

A MEXICAN FEAST AT LITTLE ONION • SAY "NO" TO RECALL ELECTION • FEBRUARY CONCERT GUIDE

# IRVINE WEEKLY

JANUARY 22, 2020 • VOL. 2, NO. 7

## BREAK DOWN, BUILD UP: ON DISPLAY AT THE GREAT PARK GALLERY

BY LIZ GOLDNER



# KER



## LEGAL GROUP

[WWW.KERLEGALGROUP.COM](http://WWW.KERLEGALGROUP.COM)

“If not for Keith’s compassion and superior defense strategy, we might have lost all of our hard-earned retirement savings to a very opportunistic claimant. The stress prior to retaining Keith was nearly unbearable.”

- Jim and Carol Hoffman

# CONTENTS



PHOTO: COURTESY OF RAINA H.

## ART...4

Great Park Gallery exhibit depicts American landscape with beauty of paint.

BY LIZ GOLDNER

## OPINION...6

Recall election the wrong choice for Irvine.

BY IRVINE WEEKLY EDITORIAL BOARD

## FOOD...7

Little Onion Mexican Restaurant offers sumptuous yet balanced feast.

BY RYAN NAJJAR

## MUSIC...9

Irvine Weekly's February Concert Guide.

BY PAUL ROGERS

COVER: • Photo Courtesy of Marie Thibeault

For all inquiries: publisher@irvineweekly.com

Irvineweekly.com

# IRVINE WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS

### EMPLOYMENT



#### HULU, LLC Marketing Analyst

(Advanced Analytics) Santa Monica, CA Dev statistical and/or machine learning models to inform mktg decisions. Extract, assess, utilize lg & complex data sets to conduct analyses using SQL, R, Python, other statistical analysis tools. REQ: Mast deg or foreign equiv in Business Analytics, Econ, Mktng, Math, Stats & 1 yr exp in Data Scientist or Analyst occ. Alt, Bach deg or foreign equiv in Business Analytics, Econ, Mktng, Math, Stats & 3 yrs exp in Data Scientist or Analyst occ. Send CV to A. Noronha, Hulu LLC, 2500 Broadway, Floor 2, Santa Monica, CA 90404. Please ref code: LUL-01. EOE

#### Corp. Accountant:

record & analyze fin. info. for co./ Bach Deg. in BA, Acct., Commerce, or related dg. 24 mo. exp in job offered and CA CPA lic. 115k yr. job/loc resume to employer, MAS Group, LLC, 810 N Rexford Dr. Beverly Hills, CA 90210

#### IT Project Manager

(Ontario, CA) Manage IT projects for hotel. Bachelor in CS, other IT field, or foreign equiv. 1Y PM exp. Know IT software & languages. Familiar w/ PM, info analysis, data admin. Able to prioritize workload & respond quickly. Apply to YTiife Investment LLC, 3400 Shelby St, Ontario, CA 91764

#### HULU, LLC Data Engineer

Santa Monica, CA Contribute to design & implementation of Hulu's BI data infrastructure. Collaborate w/ SMEs across BUS to design, implement & deliver insightful analytic solutions. REQ: Mast deg or foreign equiv in Comp Sci & 3 yrs exp in BI or data eng role. Alt, Bach deg or foreign equiv in Comp Sci & 5 yrs prog exp in BI or data eng role. Send CV to A. Noronha, Hulu LLC, 2500 Broadway, Floor 2, Santa Monica, CA 90404. Please ref code: YU-01. EOE

#### HULU, LLC Data Scientist

Santa Monica, CA Apply state-of-the-art machine learning, stats, data mining, and predictive modeling in a variety of areas, including customer analysis, video content genome, social analysis. Utilize scripting languages including R, Ruby, SAS, SQL, Hive and Python to develop scalable and efficient methods for large scale data analyses and model development. REQ: Master's deg or foreign equiv in Ops Rsrch, Stats, Comp Sci, Econometrics, Math, Physics or closely related + 2 yrs of exp in a science, eng, or statistical occupation involving quantitative data analysis. Send CV to A. Noronha, Hulu LLC, 2500 Broadway, Floor 2, Santa Monica, CA 90404. Please ref code: XDS-01. EOE

#### C.S. Caulkins Co. Inc.

located in Irvine, CA is looking for a designer with a bachelor degree in Architecture. Please send resumes to Tomcardenas@cscaulkins.com

#### Business Intelligence Analyst:

Analyze competitive mkt. strategies, collect bus. intelligence, perform stat. analysis. Min Req: Master of Bus. Admin, Management or Economics. Send resume: Westgate Mfg., Inc. 2462 E. 28th St., Vernon, CA 90058, Attn: Isaac Hadjyan AD#LAW17

#### Marketing Assistant:

Assist Marketing Mng'r., collaborate with sales team, conduct market research. Min Req: 2 yrs exp. as Marketing Asst., or related. Send resume: 1Heart Caregiver Services, 18455 Burbank Blvd., Suite 210, Tarzana, CA 91356, Attn: Belina Calderon AD#LAW15

#### CONTRACTS AND PROCUREMENT MANAGER

sought by Greenland U.S. Commercial Holding, Inc. in Los Angeles, CA to devise procurement sourcing strategies. Resume to: HR, Greenland U.S. Commercial Holding, Inc., 777 S. Figueroa St., Ste. 4650, Los Angeles, CA 90017.

