

LAWEEKLY

STEP INTO JURASSIC PARK
AT COMIC-CON

FARRELL
HUNDLEY'S
FURNISHINGS
FOR A DARK NEW
GOLDEN AGE

JULY 14 - 20, 2023
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SHARPER IMAGE!

IMAGE COMICS AND SKYBOUND ENTERTAINMENT PROMISE BIG THINGS FOR COMIC-CON
BY BRETT CALLWOOD

CALENDAR

GO EDITORS' PICKS

ARTS

THURSDAY, JULY 13

2023 City of Los Angeles (COLA) Individual Master Artist Project Exhibition at Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery. Awarded annually to L.A.-based artists, COLA supports the creation of new works by a selection of the City's most exemplary mid-career artists, honoring the synergetic relationship between Los Angeles, its artists, its history, and its identity as an international arts capital. The Literary and Performing Artists debuted their works at Grand Performances in June, and now the six visual artists are showcased at Barnsdall Art Park. **4800 Hollywood Blvd., Los Feliz; Opening reception: Thursday, July 13, 6-8pm; On view through September 16; free; lamag.org.**

FRIDAY, JULY 14

Daydreaming pressed against a fence at Harkawik Gallery. Harkawik inaugurates their new Melrose Hill location with a group exhibition focused on translation, re-constitution and reimagination as it relates to the creative process. Artists frequently re-make works, beginning in one medium and moving to another, creating process-oriented constructions and responding to their peculiarly handmade qualities, or taking already-made artworks and using them as baseline, found object or raw material—adding, removing, rebuilding them in different ways. **5538 Santa Monica Blvd., Melrose Hill; Opening reception: Friday, July 14, 7-10pm; On view through September 11; free; harkawik.com.**

2022 Benjamin Mkapa African Wildlife Photography Awards Exhibition at Natural History Museum. More than 40 award-winning photographs and videos selected from over 9,500 entries from 57 countries—chosen by a panel of judges that includes accomplished wildlife photographers, conservation professionals, safari guides, and youth conservation activists, providing an emotional and dynamic look at the breadth and majesty of African wildlife as well as the challenges many species face. **900 Exposition Blvd., Expo Park; On view July 14 - October 9;**



Shulamit Nazarian
Wendell Gladstone
Spooky Action

\$18; free to L.A. County residents Mon-Fri, 3-5pm; nhmlac.org.

SATURDAY, JULY 15

Wendell Gladstone: Spooky Action at Shulamit Nazarian Gallery. Gladstone's figurative compositions examine the indescribable psychic impact of human relationships. Drawing from elements of Jungian psychology and taking inspiration from quantum physics, the artist engages a variety of visual styles and painting methods. With a bright, often

candy-colored palette layered with transparent mediums that subtly reveal the forms beneath, his paintings lure the viewer in to consider the boundless realm of the human psyche. **616 N. La Brea, Hollywood; Opening reception: Saturday, July 15, 6-8pm; On view through August 19; free; shulamitnazarian.com.**

Hank Willis Thomas: I've Known Rivers at Pace Gallery. A selection of new retroreflective artworks—which reveal latent images

depending on lighting and the perspective of the viewer, to reveal two distinct scenes transfigured by both ambient and flash lighting. Seen from one perspective, these artworks present bold figurations, abstractions, and landscapes in saturated colors; seen from another, fragmented archival scraps. As these elements converge and transform, they shed light on new layers of images, ideas, and meanings that are hidden in plain sight. **1201 S. La Brea, Mid-Wilshire; Opening reception: July 15, 6-8pm;**

Hollywood Bowl
Grupo Corpo



On view through August 26; free; pacegallery.com.

