

the

# RAGE

monthly

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
MARCH 2023

**DELECTABLE  
CULINARY EVENTS**  
LEAD TO MARCH GLADNESS

**QUEER'D SCIENCE**  
THE ENIGMATIC & PIONEERING  
OCTAVIA E. BUTLER

**REFORMA**  
SOPHISTICATION  
IN THE HEART OF  
DOWNTOWN PALM SPRINGS

**THE OSCAR  
GOLD STANDARD**  
95th ACADEMY AWARDS  
PREVIEW AND PREDICTIONS

LIFESTYLE

EVENTS

FASHION

ENTERTAINMENT

NIGHTLIFE

COMMUNITY

Seegerstrom Center Presents



# Mandy Gonzalez & Javier Muñoz

The stars of *In the Heights* and *Hamilton* share the stage for a night of showtunes, new music, and more!

March 5

Photo courtesy of Lisa Luque



## YOU CAN'T STOP THE BEAT

# hairspray

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# "TINA FEY'S MEAN GIRLS IS A MARVEL:

**DAZZLING AND HILARIOUS!"**

Entertainment



BOOK BY  
**TINA FEY**

MUSIC BY  
**JEFF RICHMOND**

LYRICS BY  
**NELL BENJAMIN**

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY  
**CASEY NICHOLAW**

**MARCH 7-19**

PHOTO BY JERRY ANDERSON AND MARTY ELLER MATTHEWS

Segerstrom Center Presents

March 30–April 1 • 7:30 pm



# Broadway the Calla-Way!

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# Like Water for Chocolate

American Ballet Theatre  
with Pacific Symphony

March 29–April 2

Choreographer: Tony and David Carmargo in Like Water for Chocolate. Photo by Emma Zondan.

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The Center's International Dance Series is made possible by the Audrey Steele Burnand Endowed Fund for International Dance and The Segerstrom Foundation Endowment for Great Performances.

Co-lead production support for *Like Water for Chocolate* is generously provided from Elizabeth Segerstrom and the Spenuzza Velastegui Family Foundation with additional support by Mr. and Mrs. Eyal Aronoff, Mary and Richard Cramer, Kling Family Foundation/Jackie Glass, Lana and Walter Parsadayan, Michelle Rohé, Mr. and Mrs. George Schreyer, Stewart R. Smith and Robin A. Ferracone, and Tammy and Samuel Tang. \*In memoriam

*Like Water for Chocolate* brings the famous novel by Laura Esquivel—a captivating saga of family, forbidden love, and a passion for cooking—to mouth-watering life.



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cover photo by Svitlana Kalinina



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**Michael Barenboim and West-Eastern Divan Ensemble**

Mar. 12, 2023

**ABT STUDIO COMPANY**  
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Mar. 21, 2023

**The Queen's Cartoonists**

Mar. 23, 2023

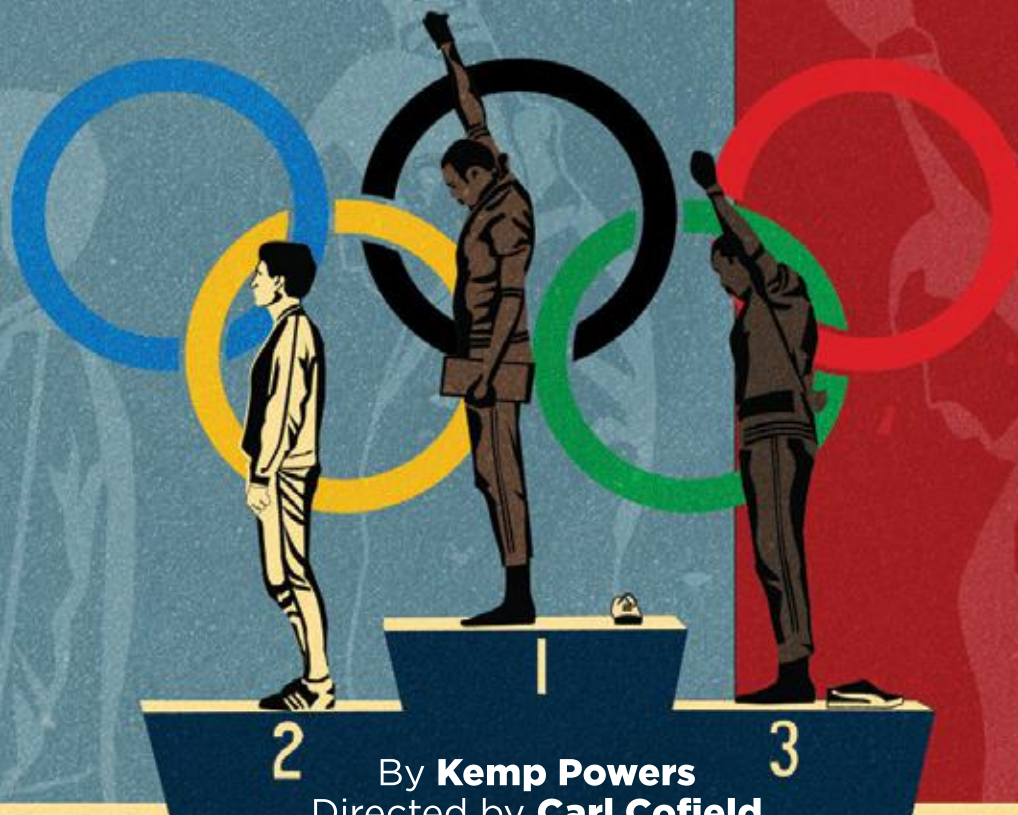
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**A new play inspired by the  
Olympic moment that made history**

# THE XIXTH

THE NINETEENTH



2

By **Kemp Powers**  
Directed by **Carl Cofield**

3

Mexico City, 1968. Two Black American sprinters, the fastest men on Earth, raise their fists in protest. Inspired by real events from the historic 19th Olympic Games, and directed by Carl Cofield (*Seize the King*, *The Bacchae*), this suspenseful world-premiere play by Kemp Powers (Pixar's *Soul*, *One Night in Miami*) chronicles the intersection of sports and activism, and shows the life-changing repercussions of being a champion who chooses to speak out.

*Contains mature themes and strong language. For more information, please visit [www.theoldglobe.org/thenineteenth](http://www.theoldglobe.org/thenineteenth).*

**March 17 - April 23 • Tickets start at \$29**



LD GLOBE

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**MenAlive Country Fair** will take place at Church of the Foothills in Santa Ana on **Saturday, March 11**, so mark your calendars and get ready for a good ol' time. Enjoy a day with OC's gay men's chorus filled with music, fair food, games and prizes. [ocgmc.org/fair](http://ocgmc.org/fair)

Lady Blanca, Mx. San Diego Pride 2022, headlines **Lady & The Tramp**, a night of sensual drag with a star-studded ensemble, including co-host Amore Envy, winner of the 2022 San Diego State University Drag Pageant. Amber St. James, LUXE the Drag Queen, BiBi Star, Chikavara, Saint Sarah and Sam Paguita are scheduled to appear. The show will on **Thursday, March 16** at Clark Cabaret at the Diversionary Theatre. The Imperial Court of San Diego will receive the proceeds. [diversionary.org/cabaret](http://diversionary.org/cabaret)

Strike up some fun with **Riverside LGBTQ+ Pride** under the neon lights for a night of cosmic bowling at Arlington Lanes on **Saturday, March 18**. Your ticket includes two hours of bowling, shoe rental and access to the swag table. A portion of every ticket sold helps fund the Riverside LGBTQ+ Pride Festival in September. Six people per lane and smaller groups may be matched with new friends. [riversideprideie.org](http://riversideprideie.org)

Los Angeles's largest leather celebration, **LA Leather Pride**, will be a week filled with exciting events, music and community building from **Sunday, March 19 to Sunday, March 26**. The kickoff party will be at

The Bullet Bar. The following day will be La La Leather IV, a concert of classic and original music performed in gear by members of the Los Angeles Leather Community at MCC in the Valley. The Contestant Meet & Greet will be held at 910WeHo, where you can meet the contestants competing for the title of Mr. Los Angeles Leather 2023. The Assembly will be a formal leather/uniform dress code event at Rough Trade Gear. The Mr. Los Angeles Leather Contest will be held at The Catwalk Club. Don't forget the Off Sunset Festival on March 26, a day of fun, food and entertainment for the entire community. [losangelesleatherpride.com](http://losangelesleatherpride.com)

**Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles** presents **I'm with Her** in honor of Women's History Month, with special guest artist Tony Award nominee Mary Bridget Davies (Broadway's and Pasadena Playhouse's *A Night with Janis Joplin*). Ernest H. Harrison, music director and conductor of GMCLA, conducts the second concert of Season 44. The concerts will be at Alex Theatre in Glendale on **Saturday and Sunday, March 25 and 26**. [gmcla.org](http://gmcla.org)

Pride by the Beach's **Disney Drag Takeover** is back by popular demand! The 4<sup>th</sup> annual event benefiting North County LGBTQ Resource Center will return to the Bellyup in Oceanside on **Tuesday, March 28**. The fundraiser will feature some of San Diego's finest, including Chad Michaels from *RuPaul's Drag Race* and will be hosted by the fabulous Mariam T. [pridebythebeach.org](http://pridebythebeach.org)







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# QUEER'D SCIENCE:

## THE ENIGMATIC & PIONEERING OCTAVIA E. BUTLER

Science Fiction

Octavia E. Butler was born in Pasadena, California in 1947. Her mother worked as a housemaid, and young Octavia often accompanied her on the job, witnessing the blatant racism she would endure from employers. Because her mother had received little formal education, she made sure that young Octavia had opportunities to learn, giving her reading materials thrown away by her white employers. She also encouraged Octavia to write, buying her a typewriter at age 10. Seeing her hard at work on a story, she casually remarked that maybe one day she could become a writer.

