

LA Unscripted | January 9th, 2023

From hot spots and hidden gems to lots of local flavor It's your guide to L A The unscripted way from our Hollywood headquarters on Sunset Boulevard Hello and welcome to L A unscripted I'm de and we have pulled into our offices tonight to get you in the know about all kinds of things to eat See and do in so up first Jasmine Simpkins meets the top chef competitor who lost his sense of smell and taste from COVID and still came in second So this is our baby We've been around about four years now It's a shot in the dark that that it even exists My name is Jackson Kalb I'm the chef owner of J and OCA and Elsa Gun We had no money We had you know investors We couldn't raise any money We were looking all around town all over L A and we just drove by this town I didn't even know that it had this cute little main street We parked right here in this parking lot saw that this place was closed for good and reached out to the landlord and just kind of hunted them down So J and OCA is rustic Italian They had to come up with something on the fly that was proprietary So J A is for Jackson me is for Melissa Melissa is the more the more important half of Jane I think everyone actually secretly wants to come to see her and they just pretend that they want to see me which I understand it started when I was actually watching Food Network and I just fell in love with cooking somehow I don't know why And I just started pursuing it Something about the fire and the fuel and the chaos that all attracted me Because on one side you see all this chaos and on the other side for the guests they just kind of see food right in mine And it all looks so elegant and magical And I booked a one way ticket to Italy because I decided that my comfort food or the thing that I want to serve or create is fresh pasta basically just worked for free until I ran out of money I trained in mission star kitchens for a long time Most of my life I don't want people to feel this sense of ego or arrogance with the food I just want it to be really delicious And then your journey has taken you where now people know you all over top chef I don't feel like everyone knows me from all over To be honest I still feel like I'm just a regular dude doing my thing day to day when we were filming lack of smell was very unique It was very interesting I didn't think I would do well So I did much better than I thought I would say The standout dishes here All of them would be any of these hand rolled pastas They're all made from scratch Every single day labor of love takes a lot of work It takes a lot of patience It takes a lot of practice All right Jackson Well now it's time for you to feed me pasta and tell me I'm pretty I can do one of those but I

can't feed you the pasta All right So we have broccolini uh with the whipped ricotta on the bottom I would kiss you but that would also be an inappropriate This is our signature dish Oh my God This is our crown achievement It is our jewel and you marinate this sauce for 36 hours It is stupendous Thank you We're in California So we have to have a kale salad It's a monster kale salad So good All right So let's bring you over to one of our featured dishes We just put this on the menu Wait this is a corn dish I have never tasted anything like this before in my life Is this like my grandmother's cream corn mixed in some pasta with a little bit of cheese on top It is so good So last but not least I would say one of the locals favorites here This is braised beef cheek cheers cheers to such great cuisine and you've just you've outdone yourself Thank you Thank you for having us Thank you for being here I appreciate it It's wonderful I don't know about you guys but after a big meal I need a solid nap So Olivia de Bertoli found the perfect resort to do just that Let's head over to via Newport Beach where the ocean views are everywhere you look I came down to Newport Beach to take in the view at So Vela literally translates as to sea in Spanish celebrating our amazing coastline views Vela Newport Beach is our newly transformed resort here in the heart of Newport Beach It's our own social sanctuary and a place to get away in the center of everything About 90% of our rooms here have ocean views directly from the guest room and the entire architecture of the resort was redesigned to focus on the guest point of view So whether you're eating at our edge bar our view restaurant or enjoying your guest room you're looking at the Pacific coastline so be walking into this lobby I was so amazed It is gorgeous So it's a lot of pure inspired textures And then we actually have a custom art curation here that's collected by Daniel Fine Arts So you'll see inspirational pieces from all over the world some from local artists here in Newport Beach in Orange County But other pieces that are actually from Italy and Rome and you name it the entire position in the V is built around being a social sanctuary So the spa is our pillar of sanctuary It has 14 treatment rooms and over 14,000 square feet Uh eucalyptus steam rooms saunas hot tubs and even a great little place where if you've been on your feet all day maybe in heels you can soak your feet to get rid of those pains Mm I can go much So for Bella is uh for view is gonna be coastal cosmopolitan So everything you know seafood local fresh but doing it in a sophisticated way We we picked China I was able to pick China those from you know we got Michelin style plates We've got definitely new plates that people aren't using per se in the restaurant using different textures slate wood

