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"The Amazon of Weed"

-High Times Magazine

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puffy

uffy Delivery is the new online delivery website for cannabis with a considerable goal: To reshape the culture of digital cannabis delivery service. Based in Orange County, the company is launching itself across Los Angeles and the entirety of California, and with its unique branding and corporate structure, it is doing things that no one else in the cannabis space is currently attempting. High Times Magazine recently referred to the company as "the Amazon of weed," and the comparison is valid. Puffy Delivery is about to totally change the game for

Two years ago, Puffy co-founders Michael Ng and Patrick Martin, who had already had some experience in storefront cannabis, saw a need for a professional, reliable cannabis delivery service in Orange County. The two viewed cannabis as a retail product, comparable to anything else we shop for online, and they felt it should be treated as such. On top of that, due to the limited number of places in areas like Orange County in which a person could legally buy, purchasing cannabis was a hassle for many. Getting yourself

to a dispensary was something that could eat into hours of a person's valuable time. So, in response, they set out to do something about it, and Puffy Delivery was formed.

There are, of course, other delivery services currently in the market, but the size, scope and synergy of Puffy sets it apart from anyone trying to compete. Currently, no delivery company holds the proper licensing to be able to sell cannabis across all of California. Most are smaller, local companies, with smaller service areas and, often, a smaller menu of available items. Puffy Delivery, however, has either secured licenses or is on the brink of securing them, in Los Angeles, Orange County, San Diego, Sacramento, Oakland, San Francisco, Alameda County, Davis, Palm Springs, Lake Elsinore and Moreno Valley. The company is also already in the process of expanding to Oregon and Nevada and plan on being there before the end of 2019. This expansive licensing drastically increases their ability to deliver to consumers anywhere in the state, while still keeping their delivery time to a minimum (Puffy currently averages about 47 minutes per delivery, one of the fastest delivery times on the market).

Continued on inside back cover >>

APRIL 5-11, 2019 Vol. 41 / No. 20 /

QUEER FILM ICON GREGG ARAKI BRINGS HIS APOCALYPTIC VISION TO MILLENNIAL TV

OWHEMP

BY LINA LECARO

SUN MONG DA KOREAN RESTAURANT



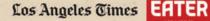






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photography courtesy Starz Entertainment

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FRI 4/5

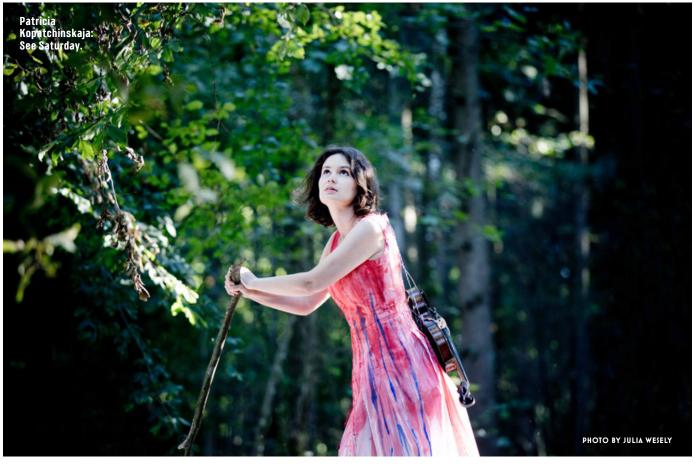
The White Stuff

"We tell ourselves stories in order to live," Joan Didion wrote at the start of her essay "The White Album," which was collected in her 1979 book of the same title. In the piece, Didion conflated her impressions of such 1960s touchstones as the Black Panthers, The Doors and The Manson Family into a wide-ranging look at the era in California; it was equal parts memoir and coolly detached journalism. In the West Coast premiere of Lars Jans' multimedia adaptation, Mia Barron reads the essay against a backdrop of visuals and staged performance-art interpretations that includes onstage audience members interacting as part of the production. Freud Playhouse, UCLA, 245 Charles E. Young Drive East, Westwood; Fri., April 5, 8 p.m.; Sat., April 6, 3 & 8 p.m.; Sun., April 7, 7 p.m.; \$29-\$59. (310) 825-2101, cap.ucla.edu. -FALLING JAMES

MUSEUMS/MUSIC

A Night at the Museum

You can roam around the Natural History Museum after-hours, but you can't do that all year, which is why the museum hosts First Fridays, its annual, late-night spring series of talks paired with DJs, live music, cocktails and food trucks. This year's overarching theme looks at why California is prone to the big four of the state's natural disasters — drought, fires, floods and earthquakes — and how people and government respond to the damages. Focusing on the drought (California is now drought-free for the first time since 2011), tonight's event kicks off with Alie Ward, host of the science



podcast *Ologies*, who interviews NHM's research specialists about their collections. Later, *L.A. Times* columnist Patt Morrison welcomes Dr. Sam Sandoval, professor at UC Davis, and Dr. Jeffrey Mount, senior fellow at Public Policy Institute of California, as they discuss our water landscape and water management issues. Throughout the evening, DJs Novena Carmel and Tomi Tribe, as well as singer Harriet Brown and duo Drama, perform. *Natural History Museum*, 900 Exposition Blvd., Exposition Park; Fri., April 5, 5:30-10 p.m.; \$20. (213) 763-3466, nhm.org. —SIRAN BABAYAN

PASSOVER

Welcoming Refugees

Miry Whitehill started Miry's List in 2016 as a nonprofit that crowd-sources donations in order to help refugees from such countries as Syria, Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan resettle in L.A. Among the organization's annual events is the New Arrival Supper Club, a series of popup dinners catered by newly arrived families, which takes place all over town. The Skirball's Let My People Come: A Passover Experience with Miry's List New Arrival Supper Club will include a seder-inspired, vegetarian-friendly dinner, paired with wine and prepared by resettled refugees from Syria. KCRW host Evan Kleiman will moderate a talk with the chefs about their stories, while Rabbi Sarah Bassin of Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills discusses how welcoming immigrants relates to the tradition of Passover, the spring holiday that commemorates the exodus of Jews from slavery in ancient Egypt. Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Brentwood; Fri., April 5, 6:30 p.m.; \$90/\$55, resv. required. (310) 440-4500, skirball.org. - SIRAN BABAYAN

THEATER

Mamma Mia!

Food exists as the cornerstone of those experiences that change who we are as individuals and how we grow as a people — something that Debrianna Mansini (waitress Fran from Better Call Saul) crystallizes eloquently in her one-woman show, The Meatball Chronicles. Mansini punctuates her musings and meanderings by making Italian food right in front of you as she narrates an epic story of life, love, family and the meals that tie it all together. You'll also get a Q&A following the performance with Chef Hunter of Hunter & Charlie's, exploring both secrets and secret recipes with equal aplomb. The Hudson, 1114 N. Crescent Heights Blvd., West Hollywood; Fri.-Sat., April 5-6 & 12-13, 8 p.m.; Sun, April 7 & 14, 3 p.m.; \$30. (323) 960-7788, onstage411.com/newsite/show/play_info. asp?show_id=4927. -DAVID COTNER

SAT 4/6

A New Picture of Women

WriteGirl has been inspiring young women, especially teens in underserved areas of L.A., through creative writing mentorship since 2001, and many who've taken part in the program have gone on to work in various literary and word-driven fields. The annual Lights, Camera, WriteGirl! benefit aims to inspire would-be screenwriters to tell their stories and ultimately change how the industry utilizes and portrays women. An impressive roster of celebrities, including Seth Rogen,

Wayne Brady, Wendi McLendon-Covey (The Goldbergs), Kirby Howell-Baptiste (The Good Place), Keiko Agena (Gilmore Girls) and Stephanie Katherine Grant (The Goldbergs), will perform scenes and monologues written by WriteGirl teens, and the event is hosted with Lauren Graham (Gilmore Girls). Held in partnership with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences, the evening includes words of encouragement and experience from acclaimed screenwriters, food and drinks, and a silent auction. All proceeds benefit WriteGirl. Linwood Dunn Theater, 1313 Vine St., Hollywood; Sat., April 6, 6:30-9:45 p.m.; \$75-\$250. (213) 253-2655, writegirl.org/lightscamera-writegirl. -LINA LECARO

MUSIC

Open Your Ears

"We will not reach modern ears and imaginations with the mostly polished, polite and predictable mechanical reproductions that the record industry wants to sell us as music," Patricia Kopatchinskaja declares on her Facebook page. The radical Moldovan-Austrian-Swiss violinist prefers to take risks, not just in the adventurous new music she champions but also in the way she approaches traditional classical pieces, such as Tchaikovsky's Violin Concerto, which she will make over with L.A. Phil at Disney Hall this weekend. Kopatchinskaja will be at her most mind- and ear-bending at the Getty Center, when she and pianist Gloria Cheng deconstruct and reassemble melodies by John Cage, La Monte Young and Sofia Gubaidulina. The Getty Center, 1200 Getty Center Drive, Brentwood; Sat., April 6, 4 p.m.; free with RSVP. (310) 440-7300, getty.edu. -FALLING JAMES



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Not Exactly Wallflowers

The last decade's resurgence in the popularity and proliferation of murals and public/street art in L.A. has been celebrated at home and around the world. Less well-known have been the women at the early and constant core of this movement, whose unique visions and boundary-blasting contributions broke double barriers of independent culture and assumptions about gender. "Together" at KP Projects chips away at that gap, featuring new works by a panoply of street art's leading ladies, including Bunnie Reiss, Faith 47, Monica Canilao, Lauren Napolitano and Ola Volo. KP Projects, 633 N. La Brea Ave., Hollywood; Sat., April 6, 7-10 p.m.; free with RSVP to rsvp@kpprojects.net. (323) 933-4408, facebook.com/events/2306820522922871. -SHANA NYS DAMBROT

SUN 4/7

FILM

Live Hard, Die Young...