But dyslexia and a painful shyness made it difficult for Octavia to succeed in school. She didn't think of herself as particularly smart, and her awkwardness made her an easy target for bullies. As a result, she frequently sought refuge at Pasadena Central Library. Captivated initially by fairy tales and horse stories, Octavia's interest soon shifted to science fiction. However, she was disenchanted by the genre's derivative portrayal of race, ethnicity and class, as well as its notable lack of female protagonists. After seeing the film *Devil Girl from Mars* (1954) at age 12, she believed she could write a better story, and drafted the basis for a series she would publish almost 20 years later.

As a student at Pasadena City College, Octavia overheard a Black classmate of hers criticize previous generations of Black Americans for being shamefully subservient to white people. His remarks were a catalyst that led her to conceive a story providing historical context for said subservience, demonstrating that it was, in fact, a courageous survival method. This would develop into a book she would publish more than 10 years later, her best-selling novel *Kindred*.

At the Clarion Science Fiction Writers Workshop, Octavia's writing particularly impressed prolific science fiction writer Harlan Ellison (*Star Trek*, *The Twilight Zone*), as well as the workshop's director. She sold stories to both of them, scoring her first-ever published work. "I thought I was on my way as a writer," Octavia recalled. "In fact, I had five more years of rejection slips and horrible little jobs ahead of me before I sold another word."

Octavia had an idea. As a writer, she had been fashioning her stories after the white, male-dominated ones she grew up reading. But going forward, her narratives would come from the perspective of a marginalized Black woman — one whose difference from dominant society would magnify her potential for reshaping civilization.

Octavia's point of view as a writer would now center around humanity being fundamentally flawed by a tendency towards hierarchical thinking, leading to prejudice, violence and self-destruction. Her protagonists would be characteristically disenfranchised individuals, often gender nonconforming, who embrace radical change in order to survive. Critiquing history under the lens of intersectional feminism, Octavia's narratives would illustrate both the historical exploitation of minorities and how the tenacity of one such individual could bring about critical change on a societal level.

She set to work on the story she first drafted at age 12. Known as the Patternist series, it was wildly successful, allowing her to finally live completely off her writing. Next up would be her bestselling novel *Kindred* (1979), which was recently adapted for television by FX. Octavia reached her rightful place as a prominent science fiction writer by the mid-1980s, winning some of the most prestigious awards in science fiction.

Thereafter, she began working on the dystopian novels that solidified her fame as a writer: *Parable of the Sower* (1993) and the award-winning *Parable of the Talents* (1998). She had plans for four more Parable novels. However, she later disclosed that researching and writing them had overwhelmed and depressed her. This synopsis may indicate why:

**"It's campaign season in the U.S., and a charismatic dark horse is running. According to his opponent, he's a demagogue; a rabble-rouser; a hypocrite. When his supporters form mobs and burn people to death, he condemns their violence 'in such mild language that his people are free to hear what they want to hear.' He accuses, without grounds, whole groups of people of being rapists and drug dealers. He strives to return the country to a 'simpler' bygone era that never actually existed. His slogan? 'Make America Great Again.'"** — *Parable of the Talents* (1998)

Octavia E. Butler died in 2006. She was posthumously inducted into the Science Fiction Hall of Fame in 2010. There are two scholarships currently being given in her memory, one from Pasadena City College and one from the Clarion Workshop. Both help fulfill three life goals she wrote in a notebook in 1988:

- "I will send poor black youngsters to Clarion or other writer's workshops."
- "I will help poor black youngsters broaden their horizons."
- "I will help poor black youngsters go to college."



**MARCH 20  
20 DE MARZO**

# NATIONAL NATIVE HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

**#NNHAAD**

*Don't let stigma or fear prevent you from getting tested or getting treatment for HIV. By tackling HIV stigma during NNHAAD, we can work to #StopHIVTogether among native communities.*

No permita que el estigma o el miedo le impidan hacerse la prueba o recibir tratamiento para el VIH. Abordamos el estigma del VIH durante NNHAAD, y juntos #DetengamosJuntosElVIH entre las comunidades nativas. #VIHconciencia

**Learn more about HIV self- testing options**

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# THE OSCAR GOLD STANDARD



It's time again for the Academy Awards, which is weird since it seems like yesterday that I dropped off my hot pink taffeta ballgown at the dry cleaner's from last year's proceedings. Oh damn, I forgot to pick it up! Hopefully, they will still have it on hand for the proceedings airing on **Sunday, March 12** at 5 p.m. on ABC.

So that means I will no longer be balls deep in Oscar doings come March 13, except to see who is deemed best or worst dressed for the auspicious occasion. I wonder if they would accept a selfie of me on a step and repeat in my backyard for their consideration? I look amazing in hot pink!

Down to the nitty gritty of 2023 Oscar factoids, including some snubs, too. This year has 16 first-time nominees, so that's a lot of Oscar virgins! Although there is a wide berth of diversity, there's a lack of LGBTQ representation, save for

the community friendly **Everything Everywhere All at Once** that scored the most nominations, with 11 total, including one for **Stephanie Hsu** as Best Supporting Actress. Hsu plays **Michelle Yeoh's** lesbian daughter in the film. I mean, we knew it wouldn't be **Bros** going for the Oscar gold, but still, more representin' would have been nice. Also, the Academy seems to be shying away from female directors after inclusion in recent years.

Speaking of films and or actors that received the cold shoulder from Academy voters, let's use **Viola Davis** and her film **Woman King** as an example. She just became a recent EGOT recipient, so she'll be fine, but still as the award show saying goes, "It's an honor just to be nominated." And with that in mind, here's those looking to be recognized as the gold standard in Hollywood.

## PICTURE IT

This year is a hodgepodge of film genres, including dramas, dramas mixed with comedy, kung fu added into the mix of family strife, and two sequels being recognized for their celluloid contributions.

**All Quiet on the Western Front** is set in Europe during World War I and follows Paul Bäumer (Felix Kammerer) and his friends as they change from boys to men, amid the horrors of war. The film, based on the 1929 novel by Erich Maria Remarque and the original 1930 film, is intense, harrowing and graphic, like war itself. I mean, it ain't a Disney flick, so that makes sense. It's also up for Best International Film Feature, where I think it has a better shot. No pun intended. Netflix

**The Banshees of Inisherin** is the tale of a friendship gone sour like cold milk on a scorching summer day. It is set in 1923 on a remote island off the coast of Ireland. At its heart, it covers the universal themes of how we see ourselves versus the way others perceive us and the passage of time. Also, it might inspire

you to replace your usual cuss words with fecking and shite! But be forewarned there are portions of the film that are disturbing. HBO Max.

When I saw **Elvis** in the cinema and was coming back from using the bathroom, the usher congratulated me on making it to the halfway point, informing me it was a nearly three-hour film. But I was undeterred, because it meant I could look at Austin Butler's pretty face for a longer period of time and sop up his electrifying performance like a biscuit to gravy. HBO Max

**Everything Everywhere All at Once** is one of the most bonkers movies I've seen in a while! We are treated to a family drama mixed with kung fu action and an examination on living the life you could be living, even if it's happening in a different multiverse. All of which resonates in the real world. Plus, it has community representation with **Hsu** as Yeoh's and **Ke Huy Quan's** aforementioned lesbian daughter and Yeoh and Jamie Lee Curtis are life partners in a parallel universe. Showtime

While not a gay film, **The Fabelmans**, written by **Steven Spielberg** and **Angels in America**

playwright **Tony Kushner**, will speak to you on a gay teenage boy level, with Sammy Fabelman (**Gabriel LaBelle**) wanting to live an artistic life and facing school bullies. The movie is based on the famed director's lifelong obsession with filmmaking and has nostalgia with a capital N. It's also a love letter to following your dreams, with Sammy serving as Spielberg's fictional proxy. On demand

Because being forewarned is forearmed, go into **Tár** knowing that it clocks in at 2 hours and 37 minutes. However, the **Cate Blanchett** vehicle moves along at a steady clip and doesn't drag. The same can't be said for the opening credits, which feel like they eat up the bulk of the runtime. Land the plane, Linda! And bust out your readers if you want to see who performed what task on the movie, as the letters are tiny. Anyhoo, it's an excellent character study about the duality of being a public figure with personal demons that chip away at the hard edges of the main character. No spoilers, but that end scene, though. Peacock

At first, I mistook **Triangle of Sadness** to be about a waxing gone wrong and the emotional



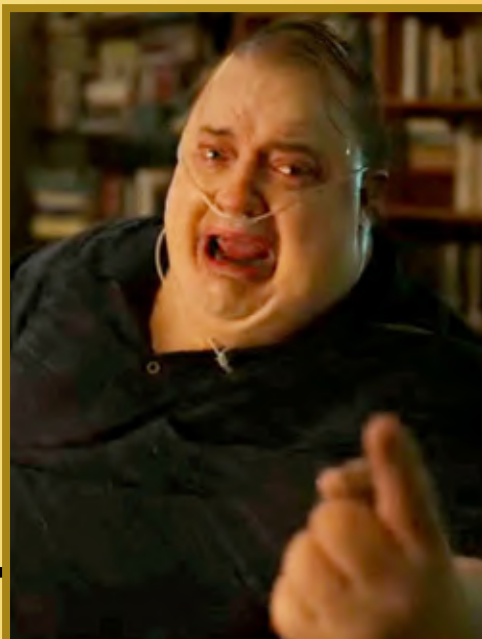
ramifications of pubic deforestation. Since the movie opens with models, it refers to one's T zone, and the abundant eye candy in the first scene begs the question, "How many licks does it take to get to the Tootsie Roll center of a Tootsie Pop?" Sadly, the movie doesn't focus on the cutthroat world of male models, instead exploring the dysfunctional relationship between Yaya (**Charlbi Dean Kriek**) and Carl (**Harris Dickinson**) — who thankfully spends a majority of the movie shirtless — and the power and class struggle with other passengers and crew members stranded on an island, following the explosion of their yacht. Basically, it's a dramatic retelling of *Gilligan's Island* and I'd make Dickinson my "little buddy." Just sayin'.