granite different ways that you want to look at it that way It's frozen rocks Those are so a zoo of oysters from Mexico Then we did balsamic pearls and fennel So sweet and sour kind of like a fennel and horse rice Kind of similar flavor Just not as hot but we can do horse rice if you'd like What is this salad So this is our uh vela salad So you've got a green goddess dressing We've got girl and doug greens There's probably 11 different greens in there That are picked flowers Uh there's definitely seeds papias dried strawberries regular strawberries and it's kind of So we got sweet sour We got a lot of things going on The list goes on and on It's crazy with the salad Jeff I see that there's a little wood fork in here What is this for So that's a tradition East Coast Lobster roll favorite We got the big butter brioche Really fresh lobster A simple dressing on the lobster itself butter lettuce and then the lemon wedge So it's just all the straightforward flavors of the lobster So you would take the lobster roll and then pull the lemon off it squeeze it on top and then dip it with a fork until it gets down to where you can actually encase the sandwich and eat it It's simple but I think it showcases it's kind of what we're doing still It's cool looking It's cosmopolitan It tastes amazing Mm This is the perfect place for people from L A because it's a chance to come experience Newport Beach travelers and locals alike converge here So it's a fun place where you can come to Newport Beach experience some of the nightlife really get away without having to jump on a plane and soak up this great Southern California weather Talk about being in the know this is the kind of L A woman you need to hear about at just 19 years old The cobo actually took on a toxic oil drilling site in South L A neighborhood and one I was diagnosed with stage two cancer in 2020 I was forced to choose between my reproductive system or my life Great I'm here after three surgeries eight minor procedures three rounds of chemo six weeks of radiation and fighting off two infections Until I heard those words You are cancer free Hi My name is Nayeli Cobo and I'm an environmental justice activist It's such an honor to be the recipient and to be one of the many Goldman Prize winners that fight to end an injustice It's given to six people a year one per each continent and it is considered the Green Nobel pretty big deal So my story begins when I was four we moved into an affordable housing building in South Los Angeles owned by Esperanza community housing which is where we are today But when I was around nine the Alan go energy the well started resuming operations and I started getting really sick as a little girl headaches stomach pain nose bleeds but my nose bleeds got so intense I wasn't allowed to sleep in my own bed I would sleep in a chair to prevent choking on my

own blood At night I had heart palpitations I developed asthma Unfortunately it wasn't just me but my mom developed asthma at 40 My brother has asthma My grandma developed asthma at 70 I was nine when I started my activism And we started a grassroots campaign in our community called People Not Boss People Not Wells which I am a proud co-founder of just sharing our stories and going door to door knocking We didn't need to know all the scientific terms or the legal terms that we knew was enough We knew how we were being poisoned and how our bodies were on the front lines An environmental justice activist can look like a lot of things But for me personally it's a storyteller It's a person who fights day in and day night for everyone to have the right to breathe clean air It's a person who advocates not only for herself but for her family and her loved ones and her surrounding community to ensure the basic human right that we have to not grow up next to an oil well So I am a very proud daughter of two immigrants My dad immigrated here from Colombia and my mom from Mexico But I'm also the very proud product of a single mother and my mom has always told me to be a viable community member So in 2015 I co founded the South Central Youth Leadership Coalition and we sued the city of Los Angeles We sued them for violation of the California Environmental Quality Acts for sure and environmental racism It was us youth with a lack of a high school diploma because we were all still in high school suing the city and demanding Our voices be heard demanding our stories are heard demanding we have a city to inherit I think L A is the truly most beautiful diverse city and Los Angeles is my home Los Angeles is my heart and that's why I fight so hard to defend her and we'll be back with sandwiches flowers and soup for the soul More a unscripted when we return Welcome back to a scripted Everyone I'm Devin and Winter is coming I love saying that even though our winner is about 60 degrees but still we all get sick And Jasmine Simpkins found the mother daughter duo to heal What ails you from their own garden I'm JWV I'm Rose Chang and we're the authors of healing herbal soups I wrote this book together with my daughter during the pandemic I decided to write the book because we are having you know this is back in 2019 And at that time we don't have any vaccine Nobody knows what's going on and we are in a lockdown So I started writing the book and thought I have to teach um share my knowledge with everybody about what I know that may possibly help everybody to boost their immune system I was born in Hong Kong And so my family is from China naturally And so in those days you don't have all kinds of Western medicine and even if we do have it's not as

