

NOVEMBER CONCERT GUIDE • LOCAL HAUNTED HALLOWEEN ATTRACTIONS • INJURED WARRIOR RIDE FOR CHARITY

IRVINE

WEEKLY

OCTOBER 22, 2021 VOL. 3 • NO. 23

# ON STAGE IN IRVINE

BLACK MARKET TRUST AND FESTIVAL BALLET AMONG  
THE WIDE-RANGING GROUPS MAKING APPEARANCES  
AT THE BARCLAY THEATRE





# THE Rébuild SoCal Zone Podcast

## EPISODE

### City of Needles Water Crisis – Setting the Story (Part 1)



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# CULTURE

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# IRVINE WEEKLY CLASSIFIEDS

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### EMPLOYMENT

**Operations Analyst:** oversee business strategies; Master's Degree in Business, Economics, Bus. Admin. or related; Eplex, Inc. 6940 Beach Blvd., #D-212, Buena Park, CA 90621

**Lead Project Engineer** with Rivian Automotive, LLC in Irvine, CA. Coordinate the Interior team through milestones for projects from future technology roadmaps, R&D, prototyping, series production & vehicles in the field. Must possess a Masters degree or foreign equiv in Mechanical Eng or a closely related field. Must possess 2 yrs of [alt will accept a bachelor's degree or foreign equiv & 5 yrs of progressively resp] product dvlpmt exp in the auto industry. Exp must incl: DFMEA, DVP, & Functional Safety Requirements; CATIA V5; interior engineering simulation & analysis; system approach to design and dvlpmt; working w/CAE & FEA systems, JIRA system, & DFSS methodologies for the design, validation and launch of programs; new product launch and working w/regulatory compliance rqmts incl FMVSS, EUNCAP, ECE, and IIHS. Domestic travel required 3 times per month to work in Normal, IL office location. Email resume to Rivian Automotive, LLC, Attn: Mobility, Job Ref #: LPE21YK, hrmobility@rivian.com

**Multicultural Marketing Specialist.** Req'd: BA in Mkt., Comm., Bilingual Edu., or rel. Mail Resume: 02SKY, INC, 1400 S. La Habra Hills Dr., La Habra, CA 90631

**Electric Driveline Product Line Director** with Rivian Automotive, LLC in Irvine, CA. Lead engineering department & product delivery from concept to production for advanced driveline products within propulsion. Must possess a Mast deg or foreign equiv in an engineering discipline & a min of 3 yrs of exp in automotv propulsion systems engineering. Exp must incl: managing propulsn rqmts from concept to series production; rotating machinery & powertrain; automotv turbomachinery, contrl systms, HW dvlpmt, sensors, actuators, & systms integratin; DFMEA, DVP, MATLAB, Catia, & Six Sigma Tools. Will supervise five (5) subordinate principl techncl progrm mangrs. Email resume to Rivian Automotive, LLC, Attn: Mobility, Job Ref #: EDPLD20VK, hrmobility@rivian.com

**Color & Materials Designer** with Rivian Automotive, LLC in Irvine, CA. Create & present innovative, insightful aesthetic proposals for color & trim in the application of mass production vehicles applied to the interior of the vehicle (ex. Texture, finish, color of surfaces visible to the user). RQMTS: Mast deg or foreign equiv in Fine Arts, Color & Materials or a closely rel fld. Exp or acadmc training must incl: Establishing CMF stratgy frm inception; devlping brand color, materials & pattern; supporting complex & varied textile structures; wrkng w/ 3D Visualization Softwar (VRED), Photoshop 3D Rendering, Illustrator, InDesign, Key Shots,

SketchUp, SolidWrks, Cinema 4D & After Effects; & applying trend forecasting skills w/ new technlgy, consumr behavrs, & aesthetic trends. Email resume to Rivian Automotive, LLC, Attn: Mobility, Job Ref #: CMD20SP, hrmobility@rivian.com

**DRE Closures Structures** with Rivian Automotive, LLC in Irvine, CA. Lead collaborative dvlpmt of closures structures including interface w/ body eng, studio design, & customer exp teams. RQMTS: Masters degree or foreign equiv in Mechatronic/Mechanical Eng or a closely rel field & 2 yrs of for a Bachelors degree or foreign equiv in Mechatronic/Mechanical Eng or a closely rel field & 5 yrs of progressively resp] exp as a DRE in the auto industry. Exp must incl: Conducting a system approach to dsng and dvlpmt; supporting CAD design for closures systems, structure, or related vehicle components; working w/ closures components

& the tradeoffs among dsng, package, function, & customer exp involved w/ these systems; utilizing steel, aluminum, composite, stamping, injection molding, bolting, and welding for closure dsng; and providing closures launch support at mfg plant. Domestic travel req approx 15% of the time. Email resume to Rivian Automotive, LLC, Attn: Mobility, Job Ref #: DCS20AM, hrmobility@rivian.com

**Science Teacher:** Teach basic science subjects, such as Biology and Chemistry to students. Bachelor's in Science, Chemistry, or related. Mail resume to K & J Education Foundation Inc. at 4860 Irvine Blvd. Ste 205, Irvine, CA 92620; Attn: Mr. Kim

**Staff Accountant** - prepare taxes & financial documents. Req. Any Bachelor's degree. Mail resume: Kim & Co CPA, An Accountancy Corporation 140 E Commonwealth Ave. #203 Fullerton, CA 92832



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COVER: BALLET HISPANICO IN LINEA RECTA (PHOTO BY PAULA LOBO)

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**A** 21-year-old Irvine resident suspected of killing a 61-year-old woman while driving under the influence on Monday, Sept. 27, received medical treatment for a fentanyl overdose hours prior to the fatal crash.

On Thursday, Oct. 14, Orange County District Attorney Todd Spitzer announced that his office charged the driver, Luis Marcial Diaz, with the murder of Kyu Chen, a resident of Irvine. Spitzer added that the suspect acted with negligence, and has a prior arrest for driving under the influence.

"This is a tragedy that should have never happened," Spitzer said. "Just hours before Mrs. Chen was murdered, doctors managed to save the defendant from overdosing on drugs. Instead of taking that near-death experience to heart, he continued to engage in incredibly dangerous behavior and it cost Mrs. Chen her life. She was just driving to work and now she is dead. And the tragedy of it all is she didn't have to die. The Orange County District Attorney's Office will do everything it can to ensure justice is done for Mrs. Chen and her loved ones – and to send a strong message to drivers that there are serious consequences for driving under the influence."

Due to the ongoing investigation, specific details are now being withheld, including where Diaz was traveling, and where and when he received medical treatment before the crash, according to Kimberly Edds, Public Information Officer for the Orange County District Attorney's office.

In a phone call with *Irvine Weekly*, Edds confirmed that after overdosing on fentanyl, the suspect was given medical treatment that included anti-overdose drugs and was discharged. She added that after he was discharged, Diaz consumed more fentanyl before driving and ultimately causing the crash that killed Chen.

"He was treated at the hospital for a fentanyl overdose and after he was released from the hospital he ingested additional drugs including fentanyl," she said.

