

FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

SINCE 1968

March 2017 #424

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SAVE VENICE! GET OUT SNAP!!

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ARE WE AT WAR YET?

The following is from a conversation with Sky, a Native Venetian, to discuss the current Snapchat Problem.

Jon Wolff: I was born and raised here. I'm a natural born Venetian. You also are a natural born Venetian. Is that right?

Sky: Yes. I was born and raised here but I'm kind of younger. I was born in 1990. And I've seen, since then, what older folks would say is the same style of Gentrification that's been going on forever. But this is like way worse. In my lifetime, even agreed upon by older folks, this is the worst that it's ever been. So I'm fighting it.

JW: You had a communication with somebody, awhile back, who was coming out in favor of the Snapchat Invasion/Colonization or whatever you want to call it. Can you read that?

S: Yeah. I put something up on Facebook that would cause a stir and got some friend requests from people that I didn't know. I gave it the benefit of the doubt and added them. They had some really negative things to say. This is one of the things. We actually sent this woman an article from the L.A. Times recognizing the locals' distress and what Snapchat is doing here. And this is what she responded. It says, "lol. I read the article. Hippies and artists can no longer afford Venice. Oh the humanity. We should shut down a \$15 billion company so artists can live by the beach and not spend so much money? It sounds ridiculous because it is. If artists, poets, and other low-income, generally speaking, producing people want a place to live, then they can move somewhere else. There are plenty of artsy places yet to be gentrified. Check out East L.A., El Sereno, Eagle Rock. All great places, just one third the cost of Venice." So, when I heard that, I was just really upset. There's a lot of backlashing but I kind of didn't say anything. I let other people take care of it. But I've been reading that passage at some of the meetings around here just to show people what kind of attitude people have when they're part of something, a big army like that. We're kind of small and we're fighting for our unique Culture. And there's a lot of other people that are fighting for just some, I don't know, just some tech, corporate, weird app on your phone.

JW: You used a term, talking about this last week, that I haven't heard anybody else use about anything in all this time and certainly throughout this present struggle. You referred to this as a War.

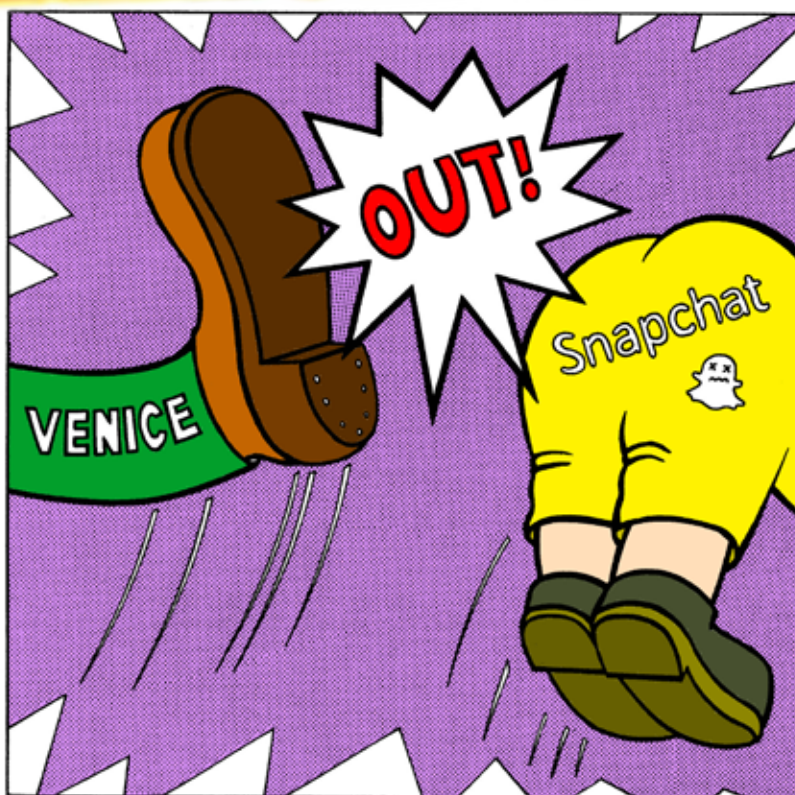
S: Yeah. I strongly believe it is a War.

JW: I feel that Snapchat, and all their kind, would consider it a War. They think they're at War; we just haven't realized yet that we're at War.

S: I think that, based on some of the meetings that we all have been to recently, this is brand new information. We went to a meeting last night. And a lot was said. And a lot of important things were said that I'm kind of afraid about. Thinking about the tech corporations: they're trying to get answers for things so that, when they start making their plans, they have all the complaints. They have everything.

JW: Yeah. I suspect that a lot of what they're doing is putting out focus groups, a kind of fact-finding expedition to see what our strengths and weaknesses are. They

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SAVE VENICE! GET OUT SNAP!!

Most copies of last month's Beachhead were mysteriously missing shortly after they were delivered to their usual spots (probably thrown out by Snap employees), so I decided to write another follow-up article with some updated information.

I just recently found out that an old friend's apartment complex is now empty. It sits right across the street from two Snap Inc offices and it was just sold in November and he just moved out last month. There were 10 apartments in there and now every single one of those residents has moved elsewhere. They were all there for many years and now they are all gone. Snap plans on re-doing the entire building surely for their employees to live and/or work. My friend and his neighbors didn't all of the sudden wake up one day and realize they didn't enjoy the beach anymore. This is a common story of hundreds of people in the Venice area in the past 2-3 years. From my research it's safe to say that if you see any business or resident moving out, or any construction being done to a building in the Venice Beach area, it's a safe bet that it will become a building for Snap employees to live and/or work. This is alarming. Venice is NOT a big area, and Snap's takeover of all of these buildings is not only displacing hundreds of people - it's ruining people's lives.

And we're not just losing these people and properties to a bunch of developers and entrepreneurs or solely to the machine of gentrification - we're losing it to one single company! They're picking apart our community piece by piece. As a resident in the middle of all of this, it not only looks and feels like a college or corporate campus, it looks and feels like a military take-over that's gradually pushing out everyone and taking over a new territory - one resident at a time, one business at a time, one property at a time.

Most residents and long-time members of the community don't mind new money coming into the neighborhood. Deep down most of us expected this to happen at some point. It's the spirit of the community that's being lost that is upsetting to most - losing its history and the destination it is for tourists, and taking away the soul of a neighborhood that has stood for generations. Add to that all the other things like their overbearing security guards, parking spaces being taken away, family and friends being forced to move, many favorite bars and restaurants closing, crosswalks put up overnight that make driving down Pacific a nightmare, an influx of vans, shuttles and busses holding up traffic and using Speedway and Pacific as unofficial bus/shuttle stops, and retail store owners having their leases doubled almost overnight and it leads to a lot of shocked and angry locals that feel overwhelmed, defenseless, sad and upset. It's depressing

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We, the Committee for the Preservation of Venice, call for a general demonstration and a protest of Snap, Inc. and Snapchat on the 100 block of Market Street in Venice, California 90291.

We protest Snap's ham-fisted and insensitive intrusion into our community. We protest security guards hassling people walking on public sidewalks.

We protest Snap co-opting Venice landmarks and rendering them private and off-limits to the general public.

We protest Snap illegally taking beachfront residential properties and turning them into office space.

We protest Snap insulating itself and its workforce against the community, prohibiting contact, while it tells the city it is adding jobs for the community.

We protest another corporate effort to remove the affordable housing stock in a district of Los Angeles that was always a haven of economic diversity.

We protest Snap contributing to pricing out venerated Venice institutions.

We ask: Why do you want to be in Venice, if you don't want to be of Venice? We call for investors to avoid the Snap, Inc. IPO until they address these issues.

SNAPCHAT PROTEST PHOTOS ON BACK PAGE



photo by Margaret Molloy

The Evil in the World: High School Rants of Presidential Advisor Steven Miller

by Winston O'Boogie

"Our nation was obliterated by the evil in the world, as we sung songs of peace and love."

