

LA Unscripted | June 15th, 2022

From hot spots to hidden gems to lots of local flavor It's your guide to L A the unscripted way And tonight we're checking out our favorite hoods Hello everyone and welcome to L A unscripted I'm Devin and we are coming to you from the rooftop penthouse at the level hotel south all of in downtown Los Angeles And yes it has its very own pool But before we show you around out there how about we show you what's in here This was basically just a parking lot and AI group uh put about \$200 million development into it And uh we have a very unique concept It's a blend of hotel stays for nightly stays as well as long term So you stay here for one night all up to one year We cater to a lot of the business travelers because one of the unique things about us is we have very large square footage You're looking at 700 square feet all the way up to uh 250 square feet for 12 and three bedrooms and then you get as large as 18,000 square feet You are in the largest penthouse on the market in Los Angeles here in an 18,000 square foot penthouse Uh wrap around uh views 3 60 views of all of LA I mean you can see on a clear day you can see out to the beach It's gonna have four bedrooms 10 bathrooms You're looking at three kitchens it's rooftop deck right here that we're standing on You know you've got your nice fire pits and all theater room as well too Uh You're gonna have a huge wine cellar that will hold up to about 700 bottles of wine floor to ceiling windows The actual master bedroom is awesome It has a huge master bathroom in the closet That's the size of a lot of people's apartments There's a private pool we're actually on one side of the penthouse on the other side there's a private pool that has a very large uh jacuzzi that fits 12 people Uh It's actually a wave pool too There's gonna be a awesome 18 ft dinner table So luxury dinners just overlooking the skyline It's just the perfect place for that pretty much like an entertainer type of dream you know So it's basically like you're picking up one of those nice luxury homes in Beverly Hills and just putting it up in the sky It's great if you want to have a staycation and you wanna come and uh treat the family or do do something fun This is the place to be awesome thing about us is uh you know with us being simply located in downtown Los Angeles uh you know we are in a vibrant city uh just a few blocks away from Crypto uh arena I actually have been a resident at GTL A for about seven years now and uh it's just a sense of community Uh It is a sense of fun There's so many different things to do A lot of nice little restaurants lounges and you know hotels and just bars We have a cool

amenity space So I personally like this area just for the simple fact that it's so walkable We also have properties in Chicago uh Vancouver and we also just launched uh Seattle just recently too So we are a brand that's continuously growing Pretty sweet sweet right OK Just head out the doors here and over to the road DTL A and get your shop on here are a few of our favorites Bank channel is a modern coastal lifestyle brand with a sustainable element to it Jackets I'm all about the shacks a contemporary menswear brand with um Japanese and Australian heritage And what we're trying to create is something that is timeless and effortless within color prints or fabrications This is a classic kind of military under jacket We don't see ourselves as super on trend or behind the trend We sit somewhere in the middle which we want to make you feel good now And for the next 5 10 years which helps the earth and not throw away as much product I want someone to buy something from us and hold on to that for a really long time feel confident and comfortable in our products It's amazing I love it We sell obviously like our own brand but we also try and sell what it is to be a bank's journal person and to do that you need to complement it with like towels We sell like books that make sense for us We sell sunscreen which kind of goes on with our coastal lifestyle and um any any types of like complimenting products that go along with our brand Oh my God I love that Terry cloth Oh that's amazing I love those colors too In the beginning Like the latter It's really important to have as much personal connection as possible especially after the last few years of being um in lockdown and missing that that one on one connection with with other people I think it's uh super important Really nice for layering keeps you warm When I first got here it was just like a it was the whole place was an empty shell and that really excited me because there there was nothing else like this in L A The road have done a really good job of uh curating a bunch of stores that help each other grow and and bring in unique customers So it's been really enjoyable being here So my brother won making the cut in March of 2020 right at the beginning of all the pandemic action that ended up being advantageous in a number of ways I think because everybody was stuck at home on lockdown looking for some good news I think it's the coolest thing in the world I I think that that's what like help the brand take off He's got a whole new set of eyeballs He used to be able to hide behind our brand of skin graft Now his name is on the door And so that's a different kind of pressure that I think he likes But I think it also like it's a lot to deal with I think the idea is like progressive affordable luxury kind of like on that cusp of luxury but accessible Try to push the limits for people looking to up