On demand I didn't have time to get around to seeing *Women Talking*, but I gather it's about women

engaging in conversation? I love chatting with my female friends — shocker — so odds are I would have enjoyed it. In theatres

Two box office champs and sequels, *Avatar: The Way of Water* and *Top Gun: Maverick*, round out the 10 hopefuls. In theatres on the former and streaming on Paramount+ for the latter.

**MY TWO CENTS:** I would be incredibly surprised if *Everything Everywhere All at Once* didn't win. On a selfish level, I'd like to see it go to *The Fabelmans*, as the coming-of-age tale spoke to me the most out of all the films I watched. The ugly cry I thought I'd have watching *The Whale* happened at least three times during one of Spielberg's best films in ages. Now, where did I put my oil can? I don't want to rust again!



## ACTING UP!

The race to be crowned Hollywood's equivalent of being Best in Show is comprised of newbies and seasoned vets alike — could Cate Blanchett win a career third little gold guy? Or will it go to a newcomer to the Oscar race? Will playing a real-life celebrity, which usually equates to a win, happen for *Elvis* star **Austin Butler**? Or will we see **Brendan Fraser** nab the prize for *The Whale*? Stay tuned!

The ironic twist to **Ana de Armas's** Best Actress nominated portrayal of silver screen goddess Marilyn Monroe in Netflix's *Blonde*, is that the movie was heavily derided for its portrayal of trauma and suffering. It also leads this year's Razzie Awards with eight nominations. Essentially this effort was likened to being a candle in the wind, one that blows, because wind can't suck. de Armas gives the part plenty of pathos, sounds close to Monroe, but the illusion was broken for me with her resemblance to the icon. She favored another late actor, **Brittany Murphy** sporting blonde hair. I made it an hour in before I felt like I was desecrating Monroe's legacy. Also, a nice hot shower will wash the stink of this movie off. Netflix

There's also been quite a bit of con-tro-versy, as the Brits say, surrounding **Andrea Riseborough's** nod for *To Leslie*, which had a grassroots campaign spearheaded by A-list celebs like **Charlize Theron, Sarah Paulson, Jennifer Aniston** and **Susan Sarandon**. For whatever reason, the Academy took umbrage with that fact and launched an investigation to see if she had violated any Oscar campaign rules. That's a slap in the face, but of the less toxic masculinity variety displayed by **Will Smith** on **Chris Rock** at last year's proceedings. In the film she plays a woman estranged from her family, who is also a drug addict and a former \$100,000 lottery winner — she's got a lot on her plate! — and things come to a head when she shows up on her son's doorstep. On demand

**Cate Blanchett** plays orchestra conductor Lydia *Tár*, who describes herself as "a U-Haul lesbian," and comes across as uptight and erudite about her chosen profession, which makes sense as she's considered an anomaly in being a female maestro. Blanchett fully embodies the character with depth and aplomb and is nothing short of being captivating. The sheer volume of dialogue she had to memorize for the role is staggering and the breathtaking scene where she shuts down a millennial is amazeballs.

**Michelle Williams** starts out her role in *The Fabelmans* as a nurturing and caring mother that morphs into one of a disillusioned woman following the death of her own mother. There is a palpable longing and fragility inherent with her role as Mitzi Fabelman, who is trying to reclaim her life.

**Michelle Yeoh** portrays Chinese immigrant Evelyn Quan who has a lot on her hands — and hot dog fingers — in *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. Not only is she contending with an

unrelenting IRS agent (Curtis) but has grown tired with her marriage to Waymond (Quan) and with butting heads with her daughter (Hsu) — did I mention that she’s a lesbian? Once she discovers there’s parallel universes she can tap into, her ordinary world becomes extraordinary.

**MY TWO CENTS: Yeoh already took home the Golden Globe for Best Actress in a Motion Picture — Comedy or Musical. And it looks like she should prepare another acceptance speech — but maybe don’t joke that you can beat someone up this time, k?**

To say that **Austin Butler** was mesmerizing as *Elvis* would be an understatement. He immersed himself in the role of the King of Rock ‘n’ Roll, so much so that the California-born actor still talks with a Southern twang. He was also hospitalized when filming concluded, citing physical and mental exhaustion. That’s some dedication right there!

Speaking of vocal inflections, there’s something refreshing about hearing **Colin Farrell** speak in his native Irish tongue. Colin Farrell. Tongue. Now where was I? Oh yes, his performance as Pádraic in *The Banshees of Inisherin* is lickable. Likable. He displays both an affable and heartbreaking characterization in his depiction of a man desperate to repair his friendship with Colm (**Brendan Gleeson**).

If you need a litmus test to see how dead you are inside, may I direct your attention to **Brendan Fraser** in *The Whale*? The tale of Charlie, a

morbidly obese gay man who is dealing with the loss of his partner Alan, congestive heart failure, and attempting to reconcile with his teenage daughter sounds like the stuff of a good ugly cry. Sure, there are tearjerker moments, but Fraser’s subdued performance illustrates vulnerability, rather than playing it solely for pathos’s sake. Who would have expected this performance from the guy who was in *Encino Man*? In theatres

**Paul Mescal** highlights mental-health issues in *Aftersun* with a contemplative and internal performance, as he tries to keep his sadness at bay. Not only is Mescal easy on the eyes, but he also delivers a haunting performance. Handsome and talented? That’s annoying.

**Bill Nighy** is nominated for *Living*. Way to go The Science Guy! Oh wait, that’s Bill Nye — my bad! In my defense they are pronounced the same. In *Living*, the respected thespian delivers a heartbreaking, yet hopeful account of a man merely existing, caught in the cogs of the same routine in the machinery of life, until he learns he has a short time left to live. Of note, the script was written specifically with him in mind.

**MY TWO CENTS: The accolades Fraser’s been accruing are well deserved. The acting is so believable that I had trouble breathing and felt the claustrophobia his character lives with by being a shut in. If you’re a fan of ranch dressing, you may want to cover your eyes in the scene where he raids his fridge. You’re welcome!**

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Konstantin Stanislavski, who is considered “the father of modern acting,” once observed that “There are no small roles, only small actors.” And those words certainly ring true with the thespians populating these condensed, yet powerful performances.

I was a big fan of **Brendan Gleeson** in the TV adaptation of Stephen King’s *Mr. Mercedes*. Also, he looks like a big, cuddly teddy bear. So, there’s that. I’m happy to see him receive recognition for *The Banshees of Inisherin*, in which he gives a nuanced performance that straddles the line between being a curmudgeon and a sensitive person. However, he does take great lengths to literally sever his connection with Colin Farrell’s character. If you’ve seen the movie, you know what I mean. HBO Max

**Brian Tyree Henry** plays James Aucoin, an amputee who bonds with a soldier (**Jennifer Lawrence**) recovering from a traumatic brain injury in *Causeway*. Apple TV+

**Judd Hirsch** is only in *The Fabelmans* for close to 10 minutes of screen time as Mitzi Fabelman’s Uncle Boris, proving Hirsch to be the living embodiment of being a character. Well, character actor that is, as he brings such a showstopping energy to his brief appearance.

**Barry Keoghan** serves as a touch of comic relief in *The Banshees of Inisherin*, which is juxtaposed with the trod-upon nature of his

character Dominic, in a role that — like Hirsch’s — is brief, but impactful. That’s why they call it a supporting role. Duh. I’m curious to see his take on *The Joker* in the recently announced *The Batman, Part II*, scheduled for 2025.

**Ke Huy Quan** has come a long way from his “You call him Dr. Jones, doll” days of co-starring in such 1980s classics as *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* and *The Goonies* with his role as mild-mannered Waymond Wong in *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. Quan had given up on acting, opting for life behind the camera after studying film at USC. At age 49, he decided to give acting one last shot and two weeks later, he landed his role in *Everything Everywhere All at Once*. Sniffle.

**MY TWO CENTS: Hollywood loves a comeback and Quan is experiencing quite a career resurgence, look for him to snatch that trophy!**

**Angela Bassett** embodies the word “fierce” in *Black Panther: Wakanda Forever*. Don’t eff with the Queen! Bassett shows why she is the first Marvel Studios actor to ever receive a nomination, performing with equal parts strength and vulnerability. Disney+

**Hong Chau** is great in *The Whale* as ball-busting Liz, Charlie’s friend and caregiver, who vacillates between being angry at him and concerned about his health. But Sadie Sink is the scene stealer as Charlie’s borderline sociopath daughter Ellie and should have been

recognized. In theatres

As Colin Farrell’s sister in *The Banshees of Inisherin*, **Kerry Condon** serves as the film’s emotional compass, displaying a quiet strength in her yearning for a better life than remaining on the small Irish island affords her.