- Steven Miller

In his wandering 2002 letter to a local newspaper, a Santa Monica High School junior student, Steven Miller, who's now advisor for the Trump Administration, complains that "political correctness" of liberals wrongly allows the School District to print bilingual materials. He favors only English usage.

Declaring, by way of introduction, that he had just been on the conservative Larry Elder talk show, his immature and preprogrammed rightist politics grimly foreshadow intolerant tenets of our present administration.

He claims Spanish speakers are disproportionately not enrolled in Honors classes: poor English skills are cited.

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Beachhead Collective Staff:

Eric Ahlberg, Mary Getlein, Alice Stek.

The FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD is published monthly by the Beachhead Collective as a vehicle for the people of Venice to communicate their ideas and opinions to the community at large. The Beachhead encourages anyone to submit news stories, articles, letters, photos, poetry or graphics of interest to the Venice community.

The staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor on the Beachhead. The printing is financed by ads, sustainers and donations. The articles, poetry and art work express the opinions of the individual contributors and are not necessarily the views of the Beachhead Collective.

To submit material, include your name and telephone number. Anonymous material will not be printed, but your name will be withheld on request. No payment is made for material used.

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COLLECTIVE REVIVAL

We are starting to hold collective meeting meetings at Beyond Baroque. Please join us. The Free Venice Beachhead has always been about citizens of Venice expressing their opinions. The Free Venice Beachhead has always been about Venice artists and what they express. We now have all the tools of modern media to use. The Beachhead is evolving to be a news hub, to support progressive causes and artistic culture of Venice. This is your job.

We hear that even the LA Louver Gallery is being evicted to make more office space for Silicon Beach.

This issue is coming out after the LA City Election,

“Are We at War Yet??” continued from page 1

ask us questions. They come off like they want to get feedback from the community. When, in fact, they want to test the depth of the water. They want to see what they can get away with and how fast they have to move and whether we’re going to do anything about it.

S: Moving and shaking. The thing about it is, maybe I’m just paranoid but there’s just a bad pattern that what we don’t want keeps happening. What we ask for doesn’t seem to stick.

JW: And experience has shown that this type of thing never turns out well for us. It always turns to the favor of the other side. And any kind of concessions that we make, anything that we let go, never gets back. I think that past struggles have shown that we can’t have any peaceful co-existence with them. They’re not going to get with the program. They’re not going to learn how to be nice and play nice with the rest of us. There was a time, many years ago, when there was an attempt to put the freeway through Venice. People of Venice fought back. People of Venice won. This is no different. What we need to do though is get our heads straight and take action now.

S: The actions that we need to take are drastic because there’s a lot of people that are angry. So we have to do it the right way and not the wrong way. A lot of people think, they look at me and they think, “That kid looks kind of aggressive.” We’re all really sweethearts. We all have really big hearts. But we’re just born in this area. We’re not from cookie cutter homes. It might look that way now. But when we were growing up it was a lot different. We’re just here protecting. We’re the angels protecting our city. We’re trying really, really hard. Everyone is trying really, really hard. I think that there are ways to protest peacefully. We could do it with music, drum circles.

JW: At one of the recent meetings, one guy talked about this being just part of the natural state of things and that there’s nothing you can do about it. And that it’s inevitable and it’s just the way things are always going to go. So we might as well just give up. Do you have any thoughts on that?

S: I don’t think we’re ever going to give up. I think there’s a lot of people. We just need to start hitting up and really telling them this is a big problem. We have to

so we have nothing to print on that won’t be obsolete. Venice has a lot of disagreements. Progressives are split on Prop S, and while we have much enthusiasm for Robin, we have little hope for either hardworking community activist Robin Rudisill, or consistently and evilly anti-homeless Mark Ryavec. Mike Bonin would seem to have the Democratic Party machine working for him. LA elections can be won with only 4.3% of the voters, because only 8.6% of LA City voters show up to vote.

We hear that the Berniecrats have taken over the Democratic Party in California. Left activist fundraising is better than it’s ever been. Don’t be Trumped.

Get out and do the bump.

have more people mad about it that are big and have a lot of pull in Venice to go and talk to the people. I could definitely say something but I’m still young.

JW: These meetings seem to be getting a little more angry each time.

S: Yeah. But that’s why I think that there are decoy meetings.

JW: Yeah. I’ve likened it to that process of opening a bottle of soda pop slowly to let the carbonation out so it doesn’t explode in your face. And that’s what they’re trying to do with us. They’re trying to let us let off steam. They want us to just yell and shout and get it off our chest and then we go home and nothing gets done. We need to keep doing what we’re doing and keep building on this; keep building the anger and the frustration. And anything we do after this will be effective.

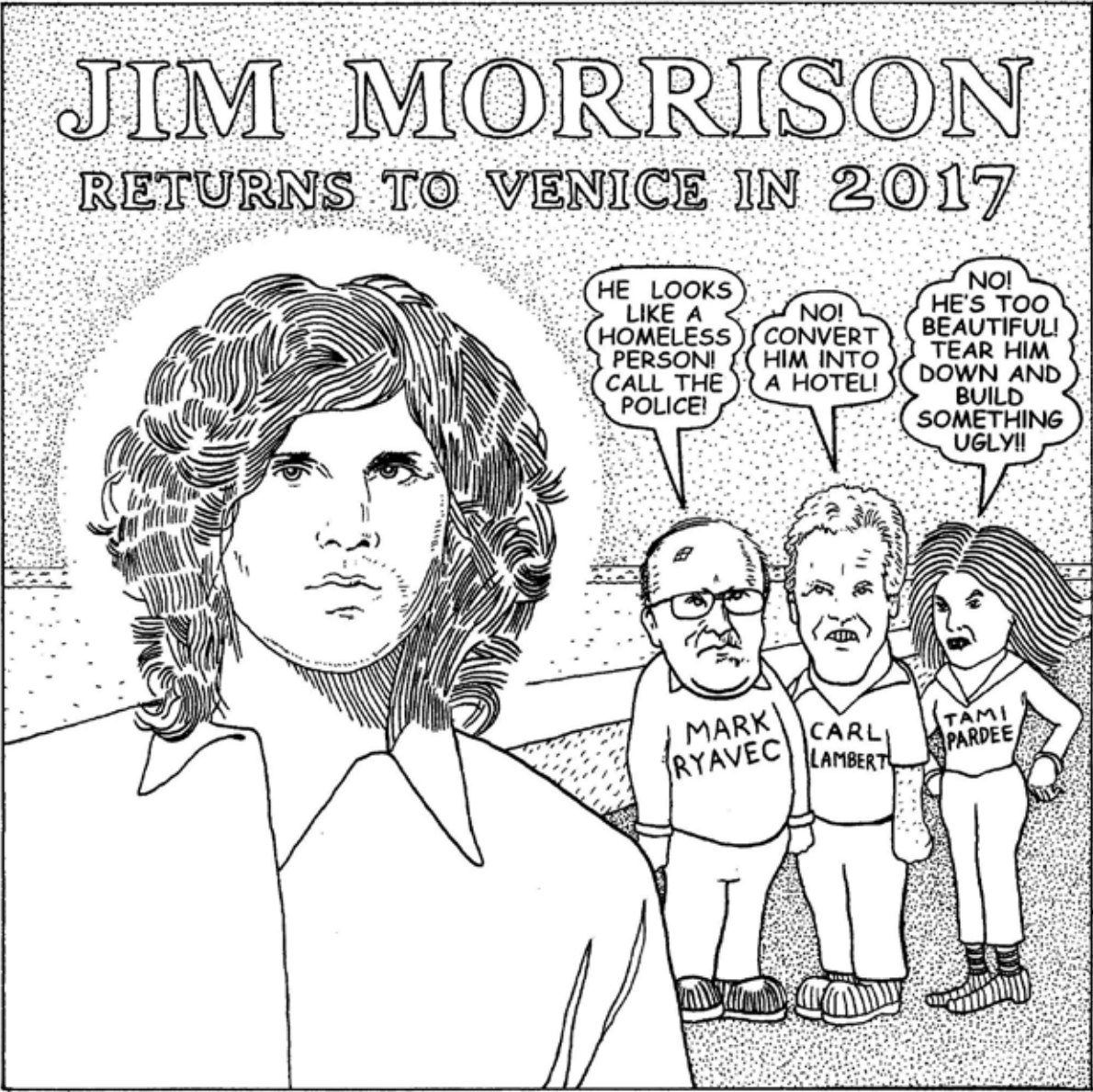
S: We could start hitting up other communities that have been affected by it like San Francisco, and places that know our pain.