Last Summer at Blueÿsh Cove at The Fountain Theatre. Set in 1974, a group of queer women spend their summers together in a remote oceanfront town on Long Island. Their lesbian enclave is disrupted when Eva, a naïve straight woman recently separated from her husband, stumbles unaware into their circle and falls for the charming, tough-talking Lil. This heartfelt play, a landmark in lesbian history, is bursting with friendship, laughter, love and hope, bringing well-rounded, three-dimensional



characters that transcend stereotypes and preconceptions to the stage. Written by Jane Chambers and directed by Hannah Wolf, the theater transforms its outdoor stage to create an oceanfront experience for its 40th anniversary production of the groundbreaking comedy/drama. *5060 Fountain Ave., Hollywood; Performances through August 24; \$45; fountaintheatre.com.*

TUESDAY, JULY 18
Grupo Corpo and Estancia with Dudamel at the Hollywood Bowl. Dance company Grupo Corpo—internationally renowned for combining classical technique with a modern

take on popular Brazilian dance—joins Dudamel and the L.A. Phil orchestra for this rare full performance of Ginastera's ballet. Set against the landscape of disappearing Argentine gaucho culture, Ginastera's *Estancia* tells the tale of a city boy who tries to win the heart of a rancher's daughter by showing off his skills as a horseman and dancer. *2301 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood; Tuesday, July 18, 8pm; \$1-\$134; hollywoodbowl.com.*

MUSIC

JULY 14-20

Havok
The Regent Theater

It's a new school thrash metal party at the Regent, as one of Denver's finest exports — Havok — join forces Portland's Toxic Holocaust. Both bands found their feet as the '90s were becoming the '00s, but in metal terms that's still "new school." That said, both pedal in the sort of high energy, uncompromising thrash that was flourishing in the '80s. Regardless, it's gonna be wild. *6 p.m. on Saturday, July 15 at the Regent Theater, \$25, regentdila.com.*

Sparks
Hollywood Bowl

They've had some big gaps here and there but, for the most part, Sparks have remained remarkably consistent over the course of their career from 1966 (!) until

now. This year's *The Girl is Crying in Her Latte*, their 25th studio album, is typically brilliant and further proof that the world should know more than "This Town Ain't Big Enough for Both of Us." Here, they're performing with quirky pop-rockers *They Might Be Giants*, and that's an inspired bill. *7:30 p.m. on Sunday, July 16 at the Hollywood Bowl, \$15-\$190, hollywoodbowl.com.*

Lil Eazy-E
Zebulon

Lil Eazy-E is, of course, best known for being the son of L.A. legend and late NWA man Eazy-E. He's a solo musician in his own right though, having released a bunch of singles, mixtapes and collabs in recent years. He's also the president of Rich & Ruthless Records, and he cofounded Rich & Ruthless Cannabis with his brother E3 (formerly known as Baby Eazy-E). There is a theme here. *6 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19 at the Whisky A Go-Go, \$20, whiskyagogo.com.*

Jimmy Eat World / Manchester Orchestra
Greek Theatre

Alt-emo-pop-rock masters Jimmy Eat World commercially peaked with the 2001 album *Bleed American*, and super-catchy singles such as "The Middle" and "Sweetness." But the albums that came before and after have been brilliant if less instant, right up to 2019's *Surviving*. A bill with Atlanta alt heroes Manchester Orchestra is a superb idea. *6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 19 at the Greek Theatre, \$39.50-\$49.50, lagreektheatre.com [A]*

LASD RELEASES VIDEO OF DEPUTY SLAMMING WOMAN IN PARKING LOT

After footage of a deputy using force to detain a woman in Lancaster circulated through social media, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) released body-cam footage of the incident

BY ISAI ROCHA



LASD publicly released videos of an incident where one of its deputies appeared to slam a woman on the ground in Lancaster.

The incident occurred June 24 at a WinCo Foods parking lot, as deputies responded to a call for an alleged in-progress robbery. The footage shows a Black man handcuffed as a woman recorded with her phone, off to the side.

Phone footage of the incident was recorded by an eyewitness and posted by Black Lives Matter co-founder Melina Abdullah.

The deputies then seemingly turn their attention to the woman and take her down to the ground saying, "Stop, or you're going to get punched in the face."

The woman responded to the officer by saying, "If you punch me, you're going to

get sued."

As the struggle continued, the deputy pepper-sprayed the woman and handcuffed her.

"As deputies attempted to detain the individuals described by store security personnel, the encounter escalated into a use of force incident captured by a community member with a cellphone camera," LASD said in the press release. "The video is disturbing. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department has initiated an investigation of this incident."