Two of *Everything Everywhere All at Once*’s supporting players, **Jamie Lee Curtis** and **Stephanie Hsu**, are both vying for the coveted acting accolade, both highlighting forms of badassery.

**MY TWO CENTS: I would love it if JLC won, because I’m still bitter that she never got a nod for 1988’s A Fish Called Wanda. Alas, Bassett was nominated for her powerhouse turn in 1993’s What’s Love Got to Do with It and didn’t win. However, she should secure the win based solely on having to swim in a formal gown. That’s a specific skillset!**





## THE DIRECT APPROACH

There is a decided lack of estrogen in this category this year, following **Jane Campion's** win for directing ***The Power of the Dog*** last year and **Chloé Zhao** for ***Nomadland*** in 2021. Two surprising snubs for the Class of '23 include **Sarah Polley** for ***Women Talking*** and **Gina Prince-Bythewood** for ***The Woman King***. Pick a lane, Academy Awards!

**Martin McDonagh**, who also wrote the screenplay for ***The Banshees of Inisherin***, highlights the island's beautiful landscape with equally stunning cinematography, all the while striking the right balance of comedy and drama. My only complaint is that some scenes were very dark and I'm not talking about Brendan Gleeson's character arc. As any gay man worth his salt knows, it boils down to lighting.

***Everything Everywhere All at Once*** auteurs **Daniel Kwan** and **Daniel Scheinert** are only the fifth directing duo to be nominated in Oscar history, with the first being Robert Wise and Jerome Robbins for 1961's ***West Side Story***.

Steven Spielberg brought us his most personal film to date. No, that wouldn't have been ***Jaws!*** The venerable director's ***The Fabelmans*** brings him his ninth career Best Director nomination, with two previous wins for ***Schindler's List*** and ***Shaving Ryan's Privates***. I mean ***Saving Private Ryan!*** His nod for directing 2022's ***West Side Story*** gave him the distinction of being the first person to receive Best Director nominations across six decades! Damn, dude!

**Todd Field** takes his screenplay for ***Tár*** and presents a meditation on the social fabric of modern society and the main character's unraveling life. The opening interview scene shows who maestro Lydia Tár is, or proclaims to be, in a riveting fashion.

**Ruben Östlund** steers ***Triangle of Sadness*** into dramatic waters — with moments of levity — showing there's more below the surface of what could have been shallow characters, who are in the same boat in being stranded. OK, enough seafaring comparisons. However, he gets points off for an extended sea sickness scene that could have reduced the film's 2½-hour runtime. Seriously, it seemed endless!

**MY TWO CENTS: The Daniels, as they are collectively known as, brought us something original and genre bending with *Everything Everywhere All at Once* and should be awarded accordingly.**



## HITTING ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

The year's roster of Best Original Song contenders features two of our favorite divas, Lady Gaga and Rihanna, a 14-time never the bride, always the bridesmaid nominee in Dianne Warren, one former Talking Head and a dark horse looking to win the Kentucky Derby, by way of Tinsel Town.

**"Applause"** written by **Dianne Warren** and featured in the film ***Tell It Like a Woman***, would feel right at home being played at a coffeehouse. Smooth, mellow, but with a bold flavor. Great! Now I want a cup of coffee!

**Lady Gaga's "Hold My Hand"** from ***Top Gun: Maverick*** is a soaring anthem, but it ain't no "Take My Breath Away," which won Best Original Song for the first time for speed endeavor. Sorry 'bout it, Lady G.

It seems serendipitous, given the suspended platforms used during her baby shower, err, Superball appearance, that **Rihanna's** song, **"Lift Me Up"** from ***Black Panther: Wakanda Forever***, is being recognized.

**"Naatu Naatu"** is from the Indian action/drama film ***RRR***, and not a ***Mork and Mindy***-based musical, because that would be **"Nanu Nanu."** It's got a good beat and you can dance to it!

**"This Is a Life"** from ***Everything Everywhere All at Once***, is haunting thanks to an evocative lone drum machine beat, and bolstered by a swelling crescendo and layered vocals, courtesy of former Talking Heads lead singer **David Byrne**, **Son Lux** and **Mitski**.

**MY TWO CENTS: While it would be amazing if either Gaga or RiRi won. However, oddsmakers say the safe bet is "Naatu Naatu."**

## CUT. PRINT. THAT'S A WRAP!

In total, I have viewed 30+ hours' worth of Oscar nominees. What's the outside world look like again? These marathons also included the film that should take the Best Animated Feature category, **Guillermo del Toro's *Pinocchio***. If you have bratty children in your life, plop them down to watch it. Trust and believe they won't be acting up, that brown expletive is scurry and not for kids! Follow me for more parenting tips. Until next time, that's all the news that's fit to print.

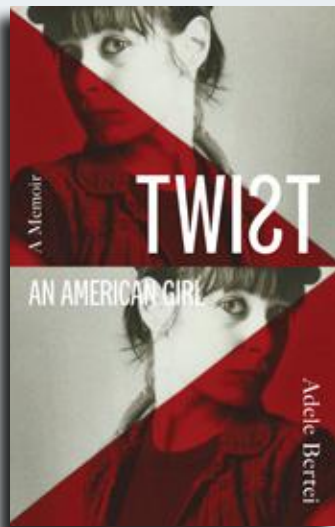


photo by Solve Sundstro

# MARCH IN LIKE A LION

## TRUSTFALL P!NK

Think P!NK! In her ninth album *Trustfall*, she expresses musical emotions that are both personal and universal, as a songwriter/singer of the first caliber. She also releases the reins to let in other songwriters whose songs fit her like a glove. P!NK hasn't lost one iota of the attitude that made her distinctive in the first place, one that has definitely been one of her strong suits through the course of her musical career. The whole album is one that has a strong emotional core of heartache, joy, resolve and strength found within, spun in a beautiful mix of pop, rock and a touch of country. *Trustfall* is from her gut: honest, powerful, introspective and also upliftingly fun. As well, Greg Kurstin as a musician and producer, ended up producing three of the songs that stand out ... so "Hate Me." As P!NK flies through the air with the greatest of ease, *Trustfall* is a worthy landing of grounded and newfound accomplishments. She can catch me anytime. **Available now.**



## TWIST: AN AMERICAN GIRL A MEMOIR ADELE BERTEI

Truth can sometimes be even stranger than fiction. *Twist* is so well written that the reader admires the capability of Adele Bertei to present her true story in such a novel way. In her author's note she wrote, "Some names have been changed to protect the innocent and the guilty." By creating her persona of Maddie Twist and her utterly honest and truly poetic expression of reliving her teenage years, Bertei not only holds to her truth but captivates the reader with the way she expresses it. The

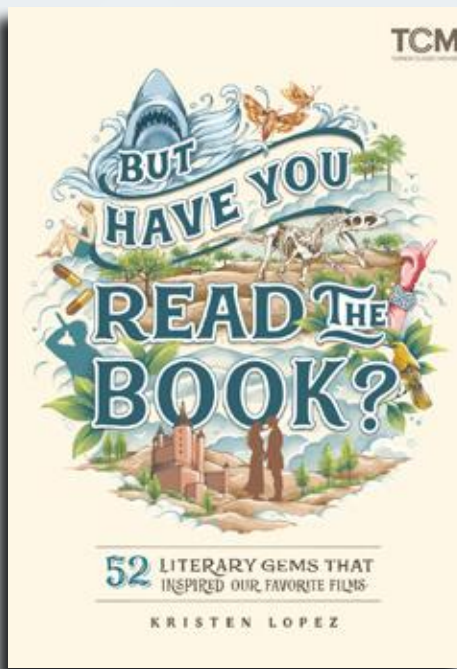
way it is written makes you truly believe you are reading fiction along with the abrupt realization that this all really happened to Bertei. It is revelatory.

It was an eye-opener to not only appreciate Bertei's talents as a writer but to discover her multi-feathered caps as a singer, songwriter, survivor, musician and lesbian artist all-around. *Twist* is her complete openness in sharing such a seriously "Have you seen my teenage years?" during the late 1960s and early 1970s. To quote just one of her thoughts from *Twist*, "Writing honestly and showing the hurt through the beauty of how they put words together." That is an accolade that truly belongs to Bertei.

**Available March 14**

## BUT HAVE YOU READ THE BOOK? 52 LITERARY GEMS THAT INSPIRED OUR FAVORITE FILMS KRISTEN LOPEZ

The similarity and, at times, dichotomy between a literary work of fiction or nonfiction and the screenplay that is created for a film version of any original book is vast. It can be deemed either so close



to what the reader imagined for the film version or moviegoers asking the question posed by author Kristen Lopez with *But Have You Read the Book?* This potent guide chronicles 52 works of literature and their 52 counterparts created for the screen. Whether you read cover-to-cover or grab Lopez's book before watching a film, it's a novel idea (pardon the pun) and a good read at that!

**Available March 7**



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DISCO  
presents

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Saturday, April 01 2023

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ADVANCE TIX





# Happy March! Happy Spring! Happy Cathedral City LGBT Days!



## Cathedral City LGBT Days, the first Pride festival of

the year in California, is even earlier this year, running **March 3-5**. The annual bed parade and bed race will be Sunday, hosted by yours truly. Look for dance parties, theatrical presentations, salutes and more. The lighting of City Hall and opening ceremonies, screening under the stars of *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*; outdoor Pride drone show and concert is Friday. A special *Sordid Lives/Southern Baptist Sissies* tribute remembering Leslie Jordan and hosted by Del Shores with special guests Newell Alexander, Rosemary Alexander, Ann Walker and Emerson Collins is Saturday. Performances on Sunday include Palm Springs Gay Men's Chorus and The Dreamboats musical group. [cathedralcitylgbtdays.com](http://cathedralcitylgbtdays.com).