JW: Boyle Heights has been fairly successful in their reaction to Gentrification.

S: We could hit up all the cities in L.A. that have been dealing with it.

JW: But Venice has its own way of doing things too. I feel that, whereas organization is important and it’s tempting to put a lot of faith in everybody working together as a group, the individual actions are also effective because there’s no command structure. It’s hard for the other side to predict what’s going to happen. If every man and woman in Venice does what he or she knows to do, Snapchat won’t be able to head this off. All the surveillance cameras in the world won’t be able to keep track of what’s going on and they’ll never know which end it’s going to come from. And everybody will act in the same Spirit because we’ll all act in the Spirit of Venice. And, by then, they’ll leave. We have to get it in our head that we want them to leave. We want them to not be here anymore. We can’t think that we’re just going to take what we can get and hope that it all turns out okay and we don’t get hurt too bad. I think that we need to envision them disappeared. We have to expect to win this. We can’t be on the defensive. We have to decide and choose what we want to happen. And we can make

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the right decisions at the right time.

S: The reason people aren’t fighting for it is because they’re naïve. It’s not like a broken leg where you get a cast and everyone can see it. It’s like a cancer. Like inside of you. And it’s not bad yet. And no one can see it. And you don’t even know you have it. “Do I have a lump here? I don’t know. Well, I don’t care.” And you’re just walking around with a fucking lump on your side. It’s eating away your fucking days and you’re tired and you’re sad and you’re like, “What is this fucking lump?” And it gets bigger and it gets badder and then you notice it. All of a sudden you’re almost dead. That’s what it is. That’s the best way to describe it ‘cause it’s an internal thing that you cannot see.

JW: Well then, to carry the analogy, early intervention would be advised here. Something radical. Radical surgery, radical excise surgery.

S: Cut it out and throw it away. That’s radical but it’s the only way.

JW: That is the way. It’s that or death.

S: It’s really sad. There’s no other way. Let’s say, “Please move to Playa del Rey?” “Please move anywhere else?” “You can have Playa?” Sorry, Playa de Reyans.

JW: I think they might as well move to another country. I think they’d do well there.

S: Or like their own island somewhere.

JW: They can set up an oil rig somewhere off shore and do it from there.

S: We have to do something.

JW: Do you have ideas from other people about what to do?

S: Oh yeah. People tell me sometimes we should sidewalk chalk Market and blast it with some paint. But that’s all bad energy stuff. I think it would be better if we had a really loud parade.

JW: What about the Snapchat security that’s becoming a private army here now?

S: Those guys are punks. There’s a thing though. You can’t really let them get to you. In the beginning, I was looking for trouble with them: taking their pictures, following them around. It’s really dramatic and crazy and everyone’s really paranoid about it. Some of the kids’ families are getting pushed out of their homes. They’re not talking about it because it’s not something they want to share with anyone. But, little do they know, everyone is going through it. Everyone’s afraid right now, I think. That’s why I said we’re at War. Because we don’t know we’re at War but they do know. They’re moving pawns and chess pieces around and getting properties. It’s like they’re playing chess right now and we are not even on the board. We’re not doing anything. We’re just yelling about where the pieces should be. We can’t come to an agreement about where to put the first move. For some reason, we have maybe a hundred people trying to be one person and Snapchat is two people working together calling all the shots.

JW: That’s why I say we might as well not wait to take direction from anybody, not wait to receive commands from anybody. If every single person acts with that same Spirit of Venice, they would make the right decisions at the right time. They would know what to do. And that would be unstoppable. We can do this. We’ll see the end of this. We’ll see the backside of Snapchat if everyone just does what they know to do. In big ways and little ways.

S: There’s also the investors. The big investors of Venice. Some of them that actually live here that aren’t even part of Snapchat. I have a feeling that they support it.

JW: But they’re not stupid. When this starts to turn sour, they’ll pull their money and Snapchat will go the way of every other failed company. If this enterprise gets just a little bit stinky, the investors will turn. They have no loyalty. They have no ideology. They don’t “believe” in Snapchat. They just want to make as much money as they can, as fast as they can. If Snapchat got a bad reputation, like Wells Fargo bank has a bad reputation now and lost 30% of their depositors, the same thing can happen with Snapchat. The same thing. It’s easier than we think.

S: We just gotta do it.

JW: We’re going to keep our eyes open on this. And we can expect everyone to make moves on their own without anyone telling them what to do. Do you think we can manage that?

S: Yeah.

JW: Amen.

After the writing of the above conversation, the people of Venice came out to demonstrate in front of Snapchat headquarters on Market St. Hundreds of people, young and old, of all sizes, shapes, and colors filled the street with shouts and drums. Each person had a handmade sign with a different brilliant slogan. At this time, more protests and actions are expected to come.

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and it’s very real. So real that most Snap employees don’t even talk to their immediate neighbors because they feel they’ll just be gone soon anyways.

Snap employees and capitalists will say it’s the American way and will point to the philanthropy projects they are supposedly doing, but shredding a historic community of what it was built for is wrong no matter what society. Imagine if Louisiana-based ExxonMobil decided they wanted to use Bourbon Street in New Orleans as their “corporate campus” and started taking over hotels and jazz clubs for their offices and stripping away the street of what it’s been known for the last 100 years! This is no different! And the amount of charitable work they are doing within the community is a joke. For the millions of dollars they are using to buy and lease all of these properties, their philanthropy efforts are laughable and one could argue it’s only being done so they can refer to it when community backlash occurs as it is right now. Not to mention, all companies of that size give to charity and it doesn’t lessen the pain of seeing them slicing up the neighborhood one bit.

This area we live in is unlike any other place on Earth - there’s literally no place like Venice anywhere in the world. And what’s happening here before all our eyes changes everything! At this rate, if nothing is stopped and nothing is done, the 1.5-mile stretch of Venice Beach, the 2nd biggest tourist attraction in California, will be gone as we know it because of this one single company - and this is not an exaggeration. Think about it – no one comes to Venice Beach to see a bunch of offices with security guards in front of them who get upset when people take photos or talk to their employees. And if mom-pop stores have to leave because of their leases skyrocketing and residents are pushed out for more office space, that combination leads to less tourists, and less tourists leads to even less mom-pop stores and residents, and that leads to even less tourists and so on until there is minimal stores and residents and the attraction of what makes Venice Beach today will effectively only be the beach itself and a bike path - no mom-pop stores, no artists, no musicians, no surfers, no street performers, no weirdness, nothing outlandish, and ultimately no tourists. Skateboarders and surfers will find other places to go, the Freak Show on and off the boardwalk will be gone, historic buildings like Gingerbread Court and L.A. Louver will be office space, and our homeless will be shunned even more than they are now. It will be like every other beach community we’ve all seen everywhere else, except this one will have a couple expensive retail stores on the beach selling smart phones and Tech sunglasses! All because of one single company that just doesn’t care. This company moved to Venice NOT because they liked the character and the vibe, but because they saw an opportunity. And then once things started to go well they saw an even bigger opportunity - an opportunity to renovate a town to their liking and how they see fit, all driven by their ego to show their presence in “Silicon Beach”. And the City of LA and the politicians and real estate owners just let them do whatever they want with no regard to the longtime residents of the community or the world-renown attraction of what Venice Beach is today or was in the past.