LASD said it would use the body-worn camera footage as surveillance footage and cellphone video taken from someone present, as it continues its investigation.

The deputies involved in the incident were reassigned from "field duty" while the investigation continues.

"While the Department does not make statements related to ongoing investigations, Sheriff Luna has made it clear that he expects Department personnel to treat all members of the public with dignity and respect, and that personnel who do not uphold our training standards will be held accountable," the press release said. "In the interest of transparency with our community, the Sheriff's Department is releasing body-worn camera video from the incident."

12 PALOS VERDES HOMES FALL INTO CANYON AFTER LANDSLIDE

After a weekend of noticeable foundation cracks caused by a landslide, 12 Rolling Hills Estates homes crumbled into a canyon Monday.

While it is still unclear what caused the landslide, Supervisor Hahn believed they may be linked to the extreme rain that hit the county in 2022. Hahn added that there would not be an official determination until a geologist makes an assessment and the soil was examined.

META'S NEW THREADS APP PROVES DIFFICULT TO DELETE

The newly minted Threads app has created a social media stir, and one of the immediate concerns was the ability to delete one's profile.

Meta Platforms abruptly released the Twitter-style app this week and users noticed that, as of this writing, one cannot delete their profile, unless they also delete their Instagram profile.

The primary way of signing up for Threads was through a user's existing Instagram profile, giving the option to import followers and those following, in the process.

When going through the settings, the app states, "Some settings, like deleting your account, apply to both Threads and Instagram and can be managed on Instagram."

When users posted about the app-deleting terms, Meta's Chief Technology Officer Andrew Bosworth, said, "This was an edge case; we are currently fixing it."

Meta recently attempted to create synergy across its platforms with its "Accounts Center," which allows users to control their profile settings for both Facebook and Instagram. As of this writing, there is no space for Threads settings in the Accounts Center.

Like on Instagram, there is an option to "deactivate" profiles, although it is a temporary measure. Deactivation allows users to hide their profiles and activity, but the profiles still technically exist. Users can easily log back into their Threads profile to reactivate it without losing followers, posts or settings.

Head of Instagram Adam Mosseri later addressed the deletion issue, stating that they are "looking into a way to delete your Threads account separately."

While an option to delete one's profile may be in progress, the inability to permanently disconnect from the app has kept users from taking the plunge.

In an almost immediate response to Threads, Twitter's Attorney Alex Spiro reportedly sent a letter to the Twitter copycat, accusing Meta of hiring two former Twitter employees to help build the new app.

A Meta spokesperson then posted a thread, saying, "No one on the Threads engineering team is a former Twitter employee — that's just not a thing."

As of this writing, Threads has amassed more than 100 million users in less than a week. [E]

FOOD

STEP INTO JURASSIC PARK AT COMIC-CON

Celebrating 30 Years of Dinosaurs

BY MICHELE STUEYEN



Universal Products & Experiences and Amblin Entertainment are re-opening the park gates at Comic-Con International in San Diego to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Jurassic Park. Step Into Jurassic Park is a free, timed-entry event at the convention Friday, July 21, and Saturday, July 22.

Visitors will be greeted by meticulously crafted scenes, bringing the 1993 prehistoric park to life, from the Dilophosaurus attack scene and that famous moment on the toilet. There will be product displays, featuring 30th anniversary-inspired toys, collectibles, apparel, accessories and Jurassic-themed food offerings from John Soules.

“There will be Jurassic World Chicken

Nuggets,” Jason Trotta from John Soules tells L.A. Weekly. “To further inspire the “play with your food” revolution, John Soules Foods is the first to introduce five unique dinosaur shaped chicken nuggets — T. rex, Brachiosaurus, Stegosaurus, Dinosaur Footprint and Raptor Claw. As a fun and adventurous twist for the Step Into Jurassic Park San Diego Comic-Con event, we are serving these nuggets with sauces that make them fun for adults, too, with dipping sauces like honey lime sriracha, togarashi, and honey mustard. It helps that many adults were children when Jurassic Park first debuted 30 years ago, so this is another fun way to bring those memories back again. And to be clear, we are 100% carnivores but cater to om-



nivores, as well.”