**La Quinta Art Celebration**, the No. 1 art and fine craft art event in the nation, runs **March 2-5**. Jury-selected, world-class artists will exhibit at LaQuinta Civic Center. [laquintaartcelebration.org](http://laquintaartcelebration.org)

**Cruise Night El Paseo** with classic cars on the upper-level parking deck of The Gardens on El Paseo is **Friday, March 3**. After an afternoon of viewing, the classics will cruise down El Paseo for all to see and enjoy. The concert series at The Gardens continues with a musical evening benefiting local organizations. On

**Saturday, March 4**, Slim Man, benefiting Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine. [thegardensonelpaseo.com](http://thegardensonelpaseo.com)

Playing at the Pearl McManus Theatre **March 3-12** is a comedy with one of the theatre world's longest titles, *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Gynecologic Oncology Unit at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center of New York City*. [dezartperforms.org](http://dezartperforms.org)



Much entertainment is coming to **McCallum Theatre**.

Michael Feinstein, **March 3-4**; Herb Alpert, **March 9**; David Foster and Katharine McPhee, **March 10-12**; Celebrating Elvis, **March 14**; Fleetwood Mac Tribute group, **March 17**; Pam Tillis and Lorrie Morgan, **March 23**; and Charo, **March 31** [mccallumtheatre.com](http://mccallumtheatre.com)



**Desert X**, new art exhibitions at multiple sites throughout the Coachella Valley, will run **March 4 through May 7**. Ace Hotel &

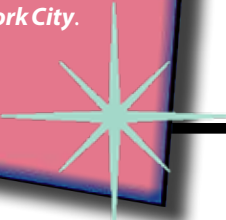
Swim Club is the official cultural partner and lead hotel. The exhibition is free. Maps and programs are released on opening day on the app, website and hub at Ace Hotel. [desertx.org](http://desertx.org)

**World Pride Mardi Gras Fashion Show**, presented by Metropolitan Fashion Week, is **Saturday, March 4** at Palm Springs Art Museum. This celebration will showcase not only fashion and costume designers, but also the artworks found in the museum's galleries. [psmuseum.org](http://psmuseum.org).



**Coachella Valley Wildflower Festival** is **Saturday, March 4** at Palm Desert Civic Center Park. Free celebration features local artists and exhibitors, live music, celebrating wellness, recreation, safety and the outdoors. [desertmountains.org](http://desertmountains.org)

Sunnylands presents its annual **Music in the Gardens** concert series, happening every Sunday in March with a different musical act each week. Stroll through the gardens, bring a lawn chair, picnic on the Great Lawn, while enjoying a live musical performance. The Louie Bluiers, **March 5**; Dave Blackburn and Robin Adler-Sunday, **March 12**; The Lentones, **March 19**; Greg Jones presents "A Tribute to Genius" the music of Ray Charles, **March 26**. Free parking and admission. [sunnylands.org](http://sunnylands.org)





**BNP Paribas Open** tennis tournament is **March 6-19** at Indian Wells Tennis Garden. [bnpparibasopen.com](http://bnpparibasopen.com).

**Acrisure Arena** features Jimmy Buffett and the Coral Reefer Band, **March 7**; Freestyle Explosion Throwback Jam (including Stevie B, Lisa Lisa, Taylor Dayne, The Jet, The Cover Girls), **March 24**; Reba, **March 31**; John Mayer, **April 6**; and Journey with Toto, **April 25**. Plus, Coachella Valley Firebirds hockey games throughout. [acrisurearena.com](http://acrisurearena.com)

Many acts are coming to **The Show**, Agua Caliente Resort this month including Jon Secada, **March 8**; Daniel Tosh,

**March 10**; The Beach Boys, **March 17**; Marie Osmond, **March 18**; Jay Leno, **March 25**; and Thunder From Down Under, **March 31**. [aguacalientecasinos.com](http://aguacalientecasinos.com)

The **International Festival of Cinema Idyllwild 2023** at Rustic Theatre is **March 7-11**. [rustictheatre.com](http://rustictheatre.com)

A premiere stage production, **Aces**, opens **Thursday, March 9** for several weeks at Oscar's Restaurant. Featuring

Kitty Murray, Yo Younger, Denise Carey, Dana Adkins, Denise Strand and Christine Tringali-Nunez, the story revolves around 35 years after their crownings, five of the Miss Texas USAs that each won their Miss USA pageants from 1985-1989, reunite at a television station to tell their stories. Judith Chapman is the director.

[oscarpalmsprings.com](http://oscarpalmsprings.com)  
**Fantasy Springs Resort** will present Bonnie Raitt on **March 10** and Tanya Tucker on

**March 18**. [fantasyspringsresort.com](http://fantasyspringsresort.com)

The **Purple Room** has a variety of shows and productions, including Ruta Lee, **March 10-11**; Palm Springs Jump, The Musical Journey, **March 19**; Lorna Luft, **March 24-25**; Joe Posa as Joan Rivers, **March 31** and **April 1**; and Sam Harris, **April 7 and 8**. [purpleroompalmsprings.com](http://purpleroompalmsprings.com)

Coco Peru's show **Bitter, Bothered and Beyond** comes to town **March 10-19** at Hotel Zoso. [hotelzosopalmsprings.com](http://hotelzosopalmsprings.com)

The annual **Richard M. Milanovich Legacy Hike and 5K Run** in the Indian Canyons happens **Saturday, March 11**. [acbc.com](http://acbc.com)



It's an evening with comedienne **Suzanne Westenhoefer** on **Saturday, March 11** at Toucan's Tiki Lounge. [reactionsshows.com](http://reactionsshows.com)

**Hollywood's Biggest Night**, the annual Academy Awards, will be celebrated **Sunday, March 12** at Trio Restaurant benefiting AAP-Food Samaritans. The glittering evening will include the signature orange carpet arrivals and greeting from yours truly. The pre-show and awards presentations will be viewed on screens throughout the restaurant. [aidsassistance.org](http://aidsassistance.org)

CV Rep's (Coachella Valley Repertory) **Puttin' On The Glitz** gala event celebrating 15 years will be **Monday, March 13** at Omni Rancho Las Palmas. The theme/attire is black, white and/or shiny! [cvrep.org](http://cvrep.org)

The **Glenn Miller Orchestra**, vocalists and 16 instrumentalists ranging in age from 22 to 65, bring an evening of swing music, big band sound and nostalgia **Monday, March 13** to Palm Springs Cultural Center. [psculturalcenter.org](http://psculturalcenter.org)

The Living Desert Zoo and Gardens' wildly popular nighttime event adventure, **Glow in the Park**, takes place **March 15 - April 30**. View hundreds of hand-crafted illuminated lantern displays that represent wildlife from around the world and under the sea. These larger-than-life displays feature breathtaking artistry, interactive elements and photo ops. [livingdesert.org/glow](http://livingdesert.org/glow)

**Fashion Week El Paseo**, the West Coast's largest consumer fashion week, is **March 17-23** at The Gardens on El Paseo, Palm Desert. It's seven nights of runway shows, pop-up shops, designer meet-and-greets, cocktail receptions and more. [fashionweekelpaseo.com](http://fashionweekelpaseo.com)

Desert Theatricals production of **Disney's Beauty and the Beast** happens **March 17-19** at City of Rancho Mirage's Amphitheater. [desert-theatricals.com](http://desert-theatricals.com)

Del Shores' **Daddy's Dyin' Who's Got the Will** comes to the Palm Canyon Theatre **March 17-26**. [palmcanyontheatre.net](http://palmcanyontheatre.net)



The popular **Red Dress Dress Red Party**, benefiting the LGBTQ Community Center of the Desert, returns **Saturday, March 18** at Palm Springs Air Museum. [thecentercv.org](http://thecentercv.org)

**Palm Springs Chalk Art Festival** is **Saturday and Sunday, March 18-19**, in downtown Palm Springs. [palmspringschalkartfestival.com](http://palmspringschalkartfestival.com).

**Desert Open Studios**, discovering artists of the Coachella Valley, presents a free, self-guided open studio tour of 150 Valley artists **March 18-19** and **March 25-26**. [desertopenstudios.com](http://desertopenstudios.com)

**Alohana**, a Palm Springs Celebration of Tiki Culture, happens **Sunday, March 19** at Camelot Theatres. Put on your Hawaiian shirts and grass skirts, and celebrate food, tropical cocktails, music, dance, artisan marketplace with tiki carvings, apparel and art. [psculturalcenter.org](http://psculturalcenter.org)

The inaugural **Galleri Golf Classic** is **March 20-26** at Mission Hills Country Club in Rancho Mirage. Named after Grail's multi-cancer early-detection test, this tourney features 78 legends, marking the first time PGA Tour Champions has hosted a tourney in the valley since 1993. [thegallericlassic.com](http://thegallericlassic.com)

Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce presents **Movies in the Park** in the new downtown Palm Springs Park. This month's feature on **March 22** is *How To Marry A Millionaire* starring Marilyn Monroe, Lauren Bacall and Betty Grable. [pschamber.org](http://pschamber.org)

**Palm Desert Food & Wine** festival returns **March 24-26** at The Gardens on El Paseo, featuring wines, eats, cooking demonstrations, luncheons and tastings. [palmdesertfoodandwine.com](http://palmdesertfoodandwine.com)



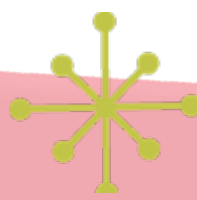
The **Palm Springs International Dance Festival** celebrates its seventh season of dance in the desert with public and educational events **March 24 through April 2**. [nickersonrossdance.com](http://nickersonrossdance.com)

The annual **Steve Chase Humanitarian Awards** supporting DAP Health takes place **Saturday, March 25**. The evening will feature Emmy- and Golden Globe-winning actor and musician Darren Criss as the headliner.

