

LA Unscripted | July 1st, 2022

It's a city where anything can happen So what could go wrong or right as I hit up L A unscripted we live in a city with endless things to do and people to meet and we want to do it all with you Hi everyone I'm Dana Devin And we here at Bucky Silver Lake where small plates serve up big taste Now here's something else you have to try I would call this uh a cornucopia of pop culture a supermarket of visual and retro gift items This is what I like to think of as the ultimate gift store Yes gifts It's kind of our middle name So this has got a lot more of the tiki stuff here and some more soaps God we don't have hardly any soaps anymore We founded Soap Plant My mother and I in 1971 in June wacko and Aus de Jesus were later creations that came along in the eighties when we were on Melrose Avenue This is the original sign uh from uh Melrose Avenue that was put up in I believe 1984 uh when it was right next to the uh Soap plant originally it was it was a soap store We did soap and you could bring your bottles in be refilled and we had soaps and oils perfumes hair products We still do We have all that stuff but it it metamorphosis into so much more Now We carry like 15,000 different items We have been here in the Los Fela for 26 or 27 years Half the store's lifetime books is probably the biggest category comic book related art This is Mexicana and outsider art I started going to Mexico in 1974 People will spend hours here I mean it can literally be entertainment having to call it the second happiest place on earth We sell a heck of a lot of socks novelty socks The retail space is approximately 4000 ft That's counting the gallery Yeah the gallery one of the longest running galleries in Los Angeles at this point over 38 years I believe established quite a pattern of discovering young artists that have gone on to be uh very influential I actually used to come into this building when it was a post office when I was quite young I'm from Echo Park born and raised in Los Angeles You know I'm proud of it It's what I pretty much spent my life doing and creating It's more than just a store you know it's a concept and what I do my life basically from the valley to the ocean The mountains the desert and everything in between There are so many incredible enclaves to discover in southern California So now let's see what our Jasmine Simkins has discovered Ladies and gentlemen I am Guy Tore This is a comedy store and I wanna welcome you to L A unscripted It's fitting that you know the comedy store is celebrating fif 50 years and still going strong The comedy store was a comedy club that really kind of took the comedians that nobody else wants

that The last factor improv didn't fit in their structure you know more button down and more But the Comedy store was like well how's the nuts how's the misfit So look at some of the names on this wall There were those type of comedians This was the first room when Cys the the restaurant closed and the comedy store came in it was just one room and this was the first room the original room which uh is still pretty pretty awesome This is m sure who you know owned the comedy store who unfortunately has gone on to the big stage and she used to sit here and this is she would scout talent Polly Of course Paulie Shaw her son you know without them a lot of these names would not be on this wall And on Monday night when I moved here in 92 they had potluck You come at three o'clock and chewy you know would come out big security guy named Chewy would come out and have a a hat with numbers in it and you pick numbers and whatever number you pick that's the order you went up You know that's your time slot One time I had to follow Howie Mandel and he had the room on fire like it was lit and I was I'm a bit scared but instead of going there trying to outdo him I just picked off his energy and rode the wave and had a great set What the Comedy store means to me what it meant to me in the beginning was the Mecca Comedy where this is where the great the great these stages during Fat Tuesdays was everything because that was the wind beneath my you know Comedy Wings that really helped me ascend into this business Fat Tuesday started in 1995 right upstairs in the belly room And after six months you know it started really getting even you know bigger and bigger and then nine months and it was like yo the baby hatched and we went into the main room everybody came to this room I mean I'm talking Shaq his favorite booth was you know over there and Dwayne the Rock Johnson would sit right there Prince was you know slide in and sit in this uh Eddie Murphy that was Eddie Murphy's favorite booth as well You know I get emotional talking about it because wow we did it and if you guys have some ideas tell us where to go next because by now you guys know I am Dana down to do it all unscripted America's teaching Zoo is a living breathing classroom for the exotic animal training and management program And it's where the creatures are the teachers As a resident of L A the San Fernando Valley I am a big fan of L A unscripted and I thought why not dare Dana I'm Mara Rodriguez at Moore Park College And I would like to dare Dana to come get wild with us at America's teaching zoo We're sitting on this beautiful hilltop at Moore Park College and we are on five acres everything from a wildlife theater to a play yard for our tigers Ira's Kingdom and Clarence the Galapagos Tortoises barn