The original film from the franchise takes viewers to a theme park on a remote island where dinosaurs roam the Earth again, and five people battle to survive among the prehistoric predators. The movie stars Sam Neill, Laura

Dern, Jeff Goldblum and Richard Attenborough.

Step Into Jurassic Park will be located outside of the convention center, so no Comic-Con badge necessary. Entry will be available through reservations only here: www.jurassicpark.com/JP30. [E]

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SHARPER *IMAGE!*



Image Comics and Skybound Entertainment promise big things for Comic-Con

BY BRETT CALLWOOD

After a two-year break, San Diego Comic-Con returned last year with, if not a bang, a moderate bump. It was one of those “should we shouldn’t we” situations – comic books fans were craving normalcy and so they congregated as they

are apt to do.

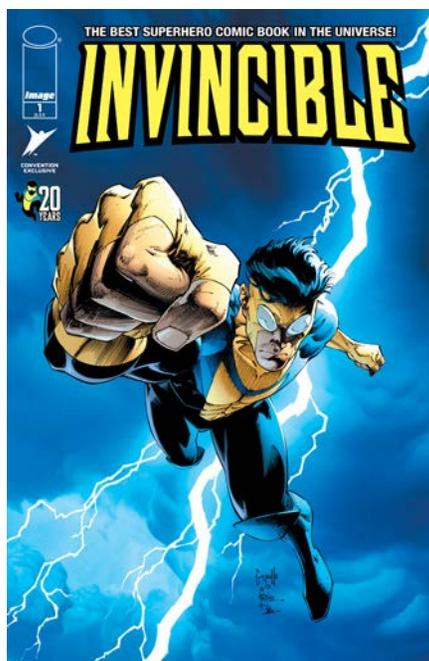
This is the first proper post-COVID (don’t jinx it) year, and Comic-Con is back again. This time though, it’s the writer’s strike that is playing hell with the schedule (a writer’s strike, incidentally, that we fully support). Marvel,

fucking Marvel, is skipping it this year, as are Sony Pictures, Universal Pictures, Netflix and HBO. That’s some big names.

The absence of those corporate giants allows us to focus harder elsewhere, however. Todd McFarlane’s Image Comics will be there, and that umbrella also means that imprint Skybound Entertainment (founded by Walking Dead man Robert Kirkman) also will be there.

Image has a few panels from Thursday to Sunday, with McFarlane himself speaking at 10:30 a.m., on Friday.

“Those are usually the opportunity to announce new and upcoming projects,” McFarlane says. “Most people already know what’s in the pipeline. For us, it’s about announcing a bunch of new titles and the creative people on the characters that are coming in. In ‘21 it was expanded from the Spawn comic book into what I call the Spawn universe. We do four books every month now, one a week, we have a book going to the printers. Then, from my point of view, it’s about how we are going to mindfully grow this potential. It took me almost



30 years to go from one book to two books.”

David Alpert is the CEO of Skybound Entertainment and a co-founder, alongside Kirkman. Alpert says that, for 25 years, his whole year was shaped around the San Diego mega-convention so it’s nuts that, due to COVID, he hasn’t been for the past four years. This one, he says, is a big deal for Skybound.

“Skybound itself is 13 years old, so I feel like we’re entering that awkward teenage period but we’re growing,” Alpert says. “We’re feeling ourselves out a little bit, and we separated ourselves a bit. (Previously,) we shared a booth with all the other Image guys. This is the first time that we’re having a full standalone Skybound booth on the floor. So we’ll have a whole big display, screens, a recording studio, and promotions for all of our content. It’s not just that we’ve reached a point where it’s 13 years, it’s also about the fact that is the

20th anniversary of the Walking Dead and Invincible, our two biggest titles. On top of that, we have a massive promotion around Impact Winter – that’s the podcast that we’re doing with Audible.”

Both men agree that despite occasional over-enthusiasm from the attendees, Comic-Con is a place to embrace fandom, geekdom, in all of its forms.