More so than any of the other punk musicians in the mid-1970s, Stiv Bators was fearless about masochistically abusing his body to draw attention. With sonic reductionists The Dead Boys, he rolled on the ground, thrashed about onstage and staged mock hangings that sometimes injured him. Bators also had a predilection for car surfing, climbing atop moving vehicles, a sport that resulted in his death in Paris in 1990, as recounted in writerdirector Danny Garcia's new documentary, Stiv: The Life and Times of a Dead Boy. Throughout his garage-rock solo recordings and his momentous hard-rock passages with The Lords of the New Church, Bators remained an irrepressibly exciting, visceral and ruthlessly witty showman who embodied the feral spirit of real rock & roll. The Regent Theater, 448 S. Main St., downtown; Sun., April 7, 7 p.m.; \$12. (323) 934-2944, spacelandpresents.com. -FALLING JAMES

PHOTOGRAPHY/MUSIC

Punk From Back in the Day

In the 1980s and '90s, Linda Aronow had a literal front-row seat to the insanity that was the L.A. punk and new-wave music scene. As manager of WACKO during its Melrose Avenue days, she met everyone and they let her take their pictures, documenting the era through the prism of epic live shows and the crowds that surfed them. Hard as it is to believe, "A Punk Rock Primer: L.A. 1982-1992" is Aronow's first gallery show, and it features the artist's own never-before-seen darkroom prints of raw stage action from Black Flag, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Minor Threat, Social D., Christian Death and so many more in all their shirtless, mohawk-headed glory. Gallery 30 South, 30 S. Wilson Ave., Pasadena; opening

reception Sun., April 7, 3-6 p.m.; exhibit runs Thu.-Sun., noon-6 p.m., thru April 28; free. (323) 547-3227, gallery30south.com/punkrock-primer.—SHANA NYS DAMBROT

DRAG

Don't Eat the Apple!

You'll surely be shocked, titillated and possibly even faintly aroused when Joey Arias and Sherry Vine present their new revue, Garden of She-Den. The dovennes of drag transport you to an entirely new vale of fables and fantasia, the culmination of their 25-year-long working dynamic that began lo, those many moons ago at Bar d'O in New York City and has continually blossomed ever since. Expect rehashes of old classics, original tunes, Vine's pop parodies, Arias' continued passion for the songs of Billie Holiday, and more new ideas than you can shake a biblical level of entertainment at. Catalina Bar & Grill, 6725 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood; Sun., April 7, 7:30 p.m.; \$25-40. (323) 466-2210, catalinajazzclub.com. - DAVID COTNER

TUE 4/9

ART

The Never Ending Story

It's been a few years since Koplin del Rio Gallery moved its operations from L.A. to Seattle; we miss them but they're thriving there with their program's special love of narrative, figurative art from the painterly to the surreal, subversively classical and poetically realist. Their program is home to gifted painters like F. Scott Hess, Robert Pruitt, Laurie Hogin, Kenny Harris, Elyse Pignolet, Sandow Birk, Judy Nimitz, Michelle Muldrow, Kerry James Marshall and many others, all of whom are gathered in "Perennial," a prodigal pop-up celebrating gallery director Eleana Del Rio's 30th anniversary with the venue. 1056 S. Fairfax Ave., Mid-Wilshire; Tue.-Sun., April 9-14, 11 a.m.-5 p.m.; free. (206) 999-0849, koplindelrio. com. - SHANA NYS DAMBROT

WED 4/10

We Live to Read

An initiative of L.A. curators Please Do Not Enter, the inaugural edition of **BOOK Porn** precedes the L.A. Art Book Fair and positively brims with limited editions, signed volumes and other printed matters from the world of art books — including but not limited to Éditions Xavier Barral, Jean Boîte Éditions, Phaidon, Rizzoli, teNeues and the Tom of Finland Foundation. Also rare is today's chance to meet others who understand your borderline-pornographic obsession with books — because, in the deathless words of John Waters, "If you go home with somebody, and they

don't have books, don't fuck 'em!" *The NoMad*, 649 S. Olive St., downtown; Wed., April 10, 6 p.m.; free. (213) 358-0000, facebook.com/events/601967220317907/. —DAVID COTNER

THU 4/11

Drunken Masters

Picture this: Three writers nervously read excerpts from works in progress in front of a panel of three veteran writers who offer instant advice. "The only catch is that these master writers may not be exactly sober," note the organizers of ongoing series Drunken Masters: Poetry. The potentially besotted judges this time around will be poets Rocío Carlos (Attendance), Mike Sonksen (Letters to My City) and F. Douglas Brown (Icon). The series was initiated by folks at Writ Large Press, and this edition is hosted by Judeth Oden Choi alongside co-curators Jeff Rogers and Brian Lin. The Mighty Company, 8020 Melrose Blvd., Hollywood; Thu., April 11, 8 p.m.; free. (310) 717-4193. -FALLING JAMES

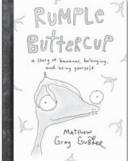
ART

Black Is Beautiful

Born in Brooklyn in 1938, photographer

Kwame Brathwaite and his brother, Elombe Brath, co-founded a collective of creatives called the African Jazz Arts Society and Studios in 1956 and a modeling agency named Grandassa Models in 1962. The models sported Afrocentric clothes and natural, unprocessed hair, which helped popularized the "Black Is Beautiful" movement and redefined fashion and beauty standards for black women. Brathwaite, now 81, also photographed black celebrities and artists, including Stevie Wonder, James Brown, Diana Ross, Miles Davis, Bob Marley, Grace Jones and Muhammad Ali, and such events as the Wattstax concert at the Los Angeles Coliseum in 1972 and The Jackson 5's tour of Africa in 1974. More than 40 of his images are featured in "Black Is Beautiful: The Photography of Kwame Brathwaite" at the Skirball, including one of his wife, Sikolo, wearing a beaded headpiece and jewelry by Carolee Prince, who created similar designs for Nina Simone. Among the exhibit's related programs is tonight's opening-day discussion with Ghana-born designer Mimi Plange, photographer Tyler Mitchell and son Kwame S. Brathwaite, who runs the Kwame Brathwaite Archive in Pasadena. Skirball Cultural Center, 2701 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Brentwood; Thu., April 11, 8 p.m.; \$20; exhibit runs thru Sept. 1. (310) 440-4500, skirball.org. -SIRAN BABAYAN





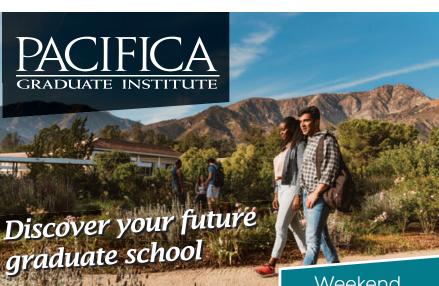
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Saturday, April 27, 2019 10:00 AM – 8:00 PM

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Featured Presentation



Mary Watkins

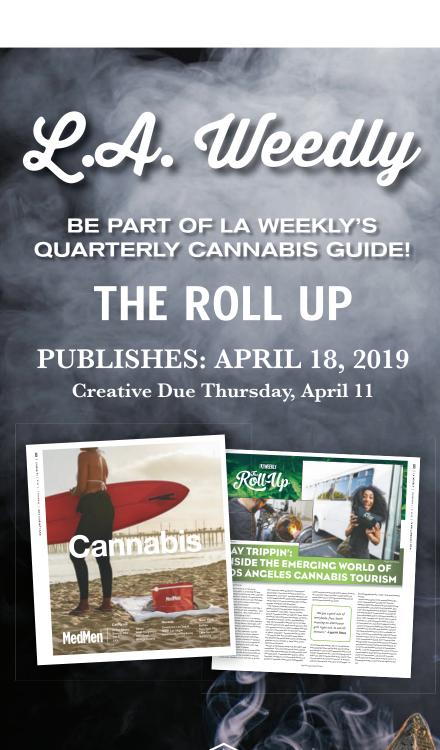
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In this evening talk, Mary Watkins will share some of the key ideas in her forthcoming book of the same title. Using both historical examples and some of the work Pacifica students and alums are engaged in. she will illustrate both clinical and non-clinical expressions of accompaniment. While linking the private practice of psychology to various modes of public practice, she hopes to nourish your own imagination of the kinds of work you could do while and after studying at Pacifica.