Come out of your oh that was a good bite Oh my God He's amazing We house 125 animals representing 110 species Some of them come from other zoos and we're a sanctuary home for pets that were confiscated and we're being held illegally Ok We are going to bottle feed the tigers I think they want something when he was confiscated He was being kept illegally as a pet believe it or not Oh my God Yummy Yummy Oh my God I'm feeding a tiger Jackson is roughly seven years old was a confiscated pet Somebody tried to keep her illegally and then realized they couldn't handle it and then they surrendered her no matter what the animal and what their story is America's teachings It was a forever home for every animal that steps foot paw or wing into the zoo And we are just getting started L A unscripted from Bockarie Silver Lake We'll be right back Welcome back to L A unscripted from Bakar Silver Lake I'm Dana Devin And we want to know how you live life unscripted I mean what does that really mean Well to us it's going outside of our comfort zones discovering new places like this one and meeting new people that make socal so special When it comes to soul food in L A there's only one name I think of Doolan Doolan's on Crenshaw and Doolan's Soul Food Kitchen Dolan's has been in existence for over 30 years It started by our parents Adolf and married Dolan and they initially opened a hamburger stand called Hamburger City which later morphed into Aunt Ky's back porch And currently we operate as Dolan's soul food kitchen and Dolan's on Crenshaw I'd like to get the baked fish Ooh the string beans are my favorite Oh my gosh I'll do the cabbage I gotta do the cornbread muffins all together We've been in the restaurant business approaching 50 years We started off in the hamburger business but the hamburger business started to fail And so my parents decided to start serving soul food as a solution Some of the specialties that we offer are our fried chicken smothered pork chops And my favorite is the meat loafs We do the traditional Southern side dishes such as collard greens candied yams mac and cheese and our cornbread muffins are to die for made from scratch Mixed by hand These were family recipes that were evolved over the years My dad is from Oklahoma Grew up in a small town called Luther Oklahoma was raised on a farm eventually migrated to Los Angeles with his family And we've been here ever since the Crenshaw location opened about 33 years ago And that's the largest sit down location of the three restaurants that we own We opened this location about 20 years ago on the corner of Manchester and La Brea So my brother currently runs this operation and he's doing a wonderful job part of the community The food is delicious the portions are large and that was our dad's strategy to give

large portions of really good food And if you do that the customers will come again and again Ok So what else is on trend Well let's see what our Olivia De Bertoli is up to It is grilling a clock What time is it It is smart and final time Hi Paul what are we doing We're grilling So I'm so excited First things First of all you can't actually grill in the smart and final parking lot Can you No you can't But you can shop there for everything you need from burgers to buns corona to cupcakes Smart and finalize everything you need one trip and that's it then that's it All right What are we grilling today We are grilling burgers Let's get this puppy going All right let's do it Paul while you do the burgers I'm going to do a little turkey dog action How does that sound Ok Back to the group We got the hot dogs we got the burgers There's more options If you want ribs they got ribs you can do the rib dance do the rib dance do the rib dance So a lot of people like me you know sometimes don't want to go to the store So can you get this delivered to your house Absolutely You can go to Smart and final dot com One click and that is it Get this all delivered Take the guessing work out of throwing your party Our burgers are juicy Yeah they need a flip You're such a master griller I mean we're the grilling God and goddess I mean and smart and final has everything you need for the perfect barbecue including barbecue utensils tools They even have charcoal flight or fluid little mustard organic mustard action Might you love the sun harvest and the thing I love about smart and final they have the big club sizes but without the club membership fee this ketchup will last you all summer paul you know what we're missing some sides Voila these big club sizes of elbow macaroni and potato salad So it makes it so easy to host your Fourth of July Soiree one trip and that's it Let's get this beverage situation going Let's start with this husky hauler And I got the this is so refreshing on a hot day You have no idea And spin final will even have the ice Like literally they have everything they have spiked Seltzers OK They have sodas They even have club sizes of cranberry juice that we can put in there You can use the Mocktails and spartan final has everything you need including non alcoholic beer because you want to have something for everyone Ok What if you want alcoholic beer Well we have Corona too Spartan final has you covered Let's let this cool and it's snack time Let's do a snack let's do snacks Ok We're going to take some of the sun harvest organic white corn tortilla chips and I'm gonna take some of this chili lime mix and we're just gonna mix and match them And smart and final has a great app If you download it you get 15% off your first purchase in store or online and guess what They also have great digital coupons on there Is it easy to use

