

10 AM “Hey hey ho ho, GOP has got to go” is so last millennium. Come on! Another Spring Street chant, “Cheeseboiga cheeseboiga, Defenestrate Drumpf!” Tepid response.

10:30 AM Humongous crowd. Amy Goodman—radio goddess!—will report on Monday: “Tens of thousands marching in Los Angeles...” Try 700,000. (Or is that typical local hype?)

11 AM Wokest speaker: actor Viola Davis, who quotes MLK on how, “Time is neutral. It can be used either constructively or destructively.” That if we don’t move it forward, time becomes “an ally to the primitive forces of social stagnation.” Time needs to be helped by doing right every moment.

Have you ever heard time described this way? Inspiring!

12 PM Idina Menzel sings “Defying Gravity” from Wicked. Melissa Ethridge rocks too hard for this gathering, which I think is the quietest 700,000 citizens ever listening. My Indivisible affinity group is called, “Woke West.” (We’re woke, but subdued.)

1 PM Two-dozen speakers so far. Not a single joke about King Idiot. Even Larry Wilmore is serious! Where are the comedians? Sarah S? Lena D? Willow B? (The last one is a friend who is a comedian and I just wanted to give her a shout out.)

Maybe Time’s Up sponsors are saying it just isn’t funny anymore. In New York in the 80s, “Time’s Up” was depicted on tenement and subway walls this way: an upside-down martini glass. Meaning: “the party’s over.”

2 PM Maxwell sings. Time to go.

3 PM From the back end of our westbound Expo Line car:

“Tell me what democracy looks like!”

“This is what democracy looks like!”

If that is what democracy looks like, what is to be done with our democracy?

Is Time’s Up telling us that time is of the essence? That time is the essence? Time only for love? I rallied downtown in hopes of rallying myself from being too much in mourning for my life, feeling that self-pitying-seeing-it-all-slip-away-unsatisfied thing, like a nowhere-going gondola-mucking-up-what-is-actually-a-pretty-grand-canal kind of feeling.

Hey hey ho ho, time’s up for that low. Happy Valentine’s!

The end

Jerde - continued from page 3

real-estate sector got a temporary exemption. Seventeen years later, that exemption is still in place—despite the fact that almost half the expensive residential properties in the US are owned through shell companies, according to a 2015 New York Times investigation.

The Jerde/Freak Show building was built in 1984. Thirty years later, Snapchat’s VP of Operations and head of monetization, Phillippe Browning, was visiting every real estate office in town each week asking where there was more office and residential space in Venice. The OFW building was owned and used by famous architect Jon Jerde since 1990 who then died in February 2015. In the following months, his wife Janice Jerde then sold the building (probably without knowledge of exactly who she was selling to).

It’s no secret that Snapchat has wanted to get into Jerde’s space for quite some time now, even though Jerde has been there for almost 30 years and Snap says they’re only leasing the top floor and that’s it. Even Snapchat employees themselves made it known around town that Snapchat wanted Jerde’s space. One employee at Jerde who wished to remain unidentified stated they had to get a lawyer to protect Snapchat from moving into their space. “They [Snap] purchased the building in March of 2016 and then proceeded with very harsh eviction proceedings. We fought back hard and spent hundreds of thousands of dollars fighting back to protect our legal rights. The building was owned by an investment company called Foothaven, LLC which we believe to be controlled by Snapchat key executives. Snap subleases 5,000 square feet in the facility with a right to assume the remaining term of the lease should we vacate earlier. It’s sad – we’ve been a great Venice neighbor for 30 years and contributed to the community in many positive ways.” An article in the LA Business Journal on June 10, 2016 titled “Snapped Up” also stated that Snapchat has a right of first refusal for the full 33,000-square-foot space when it becomes available.

On June 28, 2016 a Property-Commercial Eviction case was filed by Foot Haven LLC against The Jerde Partnership Inc in the jurisdiction of Los Angeles County Superior Courts in hopes of evicting the famous architecture firm. Foothaven LLC is one of the many spiderweb of names that have some type of interest in the building. In fact, there is so much changing hands of the inner workings of that building the last few years that even LA City (Miranda Pastor, Mario Montez & Rita Moreno) & Tara Devine of LA Strategies had a hard time figuring out whose signature was needed for the Venice BID! The Scharff family, the Ekker family, the Jerde family, Cambra Realty & Snapshot Partners LLC (Michael Schlesinger), JSB Trust (Jonathon Brooks), Mike Kafka, Hancock Orange LLC, Foothaven LLC and variations of all the above have all had their names on it the last few years. The information that is of public record is scarce and to do a thorough investigative report on the all the lease holders, building owners, land owners, trusts, management companies, LLC’s, and the people behind them would cost anyone many long hours leading to many frustrating dead-ends, especially without the cooperation of being able to talk with the named individuals, who may be in litigation at the time or simply unwilling to disclose details.

The Venice BID was finally signed in June of 2016 and Snapshot Partners LLC was listed as the legal owner when they voted YES - it was signed by Robert Minsky. They have a 65-year ground lease on a parcel owned by Ekker (aka Scharff) and refused to give the city a copy of their lease for the BID. Eventually a copy was given but was missing pertinent information due to confidentiality concerns.

Todd Ray, who founded Venice Beach Freak Show, says he learned in the fall of 2016 that the building had been sold and that the new owner would not be renewing Ray’s five-year lease on the first floor. After that, Ray says, he was paying rent to Snapshot Partners LLC, an investment group that, according to the “Snapped Up” article, was hired by Snapchat to acquire the leasehold interest in the building for \$32 million in March 2016. The article also said that the site sits on separately deeded land and that Snapshot LLC is controlled by Cambra Realty’s Michael Schlesinger.

Then in January of 2017, Hancock Orange LLC acquired the property along with partner JSB Living Trust (Jonathon Brooks) and then took out a 20M credit a month later. Some believe that Hancock Orange is one of Snapchat’s capital partners or simply a shell company that is also controlled by Snap, Inc.

In February 2017, parking tenants of the building began sending their payments to Snapshot Partners LLC, with Lincoln Property Management overseeing management and operations.

And then in April of 2017, after trying to renew their lease in every way possible, The Freak Show was forced to close. The events leading up to the last days of The Freak Show are of typical developer/real estate conduct. Many months before when Ray tried to renew his lease, he was told from building management that Snapchat bought the building. Not only was he told that, but all

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Venice Valentine- continued from page 1

Returning to what it was decades ago. “Restore all the canals. Dig up the streets...bring back the old canals.”

“We don’t need to know everything”, a Venice native told me. “I’ve created a system of bulwarks to make it difficult to inconvenience or do me any harm. Google me and you’ll run into scary people and organizations. If you ever approach these people you’re liable to run into some trouble....I’ve seen some things...I’ve seen some very cold and dark spaces...What do I love about Venice? Everything... What do I hope for Venice? A lot. A revolutionary government....single party rule with strong heads. Not the VNC. To drive the heathen from the land...like King David drove the Jebusites out of Jerusalem.”

I met a 47 year old man from SD walking his dog down a residential street near Lincoln. He’s lived in Venice/ MDR for 10years, Venice 5 years. Considers himself a “Virtual Native”. He’s in sales to pay the bills. His dream job is to not be in sales, and plans to retire and do “me stuff” and charity work. Loves Venice’s weather and relaxed culture, dog friendly, but it’s “getting a little more ruined...gentrified”. Loves that it’s central, 8 on the “walking score” (mentioned by several people even though I had never heard of the walking score). His hope for Venice is that we break off and pay our own police. “We have to deal with the homeless...don’t just push them to Venice.” He likes Garcetti, “at least he’s trying”. We discussed trying to balance politics in our community. “There’s plenty to be left leaning and still be fair”.

Next on my walk I met a mid-20’s Venice native, who was painting a beautiful mural on the home that’s been in his family since his mom and Grandma. They run a daycare for little ones up to age 3. He’s a photographer, architectural- like realtors/magazines... living his dream job. What does he love about Venice? “Everything...best city ever”. His hope for Venice? “I like the way it is”. But then he went on, “Homelessness out of control. The RV ban is good. Homeless sleeping on the street...”

His fellow muralist grew up in MDR. He’s an apprentice locksmith. “Venice is great-nice being by the beach. 10 minute bike ride”, lived here his whole life. Parents owned Mojo Clothing from 1985ish-2005. Wants Venice to stay small businesses. “People who want a mom/pop shop should be able to do it -- not looking that way at the moment.” He wants to find a way to let corporations to do their thing, but not completely kill our small community vibe.

As I continued walking I met a person I had spoken to on other walks from NYC who has lived in Venice for 25 years. A reporter, actor, screenwriter -- likes to change careers every 10 years. What do they love about Venice? “The weather”, they say sarcastically...likes to bike everywhere. What do they hope for Venice? “Deal with the homeless...it’s dreadful...not short term shelters...mental health facilities...drug help...garbage in alleys...police hands are tied... the homeless have more rights than me...homeless have a “free pass”...I’m not heartless...I care about the situation...two homeless threw glass bottles at me...police, fire department came...moron Bonin takes lanes away ...traffic is terrible....City agencies services are understaffed...our mayor can’t figure out what he’s doing. The quality of life deteriorated in all of LA ...keep allowing building...unstainable for workers to live here...allow people to build giant houses on lots... Airbnb is running illegal hotels (long term ok).” This person wanted me to not print what they said, but since they’re unidentified I choose to air the grievances since I know many share them, and their hybrid career choices also reflect our community.

Next, on my walk I met a mom and her daughter visiting friends in the canals. Mom grew up in MDR and has lived in Hollywood and Pasadena where they currently live. The young one is a 3rd grade student, and mom is an actress who works with kids in a pre-school and babysitting. She loves the “magical energy” of Venice. Her hope is “everyone keeps keeping it clean and sustainable, planting trees that don’t need much water”.

A dear friend I spoke to across a canal hails from Brooklyn, and has lived in Venice for 8 years. She’s a rabbi and a mom -- exactly what she wants to be doing. When I asked her what she loves about Venice without hesitation she said, “The people...the community and people...living art...people living, creating...people come here to create...now it’s digital media-apps, start-ups, before it was acrylics and paint...new mediums -- but people come here to create. Venice is “spiritually inspiring”...loves the egrets, the herons, sunsets, waves, moons ...It’s all here- what’s not to love?” She wishes for Venice to create community for the 21st century. “Long lasting institutions with healthy eyes so we can continue meeting, observing, creating together.”