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NOW 8 NOWHERE

Queer film icon Gregg Araki brings his apocalyptic vision to millennial TV

BY LINA LECARO

re sexual fluidity, existential dread and perverse punch-line-driven witticisms a requirement for the millennial generation these days? In the new Starz program *Now Apocalypse*, it would appear so: Its Technicolor depiction of 20-somethings in L.A. trying to find love, success and themselves feels fresh and on

the nose at the same time, creating a fantastical, stylized world where funky fashion, fetishism and cynicism collide.

For young viewers, the amalgamation surely feels accurate, or at least amusingly aspirational, especially since it's all reflected by gorgeous nubile youths on the show. But viewers in their 30, 40s and beyond can relate, too (if they don't watch with a get-off-my-lawn at-

titude, that is). This modern coming-of-age romp is filled with vaping, sexting, mate-swapping, three-ways, pee play, role play, rolling, trolling and tripping, webcams, online dating, public sex followed by ghosting and self-conscious special snowflake-esque quests to feel good and look cool. It's all pretty timeless and familiar because we've all gone through it — growing up, hooking up, hating the world as we struggle to find our place in it so that maybe one day we don't. For Generation X, this is particularly resonant, especially for those of us who've been familiar with the previous work of *Now Apocalypse*'s creator, Gregg Araki.

Araki is like a god in the queer, punk, goth and alternative communities, especially in Los Angeles. After our interview at a Hollywood Starbucks near the home of the 59-year-old L.A. native, I posted the obligatory selfie with my subject on social media, which was as meaningful to me as a pic with any rock star or movie star I've ever interviewed. I was clearly not alone in my admiration for the filmmaker, as dozens of friends and acquaintances — gay and straight — had words of worship and praise, sharing how formative his films

were, and how they expressed the darkness and decadence of their youth, both real and imagined. A huge part of this connection has to do with music, too. For Araki, music isn't just a soundtrack to our lives; his films have always been driven by a sonic script, usually of the effervescent shoegaze or dark industrial variety, and it's been nearly as important as his hyper-sexual visuals.

So it doesn't come as a surprise when we sit down to talk, sipping iced coffees, when Araki reveals something we both have in common — writing about music for this publication. He has fond memories of covering and reviewing bands like Jesus and Mary Chain and Ministry for the *Weekly* in the '80s under then-music editor Craig Lee, just after graduating from USC's School of Cinematic Arts. He even included a dedication to Lee at the end of his film *Totally F**cked Up*, he says.

"I was just this sort of underground filmmaker making my little underground blackand-white, 16mm movies, and you know I was always into music and alternative music. It was a way to get free records," recalls Araki, who answered an ad for interns just (12»





»11) like yours truly. "Also I got into all these free shows."

Years later, when Araki gained notoriety for 1992's *The Living End*, he scored the cover of the paper he used to write for. "This is so L.A.," he says. "But I remember going to Tower Records on Sunset and seeing myself on the cover of the *Weekly* and going, 'Shit,' and like, freaking out."

When asked if he felt like he'd made it, Araki says no, the feeling was "the opposite. I felt naked, like oh my God. I just felt so visible and that made me really uncomfortable. Because I'm a filmmaker and I'm behind the camera. This was like my face on the cover." His discomfort with that, I tell him, is not exactly what many might deem "so L.A.," at least not today.

Araki would go on to make *Totally F**cked Up*, and two even more beloved alternative classics, *Nowhere* and *The Doom Generation*, all featuring actors who themselves went on to garner major mainstream movie fame (Rose McGowan, Heather Graham, Mena Suvari and Ryan Phillippe, to name a few). His face and especially his name became just as well known, in Los Angeles, the United States and around the world. And since his work was synonymous with shocking, angsty, queer and polysexual imagery and storylines, his most prolific period was not without controversy.

Interestingly, Araki's own sexuality became one of the most contentious topics surrounding him in those days, and not in the way some might assume. It was pretty obvious Araki was gay based on his films (which always seemed to cast an extra longing and lusty gaze on their male stars, in particular), and in interviews about his work he identified that way (he's referred to himself as a "Japanese gay American"). But when it became known that he'd started a relationship with a woman (former Beverly Hills, 90120 star Kathleen Robertson, who also starred in Nowhere) in the late '90s, many in the gay community didn't like it, hypocritically questioning the filmmaker's right to the very sexual freedom it always fought for. But Araki's bread and butter was exploring

the blurred lines of sexuality and challenging gender norms, so why would he live his own life any differently?

Subsequent projects, including *Splendor*, the 1997 exploration of polyamory starring his then-girlfriend, and years later, the apocalyptic trip out of *Kaboom* from 2010, contin-

ued to celebrate bisexuality or polysexuality, a no-boundaries approach to love and sex that today is expressed with more au courant terminology like "nonbinary," "gender/sexual fluidity" and "pansexuality."

Which brings us to his latest project, *Now Apocalypse*. Though *Totally F**ked Up*, *No-*



where and Doom Generation are referred to by the director himself as his "apocalyptic trilogy," the themes in Araki's films are not limited to this tempestuous trifecta. Kaboom in particular (currently streamable on Hulu) feels like a true sister project to his Starz show, aesthetically (backdrops, styling, sex scenes, etc.) and thematically (the end of the world as we know it).

"I'm so influenced by David Lynch and surrealism, of course. There's this whole aspect of the unknown and apocalyptic doom to the show," Araki says of *Now Apocalypse*, which is produced by Steven Soderbergh. "So we have this sort of surreal HBO R-rated millennial sex comedy. I'm really interested in relationships, friendships and who's been sleeping with who, sort of soapy drama, as seen on shows like *Girls* or *Insecure*."

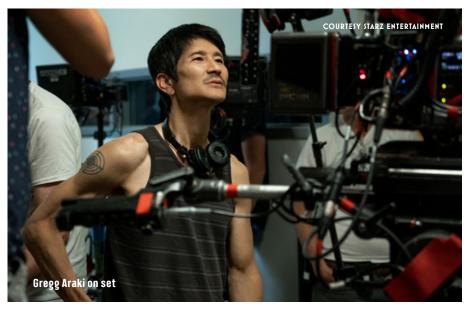
Those of us who grew up admiring Araki's dark and raunchy vision, now part of what is curiously considered the forgotten generation (aka "Gen X") were the first to consume sexual content at home (porn on video and later computers) and we made explicit if less provocative shows such as Sex and the City big hits, which provided the framework for the acceptance and personal choice of today. But Carrie Bradshaw would surely blush at the situations in Now Apocalypse. And she'd be playing the mom to boot, just as the sex symbols of the past now play parents on the teen hit Riverdale (which Araki has guest directed).

While the past most definitely informs the present, providing reference points we can all relate to, Araki is obviously more interested in looking forward, telling stories of youthful hedonism right "now," which, despite his continual fascination with a catastrophic end of humanity still feels inherently more hopeful for the future, however long that may be.

The mindset and quippy snark of today, honed on Twitter, Facebook and Snapchat, not to mention the sexual trends, attitudes and attention-whoring seen on Instagram and YouTube, are portrayed spot-on in the

"It was such an amazing experience to make this show," Araki says. "I'm in my 50s now and all the characters are in their early 20s. I feel like when you're that age ... it's an amazing kind of creative, beautiful world to live in. Everything's a question mark, you don't yet know what you're going to be. And then as you get older, you just really get more like comfortable in your skin, and about who you are. Which is good but kind of boring."

The story concerns Ulysses (Avan Jogia, star of Nickelodeon's *Victorious*), a gay stoner/player looking for true love (maybe) and grappling with weird visions of lizardlike aliens having sex and destroying the planet. His best friend, Carly (Kelli Berglund, from Disney XD's *Lab Rats*), is an aspiring actress who resorts to selling her urine on Craigslist and doing naked webcam chats to pay the bills (she also tries making a YouTube series re-enacting the high and low points of her Forever 21–adorned lifestyle). Then there's Ford (Beau Mirchoff, from MTV's *Awkward*), Uly's dumb but sweet, often shirtless roommate,



who wrote a screenplay that some smarmy producer types may be interested in (or maybe they just want his body, for sex or other, more nefarious reasons). And finally there's Severine (*Kaboom*'s Roxane Mesquida) Ford's astrobiological theorist girlfriend; a cold and robotic but super-sexy Euro-bitch type, who considers monogamy to be a form of social control and is definitely the boss in her relationship.

All of Araki's projects provide showcases for strong women (McGowan's cat-eye sunglasses-sporting, crimson-lipped and cigarette-puffing

Amy Blue in *Doom* is iconic at this point, and in *Kaboom* Juno Temple's London takes the lead in the bedroom, shamelessly telling her lovers how she likes to be touched, licked, etc; even in *Smiley Face*, Araki's mainstream pot comedy starring Anna Faris, we see her strength behind the haze). His lead male characters, in general, tend to be less self-assured and, in the case of his longtime muse, James Duval (who starred in the aforementioned trilogy, and who makes an appearance on the Starz show), that makes them not only sympathetic but very real, no

matter how unreal the situations they are in happen to be.