It is unclear how much time occurred between the time of Diaz's discharge post-overdose and the time of the crash.

The crash occurred at 4:30 a.m. on Monday, Sept. 27 at the intersection of Sand Canyon and Irvine Center Dr.

Diaz has a history of drug arrests in Orange County.

In a previous incident, on July 30, 2019,

## LOCAL NEWS BRIEFS

### IRVINE MAN OVERDOSED PRIOR TO FATAL CRASH, COVID-19 DECLINE, IRVINE'S NEW POLICE CHIEF.

BY EVAN J. LANCASTER



the Huntington Beach Police Department charged Diaz with multiple infractions including, "driving under the influence of drugs, one misdemeanor count of possession of nitrous oxide, and one misdemeanor count of driving without a valid license."

#### EXPERTS URGE PRE-WINTER CAUTION AS O.C.'S COVID-19 RATES FALL

Health experts in Orange County continue to cite vaccination as the top priority in the fight against COVID-19, but urge vigilance as case rates show pre-winter decline.

On Tuesday, Oct. 19, the Orange County Health Agency reported 162 new COVID-19 cases, bringing the county's accumulative total to 302,016. HCA reported 666 new COVID-19 cases between Oct. 16 and Oct 18.

Countywide, O.C. has recorded 5,531 total COVID-19 deaths, with three reported on Tuesday, Oct. 19.

In Irvine, the city reported 1,485 cases between October 12 and October 19. Cumulatively, Irvine has tallied 13,966 COVID-19 cases with 107 deaths.

On Monday, Oct. 18, Dr. Regina Chinsio-Kwong, deputy health officer for the Or-

ange County Health Agency, expressed optimism for the county's current decline in COVID-19 rates.

In Orange County, Chinsio-Kwong said COVID-19 hospitalizations have continued a downward trend for a few weeks.

"We do see a reduction in hospitalizations, so our case rates and our positivity rates continue to gradually decline. Our currently hospitalized are now at 175, at the end of last week the low 200s," Chinsio-Kwong said.

On October 18, HCA reported 185 patients, with 32 patients in the ICU.

In terms of vaccinations, Orange County continues to see increases in vaccinations, with a cumulative total of 2,1417,048 fully vaccinated people in O.C. as of October 14.

However, speaking during a community COVID-19 update, hosted by 2nd District Katrina Foley, on Monday, Oct. 18, Chinsio-Kwong added that despite the current COVID-19 decline, winter weather will bring more people indoors.

"Yes, we may be downward and we have lower numbers, lower hospitalization, but our county is open, we're gathering, we're working," she said. "As the winter months come up and as all these holidays come up more people

are going to gather and more people are going to be indoors."

Referencing the United Kingdom in terms of its COVID-19 surge trajectory, and substantial vaccination rates, Chinsio-Kwong emphasized it is too early to put masks away and continued to urge vaccination.

"They went down around August, and then they came back up and they are still surging. They are 66% vaccinated and 72% received one dose – this is the cautionary tale."

#### IRVINE'S NEW POLICE CHIEF

The Irvine Police Department has a new police chief in town, but Michael Kent is anything but new to the city of Irvine.

Kent, an Irvine resident, and a member of the Irvine law enforcement community since 2002, is Irvine Police Department's first police chief to have entered law enforcement as a police explorer in the city of Irvine. The Orange County Police Explorers program is available to teenagers ages 14 to 18 years old and offers the opportunity to work alongside law officers, including training and comprehensive exposure to real-world police work.

Kent joined the Irvine Explorers in 1993 while attending Woodbridge High School in Irvine.

Kent was sworn in to his new post on Tuesday, Oct. 12.

In a statement, Kent said he is looking forward to interacting with the community in the years to come.

"It is an absolute honor to become Irvine's Chief of Police. I am grateful for the men and women of the Irvine Police Department who are dedicated to the safety of the Irvine community, for the city's leadership who consistently make public safety a priority, and for the residents and businesses in our community who are truly committed to working in partnership with us to keep Irvine safe," Kent said.

Kent enters after former Irvine Police Chief Mike Hamel retired after 27 years of service with the Irvine Police Department, on Thursday, Oct. 7.

"As a resident of this community, I will work tirelessly to serve our residents by maintaining the high level of public safety our community has come to expect, and keep Irvine one of the best places to live, work and play. I also look forward to new opportunities for our organization to engage and connect with our incredibly diverse community."



# CONGRESSIONAL HEARING HELD OVER O.C. OIL SPILL

## LAWMAKERS QUESTION WHY TAXPAYER SUBSIDIES ARE BEING USED FOR OFFSHORE OIL WELLS THAT CONTINUOUSLY CAUSE ENVIRONMENTAL DAMAGE.

BY EVAN J. LANCASTER

Huntington Beach



IAN M JONES VIA UNSPLASH

Three U.S. representatives met with oil and environmental industry experts in a congressional hearing on Monday, Oct. 18, at the Irvine Ranch Water District, regarding the 25,000-gallon oil spill off the coast of Huntington Beach earlier this month.

With clean-up efforts now going into a third week, the spill has become the focus of both federal and state agencies. Irvine Rep. Katie Porter was joined by Congressmen Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach) and Mike Levin (D-San Juan Capistrano). They asked experts to comment on both the environmental and

economic magnitude of the damages caused by the oil spill.

As of Tuesday, Oct. 19, the Orange County oil spill's Unified Command – The United States Coast Guard, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife – had yet to identify a cause. However, the USCG has said the cause could be related to a cargo ship's anchor.

Of the 25,000 gallons of oil that contaminated the Orange County shoreline, closing beaches and harbors from Sunset Beach to Dana Point, approximately 5,544 gallons of oil has been recovered.

Since the spill was reported on Oct. 1, more than 1,800 USCG, CDFW personnel, and 100 local volunteers have assisted in the clean-up efforts.

In her opening statement during Monday's hearing, Rep. Katie Porter said crews have collected 250,000 pounds of oil-laced debris, and more than a dozen barrels of tarballs.

"The oil is so thick, it cannot be washed off with dish-washing detergent," Porter said.

Porter also questioned the purpose of millions in oil subsidies for offshore oil rigs.

As the chair of the Natural Resources Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, Porter said her research led her to discover that Beta Operating, a subsidiary of the parent company of Amplify Energy, which is responsible for the oil leak, received \$20 million in government subsidies due to the low profitability of oil wells.

"It turns out that they got \$20 million from the federal government, simply because the oil wells are at the end of their lives," Porter said. "Taxpayers are being asked to pay to encourage oil production in the Pacific Ocean by giving oil companies millions of dollars to do it."

At one point, Porter used a photo of a tarball, which are large formed clumps of oil that appear in the aftermath of a spill, and asked what its lifecycle was.

Dr. David Valentine, a professor of Earth Sciences at UC Santa Barbara, explained that depending on the density of a tarball, it will go with the current or settle on the seafloor.

Valentine said there is evidence that currents and wind have carried tarballs thousands of miles.

