

## LA Unscripted | April 17th, 2023

From hot spots and hidden gems to lots of local flavor It's your guide to L A the unscripted way And tonight we're hitting a real high note Hello everyone and welcome to L A unscripted I'm Devin and this is the art deco masterpiece the Aon Theater in Beverly Hills Tonight we're exploring the musical side of so so what better way to start off than with the reveal of this cultural and architectural landmark built in 1930 The Saban Theater is a 2000 seat cultural landmark here in Beverly Hills that graces everyone from the 19 thirties to today on stage It is a historical landmark It's on the historical register It is the art deco It is probably the most iconic thing as you come into Beverly Hills that you see It used to be called the Fox Theater And it is truly a vaudeville theater where there's an orchestra pit and it's got a beautiful green room and it's got a wonderful stage that uh can pretty much accommodate any national act Kenny Loggins The Temptations Paul Anka is huge Neil Sedaka We have Gordon Lightfoot is coming back for I think this is one of his fifth times playing here It's his last tour Little Wayne just played here That was a great concert Snoop plays here a lot So we have a lot of really fun and people look at this as their hometown The cool thing is is like this stage People don't realize it also comes out oh I extends out another right to the edge of the seats in the 19 thirties It was built as a Fox theater and it was used for Vaudeville Wilshire Boulevard was the epicenter of Hollywood and this is where they had all the major premieres of the time The major films that have premiered here would be the African Queen How to Marry a Millionaire and 12 Angry Men This is the famed green room here at the Savon Theater and I swear to you I can almost feel all the history from this room A lot of our culture is based on our music and we provide music sometimes it doesn't fit in stadium but we have to literally do 300 concerts a year for a venue to survive and for it to generate enough income to be able to go on year after year after year So this is probably one of the more versatile theaters that you've ever seen because we go from doing rock concerts to doing Tommy to doing right You know Joseph the Amazing Technicolor Dream Code It's called the Saban Theater because Jim Saban donated some money so that we could remodel and redo all of the proscenium and it's all hand painted like on the walls You can look at all the inlaid gold and they're really doing it right They're bringing it back to what it was in the 19 thirties The first time you come here is an overwhelming experience We love to say the worst seat in the house here is 150 ft away from the stage That's the

worst seat That's the nosebleed worst seat in the house You know who else is coming Donny Osman We love Donny Osman All right Now do Coke is about to show you why It's totally cool to be a gold digger It's another musical who knew we've created a total environment for music lovers music creators We've got a 10 room boutique hotel We've got this music venue that used to be a strip bar for 38 years and the back building was a Boat Trusts uh 6000 square foot building That was Ed Wood's studio back in the day back in the fifties touring artists that you might be familiar with We play here Um DJ S are in the back booth Uh you know like making a fun sweaty dance party for uh our crowd here at the bar Was this an active bar Yeah it was a strip bar bikini bar for many years 38 years It was gold diggers and gold diggers was a bikini bar that sign out there is original and that's what we bought A lot of people come here to create and they see the bar and what it has to offer as it's as a music venue and they want to be a part of that It sounds great in here It looks cool It's in a cool part of town So there's I think there's a number of things The hotel doesn't hurt The key to this project was that upstairs used to be a hotel in the twenties So it was still zoned a hotel You know like after uh playing a gig you can just kind of stumble upstairs and go to bed and you know have a good time So just off of Santa Monica Boulevard you've got the bar Now this is the hotel this is our little secret hideaway of the hotel Well I've an effort into this I've had a great architect and designer that I worked with So we have brought back to life the original inn above a tavern the tavern Now at our music venue the Inn Now our Swanky little boutique hotel Uh I'm Rachel Insel newer Dave's wife Among lots of other things like the mama bear of this hotel This is room 10 My favorite Come on in So when you walk in here what does this scream to you Oh you made it baby It kind of does though I mean it it's got the plush the plushness the view You're above a super fun bar Like it's it's it's my favorite room So you're telling me there's a different feel for every room Yes they're all they're all similar but different Different Some of them are suites Some of them are a little smaller one has a balcony One thing I really like about gold diggers is from the exterior You might not kind of guess that this is what's behind the walls but this is what's behind the walls Drink Sleep record It's kind of all encompassing This was the bar and the the stage And now we're walking out to uh you know once upon a time that was a strip club and this was the hotel back in the twenties So it was basically an in above a tavern on route 66 which is what this was in the twenties got the bar and the stage And now over here you've got a fully developed recording studio That's right We