It's no coincidence that many of *Apocalypse*'s actors happen to be former child stars. There's probably no better way to shed a squeakyclean, kid-friendly image than taking a role in an Araki project. This was true in the '90s, and it's even more true today. But no matter how lascivious his material gets, young actors will take the roles he provides because he doesn't exploit his characters even when his subject matter is exploitive. He also stresses that all the sex in his work is not meant to be titillating so much as illuminating, offering glimpses of who the person is inside.

"A lot of times when sex and sexuality are presented on TV or films, too, there's like a darkness to it and sort of an almost guilt or shame to it," Araki explains. "But with this show the sex is very joyful, and it's sort of an awakening experience, and also like a learning experience. It really makes you the person you're going to be.

"And I think of my own life, you know, in terms of being queer or sexually fluid or whatever, and I think about the sexual experiences I've had. If I wasn't sexually who I was and have been, and am, I don't know what my life would be like right now. My sexuality has shaped the way I see the world, my work, my identity. So it's not about the sex, or the genitalia, but about the truth about someone revealed in those moments."





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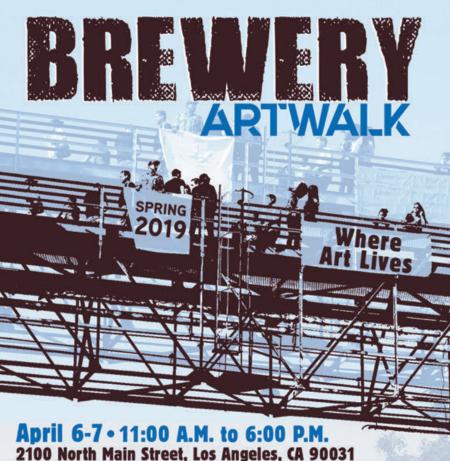
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LIFE MODEL

African-American artist Charles White in three dimensions: work, teaching and legacy

BY WYATT CLOSS

works like *Birmingham Totem*, the *Wanted* Poster series, Love Letter I (which became a "Free Angela Davis" poster), General Moses (Harriet Tubman) and the J'Accuse series.

There are also poignant images of celebrities, like friend Harry Belafonte (Folk Singer), and a tad more abstraction as well, through the greater use of symbols like roses, shells, targets. This shows most vividly in Sound of Silence, juxtaposing a young black man with a conch shell.

The second dimension of his work as a teacher shows in "Life Model: Charles

ans because he was black, must have surely seared these young creative minds. But that was part of the teaching. "After lunch for critiques, Charles became a preacher," Alonzo David says in the video. Ian White, Charles' son, is co-curator of the exhibit.

The gospel of Charles White, if you will, spread beyond the classrooms of Otis College. We see this third dimension of his reach with the exhibit, "Plumb Line: Charles White and the Contemporary," at California African American Museum (CAAM). These artists, most not even



artist Charles White would have been 100 years old on April 2. His art work lives on, of course, but the work wearing his other hats — as teacher, activist, storyteller, and influencer — ensures that his legacy will be canonical for the next 100. Currently, three exhibits in Los Angeles show us how his work and influence manifested — with exactitude, negritude and attitude.

The first is a major show of his work at LACMA, "Charles White: A Retrospective." Featuring nearly 100 drawings and prints and rarely seen oil paintings, it is the most comprehensive display of White's work since a 1977 show at Municipal Art Gallery in Barnsdall Park, just two years before his death. Accessibly laid out, it takes us on a journey of his art and his life in Chicago (1918-1942), New York (1942-56) and Los Angeles (1956-79).

It was a diagnosis of tuberculosis that brought him to Los Angeles for the warm weather, but you get the sense that catalyzing and building a vibrant artist community is what kept him here. It seemed that both types of climates fed his soul.

Before L.A., the works from his Chicago and New York periods show vibrant, stark,

angular images, some via linocuts, in a melange of impressionism and cubism seen through an afrocentric lens. Large ideas like the Struggle for Liberation mural show this, as does the sorrowful Soldier in 1944, depicting the anguish for blacks in military service during World War II.

What carries over from those periods into Los Angeles is the sense of dignity and unapologetic blackness that has been White's raison d'etre. In works like

Homage to Sterling Brown and Banner for Willy J., he employs softer, layered and more textured backgrounds for his subjects, with rich coloration and dabs of light. And while activism was a constant, in Los Angeles, he seems to stretch out more and be even louder. We see this in

White and His Students" at Charles White Elementary School. Here we are able to see the work of contemporary artists of color who studied and practiced their craft under White at Otis College of Art & Design.

It's quite a roll call - Kerry James Marshall, David Hammons, Richard Wyatt, Judithe Hernandez, Martin Payton, Alonzo David, among others.

The show is insightful about White's influence,

but to get the full context of their learning, watch the wonderfully unfiltered 18-minute short doc from Matt Kesling posted by LACMA.

Hearing them reflect on stories heard from White, like not being able to go to his own show of work one time in New Orle-

born before he died and including a number who made pieces for this show specifically in 2019, show that the Charles White school of textured techniques, emotional representation, political advocacy is alive and well and will continue to be in session.

A look at *He looks like me*, by Deborah Roberts, literally illustrates this, reflecting the same intensity of White's cross-hatching technique; as well, the drawings All Water Has Perfect Memory by Kenturah Davis and Euretta F Adair by Lava Thomas, a depiction of Montgomery bus boycott heroines.

"Paint is the only weapon I have with which to fight what I resent," White once said. All three of these exhibitions work together like a prism, shining his colorful legacy to light us all.

LACMA, 5905 Wilshire Blvd., Miracle Mile; through June 9; lacma.org/art/exhibition/charles-white-retrospective

Charles White Elementary School, 2401 Wilshire Blvd., Westlake; Sat. only, 1-4 p.m., through Sept. 15; lacma.org/art/exhibition/ life-model-charles-white-and-his-students.

CAAM, 600 State Drive, Exposition Park; through Aug. 25; caamuseum.org/ exhibitions/2019/plumb-line.













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A LITTLE LOVE

Amorcito brings *pocho* food to Long Beach Exchange

BY ANNE HAMNER



hen trying to find
Amorcito, I admit, I got
a little lost. Waze took
me to a local tech building in Long Beach and it
wasn't until I found the huge new "Hangar" sign and saw lines out the door that I
realized I had found Long Beach Exchange.
I stopped to speak to a local as I entered the
complex, and he told me, "I'm definitely
coming back here. Long Beach was hungry
for the Hangar — we needed more variety."

And variety is exactly what the locals are getting, starting with a fast-casual concept by none other than chef Thomas Ortega. Ortega, who is not a new name in this part of SoCal (known for Amor y Tacos in Cerritos and Playa Amor Mexican Cocina), recently opened his fourth restaurant, Amorcito, at the Hangar.

When talking with Ortega about the project, his voice filled with compassion and excitement as he said, "This was my little sweetheart, my little love." His idea was to have delicious *pocho* cuisine at an affordable price while still using quality organic ingredients. Amorcito draws on Ortega's Chicano roots, with bold new flavors that combine both the old and the new modern Mexican

cuisine. Think a Hatch chili cheeseburger with grass-fed Angus beef with garlic aioli, pickles, onion and gooey melted American cheese on a soft potato bun for only \$6.75.

Walking up to the counter, you'll notice

thentic touch separates Amorcito from the typical Mexican fast-casual restaurant.

that the kitchen and the front of house are

makers. Ortega told me that on the morning

of opening, his tortilla maker broke and one

of his employees, whom he'd hired earlier

that day, started making tortillas by hand.

From that moment on, she became his tortilla godsend and now starts every morning

tortillas. "Ninety percent of the time people

want handmade, so that's what they'll get,"

by hand-making 70 to 80 corn and flour

separated by a wall of decorative tortilla

For the amount of food you get per item, it's an absolute steal. The tacos may look small but they pack a lot of meat and

spice. All items except the shrimp cocktail (\$12.50) are priced below \$10, with tacos starting at \$2.95. The short rib taco consists of rich short rib that falls off the bone, chile arbol salsa and caramelized onions. The Tepito taco was inspired by a trip to Barrio Bravo in Mexico City and is topped with papitas fritas (french fries) and a spicy salsa

AMORCITO DRAWS ON ORTEGA'S CHICANO ROOTS, WITH BOLD NEW FLAVORS THAT COMBINE BOTH THE OLD AND THE NEW MODERN MEXICAN CUISINE.

rojo y verde.

If you want to order the largest thing on the menu, get the taco salad, which comes in a massive fried tortilla shell stuffed with organic greens, corn, garbanzo beans, tomatoes, cotija cheese and organic chicken (or meat of your choice) with a perfectly tossed light cilantro dressing. Don't forget to grab an order of tangy charred Brussels sprouts, or try the street corn with an abundance of green chili garlic aioli on top.

"Ideally, we'd love to bring our revered approach to pocho cuisine to more of L.A. and O.C. by opening several more similar fast-casual restaurants down the line," Ortega says. They might not all be called Amorcito, but you'll know one of Ortega's restaurants when you see it.