Some people think this is an outlandish, farfetched and exaggerated point of view, but I can tell you that it certainly is not based on the many conversations I’ve been having with real estate developers, business owners and locals. And you know it’s bad when many business owners are afraid to talk about this in fear they will be pushed out themselves in retaliation. Seriously – look at what’s happened in the last two years and fast-forward to the next couple months after Snap goes public and hundreds of overnight millionaires in their 20’s are walking around Venice with their new homes and flashy cars, and then fast-forward a few years after that and they have more than half the properties from Pacific to the beach, and then a couple years after that they’ll be trying to close off streets that have their offices and homes on so the public doesn’t use them anymore, and then eventually one day they will try to keep outsiders from walking on what they feel is their very own private beach.

This, more than ever, could very well be the beginning of the end of one of the biggest tourist attractions in the country. AirBnB may have been an earthquake that wiped out half of our friends and neighbors, and this will be the giant tsunami that follows and washes away everything we’ve known about our community and we’ll only be left to remember the great tourist attraction that Venice once was. This cultural disintegration will indeed happen unless our elected officials, the city of Los Angeles, the California Coastal Commission and the local community stand up and stop turning a blind eye. There will be no more Venice Beach. The second biggest tourist attraction in the state will be the fastest crumbling tourist attraction in the world and outsiders will refer to it as “Snapville.”

Don’t believe me? Here’s a new “incomplete” list of over 30 properties they use that I’m sure most of their employees don’t even know about:

38-85 Market Street
100 Market Street (the other side of the new crosswalk)
1605-1607 S. Pacific (above Bank of Venice)

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Is he not trying to suggest Latinos are less intelligent? Miller comes across with a self righteous and accusatory tone, in his rambling letter of regurgitated conservative talking points, printed in the local Lookout, and reading like a scattered broadside in which Miller whines about his twenty odd charges, as if he is "telling on" teachers, district and disloyal classmates.

Miller, while writing in his own repressive teen adolescence, mourns the ready availability of condoms, and decries any sex ever occurring between minors anyway, citing statutory law. He is also frightened by gay clubs on campus, while he laments that parents are not required to be notified of a gay student's "alternative lifestyle."

He complains further that the School District, at three times per week, does not require the repetition of Pledge of Allegiance often enough, and that teachers often insult the President.

He is disturbed that on Veterans Day and "thanksgiving" (sic verbatim) students are not taught about "our brave US soldiers and the courageous pilgrims."

Sarcastically, with a rising hint of the disheveled prophet-lunatic, he then proposes, would we not be better off, "if our soldiers never killed anyone, and we watched as our nation was obliterated by the evil in the world, as we sung songs of peace and love."

He feels free to use the most juvenile, unimaginative, commonplace, tired old hateful racist chestnuts in trying to ridicule native Americans, simply embarrassing himself as a writer:

"Or, better yet, we could have lived with the Indians, learning how to finger paint and make tepees, excusing their scalping of frontiersmen as part of their culture."

His bald attempts, in his ham-fisted 10th-grade newspaper rant, to shock us by using all these retread caricatures as rhetoric, may take the cub reporter Miller out of his comfort zone, so he soon reverts to his more comfortable jingoistic stance of gaining approval by flag waving near his loosely organized crank letter's conclusion.

I have to wonder if this brat Miller had stylistic help from an interested uncle or some extreme right grownup, in crafting this retro kneejerk screed, and thus robotically intoning every incendiary buzzword from the last 30 years of GOP Newthink.

His boyish knack for mindlessly quoting all the worn out phrases supplied by his conservative predecessors has clearly shaped his blatant bloody flag waving and phony patriotic posturing:

"...let us just agree that we're a horrible nation. Or, we can raise our flags, lift our guns, and proclaim that we are Americans, that we enjoy personal freedoms Islamic nations could only dream about, we are the land of the free, the home of the brave."

He warns of teachers bringing in liberal books to supplement texts. He assails discussing ethical values of Moslems - as if these were directly conflicted against the promotion of U.S. nationalism.

Complaining that almost no students "covered their heart" at a memorial 9/11 assembly, he seems to bitterly lament some correct display of symbolism.

He concludes with more finger pointing and a call to action to stifle the supposed liberal district:

"...our school found error in our attack on Afghanistan. The school newspaper condemned our military response. Administrators, worried students might become patriotic, were also quick to preach non-violence. Osama Bin Laden would feel very welcome at Santa Monica High School.

If you feel, like me, that political correctness has crossed the line, call the school or the district. Ask them to leave their liberal agendas at the front gate. Enough politics, it's time for common sense."

Who is this High School crusader and now, Presidential advisor?

The terror baiting, homophobic racist, rapist, jingo spouting war mongering un-American book burners who want to lynch all the liberal teachers, eject immigrants, chain women, and now enforce their imagined America on all Americans, seem to have found their ideal zeitgeist, the spirit of our time, well articulated for them today by this boy wonder bigot apparently raised on right wing radio, who loves to gain attention from pure shock value - and hails from right here, out of our own allegedly liberal, sandy, sleepy People's Republic of Santa Monica California.

We are not proud of this. We are able to be greater, I'm sure, in our care for one another. Yet our one hope is, truth comes out, having its own weight, and force.





Mae Kageyama,
Venice High School
class of 1941



Yoshinori Tomita in Manzanar,
age 5, lower left corner



Yoshinori Tomita in 2016



April 2012: Venice High School
student Scott Pine and
LA City Councilmember Bill
Rosendahl with VJAMM model



Brian and Arnold Maeda in 1946



Amy Takahashi in Malibu, sixteen-years old



Mae Kageyama Kakehashi, on
the occasion of her 90th birthday
in 2013

Dedication of Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument planned for Thursday, April 27, 2017



Brian Maeda and
Arnold Maeda in 2014



Amy Takahashi Ioki in 2010

Dedication of Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument planned for Thurs, April 27, 2017

By Phyllis Hayashibara

The Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument (VJAMM) Committee has planned the Dedication of the VJAMM for Thursday, April 27, 2017, 10:00 am – 11:30 am on the Northwest Corner of Venice and Lincoln. The nine-foot six-inch tall solid black granite obelisk will commemorate the forced removal of persons of Japanese ancestry and their incarceration in the American concentration camp at Manzanar, so that such an injustice will never be perpetrated again. Warren Furutani, community activist and Manzanar Pilgrimage pioneer, has confirmed as keynote speaker. The VJAMM Dedication will be followed by the sixth annual VJAMM fund-raiser at Hama Sushi Restaurant in Venice. Proprietor Esther Chaing will donate 100% of all pre-ordered bento lunch profits and 10% of all dinner sales to the VJAMM Committee.

Over several days in April, 1942, about 1,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from Venice, Santa Monica, and Malibu reported to this corner, literally, with only what they could carry. Civilian Exclusion Order No. 7 had given Japanese Americans only days to register their families, dispose of their property and possessions; their businesses, their vehicles, and their pets. They lined up along Venice Boulevard for bus transport directly to what would become the War Relocation Authority internment camp called Manzanar, deep in Inyo County off Highway 395. At the time, they did not know their destination, that the bus ride would take four hours, or that many of them would be imprisoned for over three years for the duration of World War II.

The dedication of the VJAMM will also mark the 75th anniversary of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's signing Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942. EO 9066 followed Japan's December 7, 1941 bombing of the U.S. naval base in Hawaii, and led to the detainment of persons living in the U.S. whose only offense was that they "looked like the enemy."

As the front side of the VJAMM reads, EO 9066 "empowered the U.S. army to declare areas of Washington, Oregon, and California militarily sensitive. EO 9066 forced the removal of 120,000 Japanese and American citizens of Japanese ancestry from the west coast to be imprisoned in temporary assembly centers at fairgrounds and race tracks. Months later, they were taken to ten American concentration camps under the War Relocation Authority. This forced removal and imprisonment, without any regard to due process or the writ of habeas corpus, violated their rights under the U.S. Constitution."