#### DTS Inc.

has an opening for a Sr Analyst, Business Systems to evaluate business & tech problems & propose solutions. Reqs Master's or foreign equiv degree in MIS, Business Admin or rlt'd field + 3 yrs exp in job offered or as Business Syst/IT Analyst. Exp must incl: creating business reqs docs & sw proof-of-concepts; advanced Excel pivot tables & formulas; Microsoft PowerBI; Oracle query optimization, joins, indexes, partitions; MS SharePoint & Visio. In lieu of Master's + 3 yrs exp, will accept Bachelor's + 5 yrs exp. Worksite: Calabasas, CA. Mail resume: 5220 Las Virgenes Rd, Calabasas, CA 91302, attn. K. Metchis. Principals only. EOE.

#### TECHNOLOGY

SR. SYSTEMS ANALYST (Ajinomoto Foods North America - Ontario, California) Analyze/design business systems critical to core organizational functions. Plan, design and implement major information systems and system admin. Masters degree Computer Science, Software Engineering, Business Admin. or equiv and 1 yr Computer Systems Analyst exp. req'd. Resume to: Ajinomoto Foods North America Attn: Julie Marcelo, 4200 East Concourse Dr, Ontario, CA 91764 or Julie.Marcelo@ajinomotofoods.com.

#### Staff Physician I

sought by Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, CA. M.D. or equiv., completion of graduate medical training in General Surgery & Surgical Critical Care. License or elig. in CA, BC or BE in Surgery and Surgical Critical Care. Send CV to: Sonya Gold, VIC, 6500 Wilshire Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90048.

#### Logistician (Compton, CA)

Maintain & develop positive business relationships with a customer's key personnel involved in, or directly relevant to, a logistics activity. Develop an understanding of customers' needs & take actions to ensure that such needs are met. Manage sub-contractor activities, reviewing proposals & developing performance specifications. 40hrs/wk, Bachelor's degree in Economics or related required. Resume to Ocean Blue Express, Inc. Attn: Sung W Chi, 255 W Victoria St, Compton, CA 90220

## VINTAGE HOTWHEELS CARS

LOOKING FOR CARS FROM

1968-1985

COLLECTOR WILL PAY TOP

DOLLAR

(562) 708-9069

acmecollectables.com



@@@K! WANTED!!

FOR ALL INQUIRIES: PUBLISHER@IRVINeweekly.com



STELLA, BY DANIEL DOVE

## GREATER THAN THE SUM OF THEIR PARTS

**A TWO-PERSON EXHIBITION DEPICTING THE AMERICAN LANDSCAPE WHILE EXALTING THE BEAUTY OF PAINT.**

BY: LIZ GOLDNER

**"Break Down, Build Up"** at the Great Park Gallery extols the majesty, subtlety and even dystopian aspects of contemporary landscapes; while the show's title refers to different approaches to painting by two participating artists. Marie Thibeault is the break down – or abstract – artist in this show, while Daniel Dove's work is more representational or built up, according to curator and gallery assistant Adam Sabolick.

Yet the painterly aspects of the large-scale work by both artists are among this exhibition's most compelling

features. Indeed, Thibeault and Dove approach the application of paint to canvases with so much passion and love that their work imparts scintillating energy.

Thibeault, who lives in San Pedro near the Port of Los Angeles, often drives through the area, observing cranes, bridges, ships, shipping containers and birds overhead. Employing semi-abstract expressionist techniques, she combines and layers details of these observed images, along with organic biomorphic shapes, which are conjured up from her imagination.

The artist approaches her work intuitively, initially drawing, collaging and stenciling her images onto paper. She then applies bright primary and muted colors to her oil paintings, creating abstract work that seems to explode with color, form and fluidity. Her "High Tide" is an amalgam of symbols seen in her nearby industrial environment, painted against an overlay of pale to deep blues, with hints of green, along with several images of birds. This poetic visual rendering depicts life among nature; yet one that is simultaneously tempered by the benefits and spoils of

an industrial society.

The artist's "Gravity's Angel" combines bright pinks with oranges and yellows, overlaid onto darker gestural brushwork to illustrate what she refers to as, "the tension between instability and balance, breakdown and recovery, with the use of architectural structures within organic conditions." Her paintings "Shield" and "Moving Cities" are darker, containing deep blues, greens and black, while their imagery is both obscure and densely painted. These pieces are in part the artist's response to events in our lives that are beyond our