“I like it because it continues to remind me of the magnitude of the group of geeks, and I use that word in a very broad sense,” McFarlane says. “Whether it’s people who like superhero movies, anime, video games, comic books or toys, whatever, I think it’s a big group of people. I think it’s cool to have all of them concierge in one place. When I was a kid and a closet collector, you had to hide it from everybody because everybody thought you were mentally arrested if you were a comic book collector. Fast forward and it’s all gone mainstream, which is kinda cool. It’s



good for business, and more importantly it’s good for people to have others they can confer with.”

“I saw Comic-Con go from a gritty grimy fest and then it became really popular and the Marvel movies started happening,” adds Alpert. “You started seeing things like The Office and Parks & Recreation coming to Comic-Con

and it was like, ‘Why are you here?’ It became more of a pop culture fest and then there was a backlash because it wasn’t what it used to be. We reached this modern point where it’s about celebrating fandom. If you’re willing to paint yourself like as Transformer or dress like GI Joe, this is the place for you.”

All eyes on Image and Skybound at Comic-Con, then. And, true to form, there's much to be excited about from both. Image's first panel is with "master storyteller" Jeff Lemire (Fishflies, Tenement, Cosmic Detective) on Thursday, before McFarlane on Friday and then a panel with Rick Remender (Fear Agent, Black Science). Other subjects covered include the intriguing "Massive-Verse," and "Comic characters people love to hate."

"Sometimes it's even hard for me to keep track because it seems like every two months they have a book that's cooler and better, and is gonna top the last home run that they had," says McFarlane. "In all honesty, I usually get the details of what they're announcing pretty close to the announcements themselves. We're not built so that they have to get approval. That's the cool thing about all of it. They just do what they want to with the long, long rope that we give them as part of their 100% ownership."

Skybound's three panels cover the new nostalgia-based *Wrestle-Quest* video game, the 20th anniversary of the *Invincible* comic book series, and the exciting new shared universe featuring *Transformers* and *GI Joe*.

"Not everything is about how I spent my time after school as a kid," says Alpert. "But it's also not not about that. I would rush home from the school bus to get there ahead of my sisters so I could control the remote control, so I could watch *GI Joe* and *Transformers*. In my mind, they were always together. It always bothered me that they never intersected. Why would you keep chocolate and peanut butter separate? So that was the goal here – take Hasbro and make it Reese's Pieces."

Sadly, the Go-Bots are currently not in the plans for that collision of franchises, currently dubbed the Energon Universe. But the *GI Joe* world popped up at the end of recent *Transformers* movie *Rise of the Beasts*.

"I think everybody sees that people want to connect these things," Alpert says. "Everybody has different ideas of how that would work."

On the subject of franchises, a rebooted *Spawn* movie has been in the works for some time. Production was halted by the pandemic and now the writer's strike, but McFarlane says that hiring a director is the final piece of the puzzle.

"I've taken a step back on (directing)," the Image man says. "I've been a prisoner of my

own success. I got a top flight team. Malcolm

(Spellman) and Scott (Silver) writing, who wrote *The Joker* and new *Captain America*.

Jaime Foxx starring. As the CEO, are we gonna walk into Hollywood and say that we've got an A team, plus Todd? I wouldn't buy that pitch. So I had a call with some of the people involved and they breathed a collective sigh when I volunteered to get out of the director's chair. I understand."

McFarlane's initial desire to grasp creative control after the 1997 attempt at a live action *Spawn* essentially flopped (despite an awesome soundtrack). At the present time, he's yet to find a director.

"We want to know what kind of movie we have and take a script to the director," McFarlane

Todd McFarlane



PHOTO BY NICK MORGULIS

says. "We were expecting to be in the studios in June/July and we were on track, until the strike. They had to do what they had to do, which is put the pencils down. My guess is, probably 60 days, 90 at the most, after the strike ends, we'll be in Hollywood studios making the sale. That'll give us time to make the changes, find a director, and then come in with whatever it is that we're selling. There's still a big question of what we're selling. One movie? A series of movies? Or the *Spawn* Universe, whatever that means?"

Besides the *Spawn* reboot, McFarlane has a lot of comic books and toys (through his McFarlane Toys company) coming out this year. He teases that the *Spawn* character will appear in a big AAA video game, though he can't fully spill the beans yet.

