

LA Unscripted | September 12th, 2023

From hot spots and hidden gems to lots of local flavor It's your guide to L A the unscripted way Hello and welcome to L A unscripted I'm Devin and we are rolling out another 30 minutes of all things So Cal and we are leaving no detail unturned It's L A revealed the unscripted way Oh this is so charming Oh my God From the beams on the ceiling to the black and white checkered floor So we actually had a local woman design this wallpaper We're at Donna's Uh we're a new restaurant in Echo Park in Los Angeles We want you to feel like you're kind of you know I wanna say your grandma like your grandma when she was young and cool We want you to come into her house and you know she's gonna be cooking a lot of food for you She's probably gonna pour a little more wine than you should be drinking We want you to feel at home This is probably brand new because you guys have only been open a few months but it feels like this has been here 2030 years Well that's the best compliment you can give really Yeah we are known for Italian Classic I love eating Italian My business partner is very Italian We've always loved eating We call it red sauce joints or red checkered tablecloth places And it's kind of always been these places that for him and I are just the most comfortable the place where we can really kind of let loose and you know kind of let our guard down and eat food That's just familiar satisfying you know delicious When you sit in a booth each single booth has like a little painting right here which I think is so cute Everything about it feels so authentic I love it It's a lot of the stuff that you're gonna be All the food should be familiar But then when you have it you're gonna go oh I've never had something quite like that Wait what is that This is the garlic bread Just one little piece I thought this was the dessert Oh my OK Oh my Oh my God Oh they're so good What is that These are the meatballs you were talking about the meatballs OK You're still there The insider moves Dip that garlic bread in this Oh my God you're right What was I thinking I'm coming back here tomorrow Here's the hardest part about this restaurant is leaving one dish to go to the next That's how good it is I'm just telling you right now This is so good Mm Ok First of all I have not stopped eating Second of all this food was so good We wouldn't even plan to interview the chef but we had to we actually pulled him out of the back because this is so ridiculously good So you're a Cambodian and you just cooked the best Italian meal I've ever had in my life How did you learn how to cook Italian food You know I had a lot of great mentors in the past most of my Italian cooking came from

uh Felix in Venice under Evan Funky uh learned a lot as well like of like flavors and techniques from uh Da Baron and Paoli Uh But everything we do here is just like cooking club Why did you decide to become a chef I like working with my hands I like being creative Uh I also like the idea of like bringing people together through food It doesn't matter what language you speak or your background is when you have like a great plate of meatballs or pasta That that's a universal language What is that on the top What is that Is that cheese salted salted tomorrow What Salta tomorrow Cognac cream Did you guys put him under contract I'd lock him down They don't let him go anywhere We love Echo Park I mean Sunset Boulevard You can't get anything more Los Angeles than that Uh Right by Dodger Stadium There's just there's so much of kind of authentic L A in this neighborhood and we've only been open two months It's so gratifying to see people um excited about what we're offering You know we're really excited to show people the food that we have and people are responding really well I might just take a little a little night night Now that's what I love about this restaurant You can lay down when you're done This is so good Thank you so much Night night Oh my God I'm full and happy She's cool She's bold and she's taking you places You don't always get to see Check out where Olivia in L A is today When you walk through these doors it's like you're in a completely different world So these boots came from Seneca Falls in upstate New York They were in an old abandoned diner Uh They're probably I would say early 19 thirties they were they were brought over here and we fit them here There's actually one extra piece that has didn't fit quite with it but it fit perfectly here Wolves is a concept that we opened in 2018 We were open for a year and a half before the pandemic hit Uh But it's a concept of all movie makers It's a crew It's put together this idea and uh started with an old internet cafe We brought in pieces from around the world to make our vision of a beautiful bar something that compete with high elevated cocktails and amazing food We're big fans of the movie Gangs in New York and the movie takes place in the 18 hundreds There was names like the bloodhounds the wolves So we decided to take that The minute you walk through those doors you're walking through doors that were made in 18 90 that came from Argentina Originally 12 ft long We cut them to fit them in here You step in here and you feel like you're in a whole different world Kinda like the movie Midnight in Paris travels back in time It's right in here up here is a different vibe This feels more like a home Yes Tell me about it up here So this space up here we do for private events bar takeovers from around the world They come here Uh We invite