their style game a little bit Do you have this jacket Because that's rat So there used to be a nice clean fashion calendar of spring launch fall launch that's been completely destroyed Now everybody has to be launching all the time talking about something new all the time I think in many ways that benefits us I think in many ways it's exhausting We chose Road DTL A for a number of reasons other than the fact that it's a beautiful place to be We love the vibe here It feels good coming to work every day people that come into our store are in such a better mood than they used to be It's a little ecosystem here where you can get all your needs met in one way or another Oh you guys that was such a fun shopping day of such a great selection and something else That's amazing about downtown L A How about the street art scene I absolutely adore and respect and love street art Downtown L A is just I think it's like the epicenter for every great ST rose They have something here Hi I'm Caroline of Love and loathing Los Angeles You can find me at love and loathing L A I remember moving here and being like expecting it to be just kind of terrible And once I got to discovering exploring and figuring out neighborhoods and meeting so many incredible people I was like what the heck is this is this general attitude I just feel like it was totally misunderstood Part of the foundation of love And lo in Los Angeles is to highlight and get people to get into the community and to support smaller businesses smaller local organizations whatever that might be It's beautiful It's really it's really cool such a vibrant neighborhood but we are far from done When we come back we're heading to the historic West Adams neighborhood We'll be right back Welcome back to L A unscripted from the level hotel South Olive Penthouse and one of its three chef's kitchens Can you believe that three chef's kitchens But it's a kitchen in the historic West Adams district that we're going to now for some really good soul food I grew up in the projects in in progress community the options were limited The opportunity just wasn't there I didn't have no huxtable family down the street that I go down to like the the examples were street I followed the example and I landed where everybody land in prison I did 10 out of 11 years And today we're having different conversations about me Right I'm having different conversations and my legacy has changed My name is Chef Keith Corbin and I am the executive chef owner of Alta Adams restaurant and we specialize in California soul food Our food is so good because of the love that we put into it I think we took a lot of time developing these recipes and I think that it really does show in the cuisine we're definitely known for our alta fried chicken Hi My name is Ray Du Bozos and I'm the sous chef here at

Alta West Adams I wanted to create dishes that I grew up eating soul food in a sense is it's the collard greens I grew up eating watching my granny cook them soul food is working with what you have and really putting your heart into it We go to the farmer's market multiple times a week to source our vegetables and support our local businesses Currently our most popular cocktails here are the Angeleno Cali Christmas and the Genevieve The Genevieve is a gin based cocktail It features lemon juice a lavender infused simple syrup and elderflower liqueur It's garnished with a lemon peel and lavender buds And then we have the Cali Christmas It's a cranberry Hibiscus Cosmo the Angeleno It's our take on the Manhattan I get a lot of my inspiration and ideas from the kitchen Last week Chef Keith brought in a Buddhist hand and I'm in the process of turning that into Limoncello I really feel like we are a family here It really does mean a lot to me to be a black female chef in this industry And I hope that other people feel like they can do it because anyone really can be anything that they want to be Chef Keith comes from a similar background as my dad So it was very comforting for me We have a better understanding of each other This community This neighborhood is parallel to the one I grew up in I grew up in Watts right Black and brown community So it was very important on how we came in and that was almost 2.5 years ago Now you have about 10 to 12 restaurants on this street You have a hotel you have a lot going on Some people say that we were the beginning of the change to break through and to be able to have a place that's cultivating black chefs to go out into the world and bring their knowledge bring their influence bring their culture bring what they've grew up eating what they have to this field this industry right We can change it we can definitely change it You know what happened to you pack your bags here baby believe in And we're serving up even more Southern comfort food Now from two fierce females who want to give you their two cents and also the best shrimp and grits you have ever had guaranteed OK We always talk about Hidden Gems on this show I've driven past this restaurant on West PICO for years I've heard they have the best shrimp and grits in the city We are going to try it out and I am so excited Come with me L A is full of transplants So I wanted a place for all my Southern people out there that have come to L A to have you know that feeling of somebody's auntie's or grandmother's house one bite And I went back to my childhood that is delicious Munson is located in Los Angeles mid city area besides calling it a hub of love I would say it's evolved nostalgia conscious comfort food American food with Southern twist We have of our famous grit fries We call