Returning host is Michael Urie. Additional performances will be by Broadway's Nick

Adams and Saycon Sengbloch, a Tony Award nominee. In other DAP news, the Borrego Health board of trustees selected DAP Health to acquire the Borrego Health system. [daphealth.org/thechase](http://daphealth.org/thechase).

Transgender Health and Wellness Center presents **Trans Pride** "Empower and Employ" Expo on **Sunday, March 26** at Francis Stevens Park. [trans.health](http://trans.health)



Comic **Robin Tyler** appears at Palm Springs Cultural Center on **Sunday, March 26**. Her one-woman, multimedia play is a personal walk thru Robin's live as a lesbian activist from the 1950s to present. [i-fund.org](http://i-fund.org)

The **12<sup>th</sup> AmDocs** (American Documentary and Animation Film Festival), with 220+ films from around the world, is **March 30 - April 3**. [amdocfilmfest.com](http://amdocfilmfest.com)

The fourth **Palm Springs Speaks** speaker series relaunches with a talk by former U.S. Senator Al Franken on **Friday, March 31** at Richards Center for the Arts (Palm Springs High School Auditorium). [palmspringsspeaks.org](http://palmspringsspeaks.org)

Palm Springs Animal Shelter's **Faux Fur Ball** "Get Your Groove On"

happens on **Saturday, April 1** at Palm Springs Air Museum. [fauxfurball.org](http://fauxfurball.org)

**Happy birthday Palm Springs!** The city's 85<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is **Saturday, April 8** in downtown Palm Springs. There will be a vintage car parade, entertainment with DJs and live performances, plus an Elton John tribute band in the downtown park. Dress your pet like your favorite Hollywood celebrity for the dog costume contest.

Anniversary cupcakes will be served. [visitpalmsprings.com](http://visitpalmsprings.com).

Celebrate and enjoy the fabulousness of the Palm Springs area!







2022/2023 SEASON  
TICKETS START AT \$25!



# TOSCA

BY **GIACOMO PUCCINI**

**MARCH 25, 28, 31  
AND APRIL 2**

Love, betrayal, revenge – Michelle Bradley and Greer Grimsley star in one of the greatest operas of all time. Valerio Galli returns to conduct the San Diego Symphony.

*Sung in Italian with English and Spanish text projected above the stage.*

**Darlene Marcos Shiley,**  
Lead Production Sponsor

**OUT AT THE OPERA | March 31** Join us for a special pre-show reception celebrating our LGBTQ+ community. Contact us for details.

Visit **sdopera.org** or call Patron Services **619-533-7000**



# REFORMA

**A NEW ERA OF SOPHISTICATION IN PALM SPRINGS WITH FINE DINING, NIGHTCLUB AND ENTERTAINMENT**

**F**resh elegance has arrived in the heart of downtown Palm Springs with the February opening of REFORMA, the city's hottest new fine dining, nightclub and entertainment experience.

Offering a state-of-the-art venue, it remains rooted in Southern California with an authentic sense of place. REFORMA believes that "nightlife should be inclusive and inspirational; a welcoming environment that fosters a sense of community, even for first-time visitors. Bring your senses of sight, sound and taste and get ready to be engaged."

The roughly 9,000-square-foot facility, formerly a J.W. Robinson's department store, is a Palm Springs landmark and a mid-century modern architectural marvel that serves as a source of inspiration even before guests arrive. A patio overlooking Palm Canyon Drive and the Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center offers al fresco dining or chill-out opportunities. The entrance and front bar serve lunch, dinner and late cocktails. The main dining room seamlessly becomes a 2,700 square-foot dance floor featuring an immersive Pioneer sound system and cutting-edge technology lighting and visuals. Tasteful décor and museum-quality artwork elevate the experience while maintaining the focus on the entertainment and dining.

Chef de cuisine **Erick Hernandez** expertly directs the kitchen, where the staff prepares a pan-Latin cuisine that pays homage to the culture and food of Southern California. Cuisines from Mexico, Central America and South America are represented and fused, delivering a unique dining opportunity. Check out **Spanish Beer Steamed Mussels** with house-made Mexican chorizo, fennel, pickled Fresno chiles; the gorgeous **Branzino** that is simply grilled and served with escabeche and a flavorful salsa verde; or the incredible **rib-eye** or **Tomahawk** steaks.

REFORMA's aesthetic focus is a huge mural that greets visitors as they enter the venue. **Ricardo Ruiz**, whose work is shown in The Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture ("The Cheech") in downtown Riverside, is responsible for the mural's creation. Additional works of contemporary Latin American art are found throughout the venue and will be continually added to.

The spacious dining rooms, lounges and kitchen can cater to large and small corporate and private gatherings. The in-house production team and hard-working food and beverage staff ensure that your event runs smoothly from start to finish. Two full-service bars efficiently serve the venue's 710-person capacity, unmatched by any downtown venue.

**REFORMA is located at 333 South Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. Call 760.902.6630 or visit [reformaps.com](http://reformaps.com) for reservations or to join the crew at the bar.**





**THE RAGE MONTHLY SPOKE WITH BRYAN HERMOSILLO, REFORMA'S MIXOLOGIST, TO DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE ESTABLISHMENT AND LEARN A LITTLE BIT ABOUT HIM.**

**Where were you born and where did you grow up?**

I was born in Rancho Mirage California, but at the age of 4 my family decided to move to Mexico. They chose San Miguel el Alto, Jalisco, the beautiful town I grew up and spent half of my life until the age of 16 when we moved back to California, and I began to work in the restaurant/bar industry.

**Which aspect of your job at REFORMA do you enjoy the most?**

I really enjoy meeting new people every day. I like to make my guest feel welcome and comfortable. But what I really enjoy the most is to feel free to do what I do best being a mixologist.

**Please tell us about some of REFORMA's delectable cocktails. What are some of your recommendations and perhaps your own creations?**

REFORMA is definitely unique not just in our food but also in our drinks. Our Virachoca Sour is made of Pisco, a Peruvian liquor; it's a beautiful and elegant drink that I consider one of my specialties. Also, I have to bring on the essence of being Latino into some drinks as well, like our "Me Gustaría," which are our delicious and refreshing margaritas, but I prefer to go with passion fruit in my margaritas. This past Valentine's Day, I was given the opportunity to create a signature drink that I named "agua de calzón," a delicious dessert martini made of vanilla vodka, banana liquor, lemon juice, demerara (brown sugar syrup) and cherry bitters. I definitely recommend drinking this with our butter pound cake; makes for a great combo.

**We've heard that other members of your family work behind the bar and in the dining room. Who are they?**

Yes, my youngest brother Diego is my barback. Three of my cousins Maximiliano, Daniel and the lovely Lorena are some of the best servers that REFORMA can have. And to add on, my brother from another mother Jonathan also works behind the bar with me.

**When you have free time, what do you like to do?**

Out-of-town getaways, concerts, festivals, beaches and the gym.

**When can we expect to see you behind the bar at REFORMA?**

You can find me every day after 3 p.m. I look forward to seeing everyone, especially on weekends on the club side.



photo by jay jones





**COME ON BABY ...  
LIGHT MY FIRE!**

San Diego's theatre landscape is about to get a shakeup with the premiere of the rock musical *Light My Fire*. The production about Jim Morrison and The Doors is both a play and a concert, using multimedia (in addition to dynamic singers, dancers and a live onstage band) to recreate the psychedelic highs and lows of the 1960s. *Light My Fire* has three talented young men in the role of Jim Morrison (**Matthew Hasle, Levi Foster** and **Jules Tursini**).

"I wanted to be a part of this show, first, because of the love I have for The Doors music," Hasle said. "They've been one of my favorite bands since I started listening to music going back to when I was just a kid. As an actor and a musician, Jim Morrison is the coolest role I've ever had the chance to play. He's truly iconic but humble and grounded."

"I hope people who see the show feel like they discover something new about Jim. Of course, I want to show the wild, sexy and often reckless Lizard King, but I think it's also important to show the quiet poet that was too shy to face the audience. And, I think it's important to show the sense of humor he had. I don't think he took himself too seriously and there's something very charming about someone who lives life with that kind of freedom." [colaboarts.org](http://colaboarts.org) / 619-366-5075

**DIG THIS, HEPCATS!**

The Beatnik horror comedy musical, *Did You See What Walter Paisley Did Today*, will have its world premiere at La Mirada Theatre.

When a struggling Beatnik sculptor in San Francisco stumbles upon a new style of art that thrusts him into fame, fortune and perhaps some big trouble, well, you'll just have to see what Walter Paisley did today. Three-time Emmy winner **Randy Rogel** (*Animaniacs*) serves up a delightfully varied score of cool jazz, Petula Clark-like knockouts, Neil Sedaka bubble-gum pop and more. Directed by **BT McNicholl** (original Broadway creative team member of *Spamalot*, *Billy Elliot* and *Cabaret*).