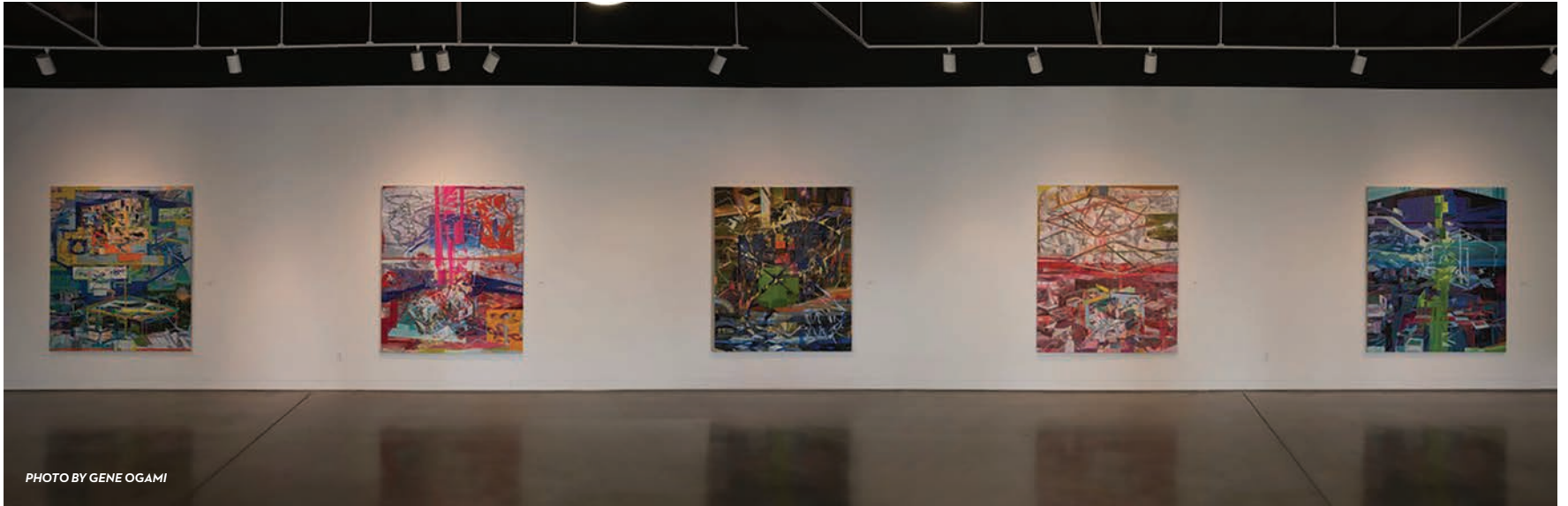


PHOTO BY GENE OGAMI

understanding and imagination, and that also include ruination.

Thibeault's MO, both intuitive and explicit, combining industrial shapes with organic forms, while including bright and deep colors. The resulting artworks are the passionate visual equivalent of Tchaikovsky's seminal composition, "Violin Concerto in D Major."

Dove, the more representational artist in this exhibition, employs "modernist artworks and designs of the 20th century." With this in mind, several of his paintings contain images of classic yet discarded Eames chairs and other mid-century furniture designs. He refers to these furnishings as "ruins" and to out of control consumption. Some of his other pieces appropriate the designs of American artist Frank Stella, who often used geometric patterns in his work, and of French painter and sculptor Jean Dubuffet.

While Dove's paintings are more representational than Thibeault's, they also contain abstract elements of chairs suspended in the air and reflections from buildings. And like Thibeault, Dove is obsessed with the medium of paint (as the French Impressionists often were), noting that applying paint to canvas asserts the presence of a human being. This process also helps to convey the painter's artistic energy and intentions to the viewer.

Dove's painting "Cranbrook," named after the Detroit-based Cranbrook Academy of Art (which houses furnishings as art pieces) is one of his more sedate paintings, with several Eames chairs neatly stacked in two rows, perhaps in a shipping container. This artwork's design, with its curved

furnishings, echoed by similar drawn geometric shapes, is semi-abstract. The artist's painting, "Stella," is more abstract and even chaotic, with several Eames chairs and other furniture pieces jumbled against a background that features a Frank Stella mural.

Moving further into abstraction, Dove's painting titled "Puzzler" appropriates the forms of a Dubuffet sculpture. Yet here the various shapes appear disembodied, resulting in a slightly surreal appearance. His "Trixter," in shades of grays, browns and whites, contains similar shapes. But these figures are even more abstract and surreal, perhaps echoing those of French surrealist Yves Tanguy.

Contrasting with Dove's furniture and sculpture work are his paintings "Cigarette," in greens and yellows, and his "Double Echo" in various shades of red. In these two works, he paints a bucolic scene as it is reflected in the surface of a large industrial building, albeit one that is in disrepair.

Perhaps these paintings, which depart from depicting the actual structures, are the artist's reaction to a world in chaos. Or as Peter Frank writes: "The expansive apocalypses painted by Daniel Dove and Marie Thibeault reflect both the looming entropy of earthly biology and the sense we have of disappearing down that entropic chasm. The two painters posit this global drama in terms not of natural extinction, however, but of cultural collapse: our humanity will disappear and only its larger, more imposing artifacts will remain behind as mute and sorrowful gravesites."

Frank, an L.A.-based art critic, curator and poet, will lead a discussion with

Thibeault and Dove at the Great Park Gallery on Sunday, January 26 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Frank also comments about the two artists' work: "Indeed, the ironic beauty of their painting only heightens our sense of tragic and impending loss."

