

LA Unscripted | June 16th, 2022

From hot spots and hidden gems to lots of local flavor It's your guide to L A the unscripted way And tonight we're revealing one of las coolest venues the Ford Theater Hello everyone and welcome to L A unscripted I'm David Devins and I'm Doug KK and this is the \$80 million new and improved Ford Theater One of the best places to see an open air concert established in 1920 surrounded by nature and a sound system that performers love The Ford is 1200 seats of pure musical magic There is literally no bad seat in this house So I and as the director of the venue I've taken the opportunity to sit in front row in the middle all the way in the back And I will say that every artist sounds incredible no matter where you are It was originally conceived as a theater space So it was called the Pilgrimage Theater And so it was founded in 19 twenties The original idea was that it was going to house uh the different performances of the world religions And um it switched in the 19 thirties into becoming a county facility where because of the separation of church and state you couldn't necessarily perform religious plays in a county facility The towers that are the iconic part of the Ford stage are actually a nod to the Gates of Jerusalem So it tells you a little bit of the history of how it was conceived and what was intended to perform here But like any teenager uh the Ford also went through its punk phase So in the 19 eighties it was actually a space where artists like the Ramones and Jane's addiction performed And so it became this really kind of amazing ground for that type of music in Los Angeles later became a space that really hosted a lot of local artists and we continue that history now but it's very much dedicated to creating space for Los Angeles artists to perform and produce it So the Ford would have celebrated its centennial in 2020 So we are 102 years old We're one of the oldest performing arts venues in the city of Los Angeles The Ford is a county facility and as part of that the county actually invested about \$80 million in the renovation of the theater and it's absolutely gorgeous The Ford is super unique in that unlike any other amphitheater in Los Angeles so the backdrop for every single performance is the hillside unlike some other venues that actually uses the hillside to put the seats kind of against it but it is absolutely an amazing space So if you actually look at the size of the stage itself versus the audience it actually is about half the size and it's this epic wood that is an actual masterpiece itself So when you look at it the Ford Floor is just as beautiful as anything else that's in the theater So the acoustics of the space are incredible You can hear

a pin drop in here when there's an artist performing And we've seen some really beautiful intimate performances and we've also seen some amazing loud rock shows It's a hidden gem Like any time I describe the Ford to anybody whether you're someone from out of town or somebody that has grown up in Los Angeles If you haven't heard about the Ford you're missing out It Is this amazing space nestled in the Hollywood Hills where you can see an artist and then see nature right behind them I was born in South Central Los Angeles and I will say that I actually had not been to the fourth theater until I was in my late twenties And every time I sit in the back of this house one of the things I love to do is just kind of care for people who've never been here before and you can always tell who they are because as soon as they walk in they say oh my God I can't believe I have never been here before And so it's such a hidden gem It's so beautiful and my hope is really that all Angelenos come see the space and you know you haven't really been to L A unless you've been to the port You know Dana A lot of people don't know this but the Ford is actually run by the same group that handles the Walt Disney concert hall and the Hollywood Bowl which is just across the street I actually did not know that Love the bowl You can't go wrong seeing anything there Yeah it's a very cool place and I actually had the chance to roam around myself and meet the band who makes all the music happen at all three venues We're celebrating our 100th season this year As we think about how we want to celebrate that we look back and see you know what this place meant not just for the great artists that have performed on the stage like the Beatles and Frank Sinatra but you know the people that have visited this place for decades for generations to come Hi my name is Daniel Song I'm the chief operating officer of the Los Angeles Philharmonic My job entails essentially overseeing the various operational aspects of the L A film So everything from how people get to the bowl from our park and ride our shuttle services traffic parking our ushers our food service plans janitorial as well as what happens on stage So our production team our stage and our orchestra kind of overseeing everything that comes together whether you're in front of the house or back of the house to create a show These chairs for these boxes are all custom fabricated You can go see a concert anywhere right But there's something special about this place It's a magical experience and we all have different reasons for it The one thing that we have in common is that we find this place very special I was born and raised here in L A and this place is very personal to me My parents immigrated here from Korea This is the place that they felt comfortable that they felt that they were