Amorcito Urban Taqueria at the Hanger at Long Beach Exchange Food Hall, 4150 McGowen St., Long Beach; @amorcitolb

PIKOH BRINGS INTERNATIONAL FLAVOR TO NEIGHBORHOOD CAFE

hen you walk into Pikoh, you feel like you're walking into a Santa Barbara backyard full of kumquat trees and hanging plants. The owner, who likes to remain under the radar, says she wanted it to feel comfortable like her home and inviting to everyone. My first thought was, "This is Lunetta," but the menu goes beyond your standard day-to-night cafe and explores Peruvian and Asian elements all wrapped into a California cuisine.

Ricardo Zarate is the hot name tied to the restaurant; he's best known for Rosaliné. But it's also important to mention his partner, James Jung, whose influence is shown throughout the menu, from pork tonkatsu with shredded cabbage, caramelized lemon and a dash of mustard, to the white Asian sea bass with shimeji, dashi consomme and an herb crust butter that has the perfect amount of saltiness.

Pikoh's daytime menu features innovative provisions like shaksuka, chickpea hummus with steamed mussels and French toast made with algarrobina sauce and cream.

Whatever you do, get the chorizo and lamb ragu over pappardelle – it was unlike any other pasta dish I've had, full of cilantro, spices and just the right amount of Huancaína pecorino cheese to add some nuttiness.

When asked about who is the most likely customer, it seemed to be the locals, which is fitting considering Pikoh has a special "Drinking With Locals" menu that highlights cocktails from across the world. The concept is that if you were to go each country around the world at 3 p.m., this would be the drink locals would be indulging in, whether that be a Pisco sour from Peru, a Milano Torino from Italy or a Kaiserspritzer from Germany.

The genius behind the eclectic cocktail menu is Jamie Clark, who comes from Las Vegas and has an appetite for innovation. She has a drink special called Jamie's Mood Swing, which is only \$7 and changes weekly based on her mood. This means one week you could be drinking a brightly colored cocktail because she's feeling happy or a ginger-based libation if she's under the weather.

My personal favorite was the Per Amalfi, infused with Greek yogurt that gives it sort of a frothy texture similar to that of a Pink Lady but without the eggy smell.

Save room for dessert, though, and dive into the panna cotta with passion fruit gelee and fresh pomegranate seeds.

I'd also recommend the flourless chocolate cake, because it was the perfect balance of chocolatey gooey goodness without being overly sweet.

Pikoh is sure to be the local hangout, the foodie destination and the next restaurant to keep customers coming back due to its fearless flavors. —ANNE HAMNER

Pikoh, 11940 W. Pico Blvd., West L.A.; (310) 928-9344, pikohla.com.

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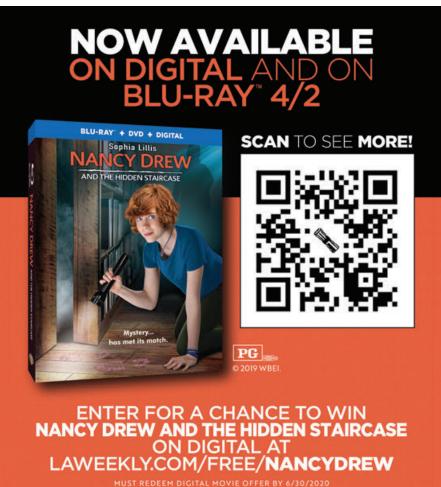
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Movie Guide, your look
at the hottest films in
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this week — from indie
art-house gems and classics to popcornperfect blockbusters and new movies garnering buzz. Check here every week before
you make your big-screen plans.

Opening wide

Friday, April 5

Shazam! is for DC what Guardians of the Galaxy was for Marvel: a superhero movie with tongue planted firmly in cheek. The story of a teenager who can turn into a grown-up superhero by uttering the titular word is the seventh entry in the DC Extended Universe franchise. The 1941 Republic serial Adventures of Captain Marvel (no relation to the female warrior currently dominating screens) is the unlikely precursor. The film stars the winsome Zachary Levi as the powerful crusader with the heart of a kid, and David F. Sandberg (Lights Out) directs.

Pet Sematary is the 250th or so film adaptation of a Stephen King property, in this case the 1983 horror novel about an ancient Indian burial ground that brings back the dead. In this imaginative reworking of "The Monkey's Paw," a family moves into a home in rural Maine and endures a tragic chain of events. The 1989 film version directed by Mary Lambert did not inspire cries of protest over the announcement of a sequel, and the cast, consisting of Jason Clarke, Amy Seimetz and John Lithgow, is strong. Kevin Kölsch and Dennis Widmyer directed from a screenplay by Jeff Buhler, and David Kajganich (creator of the intelligently spooky TV series *The Terror*) did uncredited work on the script.

Also opening Friday: Biggest Little Farm; Best of Enemies; Billboard; Division 19; Storm Boy; Super 30; Teen Spirit; The Wind

Limited/art-house

Friday, April 5

The Chaperone is brought to you by the same team that made Downton Abbey: Julian Fellowes (writer), Michael Engler (director) and Elizabeth McGovern (star). An attractive period piece set in the early 1920s, the film revolves around an adolescent Louise Brooks, the spunky teenager destined to become one of the biggest movie stars of the silent era. McGovern plays the chaperone tasked with accompanying her to the Denishawn School of Dancing and Related Arts in New York. Haley Lu Richardson, who can currently be seen onscreen in Five Feet Apart, also stars. The film is based on the best-selling novel by Laura Moriarty. Laemmle Royal, 11523 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A. (also Playhouse and Town Center); Fri.-Thu., April 5-11, various showtimes; \$9-\$12. (310) 478-3836, laemmle.com.

The Haunting of Sharon Tate is an unlikely Hilary Duff vehicle that replays the murder of 26-year-old Tate, at the hands of the Manson IT'S SHAZAM!

Superhero pic competes with *Pet Sematary* remake

BY NATHANIEL BELL



cult, in the syntax of a horror film. According to Daniel Farrands' screenplay, the rising Hollywood star had premonitions of her violent death in her Benedict Canyon home. Farrands directed, with Duff serving as executive producer. The film will be released simultaneously in theaters and VOD. AMC Rolling Hills 20, 2591 Airport Drive, Torrance; Fri., April 5, various showtimes. (310) 326-5011, amc theatres.com.

High Life is a science fiction film with a strange pedigree. Claire Denis, a key architect of modern French cinema, had been kicking around the idea for more than a decade. The film begins arrestingly with a scene in which an astronaut (Robert Pattinson) repairs the exterior of a spacecraft. We soon find out that he has survived a doomed mission, along with his infant daughter. (From her crib, she watches Edward S. Curtis' In the Land of the War Canoes on a TV that projects random broadcasts from Earth.) By reporting to the ship's command center, the space traveler, whom we come to know as Monte, gains life support in 24-hour increments.

In extended flashbacks, we learn what happened to the rest of the crew. The roughly half-dozen occupants are part of a government experiment — all are condemned criminals who escaped death row by volunteering to explore a distant black hole. The self-appointed leader of the expedition is Dr. Dibs (Juliette Binoche), who conducts fertility experiments

on the rest of the group while keeping them under constant medication.

Other members of the crew include Tcherny (Andre Benjamin, better known as American rap artist Andre 3000), Boyse (Mia Goth), Chandra (Lars Eidinger), Nansen (Agata Buzek) and Ettore (Ewan Mitchell). Soon, repressed sexual desire and sheer boredom give way to violence and self-destruction.

Denis is a world-class filmmaker with at least one undisputed masterpiece to her credit (the irreducibly strange Beau Travail from 1999). Her vision of humanity here is despairing but also clichéd. This is her first film in English, and one wonders whether parts of the screenplay, authored by Denis, Jean-Pol Fargeau and Geoff Cox, with additional work by Nick Laird, got lost in translation. (Sample dialogue: "It stinks. The usual stench. It gets me hard.") What saves the film from utter nihilism is the hope embedded in some gravely beautiful images of father and daughter bound together as they traverse the unknown and eventually enter the void. ArcLight, 6360 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood; Fri.-Sun., April 5-7, various showtimes; \$16-\$18; (323) 615-2550, arclightcinemas.com.

Peterloo is Mike Leigh's second historical drama in a row, following 2014's superb biopic *Turner*. The setting is Manchester in 1819. The Napoleonic Wars have left England impoverished. A crowd of 60,000 gathers to demand parliamentary reform and are fired upon by British troops, resulting in hundreds of casu-

alties. Leigh, one of Britain's most respected filmmakers and an outspoken socialist, seems the perfect match for this material, though the film failed to attract much awards attention. Laemmle Royal, 11523 Santa Monica Blvd., West L.A., Fri.-Thu., April 5-11, various showtimes; \$9-\$12. (310) 478-3836, laemmle.com.