bars from Hawaii you know Bangkok wherever it is and we do in exchange they come here and they bring their their c menu and they expose it to our customers What are we gonna make So we're gonna make the skin deep skin deep sketchy We do a salmon skin infused gin OK with a little bit of olive juice to kind of give it that dirty martini kind of feel vermouth and then black garlic infused vodka and a little of absinthe me a little fun fact about you guys You reached out to us Why did you think you were the perfect fit for lau I mean we're a big fan of L A scripted and we were like wow we would fit totally different with that format That's why we're like we have to have it and we're here It has a little French touch to it you know So and we wanted a food that is really high quality ingredients Um something that people can actually find uh something rich with our cocktails something really light something a little bit vegan vegetarian We can accommodate everybody OK So it's just different when you walk in here and make it really feel you like you're transporting into somewhere else out There is a crazy world So when you come in here we want to take you in a time travel You literally can't watch this show and not walk away smarter about all the things So Cal has to offer it's our job to keep you in the know I have this and this and this Oh gotta get all my products guys The well is I like to say it's a modern mercantile and a conscious concept store I do have a variety of products clean skin care beauty bath and body fair trade brands clothing accessories and don't forget the non alcoholic beverages About eight years ago uh I started experiencing a number of issues with my skin um with my health specifically I was having inflammation and pain from some of the traditional skincare products that I was using and I was also taking a 22 week program on the conservation and taxonomy of animals and plants It was also very enlightening at that moment to learn about all of the ingredients that were in some of our skin care products are our foods are even our home cleaning products I came up with the idea of the well is to create the store that I wanted to shop in This is where I have my clean skin care beauty bath and body and some of the products are obviously nontoxic the flow of the store I love it It's so quaint and so cute I feel like you've got beach vibes in here right The one thing about the store that I really wanted to make sure uh was that it was a community space I also love that you actually have a bar in here so people can sit and sit at the same time That was the hope with the community space was to get people to come in and taste it and then you know learn a bit about the beverages for instance the so is one of the brands that is hit here created by KD We also have the non alcoholic spirit So G al

turn is to Kill Al is whiskey and just and a variety of options And what I love is that you can come in here and shop with a purpose and with intention and it's all giving back to the environment that's what I hope How good does it feel that you've opened up this store right here in the neighborhood you grew up It feels amazing It really is a dream come true Um I had been in the entertainment industry for many years went back to college to UCL A and then um went into marketing and tourism and a number of other you know loves passions but I had always wanted to open up my own business and bring it back to Long Beach and share with the community And there's much more ahead new hotspots and hidden gems When L A unscripted returns welcome back to L A unscripted and some very happening things we've uncovered just for you It's nostalgic as someone who's very into like the vintage world um clothing furniture that sort of stuff I think it just plays into nostalgia in what you remember like fun times as a kid as a teenager Oh these are cute and I love that It says California So Valley Heat is a unisex brand It's a lot of it is summer focused So uh casual corduroy shorts printed swim trunks These here ah the Burbank Yep this screen Burbank 100 Our first swim trunks that we made The idea came about in 2020 July We're all pretty enthusiastic about being in the ocean swimming surfing all that sort of stuff So we've been collecting a lot of vintage swim trunks So we wanted to sort of recreate stuff that we grew up with in the late eighties early nineties and reintroduce that to a new generation But with good materials made here in L A all our fabrics are pan sourced They're all Deadstock fabrics So what does dead stock mean Deadstock means uh fabric that already exists It maybe from 2030 years ago but it just sat in a roll and never got used And that makes it so sustainable too which is great for our planet and also these are great for our planet because look how cute they are I think we're we're a really good representation of L A We make everything here It's all fun and playful We have the perfect climate for our brand here Once you see and hold the fabric the shorts the m the product it's hard to be disappointed Look at these Valley heat shorts These are so cool Alright So the names are really cool These here uh the royal blue and they are Van Nuys Simi Valley These are are like a lavender very very sy valley love with the pink They are the Silma would go through and sort of pick little neighborhoods that exist within the valley But if you read the website you'll see that each one has like a story and a name It's very goofy and playful So Valley Heat it's designed to be vintage So what we hope is that in like 40 years when you're at a thrift store You might find a pair Hi Jacob I'm in the Simi Valley which is probably