Next I met a couple of homeless guys camped out in front of the library because they can use the Wi-Fi. One was generous with his story, while his friend stayed focused on his I-phone. Originally from Fort Knox, Texas, he’s been in Venice for 8 months. He’s 40, unemployed, and would love to get a job at a head shop. He loves Venice’s ocean, temperature. His hope for Venice is for “all the meth to be gone”. He spoke of the frustration of

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The Hack Living in Your Car

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You are here. You've arrived at the beautiful seaside paradise of Venice, California. Only you didn't get here by buying one of these million-dollar beach pads, in LA's hippest zip code. You are here because you want to be nowhere else, and not letting the inaccessibility of supply and demand economics stop you from being here, you are willing to exist on the fringes of Venice society as one of the hordes of Street People -- finding a supportive community posture for we who choose to be out here, on the Venice fringes. Yes, there's a bit of a learning curve, to get with the vibe of what The Venice Way is all about. But once you get it -- that it's all about coexistence, artistic creativity, positive cultural contribution and free-range freaks... that it's all about having a good time and enjoying the moment -- you will find your place here in Venice. Many who find their Venice place choose to do it while living in their car. Yes, by having the "more" that the car offers, it brings with it more responsibilities and hassles to keep & maintain the "more". But the significant measurable advantages of having a secure place to store belongings and shelter from the elements, makes it quite the no-brainer to put up with the costs, and enjoy the benefits.

We who have the space to live in our vehicles, do so with a grateful indebtedness to the legacy of activism that stood up and fought short-sighted pushes to eliminate vehicle dwelling through legal and legislative maneuverings like neighborhood parking permits and excessive pay-metering. Groups like L.A. CAN, Occupy Venice, the American Indian Movement along with the welcoming vibe of Venice and the predominant community sentiment of coexistence, seem a fitting legacy to the history of access planted here in Venice by Abbot Kinney. As things stand, there have been some victories and some encroaching losses, but living in a car continue to be a viable option in Venice, and may very well be where we would find undiscovered Jim Morrison or Marilyn Monroe, making their way among us, in 2018.

From where some strong lines seemed to have been drawn, the community sentiment shows the preference that people aren't living in their cars right up on somebody's house, or close to schools and day cares. The rule as it stands (which activists warned was too narrowly drawn), require that vehicle dwelling be five hundred feet away from any one of these sensitive use properties. The problem with that, though, is that the remaining available spaces are far fewer than the number of vehicle dwellers in our community. Add to that, that those spaces (rightfully) are also available to others who are not vehicle dwellin', we are left with a quasi-legal state where anybody can live anywhere they park, as long as they do it smartly, FIRST with coexistence in mind.

Like every other instance in life, vehicle dwelling is most clearly seen through the lens of the individual. Some who started in a mansion and lost it, then a regular house and lost it, then a seedy apartment in a "bad" part of town then lost that too, may "end up" in their car, hating every minute of it. Another might have started on the pavement, then got a bike so they could be more productive and work harder. By the time that person hustles and saves to finally get a car... then navigate all the layers of obstacles laid out by local/state/national governments, to finally have a piece of security to park on your street, there is such a greater appreciation for what the car offers them in Venice.

The hack is to navigate this fortunate space in such a way that community is accentuated. *veniceToo \$hort: Get In Where You Fit In, ...beach!* It's like how nature offers the example of different species of plants, in a vertical canopy of light sharing, where each gets what they need, and none encroaches on the other. In this mindset, a vehicle dweller recognizes the great advantage they have in being able to pack up and find new neighbors, whenever they choose. With that, it is important to always move in respect, so that the whole city is open to your presence. A car dweller that does not piss and crap every where, nor leave messes for people to clean up, and is never excessively noisy at all hours... this guy is welcomed to park wherever he finds a good fit. These are the neighbors who understand their vehicle is an extension of their very self, and find ways to keep their car clean, inside and out.

These compassionate neighbors understand that housed Venetians can not get up and leave, so they come to an area and are polite & friendly, and go out of their way to make sure our housed neighbors never feel like their block is being taken over.

In spite of all efforts to coexist, there are times, though, when a vehicle dweller still has to navigate a few passive aggressive notes, and the obvious feeling of not being welcomed on a particular block. Mostly, that's when my great advantage kicks in, and I get the hell on up the road. Leaving them sad angry people to their little circle of negativity, to go chill somewhere else. But we in Venice are here because we are free people. Sometimes free

people don't feel like getting pushed around. At times it becomes important to assert your right to exist. Yes I am here, I have biological functions, I take up space, I enjoy a social circle. I have drive and dignity and will make my life to fulfill my desires. I'm living my life. If this bothers another sooo much that their solution is to ban together and create legislative aggression, so that their LAPDogs can have legal cover to sick us with heartless ferocity... naw kid. Something in me stirs, and I start looking for ways to make my stand.

Of course your level of stand, is limited by the direct proportion to the steadiness of your vehicle's legality. Don't be one of those dumbasses yelling and fuming about your rights, and get the cops called to a hot azz unregistered vehicle, with no insurance, illegally parked and a dozen tickets on your tag. At that point, the gleeful look on the neighbors' face as the tow truck drives your bucket off, it'll be like them creaming their pants. Till you show up next week with another fifty dollar bucket... because taking people's cars is such big business, there's an excess of old cars getting auctioned everyday from tow lots all over the city. It's never more than a few hundred bucks to buy an old tent on wheels, and start the cat and mouse all over again. There's gotta be a better way.

So from your car, DO NOT ENGAGE. A legally registered vehicle, lawfully parked on a city street, becomes your castle -- if you choose to utilize it as such. Never forget that a vehicle dwelling citation can only be directed to the individual, not the vehicle. So if neighbors are being d!cks, and call the cops, take a walk... leave your lawfully parked vehicle, and enjoy a few hours on the beach. Or curtain up your windows, and never come out to uninvited knockers at your door (regardless of the costume of "justice" they might be wearing). Take note of how much resources the city is willing to spend, deploying a stake-out, just to try to catch you "living" in YOUR vehicle. Let your positive coexistence become the contrast to illustrate right from wrong. When power organize themselves to take a poor person's blankets on a cold night, be the network of guys who always have a warm tent to share, or a new sleeping bag in stow. Keep showing what right looks like, and the heart of Venice will take note, and you will find yourself together with they who truly know what The Venice Way is all about, showing the haters all around another possibility of love.

Jerde - continued from page 3

the other businesses on the ground floor were told that. In addition, residents who live nearby that have inquired about monthly parking were also told that all the parking spaces, over 100 spots, were all for Snapchat even though most of them are sitting empty every single night. Despite everyone from neighboring tenants, parking lot attendants, building management, and immediate residents all pointing to Snapchat as the owner, Ray still couldn't get in contact with anyone that actually owns the building for him to negotiate with as he begged management to at least let him stay through the summer months when the Freak Show makes most of their annual income. He was repeatedly denied and eventually even threatened litigation if he stayed 1 day longer. Mysteriously, no one would admit to the ownership. All of this was going on while everyone knowing Snapchat's desire to get in Jerde's space and seeing them gobbling up property all over town. He was sending his checks to Snapshot Partners, LLC who claimed they have nothing to do with Snapchat and the similarity in name was a coincidence. In mid-March, Ray finally got a call from a representative of Snapchat claiming they have nothing to do with Snapshot Partners LLC and they can't help him. Ray referenced the "Snapped Up" article and the Snapchat representative told him "not everything in that article was 100% true." Ray even told the Snapchat representative he would use his platform to praise Snapchat if they could help him to stay, but obviously to no success.

Ray was obviously frustrated and also concerned about his many employees who are specialists and would all be out of work, not to mention everything he put his heart and soul into for the last 12 years. Snapchat continued to deny anything to do with SnapShot Partners or the lease of The Freak Show and even put out a statement in the press relieving themselves of any responsibility saying Snapchat sub-leases a space on the third floor of the same building as The Freak Show, but the company does not own the building, "nor do we have any leasing rights to the ground floor retail," the statement reads. "We have already said publicly that we intend to focus our future expansion outside of Venice." Snapchat, as mentioned earlier, is the only one that claim that they do not own or have controlled interest in the building, yet all the retail stores, parking lot guys and security guards all claimed they do (and still do currently). In addition, immediate neighbors were told Snapchat owns the building and also Jerde who have been in lengthy legal battles trying to remain in that location. Some people within the community, including law enforcement and other local press outlets, just blindly believed Snapchat's statement ... simply because that's what THEY said.

When the Freak Show closed, it was the talk of the town for many reasons and there was a lot of emotion from many people. It's safe to say the most popular reaction was one of shock. The Freak Show was far from just another business on Ocean Front Walk. It's hard

to estimate, but it's safe to say hundreds of thousands attended the show from all over the world and the loss of this local entity hit many people hard. On Sunday April 30th, the Freak Show had its farewell party complete with everything you would expect -- live performances, local deejay music, stilt walkers, a wedding ceremony, and an influx of community love and support along with protestors holding signs that said "Snapshot = Snapchat". Thousands of locals and tourists witnessed this event along with vast media coverage from all outlets. It was a day to be remembered unfortunately for all the wrong reasons. For many, this realization was a wake-up call to what's been going on in Venice the last few years -- that the "Snap-Effect" was in full force.

After the Freak Show left, local egotistical real estate developer and Snapchat-property owner Brad Neal of Gold Coast Properties insisted the protestors were wrong about everything and started boasting on social media that a restaurant was going to take over the ground floor -- which of course never happened.

Which leads us to the latest title-holder Hancock Orange LLC which many believe is a shell company that is controlled by Snap Inc. "The fact that the lease-holders name coincidentally is Snapshot pretty much says it all" says a longtime local that lives behind the building, "Not to mention the continued ploys and constant refusal to publicly disclose true ownership." In another conversation with a Snap Inc. representative, they said "We do not own that building. We have no business relationship with Snapshot Partners or Hancock Orange, other than being a tenant in a building that they own." So... who do you believe: A billion-dollar company who has no logos on any of their numerous buildings and whose business model is built around secrecy or... literally everyone else?