The Beatniks of *Did You See What Walter Paisley Did Today?* will feature **Steven Booth** (Broadway's *School of Rock*) as Walter Paisley, **Vanessa Sierra** as Carla, **Ross Hellwig** as Maxwell Brock, **Kingsley Leggs** (Broadway's *Sister Act*) as Leonard DeSantis, **Kathy Fitzgerald** (Broadway's *Wicked* and *The Producers*) as Mrs. Swickert, **Janna Cardia** as Lili Von Vondergraff, **Ashley Moniz** (Broadway's *Kinky Boots* and *Legally Blonde*) as Beatnik Girl, **Josh Adamson** as Detective Lou Raby, **James Caleb Grice** as Beatnik Guy, and **Jamir Brown** as Clive.

Performances run **Thursday, March 16 through Sunday, April 2** at La Mirada Theatre for the Performing Arts in La Mirada. [lamiradatheatre.com](http://lamiradatheatre.com) / 714.994.6310



**THE XIXTH (THE NINETEENTH), PENNED BY  
GOLDEN GLOBE WINNER KEMP POWERS,  
MAKES ITS WORLD PREMIERE**

The Old Globe's world premiere of *The XIXth*, written by Kemp Powers and directed by NAACP Award winner Carl Cofield, runs **Friday, March 17 through Sunday, April 23** on the Donald and Darlene Shiley Stage in Balboa Park, San Diego.

Powers and Cofield unite again after their award-winning world premiere of *One Night in Miami...* for Rogue Machine Theatre, Miami New Drama and Denver Center.

Mexico City Olympics, 1968. Two Black American sprinters, the fastest men on Earth, raise their fists in protest. Inspired by real events from the historic 19th Olympic Games, this suspenseful play chronicles the intersection of sports and activism, and shows the life-changing repercussions of being a champion who chooses to speak out.

"*The Nineteenth* takes one of the most famous images in the history of sports and asks what makes it so indelible," **Erna Finci Viterbi Artistic Director Barry Edelstein** said. "Playwright Kemp Powers, one of the most exciting storytellers working onstage and on screen today, looks at that image and sets his significant imagination to work. The result is the kind of play I love: driven by passion, full of drama, and focused on big American themes. Directed with verve and insight by Carl Cofield, it's a striking evening in the theatre, and I'm thrilled to share it with Globe audiences."

The cast includes **Patrick Marron Ball** as Pete, **Christian Coulson** as Neville, **Michael Early** as Jesse Owens, **Biko Eisen-Martin** as John Carlos (Los), **Korey Jackson** as Tommie, **Kimberly Scott** as Dora and **Nick Wyman** as Avery. [theoldglobe.org](http://theoldglobe.org) / 619.234.5623



# Kristin Chenoweth



**MARCH 10-11**

Tony winner. Emmy winner. Star of the original production of *Wicked*. *Entertainment Weekly* raves: "Her set-list spans so many different genres, there's something for everyone to enjoy."

# Gloria Gaynor I Will Survive



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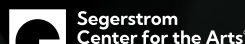
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# ILLUMINATING THE STAGE THIS MONTH

You may know her as Sally Brown from *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, Glinda the Good Witch from *Wicked* or Mildred Layton from Apple TV+'s *Schmigadoon!* but Emmy and Tony winner **Kristin Chenoweth** also has a solo career and has become a concert hall favorite.

Chenoweth has performed to sold-out audiences across the world, including performances at Carnegie Hall and Royal Albert Hall. In 2016, Chenoweth released *The Art of Elegance*, her album of the *Great American Songbook* classics. The album debuted at No. 1 on Billboard's Current Jazz and Traditional Jazz charts, and No. 1 on Amazon's Vocal Pop chart. That year also saw Chenoweth return to the stage in her limited engagement *My Love Letter To Broadway*, receiving rave reviews.

Her latest album, *For the Girls*, was released in 2019 and features hits such as "Desperado," "The Man That Got Away" and "It Doesn't Matter Any More." On **Friday, March 10 and Saturday, March 11**, Chenoweth will join **Pacific Symphony** for a spectacular concert of classic songs of love and empowerment at Segerstrom Concert Hall in Costa Mesa.

This year, she released her hilarious and insightful gift book, *I'm No Philosopher, But I Have Thoughts: For Saints, Sinners, and the Rest of Us*. [pacificsymphony.org](http://pacificsymphony.org) / 714.755.5799

Comprised of six musicians, **The Queen's Cartoonists** perform music from cartoons. Pulling from over 100 years of animation, TQC's performances are perfectly synchronized to the films projected on stage. The band matches the energy of the cartoons, leading the audience through a world of virtuosic musicianship, multi-instrumental mayhem and comedy.

Projections of animated films dazzle the audience, while the band recreates original soundtracks note for note, or writes fresh compositions to modern pieces, all the while breathing new life into two uniquely American forms of art: jazz and animation. Tying everything together is the TQC brand of comedy — anecdotes about the cartoons and their composers, stream-of-consciousness humor, and elements of a musical circus.

Visit **California Center for the Arts, Escondido** on **Thursday, March 23** to watch your favorite cartoon characters interact with the musicians on stage and expect the unexpected from the Golden Age of Animation, cult cartoon classics and modern animated films. Inspired by the crossroads of jazz, classical music and cartoons, TQC features Jazz Age composers like Carl Stalling, Raymond Scott and Duke Ellington, alongside classical giants such as Mozart, Rossini and Strauss. [artcenter.org](http://artcenter.org) / 800.988.4253

**Segerstrom Center for the Arts** will present the North American premiere

of Christopher Wheeldon's latest ballet *Like Water for Chocolate* from American Ballet Theatre for six performances from **Wednesday, March 29 through Sunday, April 2**. Orange County audiences will experience this magical Mexican love story with the stellar dancers of ABT translating this richly layered story.

This three-act work is set to an original score by Joby Talbot and inspired by Laura Esquivel's captivating and bestselling novel of the same title. This family saga set in 19th-century Mexico tells the story of Tita, a young woman who is overwhelmed by a sense of duty and family tradition, unable to marry until her mother dies.

"Having Christopher and his team transform my story into a ballet is truly magical for me," Esquivel said. "It was a great pleasure to have them visit Mexico for extensive research and to develop the scenario together. I am amazed at how Christopher can translate deep emotions into movement, and I can't wait to see this wonderful creative adventure unfold." [scfta.org](http://scfta.org) / 714.556.2787

**Broadway the Calla-Way!** — starring Liz and Ann Hampton Callaway — is a cabaret show that will be performed in the **Samueli Theater** for three nights from **Thursday, March 30 through Saturday, April 1**.

The award-winning sisters will bring their show to Orange County for an evening of delightful music that includes humor, harmonies and showtunes.

Liz Callaway has voiced numerous roles in well-known animated movies such as *Anastasia*, *The Swan Princess*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *The Lion King II: Simba's Pride*. Her Broadway credits include *Merrily We Roll Along*, *The Three Musketeers* and *The Look of Love*. She notably played Ellen in the original Broadway cast of *Miss Saigon*. As a champion of the *Great American Songbook*, Ann Hampton Callaway made her mark as a singer, pianist, composer, lyricist, arranger, actress, educator, TV host and producer. She blends jazz and pop to create a unique musical style. She is a Platinum Award-winning writer whose songs are featured on seven of Barbra Streisand's albums, and she's known for her Tony-nominated performance in *Swing!* She also wrote and sang the theme song for *The Nanny*. [scfta.org](http://scfta.org) / 714.556.2787







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# CULINARY EVENTS LEAD TO MARCH GLADNESS

Southern California has worked its way up the ranks as a respected culinary go-to dining destination. Over the years, the food scene has exploded here and continues to lure celebrity chefs who open up shop with a wide range of flavors and varied dining experiences.



## **PALM DESERT FOOD & WINE** Friday, March 24 through Sunday, March 26

Palm Desert Food & Wine is produced by *Palm Springs Life Magazine* and located in the tree-lined El Paseo shopping district in Palm Desert. This annual gastronomic event features mouth-watering cuisine and premium wines, and will feature some of the nation's top chefs, vintners and brew masters. The three-day experience will feature over 60 premium wines and unique craft brews, IPAs and draft ciders.

The epic celebration will begin with a James Beard Gourmet Four-Course Luncheon prepared by culinary virtuosos and will be followed by two days of grand tastings of delectable offerings from local and regional restaurants. Some of the nation's top celebrity chefs including Tyler Florence, Fabio Viviani and Curtis Stone will conduct hands-on cooking demonstrations. [palmdesertfoodandwine.com](http://palmdesertfoodandwine.com)



### **The Penney & Parlour Present: An Evening with Fabio Viviani**

Meet celebrity chef Fabio Viviani and watch renowned chef Jon Butler and his team prepare a meticulous meal at the club's newly unveiled lounge and restaurant, The Penney & Parlour. The evening begins with champagne in the art gallery, followed by a three-course dinner with wine pairings. \$175 per person or \$1,500 for a table of 10.

### **For The Love of Cheese ... And Wine!**

Learn all about the art of cheese making and pairing cheese with wine from Afrim Pristine, the world's youngest maitre fromager (certified cheese master) and the co-owner of Cheese Boutique in Toronto. \$75

### **James Beard Gourmet Four-Course Luncheon**

This afternoon feast will be prepared live onstage by some of your favorite celebrity chefs. As you dine and enjoy four courses with fine wine pairings, the TV darlings Afrim Pristine, Jamie Gwen, Tyler Florence and Yolanda Gampp will dish on their recipes, the ingredients and how each component comes together on the plate. Zac Young will be the host.