Super easy Let me show you you just tap the app opens and you can browse a ton of digital coupons Tell the people at home what they want They want a trip to Smart and final where they can really get everything they need for their Fourth of July barbecue one trip and that's it And great prices and they have balloons How are you doing there Olivia you got this you got this Happy Fourth of July Voila And we have so much more for you Going off script is far more fun than sticking to it right So come on back with us Welcome back to L A unscripted from Baker Silver Lake I'm Dana Devin And we want to know how you live life unscripted I mean what does that really mean Well to us it's going outside of our comfort zones discovering new places like this one and meeting new people that make social so special when it comes to soul food in L A There's only one name I think of Doland Doolan's on Crenshaw and Doolan's soul food Kitchen Dolan's has been in existence for over 30 years It started by our parents Adolf and married Dolan and they initially opened a hamburger stand called Hamburger City which later morphed into Aunt Cuzy's back porch And currently we operate as Doan's Soul Food Kitchen and Dolan's on Crenshaw I'd like to get the baked fish Ooh the string beans are my favorite Oh my gosh I'll do the cabbage I gotta do the cornbread muffins all together We've been in the restaurant business approaching 50 years We started off in the hamburger business but the hamburger business started to fail And so my parents decided to start serving soul food as a solution Some of the specialties that we offer are our fried chicken smothered pork chops And my favorite is the meat loaf We do the traditional Southern side dishes such as collard greens candied yams mac and cheese and our cornbread muffins are to die for made from scratch mixed by hand These were family recipes that were evolved over the years My dad is from Oklahoma grew up in a small town called Luther Oklahoma was raised on a farm eventually migrated to Los Angeles with his family And we've been here ever since the Crenshaw location opened about 33 years ago And that's the largest sit down location of the three restaurants that we own We opened this location about 20 years ago on the corner of Manchester and La Brea So my brother currently runs this operation and he's doing a wonderful job part of the community The food is delicious The portions are large and that was our dad's strategy to give large portions of really good food And if you do that the customers will come again and again Ok So what else is on trend Well let's see what our Olivia De Bartoli is up to It is grilling a clock What time is it It is smart and final time Hi Paul What are we doing today We're grilling our Fourth of July So I'm so excited First