Fast forward about 9 months after The Freak Show was ousted and everyone has been kicked out of the building EXCEPT for Snapchat, even though they continue to tell the press and community that they're moving everyone to Santa Monica. Jerde Partnership is packing their bags and all that is left are "For Lease" signs in the ground floor windows. Where the liveliness of The Freak Show used to be is now a ghost town and Todd Ray is still looking for a new venue, hopefully in Venice. Some will say this is "progress" but how is "progress" pushing out beloved world-renown businesses and replacing them with a sign?? Undoubtedly, the community will watch that building very closely and have strong feelings about its future changes. It's been rumored a Starbucks may go into the ground floor which would be worse than an Adidas Store saying they're "Defining Venice" and would undoubtedly instigate another protest of some sort. A common thought in Venice is that there is an ordinance prohibiting national chains on Ocean Front Walk. That is unconfirmed as of the writing of this article.

Another issue within that building that deserves attention is the underground parking. Before the building was built, the California Coastal Commission designated 41 lower-level spaces in that building to be used on a lease-basis by residents of the North Venice area. Now, only 1 resident is known to be using those parking spaces while the lot basically sits empty every single night and other residents are forced to park on the street. More than a few residents were blatantly told to their faces that all the parking spaces were for Snapchat, and Snapchat employees have been seen parking there and then walking to other nearby buildings that Snapchat uses for offices. Phone calls are never returned when calling Peg Hale at Lincoln Parking at 310-393-4848 or they simply state that "parking is not available" and they supposedly put your name on a list. The California Coastal Commission and local law enforcement have done nothing to uphold this law that they designed over 30 years ago despite multiple phone calls and emails from the residents and the press in the past year.

And now, the big question after all of this is -- will Snapchat take over Jerde's vacated space or are they really moving to Santa Monica like they say they are? So far, their "moving" only looks like an expansion. Only a week ago, another person who works inside the building was asked if Snapchat was moving into Jerde's space and their response was, "They own the building -- what do you think?"

The Freak Show building is like the Alamo. Winning over that building is a big win for Venice. And the community wants it like it was before -- without the hated Snapchat, with parking spots used for residents as they're legally supposed to be, and the ground floor with mom & pop stores in addition to The Freak Show which was a perfect location for them. If it turns into a 100% Snapchat building with parking used only for their employees, and national chains or empty storefronts on the ground floor, it will almost be like our Venice has been lost forever to the Evil Empire of the tech world. It's in the heart of Ocean Front Walk and is very sensitive to the residents given the recent history, and it will most certainly be watched very closely by our inquisitive community. The community watch on this building is so heightened that on January 31st, 2018 when the railings in the front were being painted a horrid Snapchat yellow and word spread around town, they were immediately painted back to white the following day.

And much like anything else the rumors are still flying,



The above posters are from The Center For The Study of Political Graphics, and are currently hangin in the Sparc Gallery. See Page 10 for information.



and many times, where there's smoke there is fire. There was the Starbucks rumor, plus another rumor that Google bought the building and planned on bringing back The Freak Show. Then another anonymous source within the building stated that Snap Inc just bought the entire building with cash in mid-January 2018. Not surprisingly, a Snapchat representative denied that was true. The drama continues...

Remember the Alamo? Sure, but also Remember Jerde and remember The Freak Show.

Venice Valentine - continued from page 3

trying to get work while homeless. "Have to watch stuff all day... What would help would be a building to store stuff with showers... Like KOA campgrounds...even a place that would supply power by the hour to charge stuff. There's no solution...just because it works for one doesn't mean it'll work for all. Shelters are worse (than the streets) for some." Needs his own little space...The food situation is such that food stamps last him 1 1/2 -2 weeks -I brought up the 99cent store, where I get amazing food bargains, but he prefers the \$1.50 hot dogs from Costco...plus to keep phones running are \$60 month. Need meds, to get to the co-op- then he revealed that his friend suffers from epilepsy.

A 51 yr. old man from NYC has been in Venice since 1985- "a long time". He works at the church for lodging-"I used to be a drug addict". His dream job is to be a music engineer. What does he love about Venice? The weather -- too cold in NYC! He made a pit stop in Florida...his sister talked him into Ca. Liked Minneapolis, but he was tired of snow. Watched the USC-UCLA game one day and saw the weather in LA. (weather is a common draw- ironic since I miss the seasons so much!). His hope is for LA to provide more jobs --train people. He wants the people in charge to put heads together for education. Parents should have a say in what school their kids attend. He feels that Venice can go further in the future to have politics completely dedicated to caring for its people. Don't try to be greedy would be a blessing. Unhappy with the Democrats...not for Bernie since he's against DARE. He's a Republican, but not for Trump. He's working on his GED.

I then bumped into another long-time girlfriend. Originally from SM, she's lived in Venice for 35 years. She's a PR person and a mom. I've known her and her husband for about 30 years, and known her beautiful daughter from birth. But I never knew her dream job was to be Huell Howser from the show, "California Gold", who visits cool places, and meets and interviews cool people in California. She too loves the high walk score of Venice and the great weather. Also loves hula hooping with friends in their 50's and 60's at the beach, and boogie boarding after. (sounds like I might want to join them!) Loves that residents can have parties late without people calling the police (not the case if you're an Airbnb owner). Her wish for Venice? "Frankly, a more reasonable short term rental policy". More affordable housing... rentals...danger of losing all sense of community... many of her neighbors have moved, and Airbnb units have taken their place. She "loves tourists, but also love neighbors". I look forward to seeing her at one of her remaining neighbor's annual "show and tell" party next weekend.

That night I rendezvoused with a friend at a Brobots' gig, who was originally from Miami, Fla. He came to LA in 1984-34 years ago. He's a writer who moved here to attend UCLA Film School, and stayed to work in the film business. What does he love about Venice? "Venice is the coolest place in LA". But he "Wouldn't do it again. If I was 23 I'd have gone to N.Y...More independent, more serious". But it's "Hard to leave...get seduced... easy to live...I have a lot of friends." I can vouch for that. He loves that Venice is "Diverse and anything goes and people are cool...Hope it remains like the old Venice at least in spirit".

I ran into another Venice compadre originally from New Jersey- has lived in Venice since 70's, at Suzy Williams' Monday gig at Surfside. He "Came out for a trip and got stuck. You can visit for a week or two... If you stay longer you're stuck here...How you gonna

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go back to New Jersey when you've been here?" He's a retired electrical engineer...Electronics...on the team that developed an early video game system called Vectored. "It was a big flop, but now it's popular...all over Facebook...Selling on eBay like hot cakes. ...Love being able to walk out the door and there's always something great to do and the weather is great, right?" What do you wish for Venice? "That it doesn't get destroyed and keeps the basic thing that attracted me in the first place which is it doesn't get all built-up and skyscrapers everywhere - keep the lid on the store...don't take over anymore... what I hope for Venice- that some of the people that have been kicked out lately can come back".

I took my friend who lives in Chicago and South Haven, Michigan, but sometimes stays at my house, to check out the music at Surfside. He used to work around the corner on the beach at Coney Island Hotdog, better known as Meatless Mess Hall, 40 years ago. He sees a lot of Venice as being the same as what he loved in the 60's. He hopes Venice "stays the way it is or gets the way it used to be again which isn't going to happen at all... slow down the forces that are making Venice a harder place to live."

On the street near the club we met a young man with a guitar. He asked me for money to buy crackers to go with the cheese someone gave him. I went back to my car and found some crackers and a protein bar to give. He came to Venice for "The things that ignite your soul". "My city is South Bronx...hitchhiked all the way here... stopped in Nashville, Tennessee, Atlanta, Georgia, New Orleans, Texas, and New Mexico...I've been in Venice for three years living on the beach trying to play my music to try to, you know, make myself, you know, some money for food or ... hygiene products." I asked him if he's familiar with SPY (Safe Place for Youth). His eyes lit up- he tells me he's a regular... I told him I'm a volunteer- planning to start an open mike once a month. He liked that idea. I told him I can't wait to hear his music. He said, "I love that Venice is a place where artists can come together and coexist and feed off of each other's energy to constantly progress the next artist to be coming the next stage and hence breathing life into Venice... giving Venice a culture because that's what I like about Venice... has a culture has a past history...a story... something not to be ignored but to be acknowledged... I hope that Venice starts remembering its roots and stops most of the gentrification going on and start to bring back the artistry..."

So there you have it...a Venice Valentine from all walks of life.

For myself I love that I can see a different style of music every night with world class musicians like Suzy Williams and Brad Kay, the Brobots, The Gumbo Brothers in local hangs with no cover like Hinano's and Surfside. I love that within an hour walk I can talk to rich locals, nutcases, a rabbi, a homeless guy, a Republican drug addict in recovery, and no less than 2 close friends. I love the sunsets, walks on the beach, the tumultuous ocean, and the peaceful canals where I walk and work on whatever I'm working on. I love watching the cool new places open on Lincoln like Abbot Kinney used to be and pray they stay local and don't all get taken over by chains and corporations. I love the library, the farmers market Friday mornings, the elementary schools. I love the bohemian spirit of Venice, and my home and family living the Venice dream. And I hope this valentine reminds both longtime and recent residents why we all chose to come here, and to cherish our community which is like no other...Venice! ♥♥♥♥♥♥♥♥

Mr. Venice sez...

Come to the

FREE VENICE
SINCE 1968
BEACHHEAD

February 18, 2018 Fundraiser
at Beyond Baroque
because it puts the "Fun"
back in "Fundraiser"!





Community activist Roxanne P. Brown died on Jan. 10 at her home in the Beverlywood neighborhood of Los Angeles. She was 62.

Roxanne is survived by Marc Spigelman and her cherished family: her brother Bruce (Pam) Brown; her nieces Holly (Tim) Oten, Rachel (Tim) Mitrovich and Bonnie (Josh) Judson; grand-nieces Violet, Leah, Camilla, Cora, Adeline and Aurora; and grand-nephew Remington.

A Midwest native, Roxanne's life had many rich and fulfilling chapters. She was born on Sept. 29, 1955, in Stanley, Wis. Her parents were Bernetta Lucy and William Andrew Brown; their first child, Bruce, was born eight years earlier.

The family moved to Colorado Springs, Colo., then to Red Wing, Minn., where Roxanne graduated from high school. Roxanne often talked about spending summer days with her grandparents in Stanley and she was especially close to her Aunt Yvonne.

After earning a bachelor of science degree in business, graduating with distinction, from the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis, in 1978, she embarked on a highly successful business career – starting as a secretary in New York in the early 1980s.

As extroverted and charming as she was persistent and hard-working, she had an aptitude for sales and became a top performer in the domestic and international markets for home-video entertainment. Much in demand, she held positions at Viacom, Worldvision, Family Home Entertainment and Hi-Tops Video. She started an East Coast division for one employer, selling children's shows, and singlehandedly brought in \$2 million.

