

## LA Unscripted | March 2nd, 2022

From hot spots and hidden gems to lots of local flavor It's your guide to L A the unscripted way And tonight it's time to get your grind on because we're throwing a real brew ha ha from the Lamina Mansion in Beverly Hills mo you know Cappuccino lattes and espressos were all about the coffee talk Hello everyone I'm de and if you love a good cup of Joe we're about to show you how to do coffee The L A Way up First multi Grammy award winning singer songwriter Jason takes us to his farm where he's climbing a very unique hill of bean Wow that's very different than the Kura Good floral notes on this right out the gate You can you can get it on the nose and there's some vibrant yeah it's been a journey but I drink coffee now all the time Sometimes I forget there are other beverages I'm drinking coffee all day long and um I'm just thrilled to be a part of it So yeah I started my career in coffee shops singing music in the corner and I didn't know much about coffee I drank tea mostly I moved out to a piece of earth uh in 2004 as a songwriter and a musician I wanted to just live out in the country where I can make some noise In 2008 9 I really started to fall in love with the idea of um local food and in that hunt for something unique we stumbled upon Jay Rusie at Goodland Organics and Fringe Coffee We're about to try our 2021 crop of Geisha which was grown right here behind us Uh We grow the cherries for Fringe coffee So June July August we start harvesting cherries They go to a mill where Fringe does all the post harvest uh processing Fringe is headquartered in San Barbara California But we support a network of 74 farms in uh through southern California And we provide a whole system solution for the farmers who are usually avocado farmers and lemon farmers trying to change their crop into a specialty I would like to say on the on how we met though It was kind of a collision of our different um interests coming together I'm the farmer and he bought a farm I was interested in coffee He liked coffee and then we came together through mutual friends and associates and then we've kind of combined resources to make help make California coffee real and to make his farm a productive coffee farm Come on through the Moraz farm has one of our oldest farms And so you'll find uh it's also one of our oldest groves And so the coffee is really matured here on this piece of earth We have 11 different varieties that we grow um which is each one has unique characteristics from and you can see it just in the size of its leaf Some of them have different colors when they ripen which is which is very exciting People don't necessarily think of California as a coffee

producer but California produces a lot of diversity in crops So we think there is a growing market here in southern California for fine coffees and it starts here on the farm Well here's to your 2021 Geisha amazing Wow Wow And here's to Justin and Khiva and our hard working crew here who really manage the the trees on a day to day basis because it does take a team and from a singer with coffee beans to an actress with coffee shop dreams is proved she can grind better than most creating movies TV shows and a host of other things that highlight black culture Now the East Empire is expanding Drip by Drip My name is Janni Hagos and I'm the co founder of hilltop Coffee and kitchen and I'm revealing what it means to find your hilltop and where to get a great cup of coffee Find your hilltop What does that mean It's you deciding on what your mission and what your purpose is in order for you to reach your hilltop We provide coffee for the climb We provide food for the climb space for the climb Anything that we can do any tools possible that we can to help people accomplish what they need to do and live a purpose driven life You really wanted to build a business in Inglewood Why I'm born and raised here We've been able to kind of open other businesses in L A We have a restaurant in Hollywood and my partner AJ and I would always have meetings at cafes and all these beautiful spaces north of the 10 And it just dawned on us one day why are we not creating these things that we're capable of putting together in this area that we're from So that's that's where Slosson came from and then just kind of evolved into our flagship location in Inglewood I've always wanted a coffee shop in my neighborhood Like coffee shops facilitate productivity in so many ways you meet Isa Rae Our mission is just completely aligned She has other businesses and other initiatives that she's doing in England She has a block party that she does and it's she's really involved in the community I personally have done all of my writing in coffee shops So it always disappointed me that there weren't any that were black owned This is a dream come true with ISA being premier and myself It just made a lot of sense to take advantage of this opportunity That is a very popular bowl It's our soul bowl Soul bowl It's grits with braised collard greens and a poached egg and a cream corn I'm from the South So grits dying to try This is the way you want to start your day for sure Oh my God We're really in central where we source our ingredients from And our menu item kind of spans from very healthy salad with kale and beets and yams all the way to short rib grilled cheese This is the salmon drop top big part of it is coming south of the 10 and trying to offer the highest quality food that we can And the food is not secondary to the coffee Our best