*"Break Down, Build Up" is on view through February 9, 2020. Great Park Gallery, Palm Court Art Complex, Orange County Great Park, Irvine; Thu. & Fri, noon-4 p.m., Sat. & Sun., 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; free. [cityofirvine.org/orange-county-great-park/arts-exhibitions](http://cityofirvine.org/orange-county-great-park/arts-exhibitions).*

MORE  
THAN

A DEGREE  
A CLASSROOM  
A STUDENT  
A LOCATION

The Chicago School of Professional Psychology  
at Irvine in University Plaza, 4199 Campus Dr., Suite 400



BE MORE THAN  
at [thechicagoschool.edu](http://thechicagoschool.edu)

## EDITORIAL

# FRIVOLOUS RECALL A WASTE OF TAXPAYER MONEY

**MAYOR CHRISTINA SHEA AND COUNCILMAN MIKE CARROLL HAVE SERVED IRVINE AND ITS RESIDENTS FAITHFULLY AND DILIGENTLY.**

IRVINE WEEKLY EDITORIAL BOARD

A small group of people are sadly trying to bring the type of divisive politics we see in Washington, D.C., to our local community in Irvine by pushing an unnecessary and expensive recall simply for their own personal political gain.

Kevork Abazajian, who lost in his attempt to run for City Council, is now circulating a petition to recall Irvine Mayor Christina Shea and Councilman Mike Carroll. His petition is misleading at best, not to mention a divisive, expensive and desperate attempt to make himself and ally Harvey Liss relevant in local politics.

Mayor Shea and Councilman Carroll have both been stellar examples of leadership and progress in Irvine, from the Great Park and the high standards for local education to the veterans cemetery and public safety. Not only do their accomplishments speak for themselves, they have also brought civility and compromise to the City Council. They do not deserve to be recalled.

Despite the recall's claims being preposterous, it also is going to cost residents a lot of money – nearly \$1 million. For an attempted political power grab, Abazajian and Liss want to burden Irvine residents and taxpayers with a million-dollar recall, not to mention divert much-needed funds from other well-deserving projects in the city.

While this confusing endeavor has only a small number of people working to do Abazajian's bidding, its existence should alarm residents. Simply put: The recall is bad for the community, a waste of money, and without basis. A deeper look into its creators leads one to believe that its intent is not about the

well-being of Irvine's residents but rather the latest in a long line of political ploys to attack the city of Irvine and its council members.

The idea that hundreds of thousands of tax dollars can be spent at the whim of political rivals is scary enough. When coupled with the premise that a simple disagreement with political positions is enough to overthrow city officials, it is clear that a lot more is at stake than removing appointed Irvine officials.

Given the enormous taxpayer cost and city staff effort involved, recalls should be reserved for actual misconduct – such as corruption or misuse of funds – not political differences.

As a former planning commissioner, Councilman Carroll has used his expertise to bolster Irvine's interests, including voting on a final location for the long-awaited veterans cemetery that not only ensured its creation, but saved the city money while doing so.

As for our mayor, she ended the political drama and acted in the best interest of Irvine by doing all she could to get the cemetery built. She has a long legacy of serving Irvine since first elected to the council in 1992. She has a 28-year legacy in serving the city of Irvine and doing the right thing for our residents. Abazajian wants taxpayers to fund his crusade and validate his political disagreement. We, however, hope that residents will see this recall for what it is – an attack on Irvine's values and its future.

Do not sign the recall position. Do not support the recall. And remember the names of those who are using it to drive a wedge in our community.

## COLUMN

# NO GOOD DEED GOES UNPUNISHED

**WITH ELECTIONS JUST AROUND THE CORNER, A POLITICALLY MOTIVATED RECALL WOULD BE A COSTLY MISTAKE BORNE BY TAXPAYERS.**

BY: LUCY DUNN

In today's polarized political climate, the frustration citizens feel toward their government is palpable – not just in Washington and Sacramento, but at the local level as well. Perceived inaction, disagreements on democratic decision-making, and a misunderstanding of the public process can lead to rising tensions.

One of the many downsides of being an elected official – especially at the city level – is that residents often do not understand the complexities of city budgets, project costs and existing laws that act as governmental red tape, along with all the other nuances that go into the ultimate decision and a council vote. An upside for residents, such as those here in Irvine, is that they have elected and appointed officials who are dedicated to the city, study the issues in depth, and work tirelessly to comprehend the challenges to overcome them for your benefit. They must make courageous decisions to move forward in a great city like Irvine, balancing public and private interests, with their residents' benefit always in mind.

However, when hot-button headline issues like the Southern California Veterans Memorial Park and Cemetery arise, emotions and opinions can cloud reason – which is the only logical explanation for a new recall petition being circulated by a small group of Irvine residents.

Spearheaded by a losing Irvine City Council candidate and a former planning commissioner, the petition seeks to immediately remove Irvine's mayor, Christina Shea, and Councilman Mike Carroll on the stated reason that the two are "not acting in the interests of residents and voters in getting the veteran's cemetery to happen."