In 1983, Roxanne took a yearlong backpacking trip, during which she visited China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Singapore, the Philippines, Thailand and India.

Over the years, she also went to Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia, Kenya, Tanzania, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Cuba, Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Austria, Croatia, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Greece, Turkey, Latvia, Estonia, Ukraine, Bulgaria, Russia, England, Ireland, Holland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, Monaco, Mexico, the Caribbean islands, most states in the United States and many provinces in Canada.

Perpetually upbeat, energetic, full of fun and ready for adventure, Roxanne was "wowed" by the world and, in turn, made a deep and lasting impression on everyone she met. She was hard-wired to help, giving freely of herself, and delighted in meeting new people, offering advice, sharing a meal or providing a place to stay.

In the late 1980s, her work brought her to the West Coast and she became a Californian, settling in Venice. Not long after she arrived, she met Rick Schaaf and began a relationship. Together they bought bungalow cottages three blocks from the ocean. After they went their separate ways, Roxanne stayed close to Rick's children and their families.

Walking along Venice Beach was one of her favorite ways to spend an afternoon. Another much-loved pastime was to linger over coffee and pastries, then scout the resale shops for neglected treasures and astonishing deals. Often, she would find a quirky gift for a family member or friend – she was exceptionally thoughtful and had a knack for remembering birthdays and other milestones.

She continued to advance in her career. From 1989 to

1993, she was the Western Regional Sales Manager for a creative directory produced by California Design Publications. Under her leadership, the publication's advertising more than tripled in one month. Known for her ability to launch new products and revive underperforming operations, Roxanne was featured in Success magazine and in a book called "The Sales Athlete."

A natural go-getter, she was headhunted by Unique Homes Magazine in 1994. During her six years there, she was the top salesperson and turned the least profitable territory into the most profitable.

In 1997, on a blind date, she met Emmy-winning writer Steve Brown – they shared the same last name – and eventually they fell in love; marrying in 2005. The two also shared a passion for the arts, especially theater. Steve and Roxanne lived in London and Paris, and spent summers in Florence and Rome. (They divorced in 2012 but remained good friends.)

Long after she left corporate life, she retained the ability to think big, overcome obstacles and defy limitations. In 2001, she received her master of science degree in career counseling from California State University at Long Beach.

Roxanne loved to connect people, tout their achievements and brainstorm ideas. She coached job-seekers of all ages on career issues and life goals. She worked in a variety of capacities at Loyola Marymount University, Jewish Vocational Service, the Actors Fund, Beit T'Shuvah, Cerritos College and the University of California at Irvine as well as in private practice. She especially enjoyed encouraging other women to pursue their dreams and helping at-risk individuals, such as addicts and felons.

As a star salesperson, Roxanne prided herself on developing thick skin – it was a quality that would serve her well in the next phase of her life. Upon finishing medical treatment for breast cancer, she published a self-help guide for other women: "Chemo: Secrets to Thriving" in 2011. The book, which she wrote in collaboration with noted cancer specialist Dr. John Link, became a top seller on Amazon and was featured in "Women" magazine. Roxanne was active in cancer support groups and, as usual, made many new friends.

She continued to work and to be of service. A strong supporter of social justice, peaceful protest, protecting the environment and working to eradicate poverty, she was affiliated with the Heroic Imagination Project, Kindness Rocks and Oxfam, to name a few.

In 2014, spurred by property overdevelopment and increased commercialization in Venice, she co-founded Concerned Neighbors of 320 Sunset to help protect her beloved bohemian neighborhood. Roxanne devoted countless hours to rallying residents to the cause, questioning city government officials and staging protests. Additionally, she wrote numerous editorials for local press outlets and shared information with fellow citizens about ways they could air their views and help preserve their community's unique character.

Meanwhile, Roxanne never gave up on the prospect of romantic love. She met Marc Spigelman in the spring of 2016. They connected instantly and began a relationship. Marc and Roxanne took several trips together and she moved into his home in 2017.

Roxanne lived life on her own terms and refused to acquiesce to negativity, even in the face of her cancer's recurrence. Her brilliant smile, sweet laughter, uncommon generosity and soaring spirit set her apart. Her exuberant confidence changed lives. Her fine-tuned empathy saved lives – in one instance arranging for an ailing friend to seek medical treatment at world-renowned Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

If only the world could stop, just for a long minute, to mark her passing. It won't, though, and she knew that. But those who loved Roxanne will think of her often, holding her memory dear – honoring her matchless grace and emulating her remarkable humanity.

Beachhead - Roxanne Brown wrote 19 articles for the Free Venice Beachhead, from 2011 to 2016. You can see them here: <https://freevenicebeachhead.org/?s=roxanne+brown> We are all about this kind of community journalism. Help us continue her legacy. Care and WRITE!

Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind
And therefore is winged Cupid painted blind.
Nor hath love's mind of any judgement taste;
Wings and no eyes figure unheedy haste.
And therefore is love said to be a child
Because in choice he is so oft beguiled.
- Shakespere, A Midsummer Night's Dream.



Promise

I will love you with all my heart,
To have forever - never to part.
This is a promise engrained in me,
Take my hand and let it be.
I will go to the ends of the earth if that is what you need,
Just say yes and let your soul take the lead.
This is a promise at the core of me,
Kiss my lips and let this be.
I will wipe your tears with no questions asked,
No more will your feelings be masked.
This is a promise I make to you,
Look into my eyes and follow through.
I will know how to hold you just by the look in your eye,
I will never forget - not even on the day that I die.
This is a promise of my passion for you,
smile at me and make it true.
I will support you even when I cannot support myself anymore,
I will dig deeper and find the hidden strength at my inner core.
This promise means I sacrifice all of me for you,
Understand this- and make our lives anew.
I will love you with everything so deep inside,
And to only you - this gift I shall confide.
This is a promise so incredibly real,
kiss me my love and you shall feel.

-Jonny2Turnt

Valentine's Day Mixtape



Sugar Is Definitely Toxic, a New Study Says - Time Magazine

- Eric Ahlberg

It's Valentine/Valentines/Valentine's Day and LOVE is in the air. *Love makes the world go round. What the world needs now is love sweet love. All you need is love.* How much of this can you take? I believe it is the world going around that makes love, because without that, we'd be half ice and half fire.

I love everybody, even the police as they kick the shit out of me on the street. (The Mothers - Hey Punk) I'm another white middle class white boy(Mose Allison), that never happened to me, though I did see it happen to a friend who insisted on taunting them with "Pig!". The LAPD Intelligence division did try to set me up with a drug bust when we had the Midnight Special Bookstore on West Washington Boulevard, back in the days when Venice WAS shit, and the cops were infiltrating the anti war movement and setting up entrapments. But that's not what we are here to talk about today.



Some Questionable Terminology:

Long Term Relationship=LTR=>1year,
Medium Term Relationship=MTR =<1year,2+dates,
Short Term Relationship=STR=Hookup

Valentine's Day is the ultimate Hallmark Holiday for Love. Dating standards fall all over where Valentine's Day rules. Flaky male LTR or MTR are put to the test, can't you just go out and buy a box of chocolates you lump. Yes Valentine Love is fine, but love is the first reductionist consumer fantasy, hand in crotch with the oldest profession. It was internet porn that built the Internet, and today apps like Snapchat are built on sexy pics, made to disappear so as not to affect your mayoral candidacy later in life. The Erotic drives the wheels of commerce and the ultra-erotic violence of the cinema.

We are talking about love, wholesale love. We are talking about online dating.

Certain basic facts(!?) about online dating must be made clear so here are some questionable factoids from the internet, to get the ball rolling.

Total number of people in the U.S. who have tried online dating = 49,650,000

Annual revenue from the online dating industry = \$1,935,000,000

Average spent by dating site customer per year = \$243

Percent of people who believe in love at first sight = 71 % (this survey was tilted to 25-35 year olds)

Percent of women who have sex on the first online dating encounter = 33 %

Any man I can get = 6 % - these are the truly desperate.

By 48, Men have twice as many online pursuers as Women.

Percent of sex offenders who use online dating to meet people = 10 %

33% first date sex? That is encouraging. Not my experience, but I am not that slutty. Slutty women dress slutty in their profile pictures, lots of cleavage. They show up for dates in fisnets, dead giveaway. Some of these are working girls. Hey, Venice loves its sluts. Are we our own porn?

"The fact is that online dating is, well, complicated. There's a whole range of difficult human emotions to contend with: insecurity, disappointment, rejection, maybe heartache. Not to mention it's a ton of work." - Consumer Reports

Twelve Chinese dating apps run by 21 firms in China have been shut down amid allegations of fraud for using bots posing as women. - This was the plot of the film Her, and Metropolis. We've been hoping for a hot android who comes pre-loaded with our preferences. I believe it will allow me to empower my erotic fantasies while avoiding the baggage of the emotionally and dharma bound humans...on my spaceship to Andromeda.

53% Of People Lie about: Age, Height, Weight, Job, and Income, on their online dating profile. - fake it til you make it..

My daughter said I should lie and say I have a Masters Degree. No "Some College" matches. She's looking out for me. I think the MSs and PHDs can sniff me out. I

am certifiable, but not certified.

Putting "Pumpkin Spice" in your profile increases your chance of getting laid 8%. Somebody test this.

There is an entire report by Consumer Reports here: <https://www.consumerreports.org/dating-relationships/online-dating-guide-match-me-if-you-can/>.

Satisfaction rates 56% to 37% '...low satisfaction scores may be that "most dating sites have some misalignment between profit model and user experience because they are financed through subscription fees or advertising," says Scott Kominers, Ph.D., a junior fellow in economics at Harvard University.' - Better to fail to match you, but keep you hooked on the chase. Love crack?

Research shows that many of these people on dating sites are cheating! Well is it cheating, or is it seeking passion lost at home, or just out to mess around, and consensually quickly forgotten? Is that so wrong? I hate to say it, but a lot of people are boring, even if they'll fuck you. How can an old lefty like me say that? Jesus folks I'm just trying to get this paper done. Look around on Zoosk and Plenty Of Fish. It is an eye opening look into how people represent themselves nowadays. On the upscale sites, match, tinder, eharmony, and meetingmindful, there are many more well groomed, and naturally beautiful professional women, who have perhaps gotten profile advice. On the down scale sites it is bad pictures, sketchy profiles.