One side of the VJAMM features quotes from five former incarcerated at Manzanar.

Brian Tadashi Maeda, who was born in Manzanar: "My family reported to this very corner, before being sent to Manzanar concentration camp with only what they could carry. They, and many other families, lost everything: their homes, their businesses, their liberties."

Arnold Tadao Maeda from Santa Monica: "Instead of being worried about where we were going, I was obsessed with the fact that I had parted with my constant companion, my pet dog, Boy. For a fifteen-year-old, that was unforgettably traumatic."

Mae Kageyama Kakehashi from Venice: "When the camp closed, we were given twenty-five dollars and told to leave. But we had nothing when we left camp – no home, no jobs, no prospects. It was very hard on all of us."

Arnold Maeda had this to say to the Santa Monica City Council in September, 2016:

"... whenever I passed by ... the corner of Venice and Lincoln, I found myself welling up with a gut wrenching emotional feeling which I hadn't known had been harboring within me. It wasn't until sometime after I joined the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument Committee that my visceral emotional feeling began to ease up. Today I am full of hope that this 9 feet 6 inch monument project will be completed soon. We hope that this monument will help thousands and thousands of us to be alert so that nothing of this nature will ever happen again."

Amy Takahashi Ioki from Malibu: *As a sixteen-year-old I didn't realize the injustice fully, but in time we learned how our rights as citizens were ignored. Thanks to the strength and resilience of our Issei parents, we were able to survive.*

Yoshinori Tomita from Venice: *"I was only five years old when we were imprisoned in Manzanar. I feel so grateful to the many Nisei and Sansei who worked successfully for redress and reparations with the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. I feel extremely grateful also to all the people in the community who came together to make the VJAMM a reality."*

Another side of the VJAMM permanently acknowledges its major donors for their support. These Major Donors include: Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program of the National Park Service (\$50,000 matching grant 2:1), Jung and Esther Chaing of Hama Sushi Restaurant in Venice (\$14,500.00 through April 2016); and those who have contributed \$5,000: former Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl of the 11th District, current Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin of the 11th District, former Los Angeles County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky of the 3rd District, current Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl of the 3rd District, current Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas of the 2nd District, former Los Angeles County Supervisor Don Knabe of the 4th District, former California State Senator Ted Lieu of the 28th District, and the Santa Monica City Council. For a complete list of all donors and supporters, please visit www.venicejamm.org.

The back of the VJAMM features a map of the route

to the Manzanar National Historical site, north of Venice towards Bishop along Highway 395. The Manzanar Committee sponsors an annual Pilgrimage to Manzanar, and will convene its 48th Pilgrimage on Saturday, April 29, 2017. Furutani, a fourth generation Japanese American community activist who has served in various political offices, spearheaded the first pilgrimage to Manzanar in 1969. Furutani co-founded the Manzanar Committee with Victor Shibata and Sue Kunitomo Embrey to organize annual pilgrimages and to advocate for state and federal recognition of the Manzanar site. In 1985, Manzanar was designated a National Historic Landmark, and in 1992, Congress voted and President George H. W. Bush signed into law the establishment of the Manzanar National Historic Site "to provide for the protection and interpretation of the historical, cultural, and natural resources associated with the relocation of Japanese Americans during World War II."

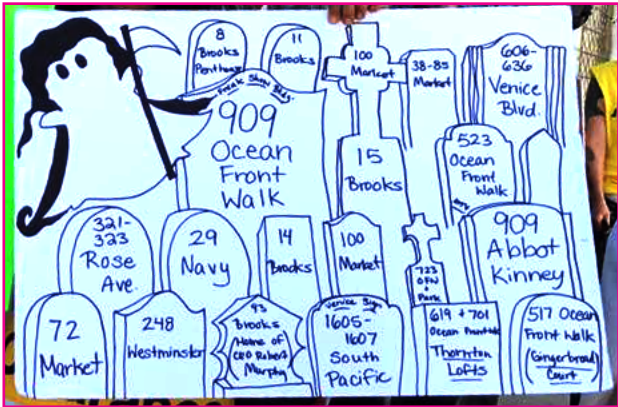
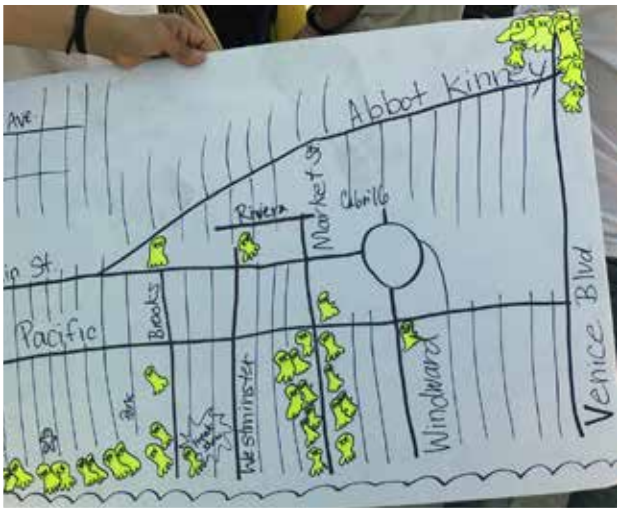
The VJAMM Committee emerged from activists and artists in the Venice community in the wake of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on the Pentagon in Virginia, the World Trade Center in New York, and the aborted attack that crash-landed in a field in Pennsylvania. They decried the indiscriminate assaults against, and calls for the arrest of, individuals who shared the religion, nationality, or region of origin with the terrorists. Meanwhile, students in the New Media Academy at Venice High School responded to the "lest we forget" plea in the April, 2009 edition of the Free Venice Beachhead. For a current events discussion, student Scott Pine brought in The Beachhead, which urged its readers to contact then-Los Angeles City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl, District 11, to secure his support for a permanent memorial in Venice, so that such a violation of constitutional rights would never happen again to another minority group based solely on a common characteristic such as nationality or religious affiliation. Councilmember Rosendahl responded immediately, and sent a bus to Venice High School so students could make their presentation before the Los Angeles City Council at City Hall in May, 2009. Rosendahl enthusiastically supported the VJAMM, and his successor, current 11th District Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin, has continued his staunch support of the efforts of the VJAMM Committee.

In 1983, the Commission on the Wartime Internment and Relocation of Civilians reported that not "military necessity," but "race prejudice, war hysteria, and a failure of political leadership," had led to the internment of Japanese Americans in 1942. Furthermore, the report also concluded that a "grave personal injustice was done. . . without individual review or any probative evidence."

The nine feet, six inch tall, black granite obelisk of the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument echoes the fifteen foot tall, white concrete obelisk that stands in the Manzanar cemetery, erected by internees in 1943. The Manzanar cemetery's three Kania characters, "I Rei To," mean, "monument to console the dead." The VJAMM seeks to remind the living "to be forever vigilant about defending our constitutional rights. The powers of government must never again perpetrate an injustice against any group based solely on ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, race, or religion."

Today, more than ever, the significance of the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument cannot be emphasized enough.

和自由公



continued from page 3
909 OFW - the Freak Show building
8 Brooks Avenue #7, top floor penthouse
11 Brooks Avenue Northwest corner of Brooks and
Speedway
14 Brooks Avenue – Southeast corner of Brooks and
Speedway
15 Brooks Avenue - Northeast corner of Brooks and
Speedway
43 Brooks Avenue – home of CEO Robert Murphy
723 Ocean Front Walk at Park Avenue.
619 & 701 OFW – Thornton Lofts
523 OFW – blue house : previous Snapchat Headquar-
ters and old MTV Beach House
517 OFW - the back of Gingerbread Court
29 Navy – apartment complex
321-323 1/2 Rose Ave at 3rd – apartment complex
908-910 Abbot Kinney - Corner of Abbot Kinney and
Main, parking lot and adjacent building.
248 Westminster: 3-story bldg. at Westminster & Riv-
iera & Cabrillo.
606-636 Venice Blvd. Abbot Kinney and Venice Blvd.