This statement is patently untrue. The efforts and decisive actions by Irvine City Council to secure a location for the cemetery, identify funding and begin construction are well documented.

From the perspective of the Orange County business community, this recall effort appears less about timely building a

cemetery and more about attention-getting and incompatible political leanings.

Yes, the cemetery site is no longer at the original location that voters preferred. No, a location change (within the same Great Park) does not mean that the site is not getting built. Rather, this location appears to ensure that the cemetery does break ground in 2020, given the additional financial resources it brings. Not only will the budget for this deserved memorial receive a much needed boost, but the new site has less environmental and building hurdles to overcome than original proposals. If one's interests lie with getting the cemetery built expeditiously, this Irvine City Council should be applauded.

Smart spending is a vital aspect to the continued prosperity of Irvine and its taxpayers. Orange County's business community supports advantageous business and political decisions when they contribute to the financial health of the city. This recall effort is as far from smart as spending can get, with an estimated budget-bust to the tune of an uncomfortable \$1 million.

Further, the recall proponents are not offering themselves to reimburse taxpayers the \$1 million bill for these proceedings; rather they expect you to pay for their personal political disagreements, just to move up an election by mere months. Both Shea and Carroll would already be on the ballot in a bid for re-election in November 2020.

Irvine deserves better than this. With city council elections less than a year away, residents can make their voices heard in regular order should the community desire it. Until then, support should remain with veterans and their families, as Irvine's mayor and council – in a remarkable bipartisan approach – continue to move forward with securing a final resting place for O.C.'s heroes.

Recall? Vote no on this wasteful use of your tax dollars, should it ever come to pass.

**Lucy Dunn is president and CEO of the Orange County Business Council.**



HUEVOS RANCHEROS - PHOTO BY RYAN NAJJAR.



NACHOS - PHOTO BY RAINA H.



GUACAMOLE - PHOTO BY ANGELA Z.

## FIND YOUR OWN PEACE AT LITTLE ONION

**FROM FRESH GUACAMOLE TO RICH TRES LECHES CAKE, THE EATERY OFFERS A SUMPTUOUS YET BALANCED FEAST.**

BY: RYAN NAJJAR

Given that Bret and I were about to step into a matinee screening of *Cats*, we figured that some comfort food was in order. Our self-esteem had not dropped low enough for McDonald's (that would be after the movie), so our mind shifted to Mexican food, which in turn led us to find refuge in Little Onion.

Even though it was a typical Sunday brunch crowd, we found the atmosphere to be rather serene, and not

too cluttered by chit-chat. The modern decoration and open floor plan lent to a breezy ambiance, perfectly complemented by the sunlight shining through the couple of open doors. We wanted to try out the patio, but even the indoor seating offered an open-air sensation, and we didn't even feel separate from those outside. The calm environment had us pleasantly surprised, especially considering the day and time, and we became only more so after we noticed only

one waitress was walking about. As it turns out, some scheduling issues led to her being the only person working the floor besides the manager. Despite her being dropped in this nightmare scenario, she kept calm, took every order, and handled the bills with a swift, steady hand.

As I mentally added her to my list of role models, I realized I was in the mood for breakfast food. Huevos rancheros specifically. Thankfully, they had what I was seeking, but I wasn't lacking alternatives. On Saturday and Sunday, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., you can get your hands on a selection of breakfast items, including breakfast burritos of the spicy and bacon variety, chilaquiles verdes con carnitas, and Chef Bruno's Pambazo Torta, coming loaded with chorizo and potato. You can also get El Machacha, a blend of shredded beef, scrambled eggs and cheddar and jack cheese; a carne asada and egg plate; and even some churro pancakes with eggs if your sweet tooth has a say in the matter.

If you're craving classic Mexican fare, they've got plenty of choices for you as well. Besides the usual tacos, burritos, fajitas, etc., they bring in other beloved



CHICKEN AND SHRIMP FAJITA. PHOTO BY PRISCILLA M.

dishes like esquites – roasted corn with cotija cheese and poblano peppers – and even handmade sopes. For those wanting some ethnic fusion, there's also a Mexican pizza, which you can get topped with carnitas, beef asada, refried beans, ranchero sauce and more.

While I dedicated myself to the breakfast foods, Bret turned to chef Bruno's specials. There was a tempting grilled prime pork chop on offer, along with a veggie tamale that featured fresh ground masa, a fresh corn salsa, and the fascinating addition of corn leaf burn dust. The most enticing of the chef's specials, though, was the guajillo-braised short rib crispy tempura fried tamale.

With our main course out of the way, we just had to decide whether we wanted to end our meal with flan, tres leches cake, a margarita lime pie or a churro sundae. They all sounded insanely tempting, but we both have a special love for anything tres leches, so we waited for our brave and courageous waitress and, once she arrived, ordered huevos rancheros, the short rib fried tamale, and the tres leches cake.

But first, guacamole. We could tell it was fresh from the first bite, as the classic additions of tomato, onion and cilantro introduced themselves to us in a pleasant wave of flavor. It was clear they used high quality

ingredients here, and that was an excellent sign of things to come. Even the chips boosted my optimism, showing that they paid attention to even the smallest details when it came to their food.