Emilio Estevez wrote, directed and stars in The Public, a broadly entertaining comedy about a group of vagrants who stage a protest in a Cincinnati public library when cold weather drives them indoors. A media circus develops around the story, and the branch librarian (Estevez) must contend with both the police and the throng of homeless patrons who claim their right to sanctuary. Estevez has assembled a strong cast featuring Alec Baldwin, Jena Malone, Taylor Schilling, Christian Slater, Gabrielle Union, Michael K. Williams, Jeffrey Wright and Che "Rhymefest" Smith. AMC Burbank 16, 125 E. Palm Ave., Burbank; Fri., April 5, various showtimes. (888) 262-4386, amctheatres.com.

Saturday, April 6

Call Her Savage is one of the defining films of pre-Code Hollywood, made in the years before Will Hays and the Motion Picture Production Association of America worked with the major studios to censor questionable content and appease the conservative majority of moviegoers. It's one of silent screen legend Clara Bow's only talkies, and she plays a mixed-race Native American who marries a scoundrel and begins a steady descent familiar to many "fallen women" pictures of the period. A rare 35mm archival print will be screened following a 40-minute presentation on pre-Code cinema by film historian Mark A. Vieira. The program is co-presented by the American Cinematheque and the Art Deco Society of Los Angeles. Egyptian Theatre, 6712 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood; Sat., April 6, 2 p.m.; \$12. (323) 466-3456, american cinemathequecalendar.com.

Thursday, April 10

The Man Who Killed Don Quixote nearly killed Terry Gilliam, but it has finally, truly arrived. After three decades of development and an infamously abandoned production shoot in 2000 (which formed the basis of the deliciously entertaining documentary Lost in La Mancha), Gilliam has succeeded in bringing this contemporary retelling of Cervantes' 16th-century epic to life. The plot concerns a director (Adam Driver) who gets sucked into the fantasy world of an elderly Spaniard (Jonathan Pryce) who believes himself to be a noble knight. The film will premiere in the United States as a one-night theatrical event through Fathom, with the possibility of a wider release later on. Fans of Gilliam, Cervantes or whimsical fantasies will not want to miss this long-percolating labor of love. AMC Century City (and various theaters), 10250 Santa Monica Blvd., Century City: Thu., April 10, various showtimes. fathomevents.com.

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MUSIC

FARTBARF: BEHIND THE

The local band create a blend of punk and proto-electronica that's worth listening to, once you get past the name

BY BRETT CALLWOOD



t sounds like a dumb frat joke. A band called Fartbarf? It all seems devised to make drunk teen boys snicker while the girls they're trying to impress roll their eyes. It could also be a side project featuring members of Limp Bizkit and the Bloodhound Gang. The music that Fartbarf creates has to be dumb-as-shit, puerile nonsense, right?

The sharper tools among you may have guessed by the way we deftly tried to lead you down that path that, in fact, such assumptions would be incorrect. Rather, Fartbarf have spent the last decade blending punk with proto-electronica, playing masses of shows and allowing an impressive local fan base to

"Early on, we were playing somewhere

around 130, 140 shows [a year]," says Josh McLeod. "Just to let people know that a band called Fartbarf could take themselves seriously and try to make a name for themselves. More recently, we've been trying to take a step back and write some new material, which we're long overdue for. We're now roughly averaging one or two shows a month. Our last album was released in 2014, so we're working on a 7-inch right now that's going to be going into production pretty soon as a single."

The same three guys — McLeod, Dan Burley and Brian Brunac — have comprised Fartbarf since its formation in 2008. One has to assume that's partly because a band called Fartbarf is always going to be a bit niche.

"The name to us is so commonplace now that we don't laugh or blink at it," McLeod says.

anticipate something really terrible and seeing us for the first time it catches them off guard when they see us. When you think about it, a lot of bands have terrible names."

"After 10 years, we've finally become numb to

the absurd quality of it. But I think at the end of

the day, it's served a purpose, which has gone

beyond what we anticipated. It's really good

for Google searches, obviously. There's only

one group of people in the world that would

want to call themselves this, and work hard as

a band. Make it happen. A lot of times early on,

venues didn't want to put our name anywhere,

let alone on the marquee at the front of their

establishment. It was refreshing the first time

we saw our name on the side of a building —

It's not only the venues that have an issue

"We've had a ton of hardcore fans who hate

the fact that we chose that name, because they

think it's stifling us from going anywhere,"

McLeod says. "Not that that was our main

agenda — we just wanted to do something

that was absurd and have a good time doing

it. But we do take the music really seriously. I

don't know if it's a way of weeding people out,

with the polarizing moniker; their own fans

we're actually accepted now."

have voiced dissenting opinions.

The name isn't the only thing that has drawn wide attention; the three men of Fartbarf wear rubber masks onstage, taking on the personas of "space neanderthals." McLeod says Devo were the inspiration for those shenanigans.

"We thought it would be fun to mesh future and primitive," he says. "We're these space neanderthals playing futuristic instruments, even though they're kinda dated at this point. We came upon these masks from the '40s at an old costume shop in Arizona that was closing, and I bought a lot of them. We wore them for hundreds and hundreds of shows until they started rotting off of our faces. Our current masks that we've had for a few years now, they've been custom-made by a Hollywood exec. We have a couple of spares, so hopefully we won't lose them. It's always on the back of our mind, though."

So the name and the masks make for good fun and games. The band's music, however, is far tougher to pin down, and it's certainly no laughing matter. The electronic sounds played through equipment most EDM artists wouldn't consider state-of-the-art, blended with a healthy post-punk vibe, are a thrill. Clearly, Fartbarf are big Devo fans. But there are also elements of Suicide here, as well as Daft Punk and Quintron & Miss Pussycat. There's a lot going on.

"I think we consider ourselves a live, aggressive dance band," McLeod says. "If I sum it up in a sentence, it's if Hot Chip met Devo met Slayer. Going back to the early days when we started playing shows, dubstep was huge and a lot of promoters tried to bill us with DJs like that, and we were like, 'Nah, you don't really get it.' We think of ourselves as more of a punk

"I THINK WE CONSIDER **OURSELVES A LIVE, AGGRESSIVE DANCE** BAND."

-JOSH MCLEOD

band than something that could go hand in hand with dubstep and that genre of music. All of us in the group grew up listening to punk and metal. So we never considered ourselves to fall into the deep house DJs genre, even though we're playing electronic music."

The band members are all based in the South Bay area, specifically Redondo Beach and San Pedro, though they've recently made Long Beach a sort of home base.

"There are some interesting things coming out — it seems like there was a lull for a while there," McLeod says. "It seems like there's a cool garage-rock thing going on. We play a lot of shows in Long Beach, and they always surprise us with different fun bands we'd never heard of. The city has really embraced art and culture, no one has a chip on their shoulder, and the whole vibe is thriving right now."

This week, Fartbarf indeed play Long Beach, at Alex's Bar. They have some new material they've been working into the set, and they have a new 7-inch single on the way too. "We at least want to get a single out there for people to listen to," McLeod says. "From there, we're just trying to get this album written and recorded, hopefully by the end of the year."

That's Fartbarf then. Not at all silent, but deadly serious.

Fartbarf play with Bella Novella and NewEvil at 8 p.m. on Saturday, April 6, at Alex's Bar.





MUSIC

GO HEAR

FRI 4/5

Caitlin Dee

@ TIMEWARP RECORDS

"I could be a big movie star but just in my head/or I could just be a lonely slob/It's all just in my head," Caitlin Dee once memorably sang as leader of local punk band Pipe Dreams. But the singer-guitarist's solo material reveals a much wider range, both musically and emotionally. "Pipe Dreams are fun and careless and exciting," she tells the Weekly, "but ... these [new] songs are coming from that uncertain place — after death but before the next life begins, when everything is still unknown and you can either be totally overwhelmed or you can just take the next step." "Trouble" is saturated with thick layers of fuzz guitar that shroud Dee's vocals in a shoegazer hypnosis, while "Satellite" is a more jangling, indie-rock reverie filled with restless longing and yearning pop melodies. -FALLING JAMES

SAT 4/6

Meat Puppets

@ THE TROUBADOUR

Meat Puppets have been through many changes since they tumbled out of Arizona in 1980. Lineups have mutated, and yet the psychedelic alt-rockers have always managed to persevere, even after bassist Cris Kirkwood was shot by a security guard at a Phoenix post office in 2003 and was subsequently incarcerated for a while. Last year, drummer Derrick Bostrom made a welcome and long-overdue return to the band after an exile that stretched longer than two decades. These days, the prized original trio lineup with Bostrom, Cris Kirkwood and his brother, singer-guitarist Curt Kirkwood, has expanded to include Curt's son Elmo Kirkwood on guitar and Ron Stabinsky on keyboards. Meat Puppets' new album, Dusty Notes, veers more toward their loping, laid-back country side instead of the frenzied psychedelia and hardcore jolts of their very early days. -FALLING JAMES

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The Warlocks

@ THE HI HAT

Although L.A. musical insurrectionists The Warlocks share a name with the original iteration of The Grateful Dead and can also be classified as a psychedelic band, that's about all the two groups have in common aesthetically. Unlike The Dead, whose early psychedelic leanings soon devolved into aimlessly soggy, fairly insipid country-rock jamming, singer-guitarist Bobby Hecksher's Warlocks have always plunged fully into the dark, trippy side of things. The group's 2016 album, Songs From the Pale Eclipse, is infused just as much with post-punk experimentation as it is with overtly psychedelic explorations when Hecksher murmurs cryptically under a veil of shadows and distorted guitars. In The Warlocks' early days, their sonic ramblings could be unfocused, but Pale Eclipse is a

disciplined, emotionally varied landscape in which inventive, hypnotic guitars blend with Hecksher's hazy, bleary-eyed revelations.

