

LA Unscripted | May 12th, 2023

From hot spots to hidden gems This is your guide all things local The L A unscripted way from the Hello Kitty Cafe in Irvine She is the famous feline from Japan that was first introduced in 1975 today The Hello Kitty legacy includes stationary retail theme parks even a jet Welcome to L A everyone I'm getting and we are the only Hello K ca in all of California to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month And I got to say this place is definitely the catch me out Hello Kitty is more than a drawing to most people She's a friend someone you can always depend on and always someone that sparks joy So this cafe actually opened in 2018 It is the first Hello Kitty Cafe in speakeasy in the United States in the front It's kind of a European inspired bakery We have her signature birthday cake is covered in sprinkles with the Hello kitty bow on top We also have handcrafted lattes and lemonades And at this location only there are many fresh doughnuts that we make daily I might have made a little bit of a mess but I wanted it to come out really good for camera But make note the bow must always be on the left Hello Kitty started in Japan She was actually first used on a sandal to help sell sandal She weighs three apples and she is tall She has friends for forever and it's amazing So this is the cafe part where you can get like cookies and coffee But now we're going into the boat room The secret part this is like a speakeasy Look at the Hm So uh we do tea in the afternoon Um It's really for our fans of all ages We have all this custom plate warre and beautifully hand decorated pastries in the evening We do do custom cocktails They're all themed piggies up in the afternoon This is an amazing spread This is actually our um chocolate strawberries and cream Um Every tea set it started off with that If it's your birthday we'll put a different um design on this wake up literally like even like there's bows right there Ok Look at this But this is amazing You've got your little Hello kitty teapot So can I go ahead and of course take me back to your very first memory of Hello Kitty So I grew up with Hello Kitty Back in the day they had these little stores called Gift And to this day I actually kept a lot of those items you know I think once you're passionate about something it's always in you and it becomes something bigger with kitty cafe We just found that people really enjoy making memories and experiences with their families and friends and bringing the cafe into the picture really offered that kind of segue for people to make those core memories And you have a daughter Does she like hello Kitty now she does She's a hello kitty fan and it's amazing to share this with her

because we go to different hello kitty events and we dress up and and it's just super fun We're actually booking about three months in advance right now We have people coming from all over the country and as well from other places of the world because we are the only Hello Kitty speakeasy She just has this really global appeal I mean she's cute and everyone just loves being around her So she's in Japan she's across the United States and just this amazing phenomenon Ok Did you know hello Kitty's real name is Kitty White who knew well now from all things pink to all things in we're heading about 20 miles north of here to the city of Stanton where a legendary tattoo artist and his daughter are making their mark together But just wait until you hear their back story My name is Robert Foe and I'm owner of skin design tattoo We came all the way to Stanton California here in Orange County and I was kind of looking for a sign I found it This says this sign you've been looking for to get a new tattoo Let's go Come on I've been tattooing for 34 years now Skin design tattoo has been around for 24 years We're kind of like rooted you know in the tattoo culture This client his name is Monty I've been tattooing him since uh 2014 He wanted his whole body suit done which was for like three years straight eight hours every session every Sunday Actually growing up I never really cared about tattoo but I was always into art and it wasn't until I went to prison I started tattooing in prison when I was 16 years old When I first started tattooing it was more of a hobby and a curiosity I didn't realize how tattoo was gonna save my life I was born in Cambodia Uh when I was two years old you know my parents had to flee because of the war So we became refugees you know growing up in L A you know I got into trouble you know just growing up when we first came in 1980 you know there was a lot of like racism I remember going to restaurants and you know sitting down with my family and then you know people would come to us tell us to get out of here and and you know you don't belong here go back to your country I felt like my anger kind of grew from that moment and eventually started fighting so much that I had to start carrying weapons You know I got eventually kicked out of junior high school because I got caught carrying a gun and all these things kind of led me to eventually join the gang When I went to high school I think when I was 14 years old at about 16 years old I was facing a life sentence for gang related charges The judge she reduced the the time to 14 years and I ended up serving seven out of that I thought my life was gonna be over Pretty much I read that at one point you were using a guitar string Is that true Tattooing is illegal in prison And the way we built the machine was so the motor came from a walkman ra a