selling drink is actually a lavender latte Yeah we have the blue pea macho We're going to start off with our butterfly pt Oh it's so pretty I grab your oatmeal OK And you want to go about where the mountain peak is We're going to make the match Now How pretty is this Oh that is delicious We've had a ton of support through from the time we started What does that mean to you as someone who's from this community Amazing Just having acceptance from your own community and being able to add value is huge That's going to help me get to my hilltop She is such a force and the food and coffee There was amazing All right you may not know this but coffee in Australia is a true art form and baristas are like total rock stars now However you don't have to go down under to get a nice drip because I found the main social spot to take your mate You feel like you're in a like lavender field like running through it in the sundress Like it's so delicious Basically little ripper is uh something you'd say in Australia to like a kid or a friend You you know you little ripper That is an endearing way to say like you little good thing for five years in New York We moved to uh L A and opened up the coffee shop We moved into Glassell Park and then home lo and behold this little and popped up and we just decided to pull the trigger and yeah move in and then we just had a little baby girl So we're loving life Everything's moving in the right direction You know it's a small community but there are a lot of locals that come by Yeah they all hang out and just sit on our bench and enjoy their morning coffee shot of espresso We always pull two shots here I think it's more of a you know like three cups of coffee in the morning you know just to get you going get you fired up get you to work in Australia It's just a little more of a a morning ritual luxury as opposed to like a necessity Everyone knows their local barista And if you don't then you usually probably don't drink good coffee Our drinks that we specialize in are eight ounce flat whites eight ounce cappuccinos We don't do any grandes or ginormous coffees here How you put it in and pull it tight Where do you put it in So this is espresso a lot of Americans call it Espresso out in our own country Now we're going to steam out lavender milk Our secret ingredients very protective about the lavender secret He won't tell anyone including us in Australia We have nicknames for everyone and everything actually So Daisy is what we're going with Oh Dazy OK From Dana to Daisy Ok I've been called worse Alright Dana I dare to eat that Our world-famous vegemite We love it You hate it Trust me You're gonna love it Alright here it goes I mean come on I did it You did just I did it All right Come down to Glasow Park to the little river to come see Little Rexy He has a nickname too Rex He was so much

fun and the lavender is not not the vegemite though That was awful All right  
Coming up the South L A coffee shop that gives back and the arts place to  
grab an Americano Welcome back to L A unscripted And are you ready to  
have coffee The Ariana Grande and Beyonce way with Jasmine Simpkins  
found the South L A cafe that pulled in some big names to help give back to  
people in need We have a thing we say which is like for us by us people  
appreciate that And they say we want a South L A cafe in our neighborhood  
I'm Celia Ward Wallace I'm the co founder of South L A Cafe My husband's  
Joe and we've been together for 24 years 22 of those years We've been doing  
business together One business or the other all oriented around uplifting our  
community three or four years ago as local residents in South L A living  
right here around the corner we saw that there was rising development  
happening gentrification We came up with this big crazy dream of creating a  
cafe and I saw this spot on the corner and I went wow the place is always  
empty and it it looked terrible But I said you know what That's the spot So  
we opened in November soft Open November 2019 And then we did our  
grand opening December of 2019 And then four months later the pandemic  
hit we thought why don't we shift to providing groceries to the community  
where they could get a grocery box Well Ariana Grande became a customer  
Beyonce we became a fan and with that and we also landed on the cover of  
the L A Times and the Washington Post And so with all of that media storm  
people from all over the world started sponsoring these grocery boxes Flash  
forward a full year We fed over 55,000 local families free food every single  
Wednesday We have volunteers from all over the city that come and help us  
and we have donors from all over the world that support us It looks like a lot  
of great stuff that you guys are giving to folks in the community I want to  
help So let's go We do probably like 3 to 400 bags a day We try not to have  
any super processed food in our in our things and definitely try to keep away  
from canned goods This is super heavy super heavy I'm getting my workout  
in today Everybody asked us like what's your favorite thing for me It's the  
people being able to live here and feel like our community loves us If you  
want food you gotta get the avocado toast It's so amazing because you could  
add tomatoes you can add cheese We have vegan cheese options Also our  
cold brew is just so smooth That's the Ariana Grande's favorite I said at the  
beginning of this honey let's just open it let's just build it let's open it and  
they will come you know and people have just wrapped this community has  
wrapped their arms around us and is taking care of us So it feels wonderful  
for this to now be just this beautiful spot in our in our community historical