"When I put my character into someone else's world, I always say, 'make him the coolest character in that world;'"

McFarlane says. "That's how you get approval. I have way more flexibility giving you approval if you're bending the status quo than if I was a big corporation with a multi-billion dollar brand. I'm not that precious. Go have fun, and make him compatible with your current fanbase."

Meanwhile, Skybound will be celebrating season 2 of the *Impact Winter* vampire-based podcast at Comic-Con, as well as season 2 of the animated *Invincible* show. And there's more.

"We have a TV show in the fall on Freevee called *Classified*, which we shot in South Africa," Alpert says. "We have a whole bunch of games including *WrestleQuest*. There's a ton of comics, and *Impact Winter* will be huge. It's hard for us to keep up with all the awesome stuff going on at Skybound, but I think it's going to be a pretty big year for us."

Visit comic-con.org for all San Diego Comic-Con information. 📺



MUSIC

THE SUN ROSE SHINES BRIGHT

The intimate Sunset Strip jazz club is booming and blooming with special engagements by huge stars

BY LINA LECARO



T-Pain at Sun Rose

The Sunset Strip is in a sexy and sophisticated phase. The famous boulevard has gone through many different musical guises over the past several decades, from the riotous go-go hotspots and legendary stage debuts of the '60s and '70s, to the metal mayhem of the '80s, to the velvet-roped DJ ragers of the '90s and early 2000s. Post-COVID restrictions, this part of West Hollywood seems to have bounced back, but in a more glam, grown-up way with intimate rooms like The Sun Rose providing superstar-driven music moments that harken back to the area's illustrious Old Hollywood heyday and inception.

You can still cruise up the Strip to rock out at the Roxy and Whisky or dance the night away at Hyde or Bootsy Bellows, but those of us who've been there/done that, seek a more curated kind of nightlife these days. The 150-capacity Sun Rose has blossomed into a hot spot thanks to its sleek, color-saturated yet warmly lit surroundings, interactive spirit, and focus on elevating the shared crowd experience and sound quality heard in other L.A. clubs. Located in the Pendry Hotel and sister space to its members-only Britely Social Club, the room has been a best-kept secret for music this past year, but clearly the word has gotten out.

A little background on the Pendry – it stands where the House of Blues (HOB) used to be, which is sacred ground to anyone who went there and saw shows there over the years. The 1,500 capacity HOB Sunset Strip closed in 2015 to make room for the current development, and while it is missed by many, the new properties here are equally atmospheric, just in a different way. The complex is gorgeous, with maximalist art deco touches throughout, especially in the Britely Social Club's pink-hued meeting space, which has a restaurant, bar and bowling alley.

Wolfgang Puck oversees two restaurants in the building, the luxe rooftop space called Merois offering city views, a raw bar and sushi menu and Ospero, a relaxed, airy and open street-level eatery with views of the Comedy Store that features a wood-burning oven and fun signature cocktails. Both places provide perfect bites and sights before a performance at Sun Rose, though the club offers a limited menu itself, as well.

At the recently sold-out Jeff Goldblum show, the seating arrangements and extra-participatory room made it feel like a soiree among friends. The actor starts each set with some conversation, questions and answers, and even trivia, including a Six Degrees of Jeff Goldblum-



style game. When he finally sits at the piano, he lets the keys, complemented by the sensual sounds of his full jazz band – the Mildred Snitzer Orchestra – do the communicating.

"We inaugurated this joint," Goldblum tells *LA Weekly* before his set. "I love this room. (It's) intimate, of course, and it's laid out in a way so a fellow like me can make spontaneous contact with the audience."

"As they say, it's a 'listening room,'" the quirkily verbose actor continues. "It's for serious listening. It's got great acoustics and the professional system is tippity-top notch; the instruments are, too – I mean that's a heck of a nice piano."