them Ries being that I was French trained and never really cooked soul food as a profession I thought of my two cents because it's like kind of my opinion and it was my money and it was a little bit of money So we came up with my two cents So I got the tattoo before I thought of the restaurant years before how I came up with a symbol and I wanted to remind people that food is love So one plus one is two cents Love We have catfish and greens We have our signature shrimp and grits there Oh my God This looks insane We have our gluten free fried chicken marinated for 48 hours in barbecue sauce and we have our vegan collard greens Those are mixed with kale and mustard and I'm a southern girl So I like a good girl OK Oh my God that is insanity Thank you Thank you Thank you Thank you Thank you Thank you Oh it almost looks like a risotto Yeah So I wanted to create a menu where everybody can eat together You can bring your grandmother here that refuses to eat vegan food perhaps and have greens So I wanted to make a menu that was all inclusive My strawberry strawberry strawberry cake is the number one seller of everything If I don't have a strawberry strawberry strawberry some people don't even want to eat Working with my sister is amazing We argue we scream I can make this amazing food but every time there's an end of the party or the end of a meal She always caps it off So she likes to say she's Shaq and I'm Kobe This is the crack cake A K A brown sugar caramel cake That's our vegan Sweet potato cake Tough being a female black owned business I'm up for the challenge because there's little girls out there that can look at me and say wow she's a boss I can do that Oh my God I'm literally sopping up things with my fingers I have found my new soul food headquarters and that's my two cents worth And we have another fierce female headed your way as we head to the beach we'll be right back Welcome back to L A unscripted from the level hotel South Olive Now we are hitting the beach for a look inside one of the coolest companies on the planet You know the clothing line from its colorful stripes but its colorful owner is the one who really made the Aviator Nation fly Aviator Nation is sweats bathing suits t shirts Now we do surfboards we do lots of hats I'm definitely developing a lot of new products too I'm Paige Miosi I'm the founder of Aviator Nation So when I was thinking about what Aviator Nation was going to be I mean it was rad clothes for rad people This is the most magnificent thing I've ever seen So I grew up with tigers in my bedroom and I have always been obsessed with wild tigers right And so I drew this up and I was inspired kind of by like this like seventies you know like jungle vibe right So when I moved to California that was when I really started the

company and I became super inspired by everything around me My lifestyle at that time was just surfing in the morning and then you know you're cold So you want to throw on sweats and then you roll into coffee and you roll into the cafe and you're still wearing the sweats because you just surfed I never really what I was looking at And so I had these ideas of clothes that I wanted to make for myself And so finally I just bought a sewing machine and I started making clothes for myself And everyone would come up to me literally and be like hey what is that shirt you're wearing What is that hoodie you're wearing The reality is when people wear the clothes it brings them together My very first collection had the lightning bolt and for me the lightning bolt was always the symbol of energy I've always felt like positive energy just is you know everything being out in the water and being in the mountains California hiking and stuff like that You're always seeing these beautiful sunsets And so the colors for the brand really are about the Sky Aviator Nation was established in 2006 and Dreamland is the latest wave a big part of the building and the space is going to be the music where you come in and you discover a new band and a new artist Doors played here Fleetwood Mac played here the Eagles played here And in the seventies Neil Young owned the building and it was called the Crazy Horse Saloon Dreamland is all about you know bringing the community together and the being inspired my dream is to have people literally walking around in like robes and ponchos and no shoes on And they're like oh I'm going to grab a smoothie and then you know I'm going to listen to some music and then I'm gonna go like have like a yoga session and you know just being able to have a real wild experience And now we head over to Windsor Hills with Jasmine Simpkins for a truly special store that's been around for five decades which is pretty miraculous This is how to live big and shop small C J's Elegance is the oldest black owned brick and mortar in historic View Park Windsor Hills And I'm gonna go inside and do a little shopping C J's Elegance is going on his 54 years of successful business My aunt Carol Jo Shaw and her mother Arlene Dla started the business in their family home here in historic Windsor Hills View Park for her It's legacy for me It's a privilege to be here to be a part of this tradition and to continue the legacy CJ Two with love is the second generation of cj's elegance Cj's Elegance is a women's boutique and it caters to an older sophisticated woman But CJ Two is targeted specifically to a younger demographic or the young at heart We're an open store You just transition both sides and women shout both sides all the time DJ two is definitely colorful It's bright and exciting merchandise Um It's body

conscious So we want all of our ladies to feel feminine and sexy at the same time but elegant At the same time we love this piece here This floral piece It's bohemian It's flowy I love it Yeah it's romantic too at the same time So you can pop it on with a great little white sneaker or even a fun boot too I started designing at the age of 14 I studied fashion design at Howard University and then I transitioned and studied fashion design at Fit in New York So I do custom designs evening wear and bridal And then now we're also looking into creating custom pieces which I do for the store for CJ too They're always one of a kind pieces So you have to grab them when you see them When you come into cj's elegance It is an experience and we like to identify what your event or non occasion is and really get to know your body and show you how these clothes can mix and match for your style and really elevate you personally And then our women they just love coming back It's really it feels like a family experience It's really comfortable and it's a safe space that is all the time we have for tonight You know Southern California is filled with amazing neighborhoods and we love checking them all out for you Thank you so much to the level hotel south for the Swank penthouse It's amazing Good night you guys we'll see you next time