Following Valentine's explanation on tarballs, Congressman Levin, a Democrat from California's 49th District, said his priority was eliminating taxpayers from the equation when it comes to cleaning up the oil and gas industry.

"I think it's important to avoid the sins of the future when it comes to cleaning up and decommissioning of oil wells," he said.

Levin asked Valentine if California taxpayers should be concerned with the possibility of oil companies going bankrupt, and pushing the costs of decommission onto taxpayers.

"I think that we need to be very concerned – it's already happening," Valentine said.

Orange County Beaches have since reopened as of Monday, Oct. 11, after closing for just under a week. However, as of Oct. 19, fisheries remained closed.

In a statement, Lt. Christian Corbo, a state on-scene coordinator for the clean-up response, said testing is expected to begin on Oct. 24, and will be used to evaluate the safety of seafood.

"Onshore seafood sampling has been conducted and offshore testing is expected to start on October 24. Data collected and subsequent analysis of those samples will be used to evaluate seafood safety for fisheries in the areas affected by the Southern California spill," Corbo said on Oct. 15. "The Director of California's Department of Fish and Wildlife will reopen them upon recommendation by the CalEPA's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment."



# CULTURE

## ENTER IF YOU DARE

### THE BEST HAUNTED HALLOWEEN ATTRACTIONS IN IRVINE AND BEYOND.

BY SCOTT FEINBLATT



Escape Halloween 2019

PHOTO BY SCOTT FEINBLATT

As the people in our country gradually return to life as we knew it before Covid-19, 2021 is gifting us with the return of Halloween-themed attractions. For those of us who favor the spooky season above all others, this year has truly caused a rebirth of our spirits! This writer has already had the pleasure of attending several local haunted attractions in order to report back to the good souls who read *Irvine Weekly*, and now that Halloween is just a couple weeks away, the report is ripe for delivery. Please enjoy this list of recommended local haunts and Halloween-themed attractions!

#### PUMPKIN PATCH AT TANAKA FARMS

Irvine's Tanaka Farms is a great start for wholesome, family Halloween fun. First off, they are one of the only farms in Orange County with a genuine pumpkin patch. Beyond that, they offer

wagon rides, mini ATV rides, a straw bale maze, storytime with children's author and psychologist Dr. Antoinette Corley-Newman (on select dates), and other activities. Check their website for Covid-19 protocols and parking, admission ticket, and activity package prices: [www.tanakafarms.com/pumpkin-patch-2020](http://www.tanakafarms.com/pumpkin-patch-2020)

*Tanaka Farms, 5380 1/2 University Dr., Irvine 92612*

#### VARIOUS EVENTS AT PRETEND CITY

Another one for the family, Irvine's non-profit children's museum has got several spirited events lined up on its October calendar. On Oct. 23, the OC Ghostbusters will be making an appearance to bust some ghosts and goblins; Oct. 27 - 29 is the museum's traditional Costume Week, which includes discounted admission with a costume; Oct. 28 is Family Autism Halloween Night, which will feature sensory-friendly Halloween-

themed activities, including costumed trick-or-treating around the museum; Oct. 29 will be Frankenstein Friday, featuring activities inspired by the monster from Mary Shelley's classic novel; and on Oct. 31, there will be a host of ghostly activities, including storytime, trick-or-treating, dancing, arts and crafts, and more. As usual, all activities at Pretend City are aligned with various educational goals, and special event activities are included with basic admission cost of \$13.95. For further details about these and other events, as well as info about discounts, visit their website: [www.pretendcity.org](http://www.pretendcity.org)  
*Pretend City Children's Museum, 29 Hubble, Irvine 92618*

#### IRVINE PARK RAILROAD'S PUMPKIN PATCH

One more for the kiddies! Irvine Park Railroad's Pumpkin Patch features a plethora of wholesome fun. There's a pumpkin patch, hay rides, pumpkin

decorating, a moon bounce, face painting, cookie decorating, a pumpkin ring toss, a haunted house, and many other fun activities. Parking ranges from \$3 - \$7, but admission is free. Each of the activities generally ranges in price between \$6 and \$12. For more details, visit their site: <https://www.irvineparkrailroad.com/events/pumpkin-patch/Irvine-Regional-Park,1-Irvine-Park-Road,Orange-92869>

#### PIRATE'S CAVE: CURSE OF CALICO JACK

Next up, we've got a couple of home haunts for you; the first is Pirate's Cave. On Fridays through Sundays, from Oct. 16 - Oct. 31, guests can visit this haunted attraction which centers around a legend about a haunted mine, where miners claim strange things have been moving about – perhaps it has something to do with an ancient pirate curse. Best to check it out and find out for yourselves! The haunt is free, and you can reserve a front of the line pass by visiting their website: <https://piratescavehaunt.wixsite.com/piratescavehaunt>  
*Pirate's Cave, 2548 E. Garfield Ave., Orange 92867*

#### GERSHON DUNGEON

This next one won't be available to visitors until Oct. 30-31, but it is a local fave. The Gershon Dungeon is one of the largest and oldest home haunts in OC; mind you, this year, the free event will consist of two smaller walk-through mazes and a yard display with a mask requirement for all guests, per Covid-19 precautions. Visit their site to learn the details of the treacherous tale of 17th century slave owner Guinivere Holt, who has returned as a tormented spirit to wreak havoc upon the living, and say hello when she rises! <http://www.thegershondungeon.com/>  
*The Gershon Dungeon, 13861 Gershon Pl, Santa Ana 92705*

#### TEMECULA TERROR

To get to some next-level scary stuff, we're going to have to take a little drive. This first one is brand new. Temecula Terror has three haunted mazes, which reside next to a humble fairground at Galway Downs. Each of the mazes has its own uniquely twisted story, including a Halloween house owned by a madman; an asylum haunted by the spirits of crazed prisoners, who were forced to work on the railroad and went mad working in the oppressive sunlight; and a crypt that has a tendency to swallow



Knott's Scary Farm



PHOTO BY SCOTT FEINBLATT

visitors up! The fairground includes a few quality diversions for kids as well as adults. Temecula Terror is open from Thur. - Sun. until Halloween. Ticket prices range from \$10 - \$35. Check their site for more lore and the list of fairway entertainment / musical acts which change per evening. <https://www.temeculaterror.com/>

*Temecula Terror, 38801 Los Corralitos Rd., Temecula 92592*

## COFFIN CREEK

While we're in the car, we might as well check out this time-honored labor of love, out in Corona. Taking place at the Riverview Recreation Park, Coffin Creek is comprised of no fewer than five haunted mazes. Each maze is owned and operated by a different team, so there is always great variety in style here. For Coffin Creek's 14th year, the mazes include: The Brimstone Asylum for the Criminally Insane, The Catacombs and the Raven Cult, The Curse of VooDoo Bayou, Shady Hollow Hayride, and The Dark Realm. If you are afraid of the dark, Coffin Creek is a great place to confront your fears – as well as confronting orcs, zombies, SCP monsters (any Creepypasta fans in the house?), and a colorful collection of other odd, amusing, and sometimes dangerous characters. Parking is \$5, and tickets

are \$15 for a single maze, \$45 for all five mazes, or \$65 for all five mazes and fast pass. Visit their site for more lore! <https://coffincreek.com/>