walkman radio because you were allowed to have one We just cracked it open took the motor from it We got the guitar string and use that as needle When I got out I didn't think tattooing would take me anywhere I don't know just being able to having eight shops in in seven different states and and you know feeding over you know 70 people right now You know I'm so blessed I'm so grateful and you saved my life in so many ways We have your tattoo station ready Am I gonna learn Oh what is this My daughter Rina she's been around with me and my shop you know from Vegas She used to come to the shop and just draw every now and then You know so it was always been a dream for me I remember sitting on this big leather couch and listening to the music and watching my dad listening to the machine some of the supplies I remember were really nostalgic smells to me The feeling of passing along my craft to my daughter or anyone else is amazing feeling because I know it's not gonna stay with me forever Just knowing what he's been through and seeing where he is today you can deny that hard work Success is something that you can make of yourself And he's a prime example of it So it's really inspirational to see we've done so many tattooing stories but this is the first time I'm actually getting to tattoo I'm so excited and you just kind of dip it in and then you just go look that's not terrible I'll see you already know when to get the ink OK You guys how am I doing I think you're doing pretty good for you OK Guess what I have had time to think while I've been doing this I I came up with my tattoo name Gina Von D Get it Kat Von D Talk about that I got skills right OK Just remember to book early if you want an appointment with me Dana VD Now from tattoos to torrents for another Asian American owned gym The Napco Hybrid Hotel uh brings East meets West amenities and we are at the heart of Torrance which is only a few minutes walk from the Central Torrance We bring the amenity of the Japanese culture and Western culture and they combine together we have the highest population of Japanese outside Honolulu The accessibility is pretty good and close to the beach We have 208 rooms 12 suite rooms and we have a lot of Japanese and corporate people staying here and it's a very quiet hotel This is one of our suite We have 12 suites like this in this hotel located on a corner This room comes with a king bed and a four desk and uh a four TV Every room comes with a tea Japanese tea but in a suite um Japanese teapot and then a tea two different kind of tea And then with that that's so great Your little tea cup Yes that's amazing Oh this is so nice Tell me about the spa They brought stones from Japan and they heat the stone from the underneath uh the water from the underneath And then people can lay

down a spa on a stone and they can start uh refreshing and detoxing a lot So that's the best thing about the spa There's a couple room we call this you can bring your boyfriend girlfriend or mother Amazing So you can both have a massage at the same time That's right Yes So you can come in here during your um practice session before the massage or after the massage or just come here and relax the day And then you know as long as you want we want to bring the Japanese home away home to the Japanese people So they feel comfortable stay here and they feel relaxed and then they wanna rejuvenate and go back to their work The next day scripted has just started to celebrate Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month from the Hello Kitty Cafe in Irvine We are digging into some of our favorite food finds next So don't go anywhere The month of May marks Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month and we are just tickled Think about it here at the Hello Kitty Cafe and Irvine Welcome back to L A Scripted I'm Devin in the ball room where they have the special speakeasy So right now we're gonna do the picture Perfect What is this in here So this is popping bubba So it's a strawberry flavor My kids love these So this cocktail has some vodka some strawberry shrub which is a strawberry syrup that we make in house at the Hello kitty cafe and then that's your keepsake So everyone that they order a picture perfect You get a a cute um little surprise with your dreams Everything about this place is so great I mean look at their flat where I think I just might stay here forever Get it All right Now let's check in with Jasmine Sim who's cooking up a delicious Asian American meal with a family owned business She's completely nutty about right You've seen this brand everywhere Now I'm in the kitchen cooking with the couple who created it Spread The love started in 2013 when Zack and I got married and we were actually looking for something to give our wedding guests We made like 100 50 jars of peanut butter for our wedding guest And it was so good like that Um After our wedding we started asking for more and it was funny because after we're done making all these peanut butters we're like we don't have to have to do this again you know like oh finally we're done So we had no idea that this was gonna become a business I'm really proud that you know we've we've brought it like internationally and it's it's literally everywhere It's one of the best selling nut butters on Amazon It feels really good because this is also our own money our own blood sweat and tears OK Val So what are we making today We are making vegan cara vegan kari OK Very good First step I can say it Yes Yes Do you wanna do the honors and some onions or We're also gonna chop up like these green beans We're gonna add some avocado oil

