

LA Unscripted | January 25th, 2022

From hot spots to hidden gems and lots of local flavor It's your guide to all things L A the unscripted way from California's own botanical Paradise Disano Gardens to travel through 150 acres of forest and flowers with just one ticket Hello everyone I'm Devin And tonight we're making sure you're in the know about one of the most magical places in so Cal and it's open 364 days a year Welcome to the stunning Conso gardens where ducks dip owls howl and the oak trees are 500 years old What Yep It's true DeSano actually means place of rest Hi I'm Julianne Rook the executive director of Deano Gardens And this evening we will be revealing some secrets of this botanic paradise We're the kind of place where you can just get your energy back by being in nature which is such an important I think component of being human in the thirties Manchester Bodi who was a newspaper man was looking for a place and back then there was nothing out here just grows and grows of oaks and he cobbled together 160 acres and called this his home built his house the town of Laquita built up around him He was first we have a lot of visitors to the gardens Our daytime visitation at the moment um for 2021 was 650,000 visitors We also do events here We have nighttime events a chanted forest of light and then we also have carved We have almost another 200,000 folks that come through at the night time That's like 850,000 people coming to the gardens that doesn't even include people getting married here We include that We're close to a million people The rose garden which is five acres is I think the favorite garden for visitors And it's probably because we have so many varieties that bloom from spring almost all the way until November just really overflowing with roses The oaks I would say is maybe what we are known for We have 3800 oaks on the property and amongst the oaks are a Camellia collection through 18 acres of the property And then we have this Japanese garden which is in fact my favorite because of the oaks and the camellias and the azaleas and the way that the sun filters through at four o'clock we're also very you know easy to get to We're only 10 minutes from downtown So we're pretty close while the bees and butterflies and birds roam free here at Desso Gardens We're revealing a wonderfully wild social store that likes to keep its grasshoppers under glass I guess you could call them glass hoppers The store draws so many different walks of life to it Um Because we try and offer something for everyone here My name is Theodora Coleman I'm the owner of Gold Bug and I'm revealing a contemporary cabinet of curiosities We have a lot of people coming in

looking for unique conversation starters for their home small pieces that you might display on your table or hang on your wall Some of the pieces that you'll find here truly belong in museums I have a human sized carved skull that's made out of fossilized dinosaur bone This is a tapestry that's made by a company in France that's been around since the 14th century Gold Bugs a family business And we've been here in Pasadena for 15 years My mother my father and I started this store to create a space where artists could show work that is unique and unusual When you visit the shop you're gonna find one of a kind art pieces made by independent artists We really value uh the natural world So when you visit the shop you're gonna find maybe relics from nature pieces that have been taken straight out of the forest or pieces of art that are inspired by the forms that you'll find there These are insects that are farmed by entomologists around the world The store being called gold bug We attract a lot of people who are looking for just that they're they're looking for bugs We do something very unique in that we sell uh preserved insects One of the things that I love about this shop is it gives me the opportunity to share my love of anthropology and Entomology with people I have stones that are 250 million years old and I love being able to share the wonders of this planet with people I have a squid on the wall that is the most extensive calamari you might ever buy Gold Bug is not just a retail space We're a gallery We have temporary shows and solo exhibits with our artists annually We host a group show and we auction the pieces off and the proceeds all go to charity Yeah you don't have to come in here and spend a fortune We do have pieces that are \$50,000 but you could also come in here and buy a card or a little crown I think we offer pieces that you won't find anywhere else There are lots of little treasures and it takes time to appreciate all that the store has to offer I love that place I might just go by myself a little crown because I'm the queen of all things cool to do in L A but it's a helmet you might need for this next spot and definitely some hot cocoa The night bear Snow plate is a family entertainment recreation We are up here in the mountains at just about 7000 elevations We have eight snow guns What is a snow gun Well the snow gun allows us when it is cold enough that we can make snow What makes big snow play phenomenal is that there's no lessons required Wonderful for families um kids and adults of all ages Um smiling laughing getting on their inner tube and just giggling and screaming and hollering Coming on down One of the eight runs you decide to come down Glow tubing is so much fun Same thing like uh snow tubing in the daytime except this is at night time that we do on Friday and Saturday nights And