*Coffin Creek, 14600 Baron Dr, Corona 92880*

## KNOTT'S SCARY FARM

A fave in the neighborhood, Knott's Berry Farm's Halloween-themed evenings are quite spectacular. In addition to eight glorious, brilliantly-produced haunted mazes, Knott's has five expansive, uniquely stylized scare zones, wherein monsters, ghosts, and evil clowns respectively torment guests. Additionally, several of the park's rides have been decked out for the season; there are live musical and magical acts; great food and sweets befitting the season; and, one of this writer's faves, the return of Puppet-Up!, an adult puppet show created by Brian Henson. For more details on the attractions and for ticket prices, visit their site: <https://www.knotts.com/>

*Knott's Scary Farm, 8039 Beach Blvd, Buena Park 90620*

## UNIVERSAL'S HALLOWEEN HORROR NIGHTS

Like Knott's, this one hardly needs mentioning, as it is routinely a beacon of haunted energy during this season. However, it is so much fun that it simply

must be included on this list. Including the delightfully *Purge*-themed tram ride, this theme park includes eight mazes. Several of these are essentially walk-through experiences of well-known horror films / shows, including: *The Exorcist*, *Halloween*, *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre*, *The Walking Dead* and *The Haunting of Hill House*. However, there is also a maze called *The Bride of Frankenstein Lives* and one called *The Curse of Pandora's Box*, which are, more or less, completely original concepts and are, in my opin-

ion, the *creme de la crop*. The decorative scare zones in between mazes are a little dialed back this year, but there is still plenty to overwhelm your senses within and beyond the mazes. Be sure to bring your walking shoes because there's a lot of it to be done! For dates, times, and ticket prices, check out their site: [www.hollywood.halloweenhorror-nights.com](http://www.hollywood.halloweenhorror-nights.com)

*Halloween Horror Nights, 100 Universal City Plaza, Universal City 91608*

## ESCAPE HALLOWEEN

Talk about shoes, those with an itch for dancing to EDM must not miss the return of *Insomniac's* Halloween-themed electronic music festival. Known for elaborate stage designs, brilliant art installations, and a sensually spooky immersive environment, *Escape Halloween* is where ravers go, dressed to the nines, to dance their souls away. This massive event in San Bernardino features four large stages, and an extensive line-up of DJs for each of its two days, Oct. 29 and Oct. 30. For more details, including the line-up and prices, visit their site: <https://escapehalloween.com/>

*Escape Halloween, NOS Events Center, 689 S. E. St., San Bernardino 92408*

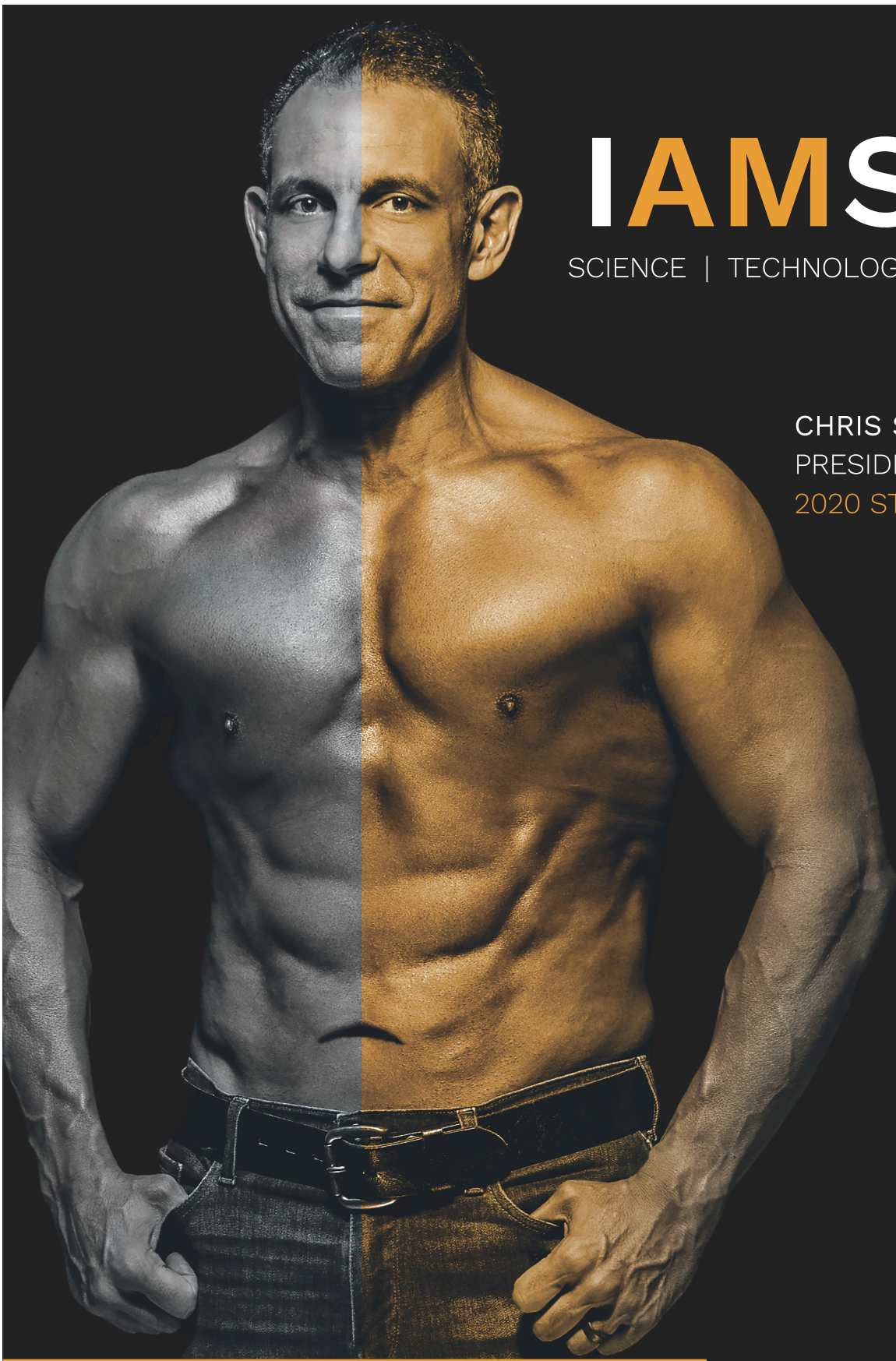
Well, that's it for this year's round-up. Obviously, there are many more events we couldn't fit in, including the *Prism Haunt* and *Haunt of Halloween* (Mission Viejo), *The 17th Door* (Fullerton), the various scary escape rooms of *Crossroads Escape Rooms* (Anaheim), or several Halloween parties that you can find at *Eventbrite*, but for now, you should have a very good notion of how you're going to get your scare on for the season. Happy Halloween!