The piano is a gleaming C7 Grand, and Goldblum was one of the first to play it before the room was officially opened and named in spring of 2022. The three-month secret residency helped set the tone for the place, which kept its bookings consistently stellar ever since. Mike Garson (David Bowie's pianist, probably best known for this iconic work on *Aladdin Sane*) alongside Director of Talent Sharyn Goldyn, conceived the "Bowie's Piano Man" series, billed as an evening of storytelling and guests interpreting the departed Starman's catalog with Garson. The sold-out shows featured the likes of Luke Spiller (of The Struts), Evan Rachel Wood, Jake Wesley Rogers, Chad Smith (of Red Hot Chili Peppers), and Beck to name a few.

Goldyn says the venue strays from the standard live show format of "headliner/opening act" and instead has a focus on building out unique "evenings with" residencies featuring new soul, jazz and down-tempo musicians and legacy artists. She cites Adam Blackstone (musical director for the last five Super Bowl halftime shows) and his Legacy series as another example of the superlative stratum of musical guests. The pop-up shows included surprise performances from

Justin Timberlake, Stevie Wonder, BJ the Chicago Kid and Jazmine Sullivan.

"T-Pain, who released his "Covers" album last March, did a three-night residency at The Sun Rose that sold out in seconds," she adds. "These were the only shows in the country he hosted, trading in his infamous auto tune and rapping for an evening of cover songs highlighting his unexpected, stunning vocal range that crowned him the first winner of The Masked Singer. Nicole Scherzinger, a judge for the Masked Singer and former Pussycat Doll, showed another side of her vocal talent at The Sun Rose with three nights of Jazz and Broadway standards accompanied by a 10-piece band."

Another special show took place in June when Christian James Hand's "Session" experience offered a chat with DEVO's Mark Mothersbaugh, breaking down recorded tracks from the original studio session of "Girl You Want" off of their seminal *Freedom of Choice* album. Previously, the pair discussed the band's cover of The Rolling Stones' "Satisfaction."

While The Britely is members only, the restaurants and The Sun Rose are open to the public. Nothing here is exactly budget-friendly and that includes the drink menu, but the talent offerings so far have been priceless. That said, in addition to ticketed shows, the venue hosts a free weekly night of funk and jazz with a rotating cast of musicians led by Brazilian guitarist Carlinhos Rocha. Goldryn says it's "quickly become the best night of live music on the Sunset Strip."

Next up at The Sun Rose, Lady Blackbird, dubbed by some as the "Grace Jones of Jazz" starts a three-week residency in August, her first major headline shows in the United States.

~ e Sun Rose, 8430 Sunset Blvd., West Hollywood. thesunrose.com 📍

ART

FARRELL HUNDLEY'S FURNISHINGS FOR A DARK NEW GOLDEN AGE

BY SHANA NYS DAMBROT

Lydian
Courtesy of Friedman Benda
and Farrell Hundley



William Farrell and Elliott Hundley have been thinking about the past — specifically the myths and tastes of historical civilizations. From Ancient Greece to the Renaissance, and the halls of Versailles, periods of advanced philosophy have coincided with explosions of aesthetic opulence that contained within them the seeds of the chasmic social and economic inequality and decadence that would be their undoing. On the theory that we are currently living in another such time, in 2019 they founded Farrell Hundley, a design studio making shiny, mutated, dangerous objects for the palaces of today's dark new golden age.

Through their unique collaboration and interpretive relationship to functional design, the pair — each of whom maintains a separate fine art practice — explores resonant passages of myth and poetry from the West's oldest societies. Their first Los Angeles exhibition of this project, Chorus, opening this week at elevated art and design gallery Friedman

Benda, leans into the cyclical paradoxes in the rise and fall of empires, culling imagery, characters, and symbolism from literatures past, as inspiration for a suite of irresistibly tactile cast-bronze, hand-embellished tables, benches, mirrors, vessels, lights, and textiles enlivened by precious metals, organic patination, kaleidoscopic palettes and knife-sharp nettles.