Things only got better from there, as the excitement I felt for my huevos rancheros started from the second they entered my field of vision. It featured some fresh avocado slices on top, which rested upon a bed of ranchera salsa and black beans, all supported by two fried eggs atop two hearty tortillas. It felt even greater than the sum of its parts as I cut in and took a bite. The beans and eggs hit me with a savory rush of flavor, while the salsa and avocado came in to provide a fresh contrast, all coming together within the warm embrace of the tortillas. Hitting me with a boost of energy while not bogging me down, this just confirmed to me even more that huevos rancheros are the ultimate breakfast food.

I already used the word "hearty" to describe the tortillas, so I don't know what word would fit in describing the short rib fried tamale that graced our table. It's quite the fried behemoth, but it didn't hit us with the same energy as the sort of fried behemoth you'd see in a Guy Fieri-themed dream sequence. There were loving hands gathering these ingredients, and there were loving hands putting them to-

gether – that was even clear from the outside. As we took our first bites, though, the message was clear. The pork was perfectly cooked, and even as it and the fried flavors overwhelmed my taste buds, the fresh guacamole, pickled red onion, guajillo salsa and micro cilantro all cut through to keep the dish perfectly balanced.

This would have normally been enough for us to throw in the towel completely, but we knew our reward would be wondrous if we kept just enough room in our stomachs for the tres leches cake. If they find a word fitting to describe the luscious, sweet and delightfully rich experience this cake offered us, let me know how much I'd need to spend on materials to replicate your magic word-summoning ritual.

It offered me the exact solace, joy and comfort I needed in my heart before I threw myself into the theater in broad daylight to witness *Cats*, which would be the most iconic, goosebump-inducing, confusing and downright horrifying cinematic experience I've ever had. At least I'd have the memory of some amazing food to comfort me.

*Little Onion, 14429 Culver Drive., Irvine; (714) 316-4600, littleonion.com.*





TOM SCOTT &amp; THE L.A. EXPRESS



KEOLA BEAMER WITH MOANALANI BEAMER PHOTO BY MARK HODEEN



THE AGGROLITES

## FEBRUARY CONCERT GUIDE

### FROM ANGSTY AUGHTS ROCK TO ONE-OF-A-KIND HAWAIIAN CONTEMPORARY.

BY: PAUL ROGERS

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF THE ARTIST

#### SAT 2/1 Trapt

As their 25th anniversary approaches next year, NorCal melo-rockers Trapt find themselves in that parallel touring universe wherein formerly theater-filling bands – Trapt’s “Headstrong” single topped *Billboard*’s Mainstream Rock chart in 2003 – headline clubs, with local acts often paying for the privilege of padding out bloated opening bills (in

this case, no less than six support acts). Hailing from Los Gatos, one of America’s wealthiest cities, Trapt’s lyrical content has resonated with audiences who may have shared their comfortable yet sometimes spiritually unfulfilling experience, making them perhaps the ultimate suburban rock band of the aughts. But it’s their ear for a huge chorus and a road-honed work ethic that allowed Trapt to weather the massive industry upheavals of the 2000s, plus multiple

lineup changes, to continue flying the flag for muscular, self-searching – and nowadays nostalgic – guitar rock.

*Malone’s, 604 E. Dyer Road, Santa Ana.*

#### FRI 2/7 Keola Beamer with Moanalani Beamer

Slack-key guitar is an aural testament to Hawaii’s cultural history: an open-tuning, fingerstyle approach that adapted the playing of visiting paniolo Mexican cowboys in the late-19th century to the rhythms of Hawaiian dancing and the harmonic structures of pre-existing local music. Hailing from one of Hawaii’s most respected musical families, Keola Beamer and his younger brother Kapono together helped to define “Hawaiian contemporary” music in the 1970s and early ‘80s by allowing their deep island roots to be influenced by folk-revival, Latin, pop and rock. Their super-mellow and sentimental ‘78 release *Honolulu City Lights* remains one of the best-selling songs in Hawaiian music history, and was later covered

by The Carpenters. At the Barclay, Keola is joined by his wife Moanalani, a hula (Polynesian dance) master who provides accompanying movement, chanting, percussion and background vocals. *Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Drive, Irvine.*

#### TUE 2/11 Young Dolph

The apparent target of multiple shootings and a self-proclaimed “crack baby,” Young Dolph boasts immaculate gangsta rap credentials, which his actual shooting outside a Hollywood hotel in 2017 only enhanced. Dolph’s recordings milk this rep hard: ominous, chest-beating tales of street-life survival in his native Memphis characterized by endless references to drugs (“Everyday 420,” “Cut It”), conspicuous consumption (“Cutthroat Committee,” “By Mistake”) and guns (“Choppa On The Couch,” “Major”) alongside relentless misogyny (apparently dropping the word “bitch” over 100 times in his 20 most popular songs). The crafted menace of Young