Knott's Scary Farm



PHOTO BY SCOTT FEINBLATT





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## INJURED WARRIOR RIDE

### CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF HELPING INJURED VETERANS.

BY SCOTT FEINBLATT



**M**any Harley-Davidson motorcycle owners ride a fine line between being old school rock n' rollers and the kind of folks who don't mind going out of their way to assist those in need of a little help. This writer's experience growing up among Harley riders has resulted in my seeing just as many raucous rallies and wet t-shirt contests as charity runs for underprivileged children and fundraisers for breast cancer research. Regarding the latter category, on Sunday, Oct. 24, at 7:00 a.m., Orange Coast Harley Owners Group (OCHOG) will be holding its 10th anniversary Injured Warrior Appreciation Run to raise funds and awareness for veterans. OCHOG members and friends will be meeting at Orange County Harley Davidson, in Irvine, and riding down to Mt. Soledad National Veterans Memorial, in San Diego.

The origin of the ride is a colorful tale. Back in 2011, Kim Kohlenberger, who was the director of OCHOG at the time, wanted to find a way to show appreciation for the troops – especially military personnel who had been injured or traumatized by their experiences in service of the country. She discovered the Warrior Foundation / Freedom Station, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, in San Diego, which provides a place and community for injured warriors to get the various types of assistance they need to recover and transition back into civilian life. Naturally, the origin story of the Freedom Station is just as colorful as that of the Injured Warrior ride.

In 2004, Sandy Lehmkuhler, a Navy wife of 31 years,

was volunteering at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego and found the institution lacking a few specialty items necessary to ensure a decent quality of life for some of the patients. Specifically, she had been talking with a couple of amputees who required special electric razors for shaving. Thus, she went on the radio to ask for donations, and this started the ball rolling. In 2011, right around the time Kim Kohlenberger was looking for an organization to partner with for her charity ride, the first Freedom Station was opened; it provided fully furnished housing, a community of peers, opportunities to participate in sporting teams, and a place for personal healing and preparation for the transition back into civilian life at a reduced rent – as a means for veterans who may have been on active duty the previous week to gradually adapt to the saving, budgeting, and financial responsibilities that await them beyond military life. Furthermore, the foundation provides airfare and hotel rooms for visiting parents, plane tickets for residents to return to their families for the holidays, and a variety of specialized gear for those whose eyes have been damaged, for those who have prosthetic limbs, etc.

During the inaugural year for the Injured Warrior ride, there were 350 bikes with 500 people participating (including injured warriors), and \$18,000 was raised for the Warrior Foundation. Since that time, Freedom Station has housed and helped dozens of injured warriors, and helped many of them transition to colleges and vocational schools, establish careers, secure long-term independent housing, start families,

and manage ongoing care for their various injuries. In May of 2020, Warrior Foundation opened a new nine-unit property, called Home of the Brave: Freedom Station II. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine veterans currently benefit from these properties.

Chris Mosher is the current director of OCHOG. Mosher, who has ridden motorcycles since he was a kid, explained to *Irvine Weekly* that he got his first Harley and joined the chapter in 2012. Over the years, he has participated in many Iron Butt rides, which are basically trips that require being in the saddle for at least 1,000 miles a day. For one of their trips, he and other members from the chapter rode up to the Arctic Circle just to see the Arctic Circle sign. His involvement in such extreme rides proved his value to the chapter, and he became an activities officer for OCHOG – which included planning routes for various rides. He then moved up the ranks and has now been director of the chapter for two years. Mosher said that even though Kohlenberger moved to Texas, the Injured Warrior Ride is still very much her legacy.

Over the years, he pointed out how the destinations have changed. "At one point," he said, "We were able to actually go onto the base at Camp Pendleton, which was pretty phenomenal... We haven't been able to do that for the last few years. So we've gone through several different destinations. Last year, we were able to partner up with Mount Solidad, down in San Diego... It overlooks the entire La Jolla bay area, and there's a monument up there for service members. Last year was a great event – even with Covid going on – we were able to have a smaller event, and this year we decided to return to Mount Solidad because the location was so fantastic."

Given ongoing concerns over Covid and its variants, Mosher explained that there will likely still be reduced attendance for this year's ride. He anticipated that there will be around 200 bikes and 300 people participating this year. He also pointed out that since the ride has been going on, it has raised somewhere in the neighborhood of \$800,000 - \$900,000 for the Warrior Foundation.

The donations which benefit the foundation come from a variety of sources. Orange County Harley Davidson, which Mosher said experienced a change of ownership three years ago, has been extremely supportive to the Injured Warrior ride. For the past couple of years, they have donated a bike to be raffled off, with proceeds to benefit injured warriors. This year, they are donating a 2001 Fat Boy for the event. Raffle tickets are \$20, and the drawing will actually be on November 19. Apart from that and the corporate sponsorships that Injured Warrior receives, Mosher pointed out that the event receives a variety of in-kind donations, including from the restaurant association in San Diego, which donates food for the riders. He added, "However anybody in the community can help, we would love it, and we'd love for them to be part of this event or just donate to the Warrior Foundation."

For more information about the ride itself, visit their website: [injuredwarriorride.com](http://injuredwarriorride.com). To learn more about the Warrior Foundation and ways to help injured warriors, visit their site: [warriorfoundation.org](http://warriorfoundation.org). And for those going: ride safely!



# MUSIC

## IRVINE WEEKLY'S NOVEMBER CONCERT GUIDE

BY PAUL ROGERS

### TOKYO POLICE CLUB AT CONSTELLATION ROOM @ THE OBSERVATORY, SANTA ANA

Sun. 11/7

For a band that did its darnedest to split up five years ago, Canada's Tokyo Police Club is still trundling on nicely. A skinny-t-shirted music-blog buzz band in the mid-aughts, the foursome had struggled with both a leveling-off of their career curve and a membership spread between L.A., New York, and north of the border. But at the insistence of vocalist/bassist Dave Monks they not only persevered, but rediscovered their love for creating hook-heavy, high-energy indie rock. TPC has outlived most of its peers through sheer songcraft and a willingness to evolve. A case in point was 2010's more introspective (but no less melodic) sophomore album, *Champ*, which enjoyed a presumably COVID-delayed 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary reissue in May. Now Tokyo Police Club is taking *Champ* on the road for its belated birthday celebration, which promises to be both a ripping night of rollicking tunes and a nostalgic throwback to the days when Pitchfork was a kingmaker.

### MODIGLIANI QUARTET AT IRVINE BARCLAY THEATRE

Fri. 11/12

Widely hailed as one of the world's best quartets, France's Modigliani Quartet was formed by four friends at the historic Conservatoire de Paris college of music in 2003. With only one change in the lineup – founding violinist Philippe Bernhard being replaced by Amaury Coeytaux in 2016 – they've been touring worldwide and recording for the Mirare label since coming to prominence through a series of prestigious competition wins in the mid-2000s. The foursome has lately played the likes of London's Wigmore Hall, NYC's Carnegie Hall, and the Oji Hall in Tokyo. The Modigli-



While Irvine and surrounding cities continue to enjoy world-class live entertainment, we highly recommend checking both state and individual venue COVID safety requirements before heading to a show. At the time of writing, the state of California's requirement for proof of COVID vaccine or a negative test at indoor events with crowds of at least 1,000 people was set to expire on Nov. 1, but is subject to updates.