A masterpiece of a desk or dinner table is named Lydian, in a reference to "Lydian gold," which in turn is an obscure image the poet Sappho once conjured. Lydian coins are thought to be the first official "state" coins ever circulated, speaking to a reputation for wealth among its community of nations that prompted the poet to write, in part, "...she's not here, and I'd rather see her lovely step, her sparkling glance and her face than gaze on all the troops in Lydia in their chariots and glittering armor." The desk itself is supported by legs and sides that bear a king's ransom in gold and platinum-hued baubles and spikes, creating a geological texture

Iris
Courtesy of Friedman Benda
and Farrell Hundley



William Farrell & Elliott Hundley
Courtesy of Friedman Benda and Farrell
Hundley



that seduces the eye and lures the hand, evoking treasure troves and royal adornments, and requiring an intense focus and a patient eye for detail that would be impossible to conceive of, if we were not used to this kind of thing from Hundley the artist.

Other tables and benches are named for figures like Iris (goddess of the rainbow and a fleet-footed messenger), Lukka (another kingdom whose wealth was comparable to Lydia's), and Minoa (a thread of Bronze Age port cities and home of the Minotaur). All of these pieces were made using the ancient but indelible lost wax casting method — a process in which hand-sculpted wax forms are destroyed when molten metal is poured into the molds — and the vis-

cerally evocative elemental alchemy of fire and metal is preserved in the mottled, scarred, thorny, topographical skin and hefty bodies of the results.

There are mirrors that fairly radiate magic powers, ringed in leaves and branches, beckoning with dark stories to be told; folded and footed vessels that could be vases (life) or funeral urns (death); a human heart-shaped box; and lighting fixtures deconstructing the wholesome sophistication of stained glass. A collection of textiles for wall and pillow has been created in a hand-felting technique involving upcycled cashmere, recycled clothing (find the Bulls T-shirt and Versace tie), and all manner of mediums one might find in an art studio — again creating a sort of post-punk melange of luxury, reclamation, comfort, and corruption.

Hundley's aesthetic of assembling millions of tiny shards of things in embellished mixed-media collages as packed with minute detail as the most obsessive brocade, and Farrell's muscular paintings merging poetry, strength, and literary meaning, combine to great effect. Both agree we're living through a troubled and luxurious time — an age whose essence of fetid fancies and material contortions fail to be captured by the idealized paradigms of the past. The siren song of Chorus is sung by furniture with the same power to narrate its life and times as art possesses — in this case lavish, thorny times.

Friedman Benda, 8260 Marmont Lane, West Hollywood; Opening reception: Friday, July 14, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.; On view through Aug. 12; free; friedmanbenda.com.

LAWEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION

Web and Database Manager (Venice, CA): Enhance and develop new and existing software, websites and applications to timelines and specifications set down by manager in conjunction with stakeholders. \$171,600/yr. Resumes: HR, IBISWorld, Inc., 285 Fulton Street, One World Trade Center, Floor 56, New York, New York, 10007

Accountants: Req. Any Bachelor's Degree Wage: \$54,704/YR Mail Resume: ALL SATISFIED LOGISTICS, INC. 14900 S AVALON BLVD. GARDENA, CA 90248

Freight Operations Specialist: Req. BBA or rel. Wage-\$55,370/YR Mail resume: SILVERSTAR EXPRESS, INC. 19010 S LAUREL PARK RD. RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA 90220

Marketing Research Analyst (Ramar International Corporation; Huntington Park, CA): Gather information about consumer preferences, needs, demographics, purchasing patterns, and competitors to provide trends and forecasts related to our products development, marketing, and sales to the marketing management. Salary: \$44,803/year. Email resume to hr@ramarfoods.com.

Computer Network Specialist: Req. BS/BE in Com. Sci. Info. Sys. & Tech., or rel. Wage: \$59,093/YR Mail resume: Vlan24, Inc. 2017 E 8th St. 2nd Fl. LA, CA 90021

Taekwondo Coach: Req'd: Bachelor's in Physical Edu., Sports Sci., or rel. Mail resume: International Taekwondo College, Inc., 7525 Fallbrook Ave, West Hills, CA 91307.

Web Developer: Req'd: Associate's degree in Comp. Sci., Comp. Eng. Or rel. \$73,424/yr. Mail resume: Biospace, Inc. 13850 Cerritos Corporate Dr. Unit C, Cerritos, CA 90703

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LAWEEKLY Bulletin

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Thank you Saint Jude, Saint of the Impossible, EC

SECURITY GUARDS NEEDED

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

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