during the holidays from 5 to 9 o'clock you get these phenomenal different color lights that um you're coming down at nighttime Our newest edition that we added was the Big Bear ropes course Big Bear ropes course is a two story ropes course and we have 26 different obstacles on the rope course and also your own zip line that you get to go down We have something very special hop on that magic carpet that magic carpet is gonna whisk you all the way up to the top of that hill and get the old seeing the smiles and the laughter of these families that come up here Got to love real snow or if you're here at descon so real waterfalls How beautiful when we come back a new kind of online grocery store for Misfit Fruit And we're going to get your Motors running with a car show at So Calzone Automotive Museum hundreds of brightly colored tulips rainbow sycamores and a light wave lake Welcome back to L A in it from the glorious Cono Gardens where the camellias are in bloom and one of the best things to do here the one mile walk through the most unique lighting experience you'll ever have So enchanted forest of light is an opportunity to walk through a mile section of the garden and you have an opportunity to see nine different light exhibitions and it's interactive The one thing you might notice when you're walking through is that none of the lights actually touch the trees because the trees are our collection I like to think about the trees being the rock stars in this light show It really is a magical exhibit and you know walking through stunning flower gardens or this Japanese Garden can really work up an appetite here at Deano And luckily Jasmine Simpkins is coming to the rescue Welcome to Bloom and bloom You're getting a warm welcome from Mr Leroy Well thank you for having a answer You're very welcome here to see the space bloom and bloom is my flower business that I've had since 2010 I started it as a way to follow a little bit more of my creativity we make custom arrangements We do a lot of high end florals for big companies celebrities you know all of that So the biggest name that we've worked with is we've worked with Beyonce We've worked with Rashida Jones Maya Rudolph We treat it more of like an art practice So you're kind of like buying a little baby sculpture before I started my business The only black florist I had ever seen was Preston Bailey And I noticed him on Oprah for her 40th birthday party and like he did I think her 50th and it was like so grand it's over the top And like that was kind of like my inspiration in in many ways I would describe my style as we kind of call it natural opulence I like a lot of movement There's a lot of dance in my life And so I like the arrangements that look like they're constantly in motion I like things to um have a lot of texture and dimension and really like the

overall gesture when you see it is like whoa breathtaking I love the name but I want to know from you Like how did you guys come up with it I really have a love for flowers I knew I was starting the flower business and I love feathers and boom Here you are And how long has it been Business has been here The coffee shop has been here It'll be three years in January The flower business has been since 2010 We're in Echo Park historic Filipino Town This has been my neighborhood I've lived here for 18 years There has just been a lot of change in the last five years And I was like mm somebody's gonna open a coffee shop somebody it's gonna annoy me So let me be the change that I want to see in the world So my brother and I um partnered together he runs the business side of it I run the creative side of it and we open bloom and plum coffee We have all of your regulars We have um your lattes cappuccinos your cortado your Americanos right now We have what's called candy on Drip and it is absolutely stunning I'm gonna pour you a cup Oh let's do it We're considered like a third wave shop So it's very bespoke It's um I I wanted that like high end experience but at a price point and uh a vibe that was accessible to all and where everybody felt comfortable to come in on tech as a new online market just for you If you don't mind carrots that are a bit crooked you clean them up you chop them up you cook them up they're gonna be just fine apples that aren't an A plus This apple might have some markings on it that might keep you from picking it up at the store But it's gonna taste just fine upside down labels or best buy dates Less than six weeks out chips look pretty good A new type of online grocery store with imperfect products and big savings might be right for you We describe ourselves as an affordable grocery store mine that rescues food that would otherwise go to waste Abi Ramesh is founder and CEO of misfits market A rapidly expanding online grocery store now delivering to most zip codes in 44 states for the average basket that you buy every week you're gonna save between 30 to 50% misfits sent me two boxes full of sample products Organic blueberries tastes really nice They offer fruits and vegetables broccoli There's that's the misfit but it looks fine to me meat and seafood This is a grass fed beef strip steak deli and bakery items and more some things did arrive a bit damaged There's always a chance that something like this could happen But overall they're pretty different sizes This one fairly small It was tough to tell what was misfitting about the majority of them There's produce that's too big they're too small They're shaped a little bit weird And so you know grocery stores don't want to buy them and put them on their shelves There are more than 500 items to choose from Many organic