### ADEMA AT TIKI BAR, COSTA MESA

Fri. 11/5

While reviewing Ozzfest 2002 in San Bernardino, I was mistaken for Adema's drummer after their main stage appearance and spent an hour fending-off autograph hunters. I mention this for two reasons: One, that Adema were once big enough to play Ozzfest's main stage and, two, that even a band member look-alike commanded considerable adulation. Back then they were being lumped in with the knuckle-draggin' nu-metal genre, in no small part because original singer Mark Chavez is the half-brother of Korn vocalist Jonathan Davis and both bands hail from Bakersfield. Since then, Adema has endured numerous changes of lineup and label while displaying only an on-again/off-again relationship with nu metal. Now fronted by former Orgy member Ryan Shuck, they find themselves playing the likes of Costa Mesa's intimate Tiki Bar. Yet Adema's new single, "Ready to Die," is

a well-crafted piece of emotive melodic metal that should both satiate old-school fans and convert some newbies.







ani Quartet's program for its Irvine Barclay Theatre performance comprises Mozart's Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K. 546; Schubert's String Quartet No. 14 in D minor, D. 810, "Death and the Maiden"; and Bartók's String Quartet No. 3, Sz. 85, which also features on its latest album, *Haydn – Bartok – Mozart*, released in April (under its French name, Quatuor Modigliani).

## TOOSII AT THE OBSERVATORY, SANTA ANA

Sun. 11/14

Unusually vulnerable for his genre and always ready with a hook, Toosii has racked up impressive streaming stats, a *Billboard* 200 hit album (2020's *Poetic Pain*), and a deal with Capitol Records. This North Carolinian hits the Auto-Tune hard, lending his nasal delivery a smeared, late-night aura apt to his autobiographical, oddly romantic lyrical content. More an online phenom than a critical darling, it feels like the 21-year-old Toosii senses his moment may be brief and intends to throw as much music at the Web as possible, as fast as possible. Released in May, *Thank You for Believing* is his seventh mixtape in just four years. It finds Toosii detailing the very fame he's so keen to maintain, which – alongside little palpable progression from previous releases and often monotonous production – suggests ambition outstripping inspiration. Regardless, his Observatory set will be off the chain – but maybe it's time to put quality before quantity.

## TRIO BARCLAY AT IRVINE BARCLAY THEATRE

Sun. 11/21

Trio Barclay debuted in June as the first Ensemble-in-Residence in the 30-year history of the Irvine Barclay Theatre. That already says a lot about this threesome led by violinist Dennis Kim. But the Trio Barclay's shimmering chemistry isn't coincidence, as

Kim, pianist Sean Kennard, and cellist Jonah Kim have in fact been collaborating for years. Dennis and Jonah have appeared frequently at Festival Mozaic and at the Interlochen Arts Academy, while Jonah and Sean have long played as recital partners and recently released a duo album on the Delos label. On a mission to take piano trio music to dynamic new heights, they perform works ranging from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Accordingly, for this Nov. 21 performance Trio Barclay will be artfully interpreting Mark Abel's new *Out the Other Side*, Paul Schoenfield's 1986 *Café Music*, and Brahms' Piano Trio No. 1 in B major, Op. 8, which dates to the 1850s.

## TV GIRL AT CONSTELLATION ROOM, SANTA ANA

Fri. 11/26 & Sat. 11/27

Sample-happy San Diego trio TV Girl (now based in L.A.) have created their own sunnily hypnagogic, yet often emotionally ambiguous sub-niche of indie rock. Lo-fi and electro-flecked, they skip through decades with plunderous abandon, borrowing equally from cinema, hip-hop, retro television, and orchestra to summon something gauzily hypnotic yet utterly harmless. If anything, the result is akin to the incidental music from some 1960s rom-com, as the perfectly beautiful main characters scamper and flirt through European cobbled streets and seafronts framed by sleek convertibles and vivacious extras. Last year's *The Night in Question: French Exit Outtakes* is a perhaps self-indulgent collection of leftovers from recording sessions for TV Girl's 2014 debut album, *French Exit*, which (in their own words) are left mostly in unfinished, "demo-esque" states. Considering their heavy reliance on digital production techniques, the challenge for TV Girl is recreating their kaleidoscopic studio sensation on stage, especially as a three-piece.

## CHRISTMAS FROM A CELTIC TABLE AT IRVINE BARCLAY THEATRE

Mon. 11/29

This engrossing and escapist production takes audiences on a journey through Christmas in Ireland with warming seasonal spirit and a welcome sense of transatlantic connection. The Irish are rightly famed for their prowess as picture-painting storytellers, and award-winning actor Sheelagh Cullen ("Lois & Clark: The New Adventures of Superman," "Quest for Camelot" etc.), as narrator for "Christmas from a Celtic Table," is among the very best. This enchanting evening lovingly conveys the candlelit beauty of Irish Christmas culture past and present through music, dance (including former Riverdance lead dancer Caterina Coyne), songs from the charismatic Kerry Voice Squad featuring soprano Koral Aakre, poetry, and readings – plus a welcome wink-and-a-grin dash of family-friendly Celtic humor. Charming and authentic, "Christmas from a Celtic Table" makes for a memorable start to the holiday season for audiences of all ages.





# COMING TO THE BARCLAY THEATRE

## BLACK MARKET TRUST AND FESTIVAL BALLET AMONG THE GROUPS TO GRACE THE IRVINE STAGE.

BY LIZ GOLDNER

**W**hen the group, The Black Market Trust, walks onto the Irvine Barclay Theatre stage this Friday, October 22, the five musicians will fill the 750-seat theater with electrifying sounds, combining Eastern European gypsy jazz with the Great American Songbook and contemporary melodies.

In their first-ever performance at the Barclay, the L.A.-based band will weave their spell, blending rock, blues, jazz and swing with songs made popular by the Mills Brothers, Frank Sinatra, The Beach Boys, Lennon/McCartney and other 20<sup>th</sup> century musical icons. Their sound and presentation, combining instrumentals and vocals, exude youthful energy and passion.

Black Market Trust vocalist/guitarist Jeffrey Scott Radaich synthesizes gypsy guitar with blues, western swing and classical influences. Classically trained gypsy jazz violinist Nick Coventry has performed throughout this country, in

Europe and South Korea. Bassist Brian Netzley, described as a “solid, tasteful and versatile player,” has backed top European musicians. Drummer/percussionist Brandon Laws, from nearby Long Beach, helps infuse the band with an L.A. vibe and energy. Kale “Kully” Stiles, a multi-instrumentalist from The Big Island of Hawaii, has studied and played Dixieland music in New Orleans.