Netflix and chill: An invitation to watch Netflix together, which has become slang for coming over to have sex.

I had a dry spell for a while, it felt like my libido was getting pretty low. I started taking a DHEA supplement for its reported ability to enhance hormonal activity. That and a hot online date, a 44 year old special education teacher, helped me realize that hey, I still got it. This 66 year old dude, veteran of 4 LTR in Venice, has been on 6 or so different dating services for years. Match.com, eharmony.com, meetingmindful.com, zoosk.com, pof.com, and most recently tinder.com. Look around among our Venice friends, I find many a couple who met on match.com.

Match has a new feature, missed connections, it lets me know that beachbabe666 has driven down my alley 18 times in the last 2 weeks, livelovelaugh 10 times, and "alive" 5 times. This is actually helpful because geographic desirability is important. You don't want to date someone from Riverside or Fresno unless they are really special...but aren't we all. Match.com seems to have the best locality (more Westside members).

Tinder.com has the reputation as the hookup app, but they want you to see it as a dating app, for a bigger market. I have been swiping right like a pro stroker but no hookups yet, might have to go back to beachbabe666.

Via match.com, I have dated a famous comedienne, one of the singers from the Manhattan Transfer, artists, general creatives, and received "Not A Good Match" rejection messages, but slip out the back jack, after saying you'll call. No fuss no muss, lie and GTFO, move on dot orgasm. I am looking for an LTR, and I have gotten laid a few times on the way there, but usually under the spell of Cupid. I've been out on three dates where I realized in the middle that they were transsexual or at least a cross dresser. It's fine it's not my thing, and they were very intelligent, uh, and good lookin though they were Monets, had me going there for a while. One ran a make-up company, seemed to be a sort of alchemist about it. Funny if you're not sure, but you can't ask, or you tell yourself you can't ask, that's the kind of mental torture fun liberals have.

When it's been a long time, and it feels right, then doing it on the second date just feels so right, to let the passions flow. I am not talking about straight-up fucking I am talking about the gorgeous sensuous lovemaking that may not even involve penetration. I have enjoyed meeting lovely forward women and we enjoyed having a lovely Medium Term Relationship, and no one got hurt. Can we have love on a trial basis? Is there love after breakup? Is there a no fault clause? I like to think so, but then, if I am too busy, what is that? Men. They just don't call. Dicks.

One lover dumped me for warts. I quit another over Ambien. I feel that if the love you need is close, then enjoy it, but no is no. I'm not the aggressive type, I'm more gentle, windy, and thunder. Better to just relax and be available, and give her the power, it's much more exciting that way.

I vaped weed with a first date, at Superba, and she lost it, we left and she followed me to my car, looked at my bumper stickers, and said this will never do. I felt sorry I had contributed to her stress. She apologized later for being an Aries.

Two of my dates were into Orgasmic Meditation. It turns out that right out north eastside of Lincoln and Victoria is One Taste, where they teach Orgasmic Meditation=OM. Now I have always been a big supporter of women's orgasms, you can ask any of my exs. The OM technique of assuming a comfortable position to carefully connect and stroke a woman to orgasm is also something

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I like. Check the Youtube videos. The man would not get aroused, it is not at all about him except in his role as a stroker. They say it is not sexual. If sex means an act of reproduction, then indeed a women's orgasm can be without that. There seemed to be little going on about male orgasm there, which I appreciated.; Men are dicks. I understand they had some trouble with the authorities for doing group orgasmic meditations. They must have been good. I envy the Denobulans of Star Trek with their three wives and three husbands.

First dates with an internet dating newbie, it's hard to face that much optimism, but often they are ready to quit. She has little idea what to expect, but she could be my shero.

Well all that's a fine body commercial for me, but the deeper consideration is if this is the person you want to be spending all your time with, helping you when you are throwing up or being a complete idiot. With all the divorce and relationship turnover, romance runs headlong into reality, reason, caution, and slow is advised. ease into love. People have extended family and friends and a new LTR has a gravitational effect on that. Women in their 50s, who to me are extremely hot, often have a young child by the last relationship gone wrong. An LTR becomes a relationship with another family. There shall not be any STR daddies, not anymore. In your 60s and older, the kids are in or out of college, and empty nests abound, divorced or widowed.

Now suppose you were a hustler, I mean an emerging artist, looking for a sugar momma or sugar poppa. There are some very rich people dating online if you know where to find them geographically.

There are a lot of painted up middle class housewives, divorced or widowed, house(s) and Trust. There are a also lots of lonely homely home girls out there, and many of both have been abused, and in Landmark Forum for some self esteem. While people have their game on when they meet, some are just weird, but when the times are weird... Every further date becomes a reevaluation, as more of the other becomes revealed. MTR in slow motion stall.

Ok so suppose you liked, you chatted, you set up a Coffee Date. This is a date at an open public location, like Starbucks, where you meet and just talk. There are a lot of interesting and beautiful women to talk to, and many artists and activists with a commitment to political change. I like to find women who are doing something worthwhile with their lives.

Eharmony.com has a questionnaire that you can use to send canned questions to someone you are interested in. One question I received recently asked: "What childhood memory would you like to relive?" My answer: "My childhood was filled with abuse, racism, near-mortal illness, death, traumatic pain, and being shunned, I do not want to relive any of it." I enjoy too much honesty. Dick.

I call three foundations of marriage. One is the day to day support and caretaking, the basis of true nurturing and strong love. Two is the recognition by community, some sort of ceremony, be it in front of an Elvis Impersonator in Reno or at the Lake Shrine, or on Venice Beach, an acknowledgement for your community. Third is private property and the state, marriage license, pre-nuptial agreement.

Here, from my match.com profile: Artist and engineer seeks creative love partner for entertaining and creative life together, making trouble and raising eyebrows. I am passionately involved with friends in creative and social change activities. I love to throw a dinner party and make all the food. I will sing you love songs with guitar or piano, and you would sing with me, deep, slow. I love exploring and investigating the world with cameras and discovering what is in people's hearts and finding ways to represent this, in many arts. Love is the fabric we weave. You are skilled, sharp, generous and kind. A singer, a craftsperson, and a writer. Able to leap rhetorical constructs with a single metaphor. Has let go enough to find their own personhood entertaining. Ambitious and demanding, or chill and whatever, as per the situation. Major computer or theatrical or technical skills are a big plus you beautiful geek. I like natural women, lovely in natural and minimal makeup, beautiful natural clothes, with creative taste in their appearance, thrift store chic.

So if you are feeling lonely this Valentine's Day, remember that your love is driving down your alley nearly every day.



another mylar balloon on it's way to a landfill.

One More from The Heart

by Larry Hankin

“But we love each other and you know it,” I said. And she said, “It’s not you, it’s me,” and buried the ball-peen hammer into my forehead, a perfect shot: dead center through my third eye.

“I love you, I really do”, she continued innocently squeezing my balls ‘til her knuckles turned white. “You were the best, I liked you the best of all the guys I liked up ‘til now in my career so far”, I heard her voice saying, fading, as she pounded the long, thin, ice-cold, ten-penny words passed my inner ear bones and into my middle-brain--

“The intelligent thing to tell you would be to just, ‘Fuck off and don’t bother me,’ but I prefer to say, ‘I really care for you. You’re the best. We have no future.’ Do you have a question?”

“Yeah.”

“What”, she

“Can I punch you in the face”, I said.

“Of course not, why?”, she said.

“Just thought I’d ask”, I said.

“What if I said yes?” she said.

“I wouldn’t’ve anyway,” I said.

“Never?” she said.

“Don’t say never”, I said.

“Not ever, even?” she said.

“Don’t even say ‘even ever’, either,” I said.

“Don’t say don’t,” she said.

“Why not?” I said.

“Why, what?” she said.

“That rhymes,” I said

“What does?” she said.

“We’re a poet and you don’t know it,” I said.

“A poet with no future,” she said. “How sad.”

“Breaking up is stupid,” I thought.

“You mean breaking up is stupid because I want to.” She read my mind.

“No,” I said, “I mean, breaking up is stupid like drooling is stupid. There’s just no way to drool intelligently.”

And she said, “Sure, we could just be friends and fuck, but what would that be, because you know I can’t do that. I’ve don’t it before. With other people. You know that, don’t you? I have. But, really, we’re not building a ‘thing’ together, so is that what you really want; just to be friends and fuck, and not connect our mornings with last night?”

“Yes”, I thought---

“I think not,” she said, “although, you know I do really do love you.”

“And I really do love you,” I said.

“You don’t know me”, she said.

“You’re a pure child, old soul, cold witch, comic genius, long-legged, doe-eyed, pornographic, fairy tale, flower-print, pure-bred, doubt-ridden, self assured, judgmental, dumb cunt, crystal-clear, quicksand, logic trap. But that’s just a guess,” I said.

“Perfect”, she said, “How could anybody be so right yet so totally wrong.” (She’s some sort of amazing creature that walks the earth and puts winches in my heart

Puts fingers in my ears

Puts glue in my head

Puts tunnels in my eyes

Puts gum in my hair

Puts nothing in my stomach

I’m going to Hawaii

And eat innocent children

And hang with sharks

And make deals with the Devil

And Don Juan

And Don Ho

And Don Johnson

And Don Tah-dahn-Tahn!

And drink ouzo ‘til I’m shit-face drunk and throw up on the rug and drive my car into a tree and call up all my ex-girlfriends at four-thirty in the morning and then I’m gonna fuck Laura Ashley ‘til she screams out Victoria’s Secret.”

“I’m my father,” she said, “and I love mixed messages. A woman’s house is like her body,” she said, “and, can I say something really cruel to you?”

Not because it’s true, but

because I want to -- but a guy can be a poor jerk working in a 7-11 and I could follow him to the ends of the earth, and make love to him & be his sexual slave and maybe even love him, but you’re special. It’s just that I love it when you call me on the telephone, and I love talking to you, but there’s no future for us. Can’t you see that?”

“Sure,” I said.

“But what would you do,” she said. “if I called you one afternoon and I invited you to Art’s Delicatessen for coffee and we just spent a pleasant time together with no future at all and I spilled hot chicken soup in your lap and pulled your pants down around you ankles and pulled your underpants up over your head and stabbed you several times psychotically with a butter knife in the front window? Would that be okay?”

“Sure,” I said.

She said “Goodbye,” and hung up the phone.