### **Celebrity Chef Reception**

Party with the chefs from your favorite cooking show at this exclusive cocktail soiree. Mingle with a libation in hand. Special guests include Afrim Pristine, Gale Gand and Tyler Florence. Pass-arounds will be offered by Glynis Albright's, Glynis' Party Wings, Lisa Dahl's, Mushroom Empanadas with Two Sauces and Jamie Gwens, Amaretto Shrimp. \$125

### **Cake-Off with Yolanda Gampp & Zac Young Baking Battle**

Dessert heavyweights will go head-to-head in this year's baking battle. YouTube sensation Yolanda "Beyonce of Cakes" Gampp will compete against the pastry pundit and sprinkle master of PieCaken Bakeshop Zac Young in this baking brawl. \$75

### **Aarti's Date Paarti presented by California Dates**

Celebrity chef, television personality and cookbook author Aarti Sequeira will join local date farmer and educator Mark Tadros for an informative session on the Coachella Valley's favorite fruit. This not-to-be-missed experience will touch on the date farming process and the health benefits of dates, and will include a cooking demonstration. \$75

### **Wine Dinner with Celebrity Chef Curtis Stone**

Join Michelin-starred chef Curtis Stone for this three-course dinner and wine pairing with special guest "Beyonce of Cakes" Yolanda Gampp. Treat your inner epicurean as they take you on a flavorful journey. The VIP ticket includes a meet-and-greet with the chefs along with a signed cookbook. VIP \$400 or general reserved seating \$250

### **Sunday Brunch with Bubbles & Spritz**

The best Sundays begin with an extraordinary brunch and refreshing cocktails. This wholesome morning meal includes three courses that masterfully balance sweet with savory and decadence with whimsy. Celebrity chefs Lisa Dahl, Glynis Albright and Gale Gand will team up to conceptualize this year's Instagram-worthy menu and will prepare it live onstage. Brunch includes bottomless champagne and Bloody Mary's, but save some room!

### **Saturday and Sunday's Grand Tastings**

Grand unlimited tastings will feature delectable bites from more than 40 restaurants, created by renowned chefs from across the Coachella Valley and California, as well as more than 60 premium and sparkling wines, beers and spirits. Interact with the vintners and chefs to discuss their offerings. Carte blanche access \$225 or general access \$150 and \$125 on Sunday





## 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ORANGE COUNTY RESTAURANT WEEK Sunday, March 5 through Saturday, March 11

Orange County may be the perfect destination for your next food trip. More than 150 restaurants will participate in the yearly culinary experience, the Orange County Restaurant Week.

Foodies far and wide can partake in a variety of thoughtfully crafted prix-fixe lunch and dinner menus priced from \$15 to \$45. Intriguing categories celebrated throughout the week include Romance-Infused Date Night Menus, Vegetarian Menus, Family Friendly Dining Menus, Gather Your Squad Menu (Dine with Friends), Brunch & Breakfast, The Cocktails, San Simeon Wine Menus and Dessert Spotlight Menus. Go to the website to find drop-down categories such as "Discover by City" including participants from The District, Irvine Spectrum, Fashion Island, The Market Place and Explore Santa Ana.

Grab your lover, your family, your friends or all the above and explore as many participating restaurants, menus and cocktails as you can. [ocrestaurantweek.com](http://ocrestaurantweek.com)



## CURATED LUXE MENUS FOR FOODIES SEEKING AN EXCLUSIVE DINING EXPERIENCE

- Angelina's Pizzeria** — \$80 dinner includes cocktail or wine
- Billy's At The Beach** — \$60 dinner includes cocktail
- Bottega Angelina** — \$115 includes wine pairing
- Cafe Sevilla Spanish Restaurant & Tapas Bar** — \$120 includes bottle of wine
- Chapter One: The Modern Local** — \$75 dinner includes wine
- Farmhouse at Roger's Gardens** — \$60 dinner includes cocktail
- Great Maple** — \$80 lunch or dinner for two includes bottle of wine or cocktails
- Henry's Coastal Cuisine** — \$65 includes cocktail
- Izakaya Osen** — \$120 dinner for two
- Outer Reef** — \$100 includes cocktail
- Seasons 52** — \$110 dinner for two includes bottle of wine
- Silver Trumpet Restaurant and Bar** — \$110 dinner for two includes cocktail
- Stillwater Spirits & Sounds** — \$76 dinner
- Summit House Restaurant** — \$75 dinner includes glass of wine
- Tanner's** — \$108 dinner for two
- The Yellow Chili Tustin** — \$120 dinner for two includes two signature cocktails or a bottle wine
- Three Roots Mexican Cocina** — \$60 dinner or \$110 dinner for two includes cocktail
- Woody's Wharf** — \$99 dinner for two includes cocktail



## 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SAN DIEGO RESTAURANT WEEK Sunday, March 26 through Sunday, April 2

San Diego is renowned for its idyllic climate, 17 miles of pristine beaches and a dazzling array of world-class family attractions. If that were not enough, San Diego is also known for consistently being ranked as one of the top foodie cities in America, and it's easy to see why. Ask any San Diego resident, and they'll tell you how much they love living in America's Finest City, where the sun never stops shining and the food scene has never been better.

San Diego Restaurant Week, presented by the California Restaurant Association, returns even bigger and better, with over 100 participating restaurants across 30 neighborhoods. For eight glorious days of adventurous dining, San Diego Restaurant Week invites diners to "Spring into Flavor" with diverse menus featuring special prix-fixe pricing. These kind of unique deals are not available the rest of the year.

Decide on the ideal brunch, lunch or dinner option with website filters broken down into neighborhood, cuisine, dining options and price points. Reservations are not required to participate in this foodie-favorite week, but are highly recommended to ensure seating.

Enjoy two-course lunches and three-course dinners, starting at \$20, depending on the restaurant's price points. Diners can find new restaurant participation with easy-to-understand price points starting at \$20 and increasing in \$10 increments. This is the perfect opportunity to enjoy tried-and-true favorites, top-rated restaurants and budding culinary talents at an alluring price point! [sandiegorestaurantweek.com](http://sandiegorestaurantweek.com)

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### PUPUS

- Coconut Shrimp Ginger Lime Dipping Sauce
- Beef Skewer Pickled Bahn Mi Salad
- Hawaiian Tuna Poke Avocado, Seaweed Salad, Masago, Wonton
- Local Green Salad Goat Cheese, Macadamia Nuts, Seasonal Berries, Li Hing Mui Vinaigrette

### ENTREES

- \$20 per person (second item lunch or dinner)
- Cashew Chicken Salad, Fried Noodles, Cashews, Mandarin Orange, Orange-Sesame Dressing
- Wela Beef Sandwich, Marinated Beef, Giardiniera, Amoroso Roll
- Teriyaki Burger Teriyaki Aioli, Pickled Red Onion, Brown Sugar, Pineapple, Lettuce
- \$30 per person (third item dinner)
- Crab Louis, Lump Crab, Mixed Greens, Asparagus, Tomato, Egg, Creamy Island Dressing
- Lobster Taco, Crispy Fried Lobster, Pineapple Salsa, Feta, Basil, Jalapeno Ranch
- Grilled Market Fish, Ginger, Coconut Basmati Rice, Chili Mango Puree, Toasted Coconut, Macadamia Nuts



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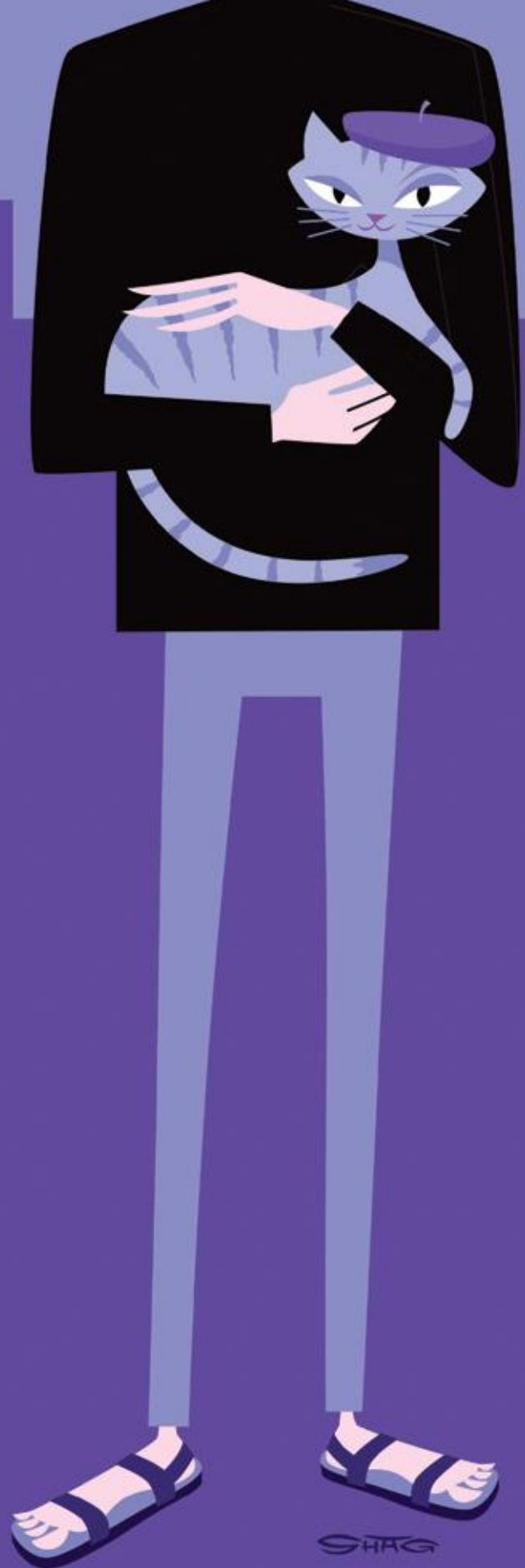


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