welcome that this was essentially going to a friend's backyard and seeing a concert and it was accessible Tickets start at \$1 they have for decades and they still do today I remember coming here sixth or seventh grade It was like 93 94 Around that time Daniel you know one of my favorite parts of the Hollywood Bowl is when your partners don't show up and you can fold up the chairs and you have the whole box to yourself Yes absolutely This is a centennial season So you know we look back and the amazing performances that have been taking place on this story stage There's this photo backstage of Judy Garland standing over the pool So if you see where the seats are there that is what we call the pool circle because at one point it was a pool it was filled with water It created you know just another sort of magical moment of the Hollywood bowl and to see Judy Garland standing over that water is amazing and you know just sort of juxtapose that to what's happening Currently we recently filmed a special with Billie Eilish who wanted to pay tribute to that past and she had the pool refilled for that filming shoot And so we kind of got a glimpse in real life of what that was like to have a pool back in here You can bring your food you can bring your wine you can bring your beer and really make it special You're not just trying to eat what they're serving here You're not limited to what they have you can really bring what you want to eat And some people have a tradition about that People have they've built cookbooks about what they bring to the Hollywood Bowl And so that's what's special about it This is not a place where you come in and you know you sit quiet and watch your concert This is a place where you come early and you have a picnic you meet with friends and family you have a drink you have a dinner music is meant to be shared as a communal experience Nowhere does that better than the Hollywood Bowl And that's what we're looking forward to Again This year as we celebrate the 100th anniversary Daniel is so impressive Wow what a job he does His whole team is amazing And you know that means there's 1200 seats here almost 2300 seats at Disney 17,500 seats at the Hollywood Bowl That's a lot of singing More musical Who knew coming up including a cool thing to do with your old concert ticket I got some of those We'll be right back with more from the beautiful Ford theater Welcome back to L A unscripted from the beautiful Ford theater Now embarking on a historic 2022 music schedule You know June is Pride Month and right here on this stage this summer you can check out a quinceanera It's a kiki and a quinceanera all rolled one A celebration of Las Queer Latinx music in drag communities featuring some of Socal's most talented drag artists I'll be getting a ticket for that But right

now Olivia de Bertoli has another very colorful LGBT Q story West Hollywood is one of the pioneers of the rainbow crosswalk trends across the country I think that they mean like representation and it sort of creates a space for gay LGBT Q people in like we ho I think it's really a symbol for the city In fact our city flag we have a rainbow version It it's important again because this is a place where the city has historically had protests and rallies and gathered when we had our rallies about marriage equality You know that's where we were You get to see pride joy fun life no distractions But what I love is that everyone gets along and anyone could be whatever they want to be Well I'm a painter so I love color and everywhere I go if you can make something happen like a mural or colored sidewalks or anything that kind of enhances your experience I'm open to it and everyone feels safe there and they feel that they are with community And recently we updated the crosswalk to be the progress flag What do you love about We like most of the world is like set up for straight people I love that It's like really caters or sort of panders to LGBT Q people Like there's not a lot of places in the world that do that Thank you Olivia Ok Doug have you seen any shows here at the Forest de I can't believe I haven't and I can't wait to after seeing this place But do you know that I actually have almost every ticket stub for every concert I've ever been to every single one How many what how many That's the answer Really Like over 100 Like I can't even hear you right now Over 100 We're probably talking definitely four digits Oh my That's a lot That's amazing But if you're someone who may think that the ticket stub collecting is cool Then you want to check out this story family Yeah That's my hard rocking dad friends The occasional total stranger w low behind every stub first fist pound me at this show And it was all caught in the Jumbotron is an incredible story You fess pound me on this one too Actually I caught it on cellphone We won tickets to this show and a memory that's everlasting My wife and I flew all the way to Philadelphia and we were front row for Dave Matthews and Tim Reynolds In most cases the show I don't remember which is what makes Stub stories so appealing That's why we call the company Stub Stories apparel because every stub tells a story Jackie Balestra and Don mcconaughey have found a way to capture those moments We started with T shirts and within like three days of ordering samples she's like we should do masks with a new company that celebrates the music That's such a great conversation Starter people come to you know I've met several people that have actually been to the shows of the ticket I'm wearing by putting that old ticket stub to everyday use It's history you know So so and these are these