and then we're gonna add the aromatics which are like the onions and the garlic So let's let it heat up for a little bit And I think this is how I learned from like my nanny and like my sisters is like you know smell it If it smells cooked then it's cooked So these vegetables uh it's eggplant there's two eggplants in here and there's like a sampler of mushrooms and then we're gonna add the vegetable broth So we're just gonna like pour it in there This is the naked crunch which is the crunchy peanut butter See how easy it pours which is really good and really flavorful Oh yeah We have two young daughters and it's really cool for them to see mommy and daddy doing this You know um I think it's really important for our girls to see themselves and their mother who's doing it You know someone who came to this country as immigrant someone who has really put all of her talents focus and effort into something And so I think I'm I'm I'm very proud of what we've done and I'm especially proud of val and what she's been doing as not just an entrepreneur but as a mother to our daughters as well you know learning about all cultures is one of my favorite things about this show and coming up we've got more local a api destinations that are delicious and delightful So stay with us Angeles is home to nearly 1.5 million people of Asian descent according to the US Census Bureau And during this month of May we are celebrating a api month at some neighborhood finds we think are worthy of sharing like this next spot The food is out of this world 12 out of 10 in Thailand violet color It's a color of LGBT Q not a rainbow So that's why we chose this color to represent our support to our community in West Hollywood and our customers are queen So that's why we come up with Queen Wireless So think about OK let's do something unique something different But in a good in a good way have to be tasty too You know like how we bring the people into here It's definitely tasty The concept of the restaurant is to keep everything purple keep everything violet and the violet color come from the very valuable herbal in Thailand called butterfly pea It's 100% herbal It's 100% herb There's no chemical in there The magic noodle is a very popular dish in Thailand but usually in Thailand we don't use the color It's so funny because I saw this on Tik Tok and I knew we had to come in here but I didn't think they were this blue but they are that blue So what do I do OK So you just pour all over to the noodles and then you toss it Oh I can already start to see Oh my God My mouth is hurt That is delicious It's lime but it's spicy Oh my God Oh my God It's so refreshing and delicious Every single person that comes to this restaurant should try this Actually we started from chep Sara apartment because 11 day we went for a party and then we very like hung

over we want to eat some soup and she made me a very good soup and I said I love it So I'm coming back tomorrow You have to make me more food Oh my God That looks delicious Now how long does this broth Take the broth Take me about six hours six hours I don't even know how to describe this It's so warm and I know why your friend liked it It's so warm and soothing and yummy Oh my God you are so talented We also have a drink called Magic Margarita Wow Yeah I mean look at the gorgeousness that is that drink I wore purple just for this OK That is so good And for the decoration that we put in here in our beautiful courtyard it's good for social media insta camera tiktok and everything It's good for the wheels I mean wow Look at a high five on that That is amazing OK From purple colored noodles to pink Everything here to rainbow colored dumplings this day there certainly pushed me outside of my comfort zone and I loved it so dumplings it comes in many types of dumplings We have the pot stickers the wanton in Paradise dynasty We have our speciality which is Xiaolong Pao So Xiaolong Pao is also known as the soup dumpling It is filled with meat and soup So we have the eight flavored Xia Long Pao Um It is the first kind in the world Dumplings are dated uh ancient food dated back to 2000 years ago It has been declared a national treasure in Shanghai In 2006 we have about 100 and 30 restaurants in Asia This is our first venture out of Asia to the US our first location in US and the south coast Hey Dana it's time for you to work What do you mean work I thought I was just getting to eat the dumplings No you have to work for your food What flavor are these This is the Szechuan The outside is made of flour It has uh precise 18 fs delicate thin skin created in Paradise dynasty So you pinch you push and you poop at the same time How many years did he study to do this Many years It takes about six months for a new trainee to learn how to do this I can't even chew gum and walk much less make 18 folds while I'm pushing this in Ok There are many ways of eating this The main thing is to sip the broth out of the saloon p then you eat the meat Got it Wow That is delicious Every single one now to me is like it's like a flower Every single one is different and they're art to me Not only were they pretty but yes they absolutely tasted Divide That is all the time we have for tonight Thank you so much to the Hello kitty cafe and Irvine for letting us go off script And as you continue to celebrate A API T US and let us know your favorite Asian American owned local fight Good night Everyone will see you next time