A real estate friend tells me this is a small and short list and there's "many" more properties they have and use. And this list doesn't include the newly acquired prop-
erties at Santa Monica Airport and Ocean Park business
park. And the rumor that Snap is now 'moving' to Santa
Monica is also laughable – they are 'expanding' into
Santa Monica just as they also continue to expand right
here in Venice - just ask my friend that just had to move
out last month, or just walk around the neighborhood and
ask any random person utilizing a moving van or living
near a construction zone.

Locals and long-time residents can accept change -
we've seen it before, we expect it, accept it, and most of
the time we welcome it. But we live here to be among
houses and apartments, friends and neighbors, and a
beachside community that is unlike anywhere else in the
world - not to live inside a business campus for a single
company that is destroying what this area of the city was
built for in the first place. This is NOT what Venice was
constructed for - it was built as a tourist attraction from
Day One! Not to be utilized as a corporate campus! Ab-
bot Kinney is turning over in his grave and something has
to be done before it's too late. It's not something to cry
about later, it's something to take action about right now.



It's me again, Sara Omari.

I've been complaining about a few things and no one
seems to listen, but, as it turns out, when I say nice
things, no one seems to care either so here goes:

The strip that holds back the water from the shower,
on the floor of the bathroom, is unglued. When I take a
shower, the water goes everywhere and creates a dan-
gerous mess. I've asked and complained, and have been
told that the complaint has to be submitted in writing, and
therefore they have no record of any complaints. I am
paralyzed on one side and cannot write.

It has been 3 1/2 years.

The panel on the wall of my room fell off one day, onto
my lap. Sharp staples were exposed. I called the front
desk immediately and 5 days later they replaced it. In my
opinion, this room is not earthquake safe. One day a pan-
el started leaking water and I informed the workers and
warned them of the water on the floor. No one fixed it.

That was 2 years ago.

In the middle of the night, I sometimes have to ask
for help to turn over or to request a drink of water. The
workers come into my room and speak so loud at me, it's
as if they think I am deaf. This happens mainly with the
new workers, but there are new workers nearly every day.
It is disheartening and exhausting to have to interact with
people who do not know you or what you need again and
again.

As I was going to the dining room for dinner recently,
I looked in the other rooms on the way, and noticed they
too were very unkempt. My room is filthy and very often
trash just sits on the floor for weeks. My table on wheels
I eat on has never been cleaned. I try to clean it with a
hand towel from the bathroom but it is disgusting. Upon
arriving in the dining room, I notice that it too looks
unkempt.

I don't understand why the facility and my room can-
not be kept clean.

I do all this complaining, but it seems like no one is
paying attention to me.

I am anile, not senile.

Sara

Joshua Patrick Wells

March 2nd, 1964 -December 16th, 2016

Joshua Patrick Wells, well known Los Angeles club
promoter and AIDS activist, died Friday, December 16,
2016 at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Hospital
in South Central Los Angeles, from complications of
AIDS. Josh was 52 years old.

Josh and his brothers grew up on and around Venice
Beach in the late '60s and '70's and attended the alterna-
tive school Play Mountain Place / Modern Play School in
Culver City. After nurturing his sense of drama and
design at Santa Monica High School and a brief time
studying photography at San Francisco State, he went
on the become a pioneer in the underground club scene
in L.A. The extravaganzas he helped create, like Plastic
Passion and Egg Salad, at various unexpected warehouse
venues, gained international attention. In 1991 he began
opening commercial clubs, first Cosmo's Oater called
The Opium Den) near Hollywood and Vine with his
partners Solomon Mansoor and Bruce Perdue, and then
The Firehouse (later DeVille's) in West Hollywood with
Victor Vargas and April LaRue.

Josh deeply resented the refusal of the establishment to
deal with the onslaught of the AIDS holocaust. In 1992
he was one of the leaders of the Act-Up demonstrations
at the Republican Convention in Houston, Texas and with
his friend Stephanie Comer among others he went on
to organize art auctions that raised tens of thousands of
dollars for the AIDS movement.

In 1992 Josh and the late Renee Edgington began
Clean Needles Now (CNN), a mobile needle exchange
program in Los Angeles. After a great deal of official and
community opposition, CNN was finally able to show
that clean needle exchange could save the lives of hun-
dreds of intravenous drug users.

In 2008 Josh moved to Oakland, CA. He attended
Laney College and then transferred to the University of
California at Berkeley, while serving as a commissioner
on the Alameda/Contra Costa County Commission on
AIDS. He also spent a summer term studying at Cam-
bridge University in England. In 2013 he graduated from
UC Berkeley with honors in Medical Sociology; it was
his intention to do graduate study and then move into
international AIDS work But he had been diagnosed with
HIV himself in 1991 and the virus was taking its toll. In
2014 he moved to Ventura in Southern California to be
closer to his mother, and in 2016 they moved together to
-- South--Central L.A--l-n-this Christmas season-the-vi-
rus finally took over his-body, and_ he died at MLK
hospital on December 16, surrounded in his room by his
family and several dozen of his friends who brought his
favorite music, wine and an outpouring of love.

Joshua Wells is survived by his mother Sydell Con-
nor, a Los Angeles attorney who was once known as the
"Chicken Soup Lawyer" - every client left her office with
a warm bowl of reassurance. His father, Bob Wells, is a
political activist in the Bay Area. For many years he was
a mainstay in Venice. He is a friend of Jim Smith and
others. His older brother Michael is a musician living
with his family in Seattle, and his younger brother David
lives in Los Angeles. Josh's stepfather Cody Connor
predeceased him.

Josh's partner Steven Allan Ernst died in 1996.

In keeping with his wishes, Josh's ashes will be sent
up in fireworks! There will be no service. Those wishing
to make a donation in Joshua's name can make an online
contribution to The Needle Exchange Program (now
called the L.A. Community Health Project, LACHP) by
visiting www.chpla.org/get-involved

CALENDAR

beyondbaroque.org

10 MARCH FRIDAY 8:00 PM
INSIDE THE WRITER’S STUDIO
Patricia Nell Warren authored the first contemporary gay novel to be on The New York Times Best Seller’s List. Felice Picano wrote several of the classic gay American novels. Join Eric Andrews-Katz as he asks these two literary giants about their careers, writing process, influences, their careers, writing process, influences, and their places in LGBT literary history. This program is part of the first annual Lambda LitFest Los Angeles, a week-long Los Angeles county wide festival featuring readings, workshops, pop-up events, entertainment and timely discussions about LGBTQ literature and publishing from March 6–12, 2017. FREE but donations gratefully accepted.

11 March Saturday 4:30 PM
GET LIT PRESENTS
A reading and reception for Get Lit’s special poetry workshop. Hosted by Diane Luby Lane. FREE but donations gratefully accepted.

11 March Saturday 8:00 PM
LA WOMAN—LAST PERFORMANCE!
A middle-aged actress at the end of her rope recounts her life and career, dramatically building to an explosive confrontation in this debut staged reading of the new work by playwright/novelist Richard Setlowe. Three amazing actresses alternate as star in this theatrical tour de force, directed by Tony nominee Marcia Rodd. Featuring Denise Lebra Hefti. Regular Admission

12 March Sunday 2:00 PM
SOAP BOX POETS OPEN READING
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.

12 March Sunday 5:00 PM
“BEYOND THE HOLLYWOOD SIGN: RENAISSANCE DAYS”
Join us as we reminisce about the Renaissance Faire in Story & Song! Featuring many talented Favorite Performers TBA.
Hosted by Eric Vollmer. Regular admission.