are collectibles with a portion of every sale benefitting local youth musicians for every item we sell We're going to donate \$1 to the South Bay Music connection When you have a stack of stubs at home Do you know how difficult it is to select the ones that are going to go on the shirts Yeah Yeah There's the sentimental shows Like my first date with my wife Billy Joel at Hollywood Bowl 2014 This is all I have to show for it but we made up for it years later by celebrating our engagement with Billy at New York's Madison Square Gardens There's the monumental concerts This is one of Tom Petty's last shows before he died Same with Chris Cornell And what about the big name shows in small venues like Metallica at the Fonda Theater Aerosmith at the Whiskey Billie Eilish at the Troubadour or The Killer in North Park San Diego Not to mention the historic ax and the shows we've traveled across country for in the end when it came to choosing my stub story you told me that your very first concert was Billy Joel and Elton John I went with a little nostalgia So we made you up a shirt and a mask from Doug's very first concert you know Dina for as many ticket stubs as I have Nothing is cooler than my dad's three Woodstock tickets You had it made into a mug Yeah Isn't that great It was \$6 You guys This is so cool Doug I mean it needs a good washing We'll be right back with the record store that totally rocked my world I see what you did there Welcome back to L A unscripted from the beautiful Ford theater in the Hills of Los Angeles But right now let's check out the musical place where we almost lost Doug Polk to for forever It is true Dana I am a music fan and I'm a memorabilia fan and there is no better place to go if you're a lover of both All right this is awesome This is Candy Land Well this is Rockaway Records in Silver Lake We've been here for about 40 years now selling records cds memorabilia A little bit of everything When you talk about memorabilia that's what's hot right now And vinyl vinyl is super hot as well So show me some of your valuables you you want to start with the most valuable Yeah let's do it let's do it Ok This is the best thing we have in the store This is a piece of the Ed Sullivan backdrop From the very first night The Beatles appeared on Ed Sullivan on February 9th 1964 I have to ask numbers here How much do you buy this for And how much do you sell it for Well I don't own it I'm selling it on consignment for a local collector and I'm asking 700,000 for it What else you got Ok let's see My next let's go over here besides the classic rock like Beatles What's super hot now is punk and grunge That Sex Pistols t-shirt fairly common promo item came out in 77 I used to sell them in the late seventies for like 2030 bucks Now look at the price \$850 grunge Look at that nirvana signed photo Look at

the price on that \$16,000 So is a is a signed Nirvana photo that rare Very rare I mean if you look on a lot of the auction sites and that I want to mention names 90% are phony Oh really Yeah be careful buying autographs Meet Alice Cooper That's an actual stage costume that he wore on stage And that's going for \$20,000 You know what's the coolest thing about all this is that every piece of memorabilia has a story as far as dealers go nobody pays more And you know we're known for being paid fair prices whether you know what you have or not Ok So what'd you get Uh that'd be a sack of my own tears for all the things I wanted and couldn't buy All right Well this will cheer you up Remember Corey Feldman Tony I mean there's so many He has released a ton of new music and he gave us the lowdown over breakfast I've been great I've been great I've been working so hard I've been locked away in my cave creating this new work It's an amazing amount of work The biggest project that I've ever put out You were able to use the pandemic to write music And I've actually been creating music for 35 years Not only that but I actually started singing before I started acting interesting And a lot of people don't know I didn't know that this is a big package So we've got the we've got the brand new box set and we've got the brand new album There's a song that my son helped me write It's his very first outing as a songwriter and he helped me write a song about the pandemic about the lockdown This is the this is an eight song EP which is a picture disc Love the art on this Isn't it beautiful It's all done by this artist named Howard Thieman who's a local Los Angeles artist OK who's been with me since the early nineties OK This is amazing What is this So this is the love left 2.1 box set OK This is the full deal So on the ep you're only getting samples you're getting two from each disc This contains six discs along with many other goodies and many other surprises So the six discs are four cds two dvds Then there's also a outtake unreleased CD which has got 19 songs that have previously never been heard by anyone and never released before including a duet with Alfonso Ribeiro who is very close with during the eighties and early nineties Then there's a documentary as part of the dvds as I was saying it's called Corey Feldman artist man behind the left There's rare photographs rare video footage stuff that's never been released including footage with like me and Michael Jackson Drew Barrymore You know singing it so simple with me The song that Alfonso and I did on our after school special 15 and getting straight we are the first to launch and pioneer this brand new technology which is hologram query When you open up your box you take your phone you get the little QR code put the camera up on your phone and you put it up to the

QR code and suddenly a hologram of me pops up Where can people get this
Ok So you can order it directly at my website which is Corey Feldman dot
net OK Everybody we all know I'm a big cereal lover I know my cereals But
the question is Dana do you know your cereal I know You think so I couldn't
feed you the cereal Here we go OK Here we go Which one have we got an
eating one Here's pie crust Something a little more difficult Get that out of
your mouth We don't want to blend the taste together I think it's Fruity
Pebbles You're so good Oh that's two out of two What's it gonna be What is
it that a classic Oh wow you are really good at this I was gonna say Golden
Grahams You got three out of three Dana is an aficionado I'm serious What
does a girl have to do is get her luck charms around here before you run
away We've got one more thing for you Speaking of runaway Speaking of
runaway that happens to be my first ever music video Coy Thank you so
much God bless you Dana Mhm Well that's all the time we have for today
Thank you so much for joining us and you know a special thanks to the Ford
Theater Don't forget to check out their summer line up There are so many
good shows to see for the entire family Good night You guys must let's go
catch a concert let's go