My stupid heart cried stupid tears

And my stupid hopes died stupid deaths

As my stupid love stumbled stupidly Across a stupid field of stupid dreams

While ten thousand stupid arc-angels drooled, “How sad, how stupid”, off-key and out of sync.

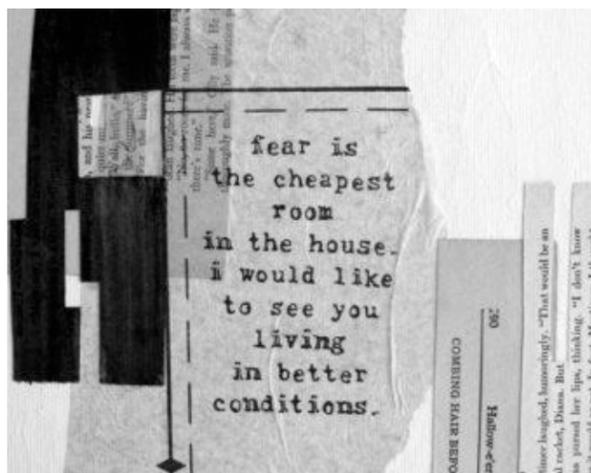
I picked up the phone and dialed her number again. “Hello,” she said.

“But we love each other and you know it,” I said.

And she said, “It’s not you, it’s me,” and buried the ball-peen hammer into my forehead, dead center, a perfect shot right through my third eye. “I love you, I really do,” she continued, innocently squeezing my balls ‘til her knuckles turned white.

“You were the best, I liked you the best of all the guys I liked up ‘til now in my career so far,” I heard her voice saying, fading as she pounded the ice cold ten-penny words passes my inner ear bones and into my middle brain while ten thousand drooling, stupid arc-angels cleared their throats and got ready.

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TEN THINGS TO HATE ABOUT LOVE

by Ron Birnbach

With Valentine’s Day fast approaching, your helpful cynic felt it was time to set the record straight (as a public service) about Love, which in case you didn’t know, is not such a many-splendored thing. Not even close, in fact. Ten things to hate about love:

1) Love and the pursuit thereof has ruined or destroyed many a life or career, even ending some lives prematurely. Ever heard of Romeo and Juliet? Cleopatra and Marc Antony? Lancelot and Guinevere? John and Yoko? Trump and Stormy Daniels? Yeah, I know, but I can hope, can’t I?

2) Love is the reason for Valentine’s Day, an entire bogus holiday created by Hallmark Cards and the florists of America to sell more of their products.

Really, that’s the actual truth. It’s a whole new level of Capitalism that even P.T. Barnum never dreamed of.

3) Love makes people do a lot of dumb things, like eat Kale, get tattoos, and throw away some very old things to which they have formed an unnatural attachment. Yes, Elaine, I dearly loved that old McGovern t-shirt! Even if it was in tatters and you could only make out the “V” and some of the “M”.

4) Love is not constant. It’s way too ephemeral. Do you ever honestly know for sure if you feel it? I mean, that warm fuzzy feeling could actually just be a result of all those cat videos you were watching all morning. Why can’t love be more like hate? When you really hate someone or something, it’s always gonna be there for you. Hate is forever.

5) People in love are annoying as hell. Don’t deny it. You know you agree, unless you’re one of them. People in love exist only to make the rest of us feel like something is missing from our lives. But nothing is really missing, unless you enjoy having someone complete your sentences and stick their half-eaten food into your mouth.

6) No matter what the Beatles say, the love you take is not really equal to the love you make. Ever. A universal human feeling is that we give, give, give until it hurts, and not one damn person ever gives us back anything in return or even begins to appreciate the sacrifices we make. Especially concerning love. In every romantic relationship, both people will swear that they give a lot more than they get. And I’m pretty sure all three feel that way in threesomes.

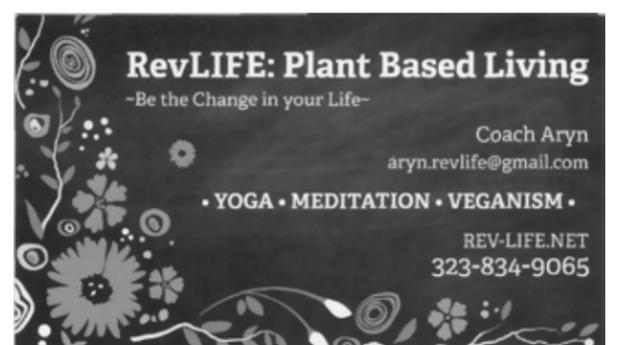
7) Love has created a whole cottage industry of bad poems, songs, novels, plays, movies, etc. Remember “Love Story”? “Muskrat Love”? “Titanic”? Better yet, just insert the name of your favorite Abba song here: _____.

8) He never really appreciated the genius of Brian Wilson. Oops, sorry. That was from my list of Ten Reasons To Hate Mike Love, who co-wrote many of the Beach Boys’ songs with Brian Wilson.

9) Love is blind. Well, yes, it is, but instead of just sitting there and being blind, why doesn’t love get off its lazy ass and, say, learn a musical instrument like Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles or Jose Feliciano did? Stevie Wonder even writes songs about YOU, love. What, you couldn’t write songs like “All in ME is Fair” or “Ma Cherie ME”?

10) Nobody ever agrees on what love means. You can say “I love you” to your child, your lover, or a pint of Cherry Garcia from Ben and Jerry’s, and in each case it means something entirely different. By the way, I picked that flavor completely at random. And no, I’m not one of those people who gets “addicted” from eating a couple pints a day. But back to love. It has way too many meanings, really. Just look at the way various songwriters refer to love: “Love is a Battlefield”. “Love is a Bird”.

“Love is Poison”. “Love is an Open Door”. “Love Hurts”. “Love is a Beautiful Thing”. Oh, come on. If love is really all those contradictory things, it’s pretty much a catch-phrase for anything, right? Hey, wanna hear my new song, “Love is Covfefe”?



In the Age of Trumpism

By : B.B. Shapiro

In Trump's world of Alternative Facts
where black is white and white is black
where night is day and day is night
where right is wrong and wrong is right
where lies are truths and truths are lies.

Perhaps it is time for Women's Rule
where fairness and equality is the rule.
After all women are the super majority
isn't it about time to honor our Presidency
and change back to honesty and decency.

Let's hope the extreme Right
will soon wake up and see the light
realize it's time for our Country to Unite
With fair Economy for all as a right
instead of creating a big Divide.

FOG ONE MORNING

By, Eva Duran

I looked outside, the sky was white
And underneath, the sea no longer visible.
The muffled sound of the waves breaking.
I take your walk in the morning mist.
Recognition gone. Am I on an island,
Or is this really my street.
The fog touches my face,
My arms, lightly. Gently.
Shrouded and surrounded in Mystery,
what will the next step bring.
Where is it taking me.
Who will I meet.
Will I meet anyone.
Is anyone there.
Only the waves washing the shore
Muffled, dimmed
Silenced
No bird sounds
Where are the people.
I've awakened in another dimension
Am I the only person here
Where is everyone.
If it doesn't lift, where will I be
Who will I be
Who will you be
Will I recognize you.
Will you me.
Shroud. Wrapped in a gentle moisture.
I start to imagine danger.
Should I be frightened.
Shall I go back.
No. No. It's fine. I'm fine.
I'll continue to walk in mystery.
Let the fog surprise me.

CALIFORNIA HERE I CUM!

(as sung to, "California Here I Come.")- marty liboff

California here I come,
to Venice Beach where I'm a bum.
Where bowers of marijuana flowers
bloom in the Spring.
Each mourning fires burning
earthquakes ring and everything.
A sun pissed miss said, "You don't rate."
Concrete jungles full of hate.
Open up that prison gate!
California here I cum!

California here I come,
with my guitar I love to strum.
Spending hours along the Watchtowers
I sing.
Each morning at dawning
buskers sing and everyone does their thing.
A fun kissed miss sings, "Let's mate."
but I'm broke and haven't ate.
This is where I'll find my fate!
California here I cum!

*And still, after all this time,
the sun never says to the earth,
"You owe me."
Look what happens with
a love like that,
it lights the whole sky.*

Hafez

Our mother is love! Our father is love!
We are born from love! We are love!
All loves constitute a bridge leading to the Divine love.
To love human beings means to love God.

— Mevlâna Jelaleddin Rûmî

Love is reckless; not reason.
Reason seeks a profit.
There is no one more insane than the lover
For his reason is blind and deaf because of love.

— Mevlâna Jelaleddin Rûmî, Masnavi

Love is that flame which, when it blazes up, burns
everything except the Beloved.

Love is among the attributes of God, Who is inde-
pendent from need and want. Falling in love with
others is thus a transitory fancy.

O the medicine of our vanity and impunity, O our
Plato! Our Galen! The body of dust has ascended to
the heavens from love; the mountain has started to
move, robust.

O Lover! Love has become the life of Mount Sina;
the Sina, intoxicated while Moses has fainted sense-
less...

Whoever has no inclination to love is like a wingless
bird; woe on to him.

— Mevlâna Jelaleddin Rûmî

In your light I learn how to love. In your beauty, how
to make poems.

You dance inside my chest where no one sees you,
but sometimes I do, and that sight becomes this art.

— Mevlâna Jelaleddin Rûmî

ALOHA HAWAII MOISHE SHMUCK

Atomic missile flyin to Hawaii
everyone thought they'd die-
This is not a drill
Ballistic missile threat inbound
will kill.
A nuclear missile headin to L.A.
will spoil your day.
Better jump in a hole
Survivors will live like a mole.
War, war, war
what is it good for
to eliminate the poor.
If ya look different
and come from a far away place
it's easier to murder another race.
All our money wasted on
the police and military
murder, death and everything gory.
Give our wealth to education,
the poor and sick
don't fall for the military industrial trick.
Fightin for survival to get a crust of bread
while wars leave millions dead.
America thinks we'll again escape destruction
nuclear war is world annihilation.
Stupid politicians with big mouths and lies
atomic war and everyone dies.
This is not a drill
Ballistic missile inbound
will kill.
This is not a drill-

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be most free

by P & A Rodman Hirsch

be free
(drink tea)
hug o tree
(need flee)
free to write bad poetry
(awsome earful sounds ground down)
mud may fly as we roll by
(make a splash or try a pie)
enjoy the journey
(travel light)
be free

let fly
(what is up must go down)
flow o sky
(any while now)
fly your colors highest high
(behind the mind beyond and gone)
toss love smiles to the wind
(red skies at dawning)
sing that wild tune
(fearlessly)
let fly

what is up must go down
any while now
behind the mind beyond and gone
red skies at dawning
fearlessly

let fly
flow o sky
fly your colors highest high
toss love smiles to the wind
sing that wild tune
let fly

be free
hug o tree
free to write bad poetry
mud may fly as we roll by
enjoy the journey
be free

QUESTIONS

marty liboff

Questions and fears
Questions and tears.
Cruisin, boozin,
confusion, illusion, delusion.
My mind is full of doubt
We're just tryin to figure it out.
Humanity in madness
so much badness
turns to sadness.
The environment is trashed
raped, pillaged, and slashed.
The end comes soon
we elect a moron goon.
Liar, liar pants on fire
fire, fire burnin
it will be America's turn.
The world was so beautiful
greed has swallowed it whole.
Power mad men
Jesus and angels jailed in a pen.
Every time a dolphin dies
Mother Earth cries.
Goodbye cruel world
into the universe we're hurled.
I may be dumb and know nothing
but be free and do your own thing.
I'm just tryin to figure it out
so much confusion and doubt.
It may be too late
we don't know the date.
We're just tryin to figure things out...