—FALLING JAMES



Keiji Haino

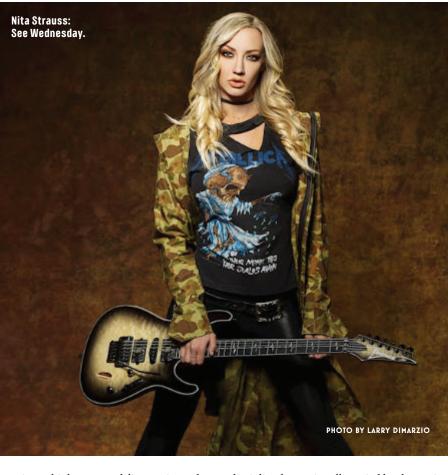
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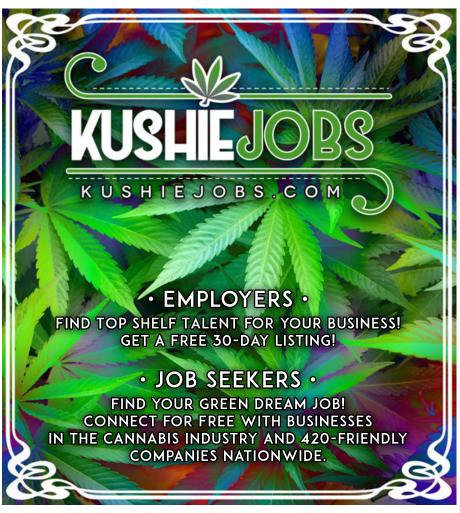
It used to be decades between appearances in Los Angeles of enigmatic Japanese artist Keiji Haino — but luckily some prosperous saint decided to unfurl a bankroll fairly recently, and so now this time you get to see the version of Keiji Haino who plays hurdy-gurdy music. Never mind Dylan-goes-electric — it's Haino-goes-Celtic as he hammers away on the instrument that drones while it grinds and also includes a keyboard for either the playing of pretty tunes or unveiling the deeply personal and freaked-out sounds that only Keiji Haino can disgorge. It's only the second time that he's performed on this particular instrument in the States — the first time being some decades ago — and it's the only live action of his that will happen in America this year, so buy, die, etc. -DAVID COTNER

Mortiis

@ THE LODGE ROOM

Norwegian madman Mortiis spent much of the 2000s, after leaving black-metal pioneers Emperor, trying to convince the world that he was a real troll. Or at least, that he lived his life as one. His prosthetic nose and ears was always, if nothing else, fucking hilarious. To be fair, though, the music world needs characters like Mortiis, and when online trolls endeavor to make people miserable, it's







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T.S.O.L., The Dwarves

@ THE ROXY

Featuring original members Ron Emory (guitar), Mike Roche (bass) and Jack Grisham (vocals), T.S.O.L. continue with their unique combination of savage intensity and fulsome power leavened with morbid humor, which stands out even more in an era when so much punk rock is now fangless. Making this bill especially thrilling is the addition of The Dwarves, the profanely provocative hell-raisers led by singer Blag Dahlia and guitarist HeWhoCannotBe-Named. It's hard to believe that The Dwarves began as relatively restrained garage rockers who eventually evolved into the ferocious provocateurs we know and fear today, freely mixing nudity, sex and gratuitous violence onstage. In their heyday, Dwarves shows would last just 15 minutes before the stage was trashed in a glorious spectacle of blood and wrecked instruments. These days, there is more of a method to their madness and (barely) controlled chaos. -FALLING JAMES

MON 4/8

T-Pain

@ THE OBSERVATORY

Fresh from his victory on the undeniable mind-fuck that was reality show The Masked Singer, rapper and singer T-Pain is determined to enjoy a fresh start to his career. While the TV show was absolutely bizarre — watching an anonymous T-Pain decked out as a cuddly monster and going up against an anonymous Gladys Knight dressed as a bee (among others) — it did prove that the man has a strong set of lungs on him. And that's significant, because people have criticized his often autotuned songs since he first unleashed the Rappa Ternt Sanga album in 2005. Silly title aside, that album went gold and now, following his monster-fueled success, T-Pain is having the last laugh. Abby Jasmine also plays. -BRETT CALLWOOD

TUE 4/9

Buddy Guy

@ THE COACH HOUSE

At 82, Buddy Guy is one of the last remaining old-school blues legends on the circuit and, not to be morbid, everyone needs to grab the chance to see him while we still have the opportunity. The "Stone Crazy" singer and guitarist was ranked 23rd in Rolling Stone's "Greatest Guitarists of All Time," and it's tough to argue — the man has always been able to pull the most beautiful, emotive, heart-wrenching sounds from his instrument, from his early work with Howlin' Wolf, Junior Wells and Muddy Waters, through his

debut Left My Blues in San Francisco solo album, right up to last year's excellent *The* Blues Is Alive and Well album. Buddy Guy is, quite simply, a national treasure.

-BRETT CALLWOOD

WED 4/10

Nita Strauss

@ SAINT ROCKE

Shredder Nita Strauss has seen her stock rise at an impressive rate over the past couple of years. After playing with all-female Iron Maiden tribute The Iron Maidens and reformed hair rockers Femme Fatale for while, Strauss was chosen to take over from Orianthi in Alice Cooper's band. That placed her in front of massive crowds around the world, and now she is ready to emerge as a solo artist. Her inspiration comes from like-minded fret-dazzlers such as Steve Vai (she says the movie Crossroads — where Vai played the Devil's own guitarist — had a big impact) and Yngwie Malmsteen, and there are moments on her Controlled Chaos solo debut that both of those guys would be proud of. She also plays on Thursday, April 11, at the Whisky a Go Go. -BRETT CALLWOOD

Inara George & Larry Goldings

@ LARGO AT THE CORONET

Inara George is a pop-minded singer who has had a thriving solo career in addition to stellar collaborations with Greg Kurstin (as The Bird & the Bee) and Eleni Mandell, Becky Stark and Alex Lilly (as The Living Sisters). Jazz pianist Larry Goldings has recorded and performed with numerous musicians across a variety of genres, including Charlie Haden, Gaby Moreno, John Legend, Beck, Jack DeJohnette, Maceo Parker, Bette Midler, De La Soul, John Mayer and Melody Gardot. George and Goldings have apparently written a host of new songs together, which they'll perform at Largo in a Planned Parenthood benefit titled "The Case for Birth Control." Goldings' savvy keyboard dexterity should provide a firm launching pad for George's breezy pop melodies. As with many nights at this venue, expect some unexpected guest stars. -FALLING JAMES

THU 4/11

Big Business

@ ALEX'S BAR

The punk-rock pedigree is strong here. Jared Warren played bass in Washington post-hardcore band Karp and then, notably, art-stoner vets the Melvins, while drummer Coady Willis was in the Murder City Devils as well as the Melvins. Big Business formed in 2005, and that year's debut album, Head for the Shallow, was a breath of stale-beerfilled air. Clearly taking notes from their sludgy former employers, the duo (the lineup has shifted slightly over the years) have put out a total of six albums now, culminating in this year's *The Beast You Are*. They remain a brutal tour de force, and absolutely refuse to compromise. That's exactly how we like them. Qui also plays. —BRETT CALLWOOD

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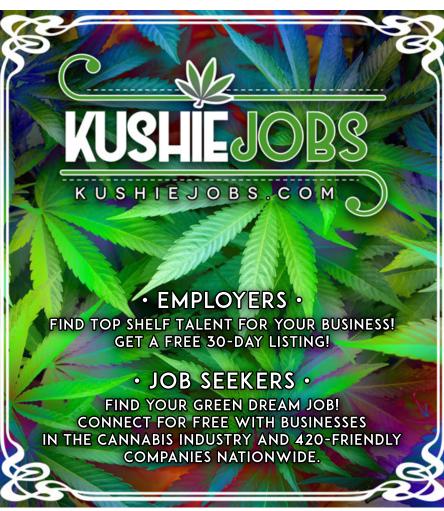
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And a petition for change of name having been duly filed with the clerk of this Court, and it appearing from said petition that said petitioner(s) desire(s) to have her name changed from; Daniel Arman Der Sarkissian to Daniel Ethan Hunt. Now therefore, it is hereby ordered that all persons interested in the said matter of change of name appear as indicated herein above then and there to show cause why the petition for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that all copy of this order be published in the LA Weekly, a newspaper of general circulation for the County of Los Angeles, once a week for four (4) successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of said petition. Set to publish 04/04, 04/11, 04/18, 04/25/2019

And a petition for change

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Development Manager (Los Angeles, CA): Master's or foreign equiv in Comp Sci or CompEng, plus 1 yr of managerial exp in firm-ware/software devel. Exp must incl Agile practices (SCRUM, XP, SAFe); software process imprvmnt & quality models; WEB app devel in Java & .NET envrnmnts; Java & .NET environnes; configuration mgmt; Enter-prise Project Mgmt. Mail re-sume: Riot Games Inc., 12333 W. Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064, attn C. McKinney, Principals only. Must be legally authrzd to wrk in US w/o spnsrship. EOE.