all are marked with savings A minimum order is \$30 shipping a flat 550 You are by purchasing from us helping impact the environment in a positive way helping save food waste um a and saving money while you're doing so So those are three big reasons See imperfect isn't such a bad thing I mean perfectly imperfect All right coming up Olivia gets another cool assignment I'm going to have to speak with the boss on this one And Megan Tellis grabs a seat at a brand new farm to table restaurant I want to come you know I love to eat Stay tuned We'll be right back all aboard the enchanted railroad Welcome back to L A unscripted from DeSano Gardens here in SoCal And yep you can take a tiny train ride to visit your favorite flora and fauna It's an actual 18 scale replica of a diesel train and a true desso icon I think it's the number one asked question When is the train coming back And it is for everybody It's not just for folks with young Children and it's just a five minute ride It goes through the forest and it's very magical and we cannot wait to bring it back It's coming back in February Well you don't need a tiny train to get you to our next hot spot but you do need a large appetite Megan Tellis is taking us inside fig restaurant The newest member of the Farm to Table Club Where are we We're at the Santa Monica Farmer's market this beautiful day You say that a majority of chefs You yourself included Come here to get the produce for Absolutely It's the best I mean you can't do anything wrong when you come to the farmer's market over here And what are we looking for specifically I hear we're gonna make the avocado toast We'll head up JJ Lodo a ranch for some avocados We're gonna grab some squash from probably Alex Weiser at Weiser Farm I think it's amazing when you're down here you don't realize that you're in a big city even though we're a small seaside community day to day It's all about making sure we deliver guests the best food experience We can uh sourcing local really celebrating the farmers celebrating local ranchers fishermen You know that's my job is to bring everything around Santa Monica as close to the guests as possible It's a really fun part of my job which I really love is having these relationships with the farmers and the fishermen and the ranchers and you know they are my friends So I play golf with the gentleman that grows my lettuce OK The red sauce I've tried it recently I still think about it I dream about it Chef We have our delicata squash from the market and sprouts that we picked up as well today This is our soon to hit the menu This is our honey nut squash tortellini with more honey nut squash and sage and a little bit of apple balsamic So simple straightforward great butter great squash great pasta which we make in house So they're amazing beautiful scows a little bit of

spice So all the food and figs got a little bit of kick to it We have our Fresno hot sauce we use here in fig which is bottled that every guest gets to have And we also have our carrot habanero hot sauce as well For those who want to say that the Fresno's not hot enough but I'm like it's OK Let's go make something All right let's go So beautiful avocados while I do this What are you doing And then we're gonna chop some chives We work on our precision by our knife cuts and simple delicious food So fresh literally from the farmer's market What an hour ago do the farmers from the farmer's market ever come here to eat the food Yes So normally in the morning we take about 40 burritos over there Really It gets cold We bring hot chocolate coffee and we feed our farmers which puts us a little bit first in line because they that is it and a couple more drops of olive oil guys and we are done Mm Megan That looks delicious OK So if you live in Los Angeles then you know the only thing more important than your zip code is the kind of car you drive Olivia de Bortoli takes you to the one place where all the cool rides live Under just one roof From the first ever car built to the latest and fastest hyper cars to 60 years of cars in Bond films The Peterson Automotive Museum has everything you could ever want If you had to pick one car to take home today which car would it be That's a tough one Over here on my left there's a car called the Remap concept one which was really a groundbreaking electric car It's really set the standard for technology with high performance electric vehicle propulsion The Peterson was founded originally in 1994 by Robert E Peterson He's well known for having started Hot Rod magazine back in the late 19 forties and a very large number of other magazines that he continued publishing for decades And in the 19 nineties he had the foresight creating a world class automotive museum here in Los Angeles focused partly on the history of the automobile in Los Angeles itself but also on the history of the automobile in the world as a whole hyper cars is an exhibit of 15 of the most extroverted audacious and extreme cars in the world Also the fastest and the rarest cars in the world in Los Angeles There actually are a relatively large number of supercars and hyper cars but seeing all of these particular cars in one room like this we're not aware of them ever having been gathered anywhere in the world before So it's a really great opportunity to see extremely rare cars even if you might see them individually on the road seeing them all in one place as far as we know it is totally unprecedented Bond in motion is actually the first official exhibition of Bond vehicles ever in the United States We're celebrating the 60 th anniversary of the Bond film franchise Right now There have been small private collections

shown in the United States and there have been official exhibitions outside the United States but there's never been an official sanction by the production company exhibition of Bond vehicles here in the US This car in particular is pretty incredible Tell me about this car This is a 1964 Aston Martin DB five This particular one in front of us is the most vehicle used in more Bond films than any other car This car has been used in five different Bond movies that is including Golden Eye Tomorrow Never Dies Skyfall Specter and most recently no time to die I imagine you know getting all of these Bond vehicles is not an easy task In this case we were aware that there was a prominent exhibit in London England featuring Bond vehicles that was coming to a close We knew that there had never been an official exhibit in the United States of Bond Vehicles So we went over to England spoke to the production company asked them what was going to happen to the cars that were being featured in London they were still weighing various opportunities But in the end it worked out my gauge of success is to be able to take people who aren't necessarily interested in cars and make them interested when they walk out the door Thank you Olivia And thank you so much to the wonderful people here at Deano Gardens It's been a magical and calming visit So where will we pop up next You never know We'll see you next time