CALENDAR

BEYONDBAROQUE.ORG

FEBRUARY 9 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
FREEDOM TO CHOOSE

Freedom to Choose Project is proud to present an evening of spoken word with poet Gonzalo Alvarado. Sentenced to 36 years as a juvenile offender, Gonzalo found his poetic voice inside the prison walls. Join us in honoring one man's journey inside the beast where he ultimately found redemption. \$20 donation to benefit FTC.

FEBRUARY 11 SUNDAY 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM
CELEBRATING JAMES BALDWIN

The Skirball Cultural Center and LA's oldest literary arts organization, Beyond Baroque present an afternoon of readings and discussion focused on the life, contributions, and legacy of writer-activist James Baldwin. Acclaimed actor, producer, and political activist Alfre Woodard hosts the program, which includes remarks by LA poet laureate Robin Coste Lewis and performances of Baldwin's work by actor Jussie Smollet (Empire). At the Skirball Cultural Center. \$15.00 general admission, full time students \$8.00, members \$12.00.

FEBRUARY 11 SUNDAY 2:00 PM
SOAP BOX POETS

This is your home. Bring your words. The mic is yours. Sign ups begin at 1:45 PM. There is a five minute limit. Hosted by Jessica Wilson Cardenas. FREE, but donations are always welcome.

FEBRUARY 11 SUNDAY 7:00 PM
VOICE IN THE WELL LOVE MATTERS

Public Works Improvisational Theatre presents an evening of lively variety arts programming - celebrating the most talented writers, storytellers, poets, musicians and comics. Hosted by Eric Vollmer. Regular admission. Members FREE

FEBRUARY 16 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
NASTY WOMEN & BAD HOMBRES

Edited by Deena November and Nina Padolf (Lascaux Editions, 2017). The book features 92 poets from across the U.S. responding to the first year of Trumpiness, including four longtime Beyond Baroque workshop members: Barbara Maloutas, Claire Acerno, Keith Klippensteen, Beyond Baroque stalwart S.A. Griffin and Gabriela Miotta from Long Beach. Regular admission. Members FREE.

FEBRUARY 17 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
WILL ALEXANDER and BOBBY BRADFORD

Legendary jazz trumpeter, cornetist, bandleader, and composer Bobby Bradford and American Book Award winning poet Will Alexander join words with music in this unique appearance. Regular admission. Members FREE Regular admission. Members FREE

FEBRUARY 18 SUNDAY 4:30 PM
BEYOND WORDS:

Regular admission. Members FREE

FEBRUARY 23 FRIDAY 8:00 PM
JACQUELINE BERGER NEW WORK

Jackie Berger's poems manage to be focused on the private world of friends and family while being spacious at the same time, in part because her focus is one of the subjects of the poems. Regular admission. Members FREE

FEBRUARY 24 SATURDAY 8:00 PM
PETER J. HARRIS

American Book Award winner Peter J. Harris's The Black Man of Happiness Project crystallizes some 40 years as poet, essayist, journalist, editor, publisher, broadcaster, educator, and workshop leader exploring the lives of Black men. Regular admission. Members FREE

FEBRUARY 25 SUNDAY 2:00 PM
THE NEBRASKA GIRL OPEN READING

Sign-ups at 1:30 PM. Hosted by Wyatt Underwood. FREE but donations gratefully accepted.

FEBRUARY 25 SUNDAY 7:00 PM
VENICE FILM FEST

15th Annual VENICE FILM FEST. Colorful history of films made in Venice California, and celebration of the otherworldly happenings at the legendary Venice West Gallery (birthplace of the Beats), aka Sponto Gallery with live performances. Hosted by Gerry Fialka. FREE but donations gratefully accepted.



Join the Los Angeles Poet Society and the SoapBox Poets as we embark on a serious LA anthology party!

We are celebrating the release of Intersections -- an LA-based anthology of poetry and creative goodness, published by the ZZyZx WriterZ, annnnnnnnnnnnnnnnd

we are celebrating the RISE anthology released by LA-based Vagabond Press!

This is IntersectionsRISE! An anthology launch party du'jour!

Come to the SoapBox and learn about 2 new books containing more than 100 LA writers!

Hosted by LAPS Founder, Jessica M. Wilson

To Protect & Serve? Five Decades of Posters Protesting Police Violence



End Police Brutality, Alice Nauta, Silkscreen, 2015, Ontario, Canada

Duron Gallery at SPARC
The old Venice Police Station
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Venice, CA 90291

Gallery hours:

Tues-Sat, 11:00am-5:00pm
Dec 16, 2017-March 2, 2018

LAUGHTEARS

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Feb 10 Sat 2pm MESS - Modern Thinker KEN YAS interview at 212 Pier Ave FREE

Feb 11 Sun 7pm Subversive Cinema ROD WEBBER political activist filmmaker at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd FREE Political-Music films

Feb 12 Mon, 3pm to 5:30pm Free Jazz Jubilee Live Music=3pm and Avant Garde Jazz Film=330pm at Unurban 3301 Pico Blvd, free

Feb 21 Wed 6-9pm MOM - MEDIA DISCUSSION at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd Venice CA FREE

Feb 24 Sat 7pm JAZZ FUNK FEST at UnUrban 3301 Pico Blvd Santa Monica CA 90401, 310-315-0056 FREE

Feb 25 Sunday 7pm Seven Dudley Cinema at Beyond Baroque 681 Venice Blvd FREE Political-Music films

Feb 26 Mon 6-9pm Laughtears Salon 212 Pier Santa Monica free - politics, art, culture discussion, free

March 5 MON, 7pm Suzy Williams, Steve Weisberg & Friends - JAZZ at Surfside 23 Windward Ave, Venice, CA 90291, 424-256-7894 Free

March 6 Tues McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club at Marina Del Rey Library 4533 Admiralty Way

www.unurban.com

Weekly Events at UnUrban

Tuesdays: Go Club @7pm, Open Mic Komedly @9pm (sign up at 8:45)

Wednesdays: Velvet Guerilla Cabaret (Open Mic Poetry) @9pm, sign up 5min prior.

Thursdays: Live Music Showcase* @7pm

Fridays: Open Mic Music @7pm, sign up in person at 6:30pm

Sundays: Almost Vaudeville w/Brad Kay @2pm, Mews Small and Company @5pm, "Funny Feminist" Comedy Show @6:30

Saturdays: Live Music Showcase* @7pm

February 10 - Stefani Valadez "About Women" Come hear the Blissful Blend of Stefani Valadez and Carol McArthur singing separately and together. Special guest will be author/journalist Erin Aubry Kaplan. She will read from her latest book, some favorite articles, some Baldwin and add a little Bgs .

February 17, Merrily Weeber and Friends

February 24 - A Valentine from Black Shoe Polish - A night of music & love from Black Shoe Polish, featuring Paulie Dee, Gerry Fialka, ...and who knows who! Wear yer heart on yer sleeve and dance yer pants off! See ya there! @9pm Eric Ahlberg will perform songs of heartbreak and loneliness, tempered with a few gorgeous love ballads.

JOIN THE FIGHT TO SAVE THE HISTORICAL FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF VENICE !

Get more background on the issue and find out how you can help support and defend this endangered historical community space. We meet every Sunday from 1pm-3pm at the First Baptist Church (685 Westminster Ave. Venice 90291) We gather to dialogue and find ways to defend and empower the endangered culture and people that have built this community.

DON'T LET THIS HAPPEN TO YOU



JOIN THE UNION!

Los Angeles Tenants Union
West Side Local Meetings
1st and 3rd Wednesday: 7-8:30pm
Oakwood Recreation Center
767 California Ave., Venice, CA 90291

westsideocal.latu@gmail.com
424-272-1618
Solidarity Casework hotline: 213-986-8266

Get to know your neighbors!
Get to know your rights!



NO DEJES QUE ESTO TE PASE A TI



¡ÚNETE AL SINDICATO!

Sindicato de inquilinos de Los Angeles
Reuniones de la Sección Oeste
1er y 3er miércoles: 7-8:30pm
Center de Recreación Oakwood
767 California Ave, Venice, CA 90291

westsideocal.latu@gmail.com
424-272-1618
Línea de apoyo solidario de casos: 213-986-8266

Conozca a sus vecinos!
Conozca sus derechos!



THIS MEETING WILL BE BILINGUAL SPANISH / ENGLISH

LA REUNIÓN SERÁ BILINGÜE EN ESPAÑOL-INGLÉS.

Ongoing Events
OCCUPY VENICE BEACH

- 8pm Mondays General Assembly upstairs at Beyond Baroque
- 8pm Sundays People's Potluck at 3rd & Rose. Feed the People. Volunteer or donate - 424-209-2777.

COMPUTERS

- 2:30pm, Mon-Fri. Student/Homework Zone. Computers, iPads, homework resources and a trained computer aide to assist students grade 4-12. Free Printing. Abbot Kinney Public Library.
- Tues/Weds 8:30-6pm, Thurs/Friday 8:30-5pm. Free Computer Use. Vera Davis Center.

FOOD

- 10am Tuesdays, 12:30pm Thursdays, 1pm Fridays. Free Food Distribution. Vera Davis Center.
- Sign up for Food Stamps (EBT Cards). Vera Davis Center. 310-305-1865.
- 4pm Saturdays through Wednesdays. Free Vegetarian Food. OFW & Dudley.
- 1:30pm, Thursdays. Free Vegetarian Food. OFW & Sunset.