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they have balloons How are you doing there Olivia You got this you got this Happy Fourth of July Voila and we have so much more for you Going off script is far more fun than sticking to it right So come on back with us There is just so much to discover here in So Cal like this place and now check this out and I hope it shows as what we do what we play what the feel the whole concept comes live Hi I'm Raul Tapia and I'm his brother Eric Tapia and we're proud to reveal Whittier's first speakeasy craft brewery La Bodega Brewing Company Salois Suerte La Bodega was a dream that came between uh our partner Abraham Eric and myself And it all started about seven years ago when we were home brewing We really had no idea how to make beer But uh Abraham had been home brewing for about six years Uh We made our first batch of uh pale ale fell in love with it We thought we had something that we can promote and sell and bring to the community The concept behind the name came from from La Bodega La Bodega in our culture is a warehouse So essentially us running around in that warehouse We knew this was for us We were picking produce cleaning the warehouse cleaning restrooms and just growing up in a warehouse Tappy Brothers is a food service broad liner which means we sell everything and anything to restaurants Now we cover eight states have over 4000 clients for us We really wanted to focus on the beer but Whittier wanted a a restaurant component So we just wanted to open a tap room But when they said oh restaurant well we know a little bit about the restaurant business Uh So we dove right into it What is your mission What is your vision traditional Mexican dishes that we have here are a little you know modern presentation Got it A classic a chile verde You know a slow braised pork green chili stew the Colorado another classic cut of meat When we talk wagy we're talking top of the line meat We're one of 10 restaurants that have this Wagyu So one of 10 and where we look at this food we think of the beer This is a perfect pairing Like you're not only gonna come here and get good food you're gonna drink good beer You look around it is gorgeous in here Describe what is it that I'm seeing this is our brew house It's in the US we use barrels So this is a 15 barrel system which is equivalent to about 500 gallons of beer that we can make at a time What is this exclusive club We're really trying to bridge the gap between German and Mexican beers And in Germany there's d membership It's embedded in their culture where it's generations they walk in they grab their mug they get their beer they sit down So we wanted to replicate that So we hold the key Um We lock their stein we're responsible for the stein When they walk in we'll have it ready for them with their favorite beer And it's a

talking point when you walk through that refrigerator door uh thinking it's a butcher shop thinking that there's a butcher shop in the back You walk into a pretty cool space 1920 Speak easy the whole prohibition realm And you could see it throughout the pictures in our round table room of the devil's in the detail And for us it was and we're hitting everything on all cylinders the food the beer the decor every portrait has a story and associated to to one of us three owners and their wives like try to guess who picked who and you know it becomes a talking piece For example we have you know Billy Idol you know you would never guess like oh Billy I who picked Billy Idol So Eric growing up was a huge fan of Billy Idol He was he wanted to dye his hair blonde so platinum blonde It's great to come from a city that has so many family roots invested in what we call the greater city of Whittier And I feel like the community has hugged the restaurant and made it its own here for the mission And that's not all here's some more to keep you in the notes Gosh my journey as an artist really begins with me being very young I always love to sing ever since I was you know a little kid I used to do all of the theater productions and things like that Then as I got a bit older I really decided that it was something I wanted to do professionally Superman It's just a fluke Well written story about a Moon in Blue Hi My name is Grace Gost I'm a 20 year old singer songwriter and I live in Los Angeles California I would say my style is sort of pop alternative but I don't really believe in genres I always try to write from a very honest perspective I try to tackle topics that a lot of people I think are very uncomfortable Talking about my first album that I did Black Box I talked about anxiety depression body dysmorphia trauma you know the list on and on as an album is sort of a linear story of the 1st 18 years or so of my life It explores my earliest memories from childhood all the way through the tumultuous times I had in middle school and high school with a lot of bullying and then into an exploration of my sexuality and so on When an airplane crashes there's this black box that stores all these different data points which reflect why the plane crashed And so I think we as human beings are very very similar to that You know if you look inside a bus and you look inside of your own sort of metaphorical black box you can go back in your history and see just where everything went wrong and why you are the way you are And so I wanted to make sure that with this project if I was discussing all these really intense topics that we gave people a place to go and that's ultimately where black box product dot org came from We partnered with Jazz Robbins who's an incredible therapist and she has these 12 videos where she essentially

walks you through all these various topics that were discussed and it's totally free We also partnered with Teen Line who is an incredible organization who offers a lot of direct support to teens in trouble and things like that And also the Born This Way Foundation that Lady Gaga runs that's another resource that we offer for help as well And they have so many incredible programs and opportunities for real growth But what I can say is that my overarching theme for anyone who's ever felt marginalized at any given point for any reason you know this is a place where you can exist This is a place where you can be heard understood And ultimately you know your feelings will be validated OK That is it for now Thank you Bakari for allowing us to party on your patio We love it here All right Where will we be next You never know Stay tuned We'll see you next time