The Black Market Trust is one of several dozen out-of-the-box groups to grace the Barclay stage during the 2021 to 2022 season. Jerry Mandel, the theater’s chairman and president, explains, “One of our goals is to elevate our programming. He adds that booking acts at the Barclay is a never-ending process that he, Craig Springer, executive vice president, and Ginny Hayward, director of programming, continually pursue. Musicians and their agents know about the high-quality acoustics and intimacy of the theater, he adds, and performers (including Michael Feinstein who recently performed there) are treated with great

respect by the staff. The Barclay’s goals also include presenting a wide array of adventurous musical groups, and to attract viewers from beyond Irvine and Orange County.

Following is a sampling of the four-dozen-plus performers, speakers and presenters to appear at the Barclay Theatre through June 9, 2022.

**A.J. Croce**, singer, songwriter, piano and guitar player, son of the legendary Jim Croce, will perform timeless classics including “Operator” and “Time in a Bottle” on October 23. Grammy Award-winning saxophonist **Eric Marienthal** – who has performed with Elton John, Barbra Streisand, Billy Joel and Stevie Wonder, among others – will play contemporary and classic jazz pieces on October 29.

The New York City-based **Ballet Hispanico** will beguile the audience with its bold, eclectic Latinx-inspired dance numbers on November 11; one of their dances will be set to the music of Spanish composer, Enrique Granados.

On November 12, the **Modigliani Quartet**, French string quartet – two violins, viola and cello – will perform Mozart’s “Adagio and Fugue in C minor, K. 546,” Bartok’s “String Quartet No. 3, Sz. 85” and Shubert’s “String Quartet No. 14 in D minor, D. 810” (“Death and the Maiden”). The group is known as one of the best classical quartets in the world.

On November 21, **Trio Barclay** will return to the theater. Its premiere June 27 performance there was followed by a standing ovation and encore. Violinist Dennis Kim, cellist Jonah Kim (no relation) and pianist Sean Kennard will play Mark Abel’s “Out the Other Side,” Paul Schoenfield’s “Cafe Music” and “Piano Trio No. 1 in B major, Op. 8” by Brahms.

On December 5, pianist **Gabriela Montero**, praised by the *New York Times*, will perform pieces by Prokofiev, Rachmaninoff, Stravinsky, along with “The Immigrant” by filmmaker Charlie Chaplin; the latter will be accompanied by a screening of his film of the same name.

Ring in the holiday season, **The Festival Ballet Theater** – that has performed “The Nutcracker” at the Barclay 13 times previously – will return on Friday, December 10 to perform the ballet. This year’s one-hour abridged matinee for young audiences of “The Nutcracker” at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. will feature narration, lavish sets and costumes. Festival Ballet will perform the full-length version of “The Nutcracker,” December 11 to 24 in the evenings.

Next year’s featured performers in-

Ballet Hispanico in Linea Recta,  
Photo by Paula Lobo



The Black Market Trust





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# ART

Festival Ballet Theatre



clude the **Orpheus Chamber Orchestra** with **Branford Marsalis** on January 15. **Linda Eder** (one of few Barclay performers who does Broadway renditions) will sing songs of Judy Garland on February 25. On March 11, **Live from**

**Laurel Canyon** will sing music of artists who lived in the Laurel Canyon area of Los Angeles, 1965-1975. Influential artists from that decade include The Mamas and The Papas, The Byrds, Buffalo Springfield, Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, James Taylor, Carole King, Joni Mitchell, Jackson Browne, Linda Ronstadt and the Eagles.

The **Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain** will perform for the first time at the Barclay Theatre on Sunday, March 27. While the program is to be announced, the seven-member group is known for its musical interpretation of Ennio Morricone's "The Good, The Bad and the Ugly" theme, from the 1966 spaghetti western film starring Clint Eastwood.

The Irvine Barclay's programming continues to June 9, 2022, when **John Beasley** and his 15-piece MONK'estra band will perform jazz classics imbued with contemporary sounds.

Looking forward to the 2022-23 season, Jerry Mandel and his staff have already booked 30 percent of the performers.

To order tickets for Irvine Barclay Theatre performances, check out its *Get Ready It's Showtime* brochure. Or go to: [www.thebarclay.org](http://www.thebarclay.org). Contact the Box Office, 949-854-4646, Mon-Fri: 10 am-4 pm; Sat-Sun: noon-4 pm. Irvine Barclay Theatre, 4242 Campus Dr, Irvine, CA 92612.

Eric Marienthal





# ENTERTAINMENT

## COMIC CONSTRUCT

### REVIEWS OF *Y: THE LAST MAN*, *WHAT IF...?* AND *THE WALKING DEAD*'S FINAL SEASON.

BY ERIN MAXWELL



Y: Last Man Standing (Hulu)

Comic book adaptations are plentiful on the small screen, and as more comics get their chance to shine, more unconventional stories get to take center stage, with superheroes taking a backseat. This week we take aim at three distinct comics that are set on destroying the world, one way or another.

#### **Y: THE LAST MAN (HULU, SEASON 1)**

Debuting in 2002, Vertigo's *Y: The Last Man* was a post-apocalyptic comic book by Brian K. Vaughan and Pia Guerra, hailed as one hell of an achievement in its debut run. But as a Hulu series, it pulls off even more: it transcends the source material, creating a superior story perfect for the small screen.

The series follows Yorick, a young man of infinite jest and limited life skills thrust into a world where he is the only cis man left on Earth after a virus destroys every being with a Y chromosome. His struggles and survival were the focus of the comic, but in the series, the story

directs the audience's attention to other threats to humanity, including conspiracy theories, political factions, and worst of all, former mommy bloggers with an agenda.

Themes such as politics and gender identity were purposely left vague in the print form, leaving certain implications to the audience. But in the series, small moments and passing references have been expanded into full storylines, while characters have been bolstered or created to help give depth to the narrative. For example, Amber Tamblyn's character Kimberly, the former First Daughter, doesn't exist in the comic, but it would be hard to envision the TV series without her. She's a mother and wife who built a career on traditional values and her entire identity is wiped out in a matter of seconds.

The show also includes a number of trans and nonbinary characters as well as cis women to make its point about society and labels. Mother, wife, girlfriend...for some, these identity markers are dependent on sex, while others reject or redefine the designa-

tions that were imposed at birth. With the loss of an entire gender, some face the loss of identity, while others lose their ability to hide who they are. This isn't just about the decimation of a gender, but a statement on the roles imposed by society.