"THE GLORIOUS SONS" PHOTO BY ROB BLACKHAM

Dolph's best work backs his head-tossing yet somehow fatalistic arrogance with insistent hi-hats and sparse kicks juxtaposed against incongruously airy keys. These brooding soundscapes brilliantly summon the sense-of-doom adrenaline of under-the-influence evenings stalked by impending violence. *The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana.*

## WED 2/12 The Glorious Sons

A chart fixture in their native Canada, The Glorious Sons are making state-side inroads with last year's *A War on Everything*. Radio and stadium aspirations haunt the 14-song collection, the quintet reveling in the same robust, Southern-tinted sense of bluesy melody and harmony that has served the likes of Kings of Leon so well. Immaculately executed and produced, *A War on Everything* has an air of something created under pressure for commercial success, deftly flirting with a sufficient number of genres (including 1970s arena rock, country-lite and old-school soul) to touch a broad demographic at the expense of making a signature sonic statement. But originality isn't everything, and The Glorious Sons nonetheless offer nostalgic kicks to almost anyone who's ever been moved by an electric guitar or a spirited 4/4 groove. *Yost Theater, 307 N. Spurgeon St., Santa Ana.*

## WED 2/19 Nascar Aloe

Both an expression and a product of his time, Nascar Aloe has brought his perpetually agitated, raw-throated rap/punk/metal melange to the masses mostly through self-uploading material to SoundCloud and YouTube. Emerging from North Carolina's genre-blending underground rap scene (but now apparently L.A.-based), Aloe's irate, finger-in-your-face rhythmic ranting will likely be largely alien, musically and lyrically, to anyone under 25 – and that's precisely his appeal. This is deceptively hooky music that resonates with disaffected kids seeking escape in bass-heavy earphones in pitch-black rooms, or communion with the similarly misunderstood and disconnected at Aloe's confrontational, chaotic (and, tellingly, usually all-ages) live performances. Young and chiseled beneath distinctively extravagant hair

spikes, Nascar Aloe is a savvy Sid Vicious for the tech-neck generation – and about as punk as you can get with a phone in your hand.

*Constellation Room at The Observatory, 3503 S. Harbor Blvd., Santa Ana.*

## THU 2/27 Tom Scott & the L.A. Express

Even if you've never heard of L.A. saxophonist/composer Tom Scott, you've almost certainly heard his work. As well as earning 13 Grammy nominations (including three wins) as a solo artist, his talents have graced diverse recordings by the likes of Michael Jackson ("Billie Jean"), Paul McCartney, Blondie ("Rapture"), Frank Sinatra and Pink Floyd. Scott was a founding member of the legendary Blues Brothers band (though he didn't appear in their eponymous movies), and also composed the period-evocative theme songs for 1970s TV shows *Starsky and Hutch* and *The Streets of San Francisco*. Now in his seventies, Scott still brings it with the aptly-named L.A. Express (who themselves played on a number of Joni Mitchell albums), delivering the sort of slinkily impassioned performances that artists half his age can only aspire to. *Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Drive, Irvine.*

## THU 2/27 The Aggrolites

The Aggrolites have been reggae stalwarts since forming in 2002, not only in their own right but also as a backing band to the likes of Prince Buster, Tim Armstrong and Phyllis Dillon. Yet it had been eight years since they'd released a studio record of their own when these kings of "dirty reggae" – a signature combo of old-school skinhead reggae, 1960s soul, and funk – unleashed their crown-reclaiming (and aptly named) *Reggae Now!* last year. Defying the band's tough-guy trappings – a skinhead-adjacent fashion sense, and the "aggro" of their name being British slang for "aggressive" – *Reggae Now!* is a Hammond organ-driven delight of sunny Caribbean escapism and dance-hall nostalgia. The record is unlikely to change many opinions of The Aggrolites, but their rocksteady consistency is part of the quintet's enduring allure. *Gallagher's Pub, 300 CA-1 Ste. 113, Huntington Beach.*

**ARE YOU SATISFIED?  
IS SHE?**

MEN, REGARDLESS OF YOUR AGE OR MEDICAL HISTORY THE DOCTORS AT AMERICAN MALE MEDICAL CAN OFFER YOU SAFE, EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS FOR YOUR ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION OR PREMATURE EJACULATION WITH JUST ONE VISIT! 949-336-9042

**\$99 CONSULTATION! THIS MONTH ONLY! (\$299 VALUE!)**

Has Viagra, Cialis or levitra let you down? Guaranteed\* positive results from our medication. It's easy, safe and works for 97% of all men regardless of their medical history.