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CA) seeks an Application Subject Matter Expert III [Middleware Automation] to mplement and Design automation and integration opportunities for the pur pose of business proficien-cy. Occ. travel w/in the U.S. reers, Job ID: 190002CW

Farmers (Woodland Hills, CA) seeks Application Test Specialist IV to develop test plans to include test scenarios/objectives/test cases & data/quality criteria & measurement techniques. Apply at Farmers.com/Careers, Job ID: 190002FZ

Fashion Designer: execute design concepts; bachelor's degree in Fashion Design, Clothing & Textiles or related; Protrend, LTD 6001 E. Washington Blvd., 2nd Floor, Commerce, CA 90040

Financial Analyst:

Analyze finan/stat projec-tions/platforms, create financial products & inte gration process. MS Finan-cial Eng. based on BS in Acctg/Finance from a U.S. Univ. R, MatLab, Al. VBA req'd Resume: Maxim Commercial Capital, LLC, HR, 11620 Wilshire Blvd., #540, Los Angeles, CA 90025.

Food Technologist (City of Industry, CA) Check raw ingredients for maturity and finished products for safety & quality; Evaluate food storage operations and assist in the development of quality assurance programs; Stay up to date on new regulations & current events regarding food science by reviewing scientific literature. 40hrs/wk, Bachelor's degree in Biochemistry or related required. Resume to Marquis Worldwide Specialty Inc. Attn. Keon Jin Shin, 883 S Azusa Ave, City of Industry, CA 91748

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Marketing Specialist (Diamond Bar, CA) Build & execute social media strategy through competitive research, platform determination & benchmarking. MS deg in Mktg, BA, PA, or rltd field; At least 1-yr exp in mktg or advertising; Excellent interpersonal communication skills w/a customer-oriented attrifude. er-oriented attitude; Creative thinker & problem solver w/ strong motiva-tion; Proficiency in MS Of-fice, Photoshop & knowl of Google Analytics & Google AdWords. Apply to Com-bined Benefits, Inc., 1520 Bridgegate Dr, Ste 108, Dia-mond Bar, CA 91765

Project Manager. Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills CA w/ travel/reloc to sites w/in US. Manage, plan & w/in US. Manage, plan & initiate on -site implementa-tion & delivery of enterprise IVI biz app sols. Req's: MS in Comp Sq. If or Biz Admin field & 3 yrs exp or B5 in same fields & 5 yrs. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#1824, 21700 Oxnard Street, Suite 1700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

neer. Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA w/ trav-el/reloc to sites w/in US. el/reloc to sites w/in US. Lead functional & integra-tion app testing in the OSS/BSS domain. Req's: MS in Comp Sci/Eng, Comp App, IT or an Electrical/Elec-tronic Eng field & 3 yrs exp or BS in same fields & 5 yrs exp. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#/1838, 21700 Oxnard Street, Ste 1700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

Software Engineer (Net-work). Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA W/ travel/ reloc to sitse W/in US. Analyze, manage, optimize and implement Cisco switches, Routers Cisco ASA and WAHA network. Req's: BS in Comp Sci, Electri-cal/Electronic Eng field, or Biz Adm W/ conc. in IS, CIS MIS & 2 yrs exp. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#1825, 21700 Oxnard Street, Ste 1700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Solution Architect-OSS/BSS. Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA w/ travel/reloc to sites w/in US. Interface w/ tech & biz stakeholders to gather, analyze, define & design OSS/BSS apps sols for clients in Telecom sector. Req's: MS in Comp Sci/Eng field & 3 yrs or BS in same field & 5 yrs exp. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#1829, 21700 Oxnard Street. Ste 1700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Solution Architect. Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA W/ travel/Teloc to sites W/in US. Design, develop & modify SW dev for BSS & OSS sols. Reg's: MS in a Comp Sci or ClS field & 3 yrs exp or BS in same fields & 5 yrs exp. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#1821, 21700 Oxnard Street, Ste 1700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Sr. Software Engineer. Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA w/ travel/reloc to proj sites w/in US. S/W development for web-based & telecommunication sols. Reg's: MS in Comp Sci, Comp App or IT field & 3 yrs exp or BS in same fields & 5 yrs exp. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#1818, 21700 Oxard Street, Suite 1700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Sr. Software Engineer. Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA w/ travel/reloc to sites w/in US. Design, develop & modify Java & J2EE op & modify Java & JZEE based sols for client/server, N-tier & web apps. Reg's: MS in Comp Sci/Eng, Comp App or Cl5 field & 3 vrs exp or BS in same fields & 5 yrs exp. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#/1826, 21700 Oxnard Street, Ste 4700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367.

Team Lead (Testing). Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA w/ travel/reloc to proj sites w/in US. Lead test design & execute app test-ion & applies w/in a dictribdesign & execute app test-ing & analysis w/in a distrib-uted devp environment. Req's: M5 in Comp Sci or IT fields & 3 yrs exp or BS in same fields & 5 yrs exp. Res to: Xavient, Re: Job#1819, 21700 Oxnard Street, Suite 1700, Woodland Hills, CA 91367. Technical Lead. Xavient Digital LLC. Woodland Hills, CA W/ travel/reloc to sites W/n US. Design, develop & modify Java/J2EE sols for client/server, N-tier & web apps. Req's: MS in a Comp Sci/App, ClS, IT or Electrical/Electronic Eng field & 3 yrs exp or BS in same fields & 5 yrs exp or BS in same field & 3 yrs exp or BS in same fields. Re: Job #1825, 21700 Oxnard Street. Ste 1700. Woodland Hills, CA 91367

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∢ ← Continued from inside front cover

Having these hotspots also allows Puffy to maintain a consistent, uniformed product line in all of their hubs. That means that no matter where you are located, everyone visiting Puffy's site will have the same access to the same products. Puffy is the largest service provider for cannabis media giant Weedmaps (Weedmaps.com), providing its customers with the largest online marketplace currently available in the digital cannabis world. "We pride ourselves on working with the largest brands in the cannabis space," says the company's co-founders. And it's true, the site features a wide variety of high-end brand names, like Ignite (powered by Dan Bilzarian) and VVS (championed by Ben Baller). Puffy also recently signed an exclusive deal with Berner's Cookies line, making them the first company to distribute the product. All of the products

sold by Puffy have been lab tested and pass all regulations set by the Bureau of Cannabis Control.

Puffy is a tech-driven company, and their website is extremely easy to navigate, with multiple ways in which a user is able to sort through the site's products. Customers can search for what they want by strain name, THC level, even intensity of high. The site also serves as a center of information for cannabis, due to the expansive details readily available to consumers on every product listed, making the site a great resource for both newcomers to the world of cannabis and experienced connoisseurs alike. Puffy believes tech cannabis is the future, and in creating digital platforms that make the customer shopping experience easier and faster.

What sets Puffy apart from its competitors

puffydelivery.com

the most is its unique marketing approach and strategy. Not only is Puffy a delivery service for brands that have already been established in the cannabis community, it is also a launchpad for those looking to put out their own brands, without having to deal with dispensaries, allowing creators the ability to reach their audience directly. Puffy is currently the only online delivery service that has the capability of establishing brands for new creators. Individuals, companies, and social and creative influencers all have the ability to jumpstart their own cannabis brands with the help of Puffy. This unique function is the cannabis equivalent of when Netflix started creating its own original content and could be what sends Puffy into an entirely different category from anyone else in the game. Puffy is focused on creating new ways of interacting with customers through their digital platforms, and their unique start to finish shopping experience at puffydelivery.com makes them the most innovative cannabis delivery company currently in the market.

The website utilizes creative influencers from a variety of fields to not only promote these influencers' own brands, but to promote awareness for cannabis as a whole. Puffy's mission goes beyond finding success for themselves. Its co-founders want to promote wellness in the communities they reach by first and foremost removing the taboo that still shrouds marijuana in many areas. Puffy currently employs over 200 people, including more than 15 in-house developers on their tech team, at their Irvine headquarters. With their professional, large-scale corporate structure, and the help of these creative influencers forming their brands or promoting others, Puffy hopes to further educate and inform communities of the benefits of cannabis and remove much of the negative stigma that the plant still faces today.

Puffy Delivery is about to become the go-to spot for all your cannabis needs. With its wide array of safe and quality products, its tech-driven outreach and easy to navigate platform, and its wide geographic reach and speedy delivery times, the need to drag yourself to your nearest dispensary has disappeared. For more information or to place your first order, check out their website at puffydelivery.com. You can also follow them on Instagram @puffydelivery.

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