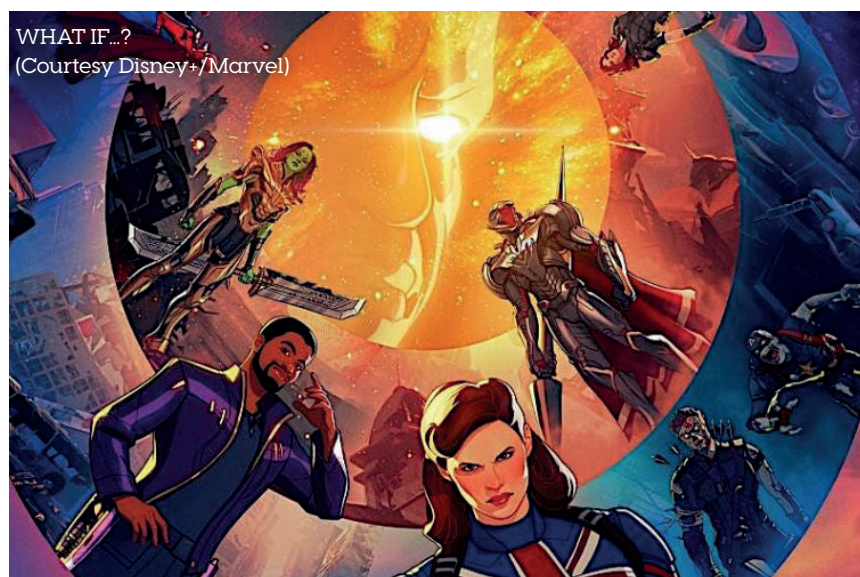
*Y: The Last Man* isn't just a notable adaptation of the original comic, it surpasses its source material by bringing in relevance to a modern audience. From sexual identity to political discourse, the story tackles many issues that are applicable today, and foreshadows what the future might be, something only the best sci-fi can do.

#### **WHAT IF...? (DISNEY+, SEASON 1)**

What if Doctor Strange was an evil Sorcerer Supreme? Or what if T'Challa was Star-Lord? What if a zombie virus took down the Avengers? And what if it was all a bit boring?

Advancing Disney's agenda to educate viewers about the multiverse (and prepping them to return to theaters), Disney+'s *What If...?* sets the scene for Phase 4 of the Marvel Cinematic Universe by exploring the infinite possibilities of hundreds of storylines. As a comic, this was a fun offshoot that pushed Marvel and its characters to the edge, exploring the very limits of the multiverse with any and every possibility. But the show flounders.

Despite its access to A-listers for cameo voices (including Samuel L. Jackson, Mark Ruffalo, and Paul Bettany) and its use of cel-shading animation techniques to create the appearance of 3D comic panels, the anthology series is haphazard in its storytelling. While some episodes are fine and dandy (evil Doctor Strange is a highlight), others are completely forgettable and somewhat bland. Somewhere between the page and the screen, something got lost in translation. The fun in the comics came from the risks taken by



WHAT IF...?  
(Courtesy Disney+/Marvel)



the stories, but the TV version is almost completely devoid of humor and the clever writing we've come to expect from Marvel.

For an animated Marvel project that had the ability to go anywhere and do anything, *What If...?* can be tedious at times. Disney took more chances with *WandaVision* and *Loki* than they did here, which is a shame considering that the series includes a flesh-eating Iron Man.

Clumsy, uneven execution and subpar writing leave it trying to bask in the novelty of the premise. But it's a dull affair that comes nowhere near the potential of the comic or its title.

## THE WALKING DEAD (AMC, SEASON 11)

After eleven seasons of undead horror, *The Walking Dead* takes one final lap as the long-running AMC show lumbers towards the end of its run. But is it a victory lap? Despite all the Walkers, the Whisperers, the Reapers, and the Saviors, the show – based on the post-apocalyptic comic book series created by writer Robert Kirkman and artist Tony Moore – has been in a little bit of a rut. The pattern of "discover, destroy, and repeat" has been used so much it's like a ghoulish version of *Groundhog Day*. In addition to the recurring story arcs, most of the original cast went

AWOL as the Walkers took a back seat to the real threat – humanity. However, showrunner Angela Kang and her merry band of hellraisers are throwing everything they've got into this final season, attempting to re-ignite interest for fans with zombie fatigue, or at least build some interest in the upcoming movies.

What keeps diehards glued to the show – and why former fans should return – isn't the over-the-top violence or the incredible effects, but well-written and evolving characters. Take Negan, for example. He is far from the cruel antagonist he once was, while Maggie has grown tough as nails since her days

on the farm. Each character revitalizes the show through their personal growth, making for something more interesting than the flesh-eating threat that surrounds them.

It's important to remember that *The Walking Dead* is a decisive series with a massive impact on pop culture. It not only created an entertaining and dynamic series filled with great performances and writing, but it brought horror to the forefront of pop culture after years of being treated like the red-headed stepchild of the entertainment industry. That's the real legacy of the show and why it will live forever, even if the zombies don't.

## NO TIME TO DIE

### DANIEL CRAIG'S JAMES BOND GRAPPLES WITH LIFE IN GOODBYE FILM.

BY ASHER LUBERTO

Ah, Mr. Bond. We've been expecting you... After a seven-year hiatus and a number of production issues, the final installment in the Daniel Craig canon, *No Time to Die*, is finally in theaters, and it might be the most emotional episode yet.

The Craig films have been less about flash and escapism, and more about Bond and his personal life, so

director Cary Fukunaga strips away everything that resembles those early Connery / Moore / Lazenby pictures. There are no zingers, poker games or crocodile submarines. What we have here is pure espionage wrapped around a twisty tale of loss, regret and the one man who stands between the world and world domination, James Bond.

Things pick up where *Spectre* left off, with Bond and

psychologist / love interest / *Girl With A Secret* Madeleine Swann (Lea Seydoux) having a dreamy vacation in Italy and making the most of their spacious hotel room. When an explosion sends Bond hurtling into space, twists, turns, breakups and car chases, callbacks and shootouts, emerge from the rubble. And that's just the prologue.

A summary of *No Time to Die's* bloated plot would take weeks to read, so we'll just give you the basics: the ruthless Lyutsifur Safin (Rami Malek) is back with a virus that will wipe out humanity. Why? Because he can. Bond's mission is to stop the virus from getting to London, so he leaves his home in Jamaica, slugs a couple of martinis, and teams up with old friends Q (Ben Whishaw), M (Ralph Fiennes) and Moneypenny (Naomi Harris). After throwing on a tux, he flies across the globe, shoots some bad guys, takes some punches, gets outclassed by newcomers Lashana Lynch and Ana De Armas (*Knives Out*), tries to win back Madeleine, and fights a mechanical-eyed baddie.

Got all that? Well, there's about 30 more subplots between the time Bond meets up with Madeleine and Bond faces off with Lyutsifur on his private, *Dr. No*-inspired island. It's three hours of non-stop, whiz-bang action, but it's all grounded by Craig's world-weary performance. Bond, jaded after decades of espionage, is grappling with questions all of us grapple with from time to time: Does anyone care? Is Madeline *the one*? Is love worth the risk? As he progresses from heroic to tragic, ladies man to family man, Craig capably conveys the uncertainty of the character, and Fukunaga gives those moments time to breathe.

What makes *No Time to Die* work is not necessarily the fight scenes or the globe-trotting adventure (though that helps), but the deep emotional undercurrent that courses through the film like a virus courses through your veins. Fukunaga's script infects you with feeling, and Craig is so skilled at balancing the pathos and the adrenaline-fueled stunts, that even some of the action sequences – like the one where Bond saves Madeleine in a forest – are moving.

All too often, the human aspects get lost in the spectacle of a Bond movie. But Fukunaga foregrounds those elements to create something with stakes, heart and depth. He makes sure Craig goes out with a bang, and a box of tissues. With any luck, you'll leave the theater shaken and stirred.

Daniel Craig as James Bond



(MGM)