advanced as it is today So we use a lot of natural food to heal ourselves I am a very good soup maker I am A B to B minus Cope Chinese cooking is very difficult There's a lot of you have to to make Chinese food which is mostly stir fry tastes good but soup is different That's one of the reasons I like soup Well thank you ladies for showing me how to make one of your delicious herbal soups How fulfilling is it that you've done this cookbook with your mom She's taught me a lot Um And she's also the reason um that I got introduced to traditional Chinese medicine and began a healing lifestyle for myself I think my biggest um motivation for writing a book is to share with everybody I always want to um share my knowledge with especially non Chinese We did this because we thought this is easy for everybody to apply to And so when they go home they have a good refreshing in figuring and healing soup for them to enjoy at dinner time Coming up where to grab a burger at a historic State Park L A and scripted will be right back from our Hollywood offices Welcome back to a scripted everyone I'm David Devin from our headquarters in Hollywood and we're heading to downtown L A now with the Olivia Day Bartoli and the only place you can grab a bite at L A's historic State Park We've had some pretty amazing burgers on the show But a little birdie told me that there is a hot spot in the park So it's time to take my buns to cargo cargo Snack shack is uh a small little burger joint that what I like to call the little corner of downtown L A and a little piece of heaven that nobody knows about It's a great place to come grab a burger Grab a you know cold drink before you get into the park or after you walk through the park Oh my God cargo burger Classic pulled pork burger A blue burger fried chicken sandwich So this is the hardest decision I think I've ever had to make But I think I'm gonna go with the cargo burger You know Dodger Stadium is less than two miles away We actually serve a Dodger Rita during Dodger Games So we have specialty drinks and we have you know specials that we run during the games I don't know what sauce is in there but that sauce is tangy and delicious So it's great to have cargo here There are park concessions amenities above and beyond what state California state parks would normally do on their own The Los Angeles State Historic Park is a really interesting and special place This is a former rail yard It was decommissioned by Union Pacific in the 1980 S and this land lay fallow for a number of years before it was proposed for industrial development But a community coalition got together and they wanted to see a park here in ST community is important for us as a restaurant We want cargo to be a a fabric of what's going on in the community So we work with different

organizations like homeboy industries Homeboy industries is an organization that helps gang members or former gang members and people who are coming out of prison to rearrange their lives heal and become contributing members of our community So homeboy industries back in about 2008 we came into Chinatown the Chinatown community We watched everything start to grow around us and including cargo Snack shack came in and really came and talked to me and said hey man we're going to be opening up in the park We want to collaborate in any way So we got to people to work right here It's a meeting spot for the community and it just makes this park so much more enjoyable especially for families with young Children And also it's great that Carlo snack shack has brought more jobs to the community We have a lot of housing and we have a lot of low income housing here in Chinatown So having these additional employment opportunities is great for our community as well So originally we wanted to be a patty shack a hamburger and hotdog place The historic nature of the park is that it was the original rail yard before Union Station And then the fact that we built our space out of shipping containers the name kind of just stuck cargo You know we obviously serve snacks Shack Come on These aren't even fries These are like whole potatoes This is the a ranger dog Apparently it's the main event for a lot of people at the end of the day I want to be immersed in the space where we're working for people to understand that this is more than just popping up a restaurant trying to generate revenue Let's be Frank This hot dog is a wiener in my book and we brought the outside inside with this beautiful mural but it's just one way people are making boring walls come to life want to be surrounded with flowers so real you can practically smell them We've got you covered I've done paper mint land walls for birthday parties weddings bridal showers uh bar mitzvahs But uh most recently I've been doing a lot of you know home installations for offices for bedrooms for the little kid bedrooms and playrooms I cannot believe this My brand new office I just moved into has been transformed by you And I want you to know something out of all the years I featured stuff on TV And my Instagram I have never ever gotten more D MS than I have about the wall Ever Ever You've done hundreds of walls and you've also done them for some big celebrities and big brands and events Yeah I've been really blessed I've done a wall for you know Mila Jovic I've done a wall for some red carpet events and um you know had some celebrities um you know in front of the flowers and and love them and actually a lot of times um storefronts and brands are asking me to do them too for their events because it's such an

Instagramable moment for somebody to step step inside and do a selfie What does paper mint lamb even mean So I it all really started because my daughter um her first birthday was happening wanted a background for a photo booth and I created my very first paper wall then And so since it's kind of my you know about my daughter she was born in the year of the lamb So paper mint lamb that's how it came about after I did my daughter's first birthday Um One of my great friends is a party planner And so she was like can you do that for me um for my next party And I'm like OK sure I can do that So one thing led to another and I've done more and more walls six years later you know all of a sudden it's you know I'm I've done hundreds now Walk me through this beauty masterpiece that you did What are these flowers We've got obviously roses of all size R we've got um dahlias and we've got some um an enemy looking like flowers a lot of tropical type leaves because I know you love the tropical leaves and you don't have to be crazy like and do your entire wall I mean I've seen your work where you just do a few flowers and it looks great and adds so much to a plain wall Exactly So it can be however big you want it to be or however small you want it to be I've done literally just a small cluster of flowers over a crib and you know for a little baby girl's bedroom you are so busy working from 4 to 7 a.m. and then going to your full time job But do you ever just stop and smell the paper roses every day every day every day It's a reminder actually to stop and smell the roses Oh that's all the time we have for tonight Signing off from our stunning mural created by the company Pretty good painter Will see you next time Good night