KIDS

- 11:30am-noon Wednesdays. Toddler Storytime. Abbot Kinney Public Library. Free.

MUSIC

- 9pm Wednesdays, Venice Underground Comedy, Townhouse, No Cover
- 11pm Wednesday - Burlesque, Townhouse, No Cover
- 6-10pm, First Fridays. Venice Street Legends. Venice Bistro, OFW & Dudley. No Cover.
- 8pm Saturdays, Brad Kay Regressive Jazz Quartet, Townhouse. No Cover
- 2pm Sundays, Almost Vaudeville W/ Brad Kay at The Unurban
- O'Brien's Irish Pub Live music most nights.
- 1-3pm Every Saturday and Sunday Free Live Music, Fisherman's Village, 13755 Fiji Way, MDR 90292

MISCELLANEOUS

- 9-4pm, 2nd Saturday, every month. Venice High School Flea Market. 13000 Venice Blvd.
- 7-11am, Fridays. Venice Farmers Market. 500 North Venice Blvd.
- 4:15pm, every Thursday - Chess Club. Ages 6-15. All levels welcome. Abbot Kinney Library.
- 11:30am-2:30pm, every Sunday, weather permitting. The Venice Oceanarium (a museum without walls). Venice Pier. Free.
- 8:30am, 2nd Fridays. Bus Token Distribution. First 40 people in line will receive a free bus token. Vera Davis Center.
- 5:30pm, Sundays. Open Mic Night. Twentieth Church of Christ, Scientist. 132 Brooks Ave. Free.
- 7-10pm, 3rd Wednesdays. MOM: Meditations On Media. Beyond Baroque. Free.
- 10am Sunday Morning Gatherings of Creative community. <http://goo.gl/BbsDV2>

YOGA AND DANCE

- Mondays, 1:30-2:30pm Dancing Through Parkinson's, Donation, Electric Lodge

Location Guide

- **Abbot Kinney Public Library**, 501 S. Venice Blvd. 310-821-1769, fovl.org
- **Beyond Baroque**, 681 Venice Blvd. 310-822-3006, www.beyondbaroque.org
- **Electric Lodge**, 1416 Electric Ave. 310-306-1854, electriclodge.org
- **G2 Gallery**, 1503 Abbot Kinney Blvd. 310-452-2842, theg2gallery.com
- **Pacific Resident Theatre**, 703 Venice Blvd, 310-822-8392, pacificresidenttheatre.com
- **SPARC - Social and Public Art Resource Center**, 685 Venice Blvd. sparcmurals.org
- **Townhouse**. 52 Windward.
- **Venice High School** 13000 Venice Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90066 (310) 577-4200
- **Vera Davis Center**, 610 California Ave. 310-305-1865
- **Westminster Elementary School**, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (enter auditorium from Westminster Ave) 310-606-2018
- **Unurban Coffee Shop** - 3301 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, 310-315-0056

LALOUVER.COM

ELEMENTAL

Group show

24 Jan 2018 - 3 Mar 2018

The exhibition brings together sculptures by established and emerging artists, whose works focus on essential materiality and form.

Featuring Peter Alexander, Carl Andre, Josh Callaghan, Richard Deacon, Toshikatsu Endo, Richard Long, Nathan Mabry, John McCracken, Richard Nonas, Yoko Ono, Adrian Paules, Fabrice Samyn, Peter Shelton, and John Zane Zappas.

Henri Matisse - Works on Paper, 1913-1948

24 Jan 2018 - 3 Mar 2018

We are pleased to present a rare selection of works on paper by celebrated artist Henri Matisse. Created between 1913-1948, these etchings, lithographs and linocuts reflect the artist's devotion to figuration.

Matt Wedel

Skyroom

24 Jan 2018 - 4 Mar 2018

Venice Arts Fundraiser

Join Venice Arts and hosts Ruthie Seroussi & Mike Newhouse Sarah & Jay Sung to celebrate and raise funds for this fantastic nonprofit. The event takes place at Venice's original Prohibition Era Speakeasy (beneath Townhouse) for an a fun & festive party benefiting Venice Arts.

Complimentary whiskey tasting, Delicious appetizers & desserts from local restaurants. Silent auction and raffle featuring photos by Venice Arts' students, as well as goods and services from local businesses. Cash bar with specialty drinks. Stay for live music at 9:00pm for no extra charge

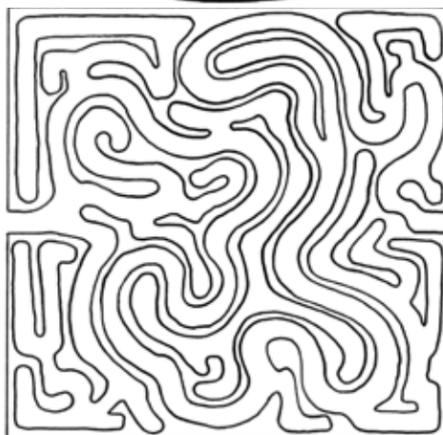
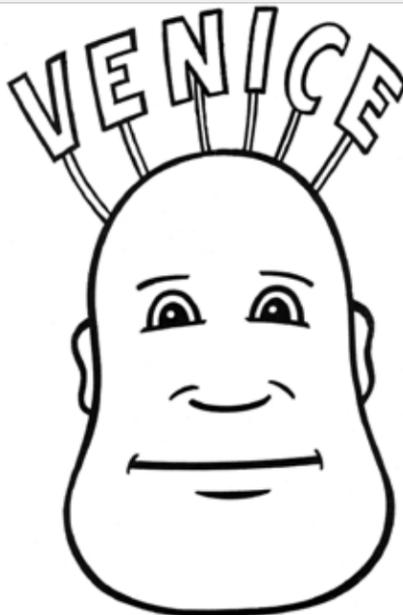
TICKETS are \$30 in advance or \$40 at the door;

Art Party

Townhouse Venice, 52 Windward Ave., LA, 90291

When: 6:30pm - 9:00pm

Website: <http://www.venicearts.org/>



START

FINISH



THE GREATEST HITS FROM THE GOLDEN AGE OF LOVE SONGS

THE LOVE UNINHIBITED ORCHESTRA



MAKE VALENTINES DAY GREAT AGAIN!

MOLLY MALONE'S

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 11 ♥ 8PM ♥ \$10

♥ 575 S FAIRFAX AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90036 ♥

WWW.LOVEUNINHIBITEDORCHESTRA.COM
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LOVEUNINHIBITEDORCHESTRA.COM

Dear loved ones!

Valentines Day is upon us! And if you're looking for a one-of-a-kind Valentine's experience, look no further than the Love Uninhibited Orchestra love song sing-along, featuring the greatest hits from the golden age of love songs.

Bring a hot date or meet one there! Bask in the love as you witness 100 or so strangers become fast friends, singing without inhibition together. Lyrics provided!

What the world needs now is more love and more love song sing-alongs. So don't be shy. You're the star. And Love Uninhibited is your 17-piece love orchestra. I can't wait to hear you!

with great longing, and pining too, making Valentine's Day great again, your maestro of love,

Danny Moynahan

The Love Uninhibited Orchestra
A Love Song Sing-along

Sunday, February 11, 8:00pm

Molly Malone's

575 S. Fairfax Ave.

Los Angeles, CA 90036

The Love Uninhibited Orchestra is:

Nichele Monroe-vocals

Johanna Moynahan-vocals

Kate Nicholzen-vocals

Matt Phairas-vocals

Michael Moynahan-trumpet, vocals

Timothy Moynahan-trombone

Charlie Unkeless-trumpet

Eli Chenevert-violin

Kanoa Ichinayagi-violin

Henrik Schulz-cello

Josh Herbst-drums

Marc Doten-bass

David Markowitz-guitar

Vivek Maddala-keys, guitar

Danny Moynahan-maestro and piano

loveuninhibited.com

THE OFFICIAL LA INVITES YOU TO THE LAUNCH OF SEXY KITCHEN

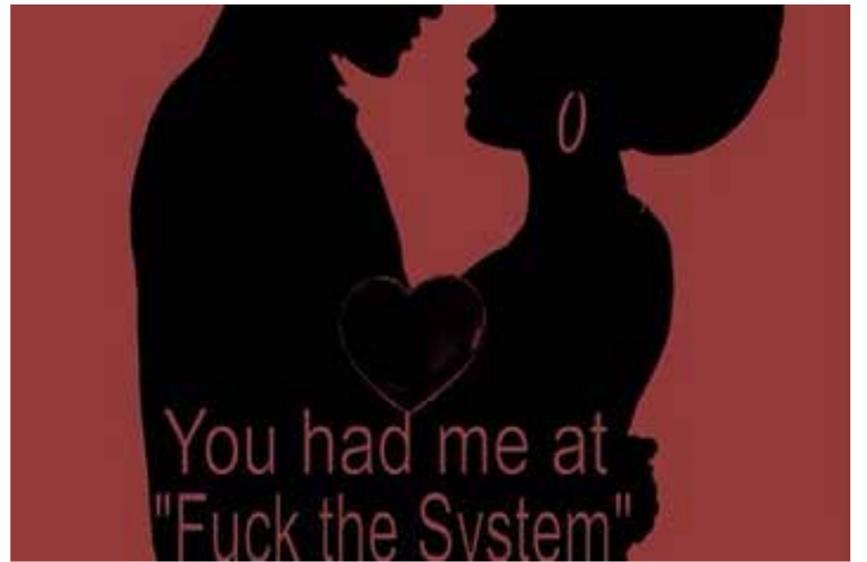
On February 8, 2018

@7451, Melrose Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90046

Dress to Kill: #BeSexy #SexyKitchen

All Day & Night events: Breakfast in Bed, Snacks for Lovers, Aphrodisiac Bar, Blindfolded Dinner Date Night

Real romance begins in the kitchen and to add more flames to the fire, we are launching our new company, Sexy Kitchen (aphrodisiac cooking ingredients and classes). Come and be a part of our team with your sweeter half. For singles, you don't want to miss this opportunity to mingle with other singles and VIP guests. Indulge in sensual bites, exotic cocktails at our aphrodisiac bar, and end the day with a sexy blindfolded dinner date. There are lots of sweet prizes and fun surprises at our POP UP Tasting Room at 7451 Melrose Ave.



Margaret Scott