ended up taking over this space and we gutted it down to the four walls It was pretty beat up We need a lot of retrofitting and then we built a building within a building We find a little hidden gem of Hollywood history that we've repurposed and made it so you can make your own history here And how many studios are we looking at 99 studios here That's what brought together the Drink sleep record kind of motto that we put together And when we got the building we started to do the demolition of it but we had known that it was Ed Wood's old soundstage originally underneath the floor In the in our main sound stage back there is a you know a pit where Bella Lugosi came up from the grave So it's cool to have a part of Hollywood history here for sure Become a real community of music lovers and creators and the staff we have is amazing Everybody that works here They're music lovers Some of them are music creators too It's got a real family vibe to it you know and that's what I'm most proud of Nice job doggy fresh and if dancing to music isn't enough for you and you really want to get into the spin of things while the beat junkies can get you in the know from the cross Let's go Anyone can learn how to DJ and we provide everything ty DJ Babu B junkie crew revealing to y'all where we build better DJ s right here at the B junkie and into the sound Y'all we've had students as old as 50 plus We take them all colors shapes sizes creeds We want to teach everybody the art of djing and it's been amazing All right Listen up the face a little bit I am the dean of students What do you say I've been doing radio pretty much almost like 20 years Um I was at power 106 from 95 until 2006 17 years Teaching and D jing for 34 years All right Here we go Greg You know when I started I was in high school I was just your average kid I wasn't a very good athlete Uh you know I wasn't the smartest but you know with with D jing it really gave me my identity Most people probably know me for my affiliation with my rap group dilated peoples I spent the majority of the late nineties and the early two thousands touring the world making music all the while in the background I was always affiliated with my DJ crew the be junkies we get students from all walks of life Um No matter what type of profession they're in that people have always been curious about the art of DJ I've always noticed that women ladies always learned a lot faster because they're not scared to move to the music as they're learning Here we go So it's a boys club with DJ It makes me really happy to see that the girls are coming in and stepping into this type of art form and really being good at it My name is Marisol and I am the founder of Ladies of Sound the official Women's division of the Beat Junkie Institute of Sound We have a program called Intro

to DJ which is an eight week program where you come in and learn just basic music theory basic scratches basic mixing We have another program called foundation and that can run from anywhere from 8 to 10 months And we combine what we learned growing up on vinyl digging through the crate And about halfway through the program they're able to bring in their laptops You know we keep 1 ft in the past but we also keep 1 ft in the future I always tell my students this you know we don't promise you that you're all gonna become professional DJ S but we promise you that you will be a part of this DJ culture for the rest of your life and be in love with it Coming up a former recording studio that now serves spin fully delicious food get it spin fully will be right back with more unscripted The Music Center is this amazing combination of theaters restaurants and public spaces We're probably most known for the iconic four theaters We're sitting in Walt Disney concert Hall which is the home of the L A Philharmonic and the L A Master Corral the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion which is the largest which is home to both the L A Opera and to the Music Center Arts Then there is the Mark Taper Forum which is our smallest venue and is programmed by Center theater group and the Amundson Theater which is a 2000 seat sort of Broadway Roadhouse also programmed by center theater group Also on the plaza are three restaurants The welcome center and all summer long we set up between the flagpoles a summer stage which is where all of the free and low cost performances happened and all of the dance parties happen So this becomes a hopping place All summer we are in the Dorothy Chandler pavilion and this incredible 1964 palace is old glamorous Hollywood As you said it's total mid century It's just spectacular You know the Oscars were here for 30 years and in its day it was all Hollywood glamour and where we are is in the oval bar which is the main public bar in the buildings And there are three amazing public spaces here at the Music Center at Walt Disney concert Hall is the Blue Ribbon Garden which is up on the third floor So this fountain after Mrs Disney died her Children and grandchildren got together and put together what Frank Gehry called a rose for Lily and Frank designed this beautiful fountain which reflects a love of her roses and her ornate elaborate beautiful rose garden in her home As well as her love of Delft to China She collected Delft and this is a mosaic created of Delft If you let your eye wander every now and then you'll see a piece of color that is clearly not Delft And because this was built on site by mosaic artists each artist was allowed to put in one So Jerry Moss Plaza which is on the original Music Center campus and does incredible free and low cost programming all summer and then across the

