

LA Unscripted | December 23rd, 2021

From hot spots to hidden gems It's your guide to all things L A The unscripted way from Severance at the Pali Hotel in West Hollywood dipping delicacies winning wines and craft cocktails Ok So the Webster meaning of severance is ending a connection But this Melrose Avenue eatery is all about making new ones Hi everyone I'm Devin And this holiday season a pink slip never looked so good And you know what L A in scripted we try everything first so you don't have to so fire me I see All right Now we're revealing how walking papers led what angel you know to a whole new career I've honestly never tried anything like this before so I'm excited Oh yeah it's dangerous Oh wow It's a wine and cocktail bar here on Melrose border West Hollywood We've been open since 2018 We do uh kind of an eclectic mix of old world and new world wines craft cocktails and kind of a hangout place There's a neighborhood spot inside Valley Hotel Melrose So dark chocolate fondue party So the original origin story of the bar Severance is I got laid off as part of a corporate restructuring and I took the severance money and opened the bar and sometimes getting fired does actually lead to good things We have two big outdoor patios super safe for people that are not necessarily want to dine inside quite yet So we do a roquette and grier cheese fondue We have it every night normally and then we also do a dark chocolate fondue with a bunch of accouterments including French macarons and we do like a ricotta cake all kind of dunk dunk dunking accouterments to get in there and get as much chocolate as possible So we're doing for the holidays We're doing an office holiday party pop up for everyone that wasn't able to have an office holiday party this year and last year So we're making up for lost time We're doing a bunch of themed cocktails and drinks So we're starting off with eggnog So there's a lot of process that goes on behind it and we do a three spirit kind of nog which is uh rum brandy and whiskey A little bit of ginger candy Oh yeah that's eggnog So we're gonna be doing a Mezcal mule but to holiday it up we're doing a fresh cranberry syrup Still shake it for dilution and then top with a ginger beer We don't need to dude it Yeah So this is our it's actually a touch of maple old fashioned for the holidays and we activate it with a little bit of torch strawberry Oh my God That is amazing Thank you I don't even normally like old fashioned and I love this That is that's not too sweet just very balanced Amazing I love the fact that you guys do big punch bowls here Such an office party to have like a punch bowl Ok But we're bringing it back we're bringing it back Cheers to the punch bowl Oh

my God I love it We are doing nightly ugly sweater competitions We have an Irish coffee bar We have a great drink called you Drunk Karen We think it's about time we bring back the office holiday party and we think this is the place to do it at Severance Get fired up about being fired And if you're giving booze the boot today there are so many options to mingle all the way without alcohol You can get them in these sleek 12 ounce servings or you can get them in this 25 ounce bottle and listen to these flavors I love this so much So this is blackberry Hibiscus Bellini This one is cucumber melon Mojito I really like that one Then we have your traditional cranberry cosmo and your blood orange elderflower mimosa Oh my gosh We have to try the blood orange Elderflower Mimosa Only 60 calories They're super light super refreshing You could drink these any time of day Oh no that's delicious Look how pretty those are too So it even smells delicious 60 calories You guys Are you kidding me Those are so good Not too sweet either You have to be like cloyingly too sweet actually really really delicious OK This one sparkling mocktail This is cucumber melon Mojito By the way this is also a woman owned business which I think is really rad clean ingredients Love that Just a tiny bit of cane sugar Oh that is amazing So if you're giving up alcohol for just a month or for a week or two or if you just don't drink at all these are perfect for you You've got to try them They're so delicious so light so refreshing and you know at least you remember everyone you kiss under the office missile toe And by the way if art is your vice our Jasmine Simpkins stumbles into a West Adams Avenue Art Gallery built to ban so creative community together This is meant to be a safe space a safe space for people to explore and identify and feel welcomed And so that's why instead of calling at a gallery we called our Sacred House Hello I'm Darryl Walsh one of the partners here at Band of VS And we're really not just an art gallery business we're an art and culture business So we are really trying to identify promote and give visibility to those often unseen and overlooked marginalized people people of color We're very intentional about the programming We typically do 6 to 8 activations a year and we call them exhibitions All right So you know I've been trying to get in this gallery for quite some time So tell me what is the story Because it's so amazing I've been a professional actor for most of my life I began hosting art shows around 1999 to help visual artists make a living in the same way that people were supporting me as an actor Then it it really powder cake and turned into a business And so we opened our space across the street in 2015 And you know now we open this one in 21 But when we first took the building uh