we're gonna be on the next monopoly uh piece People doing really good things in our city Now if you stay here at the LA Mansion in Beverly Hills you can have your morning coffee in the amazing chef's kitchen But if you want to sip your Americano in a real work of art Megan Tell us has the Java joint for you What's up My name is Joshua Vides I'm a visual artist based in Southern California and welcome to Matt Black Coffee You never thought this was gonna happen right When we were in class together Like I remember you were a kid with like a tattoo on your finger What is did you know that this was in the work I mean not this exactly You know I think I've always had an idea in the back of my mind that I wanted to be known for something How do you explain it your artwork I create these visual experiences which I think I'm mainly known for And also obviously there's products that you know go with you know collaborations with Fendi and Converse BMW New Balance It's not only doing my own thing but also being able to be pushed to this massive audience you know globally through the brand partnerships When I was thinking about creating a permanent space Like what could it be besides obviously like a gallery of just my work I've always had a love for coffee and you know being Guatemalan I think it's just in my blood There's three partners in in this program Andy owns Afters Ice Cream which James owns Moster coffee which they won roaster of the year in 2019 He's the legitimate coffee guy and I'm the one that basically created the space All right Josh take me on this tour Like this is your iconic artwork the black the white I feel like like where am I How would you describe it to people I mean this is kind of what the inside of my brain looks like I guess you know this is hand painted canvas this is produced vinyl This table is hand painted These back pieces are hand painted this is vinyl So we were also thinking about wear and tear right Like where are people gonna sit What are people gonna touch The floor is obviously completely hand painted from front to back If you come here on the weekends there's a line out the door and every one of these pods is taken there's kids coming in you like fully dressed in black and white You know knowing I'm coming to the installation and not even knowing who I am not even knowing what this artwork is or that it's here They're walking in and being like I saw this on Tik Tok You know I saw this on Instagram What is it That's to me is like an amazing way to run a business have you done this here before Have you tried to make the cop or is that the art on its own I mean I worked at Starbucks when I was 17 I also you I just I just still have it in me Sprinkle in the hair Yeah you can you can I'm making this for you You have to drink it So you

tell me is that more You can go more Look at that Good morning Welcome to Matt Black All right Go for it Hire me It's good Right I mean this hits there You have it Cheers to that We'll be right back with more hot drips Cool tips and coffee talk Welcome back to L A unscripted from the LA mansion in Beverly Hills and we have got a hot spot right now That is a go to for coffee cocktails with names like the mean girl the money maker and the gold digger It's no wonder it became an Instagram must It's in every culture it's in every city it's everywhere and it really brings people together from all over the world Hi I'm Chantel for Sandy the owner of more I'm here to reveal a new unforgettable coffee shop What it means Bolt like a lightning bolt and it's called and they are more It's bolt of love When I think of coffee I think of energy I think of lightning I think of like a little we are in the West Adams mid city area in Los Angeles California I went to culinary school I have a culinary background This just kind of fell into place and I just wanted to open a place where I felt at home a place where I can literally see my friends come hang out have a drink How has social media helped you Social media is like a big part of what we do and we're very grateful for it because what made us people come in and they're like I saw you on Tik Tok All of our drinks were photo worthy and delicious And don't forget to try the Cheeto cream cheese bagel So we have three signature drinks We have the mean girl which is a spicy pink chai And then we have the money maker which is gonna be our vanilla rose macha Oh And then lastly we have the gold digger We have a hot Cheeto bagel It's an everything bagel with cream cheese and then we hit it with some hot cheetos It's something I used to do in middle school when I had a bagel here for some reason I was like I need to put hot Cheetos on this with a rose OK You guys I know that boon means like bolt We have been struck by Bo Oh my God I mean cheers Thank you so much so much Thank you for coming Everything was so beautiful and delicious I take my daughter there all the time All right Jasmine Simpkins hits the streets for a coffee spot That's on the move with a really great mission Pink Star Cafe is a vegan mobile cafe based in Los Angeles And our goal here is to bring our customers back to the origins of Africa I'm a first generation American My family is originally from Sierra Leone So I wanted to create a product where I can serve people while they also help serve other people simultaneously So your everyday cup of coffee your everyday cup of tea Everyday cup of lemonade is helping Children in Sierra Leone And I was there during the war as a child So I wanted to give back to a place that's still been impacted from the war Ebola mudslides And now COVID-19 the idea

came up at the end of 2018 said hey how can I make a coffee shop that's like affordable where I won't have to pay like a high like rent So I said hey why not get like a coffee truck We launched two days before election day and we actually did free coffee We did a whole wake up and vote campaign Obviously we're in Los Angeles Everybody wants to be a star and I want everybody who comes to the cafe to feel like a star But I also chose the colors that I chose because if you watch the sunset in the evening the skies are pink and blue with a hint of purples So currently on our truck we serve Ethiopian African coffee on our espresso base But we also give people the option to buy or purchase coffee We also carry vegan pastries that are also locally made We don't serve any kind of dairy So no animals are harmed with none of our products and our products are original and our products are fun and they're very tasty Can you show me how to make the pink star Yes ma'am Ok So our pink style latte is a is a praline latte with oat milk but the oat milk has pink and blue antioxidant milk It's pink it's pink dragon fruit also with blue spirulina So we top it off with ice Well we top off the espresso and the praline with ice and we use our pink and blue milk which gives it its vibrant color My goodness There's like three levels of incredible flavor here A millennial Mecca All right Thank you for that one Jasmine and that is all the coffee talk time we have for tonight Thanks for pouring out a little bit of your data to spend with us We'll see you next time Good night