street stretching all the way to City Hall is Grand Park which is our significant wonderful park There's free programming all year There's Sunday sessions where djs are spinning tunes There's free yoga classes there are festivals It's this huge place which is this incredible resource for all Angelino There's incredible public art at the Music Center The most significant is the Jacques Lipschitz piece on Earth sculpture which frames the entrance to Jerry Moss Plaza and to the Music Center itself This is the Dance store It is a piece by the artist Robert Graham and it was actually commissioned for an art collector and philanthropist home It was to be his front door Come downtown See the revitalization of downtown come experience the arts buy a ticket to a performance come eat at a restaurant or come to the free and low cost activities Everybody is welcome here It is supported by you the Angelenos So we encourage everybody to come We'll be right back with more L A unscripted from the Saban theater Welcome back everyone to L A unscripted from the beautiful sub on theater And while this place is filled with live performance history it's Grandmaster Recorders where everyone who is anyone laid down some tracks We went there to live local This is a 15,000 square foot property that is the old recording studio It's a restaurant fine dining Italian and also a rooftop It looks up at the Hollywood sign So it's a one stop shop kind of place This building has been many things over the years It was actually a silent theater in the thirties and forties But effectively what drew me to this property was the Grandmaster Recorders operated as a studio in Hollywood from 1971 till 2016 Over the course of that 71 to 2016 A lot of things happen in here Um Bowie Blondie Chili peppers Kanye West who fired it recorded records here I literally think I had this exact model boom box and then here's some cassette tapes Oh my God I had Van Halen I had triumph by the way millennials Do you even know what these are This was the actual studio Studio 71 is its name because it was founded in 1971 So we thought we'd pay homage to that So what was this room right here So this was the control room So behind us here was the main studio desk So this room is amazing concrete walls which are designed to you know retain the sound and to sit there and think that late registration for Kanye was done here or the chili peppers are their first kind of record It's it's pretty amazing to think that that caliber of talent recorded here As you guys were making your renovations Was there anything cool that you came across There was a lot of things in the venue we discovered during the renovation things like there was a bathtub that was on the second level And apparently Deborah Harry used to make frequent use of it when she was in here doing stuff with

Blondie and also apparently in the mezzanine which is now the bathrooms Kanye West used to camp out and do like days lock in when he was getting creative Even heard Dave Groll talk about the back room which was his favorite drum on the planet This room onto our left which is smaller room Even if they didn't record the album here come back and record the drum piece Favorite room on the planet Pretty hard to like resist the charm and the and the story that was Grandmaster Records And so we had to take that legacy and reinvigorate it into what it is today Uh The restaurant really is a a full dining experience We don't use the word fine dining It's more fun dining New world Italian is what we call it This is one of our most popular spontini which is snacks Caviar cannoli creme fresh Oh wow Six beautiful pastas whole roasted duck We do like pizzas They we call them skateboards or scat So this is the skateboard pizza is perfect for just me and welcome to Grandmaster Rooftop Wow One of the best views of a Hollywood sign in the City Grandmaster record is it does go block to block So it does go from Kanga all the way through to I A and with that means we can accommodate a lot of people We're actually in the new vinyl district in high and it's important that we're here because there's so much going on here and it used to be you go to downtown you go to West Hollywood you stay there Hollywood wasn't really a thing but it's actually that place that you can come as a destination And it feels to me Hollywood's into the hotspot again And there's more coming and now to a woman who owns a legendary landmark piece of L A's jazz history and she's using it to keep the music alive on Crenshaw Boulevard Jasmine Simpkins has the hashtag California story I wouldn't have never thought that God would chose me to be the one to redo this place all over again I'm Nina Rose Welcome to Nina Rose's penthouse at the Maverick Flat The Mavericks Flat is a historical landmark venue that's been here since 1966 A lot of legendary artists have performed here Marvin Gaye Tina Turner the Temptations the ojs a lot of black artists that came through here I knew it was on Crenshaw I passed by I had never been inside of this place A good friend of mine had the place and it was sitting here um for like almost two years it was like a haunted house So I just told him I said you know what I wanna get the place I call it the resurrection of the Maverick Flat Jasmine Welcome to Nina Rose's penthouse It is beautiful Honestly like I absolutely love it It was tough Everything was shut down I mean if you would have seen the place it was a disaster but I had a vision and God always gave me vision and I seen past all that and you decided to make it a private venue pretty much bringing it back to what it was Exactly And

you know what It was funny because I didn't even know that it was a private venue back in 1966 until the guy had told me that So that was like a confirmation for me that this is what you need to do with the space We are here in L A South Central I wanted to bring the Beverly Hills feel the upscale feel I wanted to feel like we were somewhere else but still right here in the inner city someone wanted to rent out the place What could they kind of events Could they do birthday parties wedding receptions graduations you name it they can do it here Movies has been shot here We shot Insecure uh has been shot here Uh Lace has been shot here to be a good feeling for you that you're a girl from Los Angeles And now you own a piece of history in the city It's a blessing It's a blessing to be able to be a part of something legendary for us That is all the time we have for tonight Thank you so much to the on theater Come and see a show here in Beverly Hills You will not regret it It is beautiful We'll see you next time you guys