my new fave but it's not just me that's going to be looking this good Our unscripted viewers are too Thanks to you Do you have something special for that Yes So for all the unscripted viewers we're offering 20% off with the code unscripted So now you guys will look fire in valley heat too Valley Heat Pretty cool right OK Don't go anywhere or you'll miss our next L A unscripted hot spot Welcome back to L A unscripted And guess what we're exploring right now The goal when I opened this store was to like have a safe space for people to shop He's got a scotch Hey I'm Stony Michelle Love Ceo founder and creator of stu Clothing And I'm here revealing my amazing story Douzo You know it is a gender free brand We wanted to call it gender free because we feel like you know we're free to be any gender or non that we wanna be to represent your inner identity You know on the outside is is so segregated in stores You know you go in there's the women's section the men's section the kids section as we have more knowledge and words to identify ourselves as like non binary different um pronouns they them and you know not just he and she So now that expands the sections right I wanted to just go and shop I wanted to mix and match Maybe I wanted to take something from the women's and the men's and put it together You know I felt isolated I felt like you know like I didn't belong and where can I shop I'll say this when I I my first ever designed Yep Still game I was uh finishing up in school My second degree I knew who I was at that moment Um of of being a queer person and you know um a lot of people that were being caught up as to who I am were like oh you know this is new for them So they would ask me like oh are you still gay And I'm like yeah still gay And it's like bing So it went off and like from there I was like oh let me sketch that And you know I'm pretty sure there's somebody else in this world that understands and who would resonate It's interesting to say like you know clothes can actually affect you in these ways But it can you know you're free to be who you are and to let that inside show on the outside you know people have like googled you know gender you know neutral or gender free stores and they're like oh and you popped up and I was like what There's actually a store for that and they came and they made it it it always it always touches my heart and and semi blows my mind when it's on their itinerary I wanna see sto flourish and um and around the world and for people to to be able to know the crown for sure Like oh that's a sto piece effect real change you know and how we look at each other through fashion I think that's all we have Come on now California is massive and we won't stop until we've covered it all I love that They call this the first lady of Santa Monica Well I

tell you what she sure is Pretty Alan Reese I'm major D here at the the Georgian Hotel the Georgian hotel quite iconic This is a hotel that was actually constructed in 1931 utilizing art deco It really stands out This is the 90th year of the hotel and so in this hotel itself it attracted a lot of politicians movie stars a few mobsters It's true You know they all like to hang out in the same places Can you show me around a little bit because I'm already in love with the color the textures everything All right let's go here We have reception We actually have 84 rooms in total of which 28 of those are suites You guys have the beautiful bar space in the dining room but then you have a gallery I hear we have an art gallery Yes we do So we have artists come in on a rotational basis Our first artist was Sharon Stone So just downstairs where we just came up that one painting over the couch that was actually hers that she left behind So everything's been very highly curated from the design team from the ownership because uh as I said they they actually developed a lot of different hotels but this is their baby right here The building was acquired by Boulevard Hospitality which is John Blanchard Nico Rusconi They acquired the building in 2020 then slowly started the renovation and that we're fully open So once you walk into the hotel uh you do have the terrace outside which is for many many years People have been dining out there very popular for brunch black here in this upper restaurant which we just call the the Georgian restaurant is and pastas fish dishes Um Obviously I mean fantastic desserts I love sitting down for really good food with the chef Always an extra perk So we're actually kind of launching our all day brunch menu seven days a week here at the Georgian Hotel So we're doing a French toast souffle made with croissants a evergreen omelet that kind of just gorgeous and healthy and just exactly what you want to eat The barbacoa breakfast burrito So it's a burrito topped with a chili chili mole sauce and then a bunch of fresh herbs and radishes and cotija cheese on the top Holy moly That's a burrito and then we have something a little bit more for lunch which is a beautiful burrata from Italy that we import directly chef food like this People aren't gonna want to leave Well that's our intention and that's why we have 84 rooms above us and that is all the time we have for tonight Thank you so much for hanging out with us and thanks to the bamboo club in Long Beach for the chill spot to host our show Good night everyone We'll see you next time