**\*OR YOUR VISIT IS FREE**

Now Offering the Latest Breakthrough In ED Treatment -WAVE Therapy!  
Low Energy? Low Sex Drive? Also helping men with low Testosterone

Now offering PT-141 - An Arousal Enhancer for Men AND Women

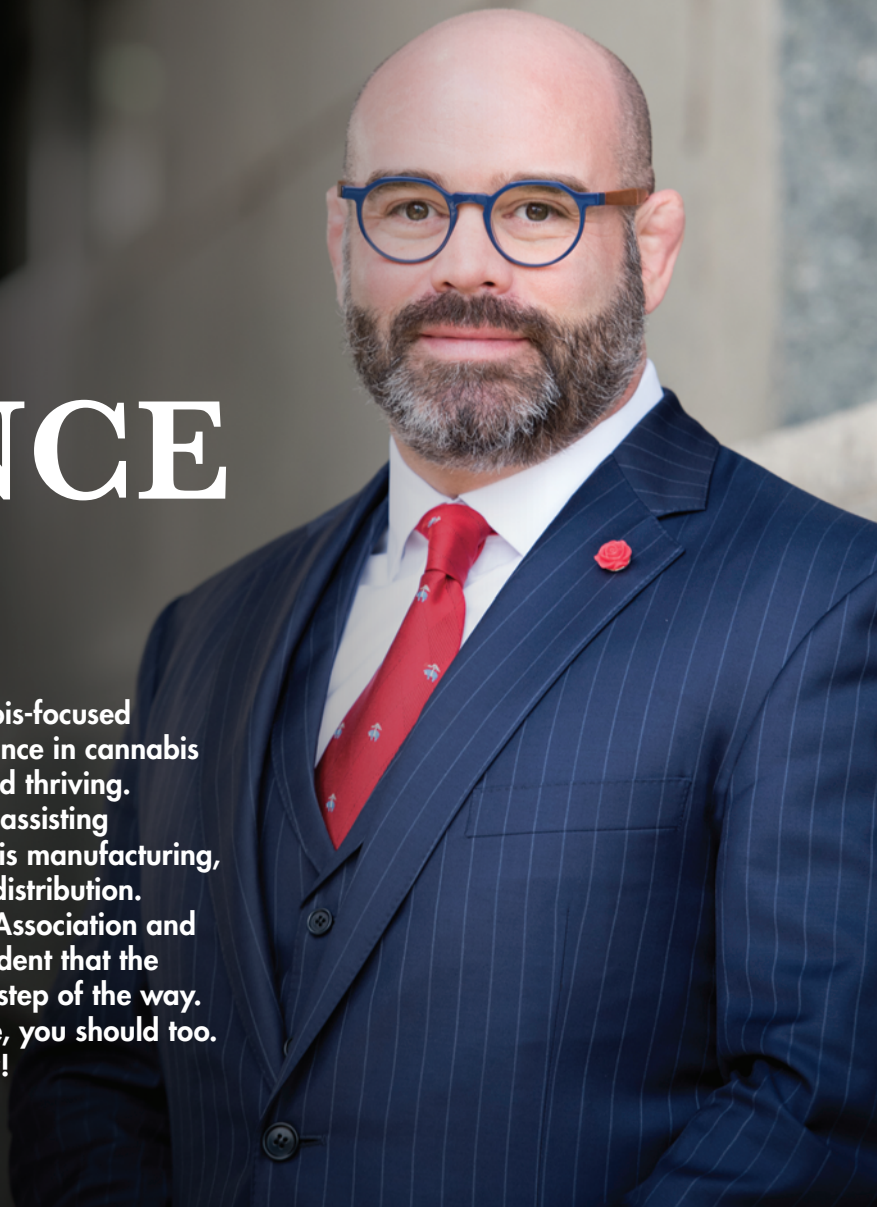
**AMERICAN**  
MALE MEDICAL

Se Habla Español • americanmalemedical.com  
Located in Irvine, Sherman Oaks, Dallas & Nashville  
62 Corporate Park, Suite 140, Irvine, CA 92606

BOOK BY PHONE OR ONLINE: 949-336-9042 | www.americanmalemedical.com

# CANNABIS COMPLIANCE FIRM

The Cannabis Compliance Firm is composed of the best cannabis-focused attorneys in Southern California. We combine years of experience in cannabis law and industry-specific insight to help you stay compliant and thriving. Christopher Glew and Jina Kim are expert cannabis attorneys assisting numerous clients in legal licensed cannabis regulation, cannabis manufacturing, cannabis cultivation, cannabis retail operations and cannabis distribution. Christopher Glew is lead counsel for the Santa Ana Cannabis Association and founder of the California Cannabis Bar Association. Feel confident that the Cannabis Compliance Firm will educate and advise you every step of the way. We know the laws and with the ever-changing cannabis space, you should too. Call or visit our office located in Santa Ana for a consult today!



1851 East 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 840, Santa Ana, CA | 866.648.0004

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





## PURSUE A PASSION IN MUSIC

Piano, Guitar, Brass, Woodwinds, Strings, Percussion,  
Voice, Music Theory, and more!



### Your Child Will Gain:

- Confidence
- Creativity
- Musicianship
- Discipline and more!

## REGISTER TODAY

(949) 386-8336 | [ocmusicdance.org](http://ocmusicdance.org)

17620 Fitch Avenue Suite 160, Irvine, CA 92614

**OC Music & Dance** is a nonprofit community performing arts school, with a diverse student body of nearly 600 children, ranging in ages from 5 to 18. Through our scholarship endowment, we make the arts accessible to every child, regardless of their family's ability to pay. Nearly 54% of our students are on scholarship, ranging from 20% to 90%.