12 March Sunday 7:30 PM
WHEN I GROW UP: CHEN CHEN
In this ferocious and tender debut, Chen Chen investigates inherited forms of love and family—the strained relationship between a mother and son, the cost of necessary goodbyes—all from Asian American, immigrant, and queer perspectives. Holding all accountable, this collection fully embraces the loss, grief, and abundant joy that come with charting one’s own path in identity, life, and love. Regular admission.

17 March Friday 8:00 PM
THE POETRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
In this ferocious and tender debut, Chen Chen investigates inherited forms of love and family—the strained relationship between a mother and son, the cost of necessary goodbyes—all from Asian American, immigrant, and queer perspectives. Holding all accountable, this collection fully embraces the loss, grief, and abundant joy that come with charting one’s own path in identity, life, and love. Regular admission.

18 March Saturday 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
THE HAUNTED LINE: A GENERATIVE WORKSHOP
Brendan Constantine and Beyond Baroque present “The Haunted Line,” a generative workshop exploring the strange and illusive qualities of the poem that ‘stays with you.’ Throughout history, poets of all traditions have sought ways to ‘haunt’ their work with an aftersense, a feeling that the poem remains active, even after we’ve put it down. Through use of meter, deep image, slant sonics, even secret codes and redaction, we’ll examine what others have done and see if we can get your ghost. No experience necessary. Bring a pen and a nice blank mind.

18 March Saturday 8:00 PM
ALISON TURNER & LOU MATHEWS
Alison Turner’s poems have appeared in Black Clock, Nimrod, Mid-American Review, The Hudson Review, Poetry East, Santa Monica Review, San Pedro River Review, Fault Line, Jacaranda, and other journals. Lou Mathew’s stories have been published in Black Clock, Tin House, New England Review, 40+ other literary magazines, ten fiction anthologies and several textbooks. His first novel, L.A. Breakdown was an L.A. Times Best Book. Regular Admission.

19 March Sunday 4:30 PM
LUNCH BB 30
This new monthly program brings together writers of prose, poetry and creative non-fiction. Hosted by Jon Hess.

19 March Sunday 7:30 PM
Sunday Night at the Movies
映画の言葉は世界でき です: “The language of cinema is universal.” Cinema was the new art of the 20th Century, and this new monthly program looks at past masterpieces and new trends in filmmaking. Guest speakers include actors, directors, writers and critics. Hosted by Jon Hess.

24 March Friday 8:00 PM
RICK SMITH & RD ARMSTRONG
Regular Admission. Poet, musician and clinical psychologist Rick Smith joins legendary SoCal publisher and poet RD Armstrong for a scintillating evening of the ars poetica. Regular Admission.

25 March Saturday 8:00 PM
BEYOND SPANISH: POETRY IN BASQUE, CATALAN, GALICIAN AND SPANISH
A multilingual reading with poetry in Basque, Catalan, Galician and Spanish. Sponsored by the Spanish Resource Center of the Consulate General of Spain. With Josu Baque Ugarteburu and Mariano Zaro. Regular Admission.

26 March Sunday 2:00 PM
THE NEBRASKA GIRL OPEN READING
Sign-ups at 1:30 PM. Hosted by Wyatt Underwood. FREE but donations gratefully accepted.

laughtears.com

March 9 Thursday (Not Tues due to Voting) 6pm McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club MDR library 4533 admirality way free

March 11 SAT 4-6pm MESS – Musician-author Paul Zollo interview at unurban 3301 pico FREE http://laughtears.com/mess.html

March 14-31 - Gerry events in Michigan: 3-17=Grand Rapids, 3-18=Flint, 3-19=Hamtramck, 3-20=FIA in Flint, 3-23=Ann Arbor Film Festival, 3-28= Saginaw, 3-29=Wayne State, 3-30=Crazy Wisdom in Ann Arbor

March 15 Wed, 6-9pm: MOM- MEDIA DISCUSSION at beyond baroque 681 venice blvd venice ca FREE

March 18 Sat SUZY WILLIAMS 7pm Coffee Gallery 2029 N Lake, Altadena 91001, \$20 https://www.coffee-gallery.com/home.html

March 26 SUN 7pm - 7 Dudley Cinema at beyond baroque 681 venice blvd, free - Death Must Be Earned (2017, 97 minutes) is Nicolas Drolc’s (in person)intimate portrait of Serge Livrozet, former safe-cracker, one of the protagonists of 1970s French counter-culture, alongside Michel Foucault founder of the Committee of Prisoner’s Action, self-taught writer and anarchist activist. The film portrays him at age 75 in his hometown of Nice where he revisits the pivotal episodes of his life of social struggle and political activism. US PREMIERE Trailer = https://vimeo.com/199140011

March 27 MON Laughtears Salon 6-9pm 212 Pier Santa Monica free - politics, art culture discussion free

April 2, Sunday 7pm Subversive Cinema at beyond baroque 681 venice blvd - MUSIC and POLITICAL FILMS with fiery discussion. Free admission, donations appreciated http://www.laughtears.com/documental_subversive.html

Location Guide

- **Abbot Kinney Public Library**, 501 S. Venice Blvd. 310-821-1769, fovl.org
- **Beyond Baroque**, 681 Venice Blvd. Poetry Bookstore, Literary Events. 310-822-3006, www.beyond-baroque.org
- **Electric Lodge**, Dance, Theater, and Exercise Classes 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**, Mural Workshop, Print Making, Exhibits and Programs. 685 Venice Blvd. sparcmurals.org
- **Townhouse**. 52 Windward.
- **Venice Arts** 1702 Lincoln Blvd, Venice, California 90291
- **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) 310-606-2016
- **Unurban Coffee Shop** Open Mics, Showcases, Featured Performers, Meetings. 3301 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica, 310-315-0056

April 4 TUES 6pm McLuhan-Finnegans Wake Reading Club MDR library 4533 admirality way free

April 8 SAT 4-6pm MESS – Filmmaker Walter Reuben interview at unurban 3301 pico FREE http://laughtears.com/mess.html

April 10, MON 4pm - DOCUMENTAL at Unurban 3301 pico blvd FREE 4pm= Film history discussion and rare film clips 5:30pm= “If Jacques Rivette and Raul Ruiz had a child it might look something like Walter Reuben’s (in person)THE BIG RAINCHECK (2016, 83 minutes) - a thrilling combination of the real and the fantastic spread over some forty years of Texas arts community life and times, decimated by the AIDS pandemic but never truly destroyed. Hilarious and melancholy at the same time, it marks Reuben as an important American film talent.”---David Ehrenstein. Starring Albion Salbani, Breven Angaelica Warren, Maryanne Hayes, Woolsey Ackerman, and Gina Lalli .http://www.thebigraincheck.com/trailer.html

April 15 Sat 7:30pm Suzy Williams & Michael Jost at http://www.genghiscohen.com/ 740 N Fairfax Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90046 323-653-0640

April 19 Wed, 6-9pm: MOM- MEDIA DISCUSSION at beyond baroque 681 venice blvd venice ca FREE

April 22 Sat 7pm Jazz Funk Fest at unurban 3301 pico FREE http://www.laughtears.com/jazzfunkfest.html

Voice in the Well

Brave New World or 1984

March 12 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Join our satirical inquiry into the themes of these Classic works!

Featuring Storyteller Larry Hankin, Singing Satirist Gary Gordon, Poet Mark Lipman, Satirist James Tripp, Songwriter Ross Altman and Jann Karam. At Beyond Baroque. Hosted by Eric Vollmer / DOOR \$10 / (Students & Srs \$6) Mbrs FREE



Nutritional Warehouse (310) 392-3636
2118 Lincoln Boulevard Venice, California, 90291
Whey Protein 2 LBS \$15.99
Pre-Workout Gaspari Superdrive \$9.98/oz only \$4.23/oz with this ad.
Virgin Organic Coconut Oil 14oz \$7.99
Kombucha Mix Case of 12 \$36.00
Real Water Case of 12 one liter bottles \$16.99

Pointless

Like a zero point seven straight out of lead
I have always proved more with the less I've said
I have just showed you how intelligent I am..... Not.

- Rachel Michelle

Act Now

We must Avenge
with All Our Bowling Balls
the Barbaric
Bowling Green Massacre !

When Life Slaps You,
Turn Both Cheeks

- Alan Rodman



Ongoing Events
RADIO VENICE

4:20-6:30pm Sundays (not in August) Live Music Web-
cast from Breakwater Studios, : [www.radiovenice.tv/
live/](http://www.radiovenice.tv/live/)

OCCUPY VENICE BEACH

• 8:30 pm Sundays People's Potluck at 3rd & Rose.
Feed the People. Volunteer or donate - 424-209-2777.
General Meeting After.

COMPUTERS

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

FOOD

• Free Food Distribution. Tuesdays Noon, Thursdays
12:30pm, Fridays 1pm. Vera Davis Center.
• Sign up for Food Stamps (EBT Cards).
Vera Davis Center. 310-305-1865.
• Free Vegetarian Food Saturdays through Wednesdays
4:00 PM. OFW & Dudley.
• Mar Vista Farmers Market. Sunday 9:00AM - 2:00PM
3826 Grand View Boulevard.
• Venice Farmers Market. Fridays 7-11am, 500 North
Venice Blvd.

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
• 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.
• 1:00-4:00 PM Every Saturday and Sunday Free Live
Music, Fisherman's Village, 13755 Fiji Way,
MDR 90292

MISCELLANEOUS

6:30-9:00 PM Sundays - Venice Electric Light Parade,
meet at Windward Plaza.
• 9-4pm, 2nd and 4th Saturday, every month. Venice
High School Flea Market. 13000 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 Me-
dia. Beyond Baroque. Free.
• 10am Sunday Morning Gatherings of Creative Com-
munity. <http://goo.gl/BbsDV2>

YOGA AND DANCE

• Mondays 8-9am Heal One World: Community Yoga,
The Electric Lodge - Free
• Mondays, 1:30-2:30pm Dancing Through Parkinson's,
Electric Lodge, Donation.
• Thursdays 11:15 AM-ish Yoga in the park at 4th and
Strand, Ocean Park, 310-306-7330 - Gerry and Suzy.

AA

Saturdays Midnight at Beyond Baroque
Sundays 9:30am, Beyond Baroque Theatre.
Thursdays 7:30PM Mike Kelley Gallery, Beyond Ba-
roque.

ART IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN MATH
by Kristine Gloviak

Art in the making

Like food while it is baking

Is tender and timely.

Art can turn wrong slightly,

Then fixed.

Almighty intervention

Comes in next.

A short history of our times

This new century struggles so
to overcome inglorious debris
from the past.

In the labyrinth of the Vatican
the miter has been stripped away
and given to a more worthy pontiff
and the bishops pray that thoughts
of abuse will leave the public mind.

The past is the present
in the Holy Land
where the oppressed
have become the oppressors,
and squander the world's good will
that was bought too dearly to say.

In the Empire, the Queen Pretender
has been overthrown by the Usurper
who rampages through the palace.
Her loyal retainers rule the streets
and the Masters of War cry out
for enemies, weapons and pillage.

Does anyone remember why
the Levant was destroyed?
Sown with bombs and ruins,
creating refugees and hatred
that will never die.

It is the time of the rising of Asia
and the eclipse of the past.
Even now, Los Chinos are surging
down the silk road to Africa
following Admiral Zheng He
and his giant treasure ships.

Their ally, the clever ruler
of the third Rome
- and half of Asia -
brings his frozen land
back from the dead
as the neocons curse
and stamp their feet.

Oblivious to the mighty changes,
the old Empire bombs and kills
on the bloody desert sands
and nurtures the homeless jihad
that will sweep across the world
until the Empire is no more.

And even the climate conspires
with the oil barons and the greedy
to make extinct the old
and make way for the new.

Meanwhile, in little Venice
disappearing messages
lead to disappearing homes
and swarming developers
with their well-fed pols
and ghostly techies
without a care or understanding
blithely destroy our world

Will the people wake in time?
Will their minds join together
and banish power-mad egos
to a dusty page in history?
Or will this epoch turn
dust to dust?

- Jim Smith



the Time

Within you is room.
Let it be open to welcome your gifts
they are your home within home.
Remember to feel easy
All come and go as they please
each, and you, always leaving more
with no holding, being simple
even in receiving.
As yours departs you see
there is ever more to give.
This solid ground that is never still
is the firm Earth of your garden.

- Joanna Silva 1feb2017

lunatics have taken over

by Alan Rodman

*

the lunatics have taken
over the asylum,
now they
call it a hotel

he is sparkly frightening
and oddly beautiful,
his blueish presidential eyebags
could be stowed as carryon luggage,
he is just a regular guy
who likes to watch a lot of tv,
he has extra long ties
just in case something
might spill in his lap...

thought that swamp
was drained.
but only alligators remained.

Flag!
How I love my Country!
This Nation invisible,
truth justice for all

pot may make you notice
that Scary and Ugly things
have their own
peculiar beauty.

for example, just spend a moment
examining the Presidential bangs.
his hair looks
just as if surf's up!
on a vast unruly wave
of a fake blond ocean
that casts a tiny ship adrift
among an enormous archipelago
of annoyed penguins...

the magnitude
of this creation
is not diminished by fear.

better to wake up
a cat
than to lie down
with dogs

7 • March 2017 • Free Venice Beachhead

VENICE IS MY KIND OF TOWN
(as sung to, 'My Kind of Town,Chicago Is')
by- marty liboff-

This is my kind of town,Venice is
my kind of town,Venice is-
My kind of people too
drunks who puke on you.
And each time I walk,Venice is
homeless babble and talk,Venice is.
Tourists from everyplace,Venice is
tall & short and every race,Venice is.
Crazies dressed like a clown-
it's my kind of town...
My kind of town,Venice is
my kind of town,Venice is-
The Gingerbread Court and Rose,Venice is
Windward Ave.,crack & coke up the
nose,Venice is.
Musicians playin for a buck,Venice is
rich dot comers don't give a fuck,Venice is.
A beautiful beach and sea,Venice is
reeks of pot and homeless pee,Venice is.
Schlock artists and pretty gals,Venice is
pit bulls and poodle pals, Venice is.
This is my kind of town,Venice is
my kind of town,Venice is-
Police kick homeless ass,Venice is
everyone smokin grass,Venice is.
Pigeons pooping everywhere,Venice is
hippies with long hair,Venice is.
Skateboards,skates & bikes,Venice is
straights,transgenders & dikes,Venice is.
T-shirts,pizza,tattoos & beer,Venice is
whenever I leave I shed a tear,Venice is.
One town that won't let you down-
Venice is my kind of town...

MAKE LOVE	-Moishe Shlemiel
Make love	Make nature your home
not war.	not cement & asphalt
jungles.	
Make art	Make babies
not H-bombs.	not murder.
Make joy	Make wisdom
not sadness.	not more money.
Make dances	Make a clean planet
not racism.	not pollute Mother Earth.
Make friendship	Make playgrounds
not enemies.	not battlegrounds.
Make schools	Make peace
not jails.	not violence.
Make music	Make democracy
not guns.	not dictators.
Make kindness	Make songs
not meanness.	not speeches.
Make generosity	Make scientists
not greed.	not terrorists.
Make trees	Make homes
not parking lots.	not tanks.
Make smiles	Make understanding
not frowns.	not more laws.
Make freedom	Make self awareness
not repression.	not aggressiveness.
Make gifts	Make surfboards
not robbery.	not atomic missiles.
Make healing	Make patience
not killing.	not anger.
Make forgiveness	Make compassion
not vengeance.	not depression.
Make food	Make teachers
not poison.	not armies.
Make doctors	Make gardens
not police.	not graves.
Make life	Make love
not death.	not hate.
Make charity	Make love...
not jealousy.	



Venice Locals Expressing their opinions about snapchat