across the street it was pretty run down We had to relay floors and take out ceilings and patch up walls But we always had a vision Uh you know I feel like to think that the West Adams area will just continue to evolve and grow but you know we were lucky we were here first So why did you decide to paint it pink I kind of think I know why it's very eye catching My initial thought was that this would be a love song for the neighborhood that here's something beautiful that really represents a tender side of us At the same time you know we call this space our sacred house Uh This is a sanctuary for really all types of different creative ventures that happen in here L A has become an epicenter for the art world Now it used to be New York dominated and then there was London you know sort of what the version that we're doing here in this West Adams community it's access So people are going I have something in my backyard that I can walk to I can bring my kids to we can hang out We actually have a mantra that we have on the side of our building And it says that you know there was a time when it was bad to be black a time when it was brown was illegal A time when you know being gay or queer was immoral in a time when uh being differentially able was abominable You know there was a time when being different was a vice and we reject those labels Uh We can say to those folks you know your time is now our time is now we're creating a band of I there are so many incredible gyms right here in our own backyard and we have more to share coming up where L A ice queens and Kings can lace up Plus got a po whos bad behavior has been on the ice We found a new local place that promises to tame your wild beast When L A unscripted from Severance Wine and Fondue Bar comes back cheese and share some f new fun Welcome back to L A unscripted from Severance Wine Bar Pally Hotel on Melrose Avenue This holiday season jingle all the way and get lost in a local neighborhood safely Of course And today we follow a lot our way to this French food find Ok this is so exciting Yeah this is our chocolate fondue So we have a little bit of ricotta pound cakes strawberries blackberries and French macarons Let's go in Ok I'm gonna try I'm gonna do Strawberry is very classic Just look at that so dark chocolate fondue that word But ok Well I'm glad to hear the chocolate is done on my mom Ok Maybe we should try this Yeah The pancakes uh ricotta base So it's really like light airy Oh yeah Oh yeah Oh my God That's good fondue This is fondue It is fondue Agree Severance is one sweet experience next and unscripted hits the ice Hopefully not literally our Olivia They were to out in the cold looking for the best local r to balance on blades The season to I skate and the L A Kings Valley I center is the place to

do it Let's go Many people are going to come here for the early day to skate for the very first time The main tip that I can get is when you start skating stay close to the wall If you don't know what you're doing always keep your hands in front of you When you skate any time you feel that you're losing your balance Bend forward grab your knees and freeze until you recover your balance L A Kings Valley Ice Center has been here now for 10 years It offers a variety of things for our community We have our public sessions every day where people can come and skate Have a good time We offer stick times for all of our hockey players We have our adult leagues um which is one of the bigger ones in Southern California for the holidays We're going to be doing something different or we're going to be letting our customers dress up for the holidays and we're also gonna put snowmen out on the ice You're giving me a very beginner lesson What is the first step to do All right first thing first put your hands in front of you slightly bend forward because you don't want to fall on your back if you f you want to fold forward so you can put your hands first put your hands in front and now you're just going to do small steps pretending that you are walking with your shoes keep your hands in front of you Now we're gonna do some gliding Ok So you're just gonna take a couple of steps here and then glide on 2 ft one more time A little bit and glide Awesome You got it Ok So once we have gliding what's the next thing we're gonna glide But we're gonna go lower We're gonna go into a deep position So same thing a couple of steps put your feet together glide and bend your knees It's fun And the ice rinks make it fun Nice Blade work Olivia Now Megan tell us keeping us in the know and telling us where to go in Huntington Beach for terrific Truffles and bon Bons that are the bomb Mm Honey when I say dark chocolate with my yam wow It like sticks to your lip and it's kind of kind of salty My husband Jim his favorite thing in the world is having chocolate with Jim and I let's let's do it Cheers to you my friend Oh Yeah I was doing sports massage for nearly 40 years and I loved everything about it But when COVID hit and everything stopped in its tracks not only did all of my appointments cancel but I found myself where I needed to really pivot and from one career right into another without missing a beat My husband was laid off at the start of COVID and we just both found ourselves We were like we can do this We got this so we didn't even blink and we jumped right into making chocolates together We did a home kitchen We try to produce a European flair you know making things that in Europe they only produce you know and we are known for our dark chocolate and our truffles we blasted on Instagram what I was producing and what was

available each day and every single day the local community in Huntington Beach came out and they supported us when it felt right We decided that it was time to open up a storefront where we can showcase all of the things that we make you know and have the community come back in and enjoy you know luxury chocolates This is my this is how we refine our chocolate and we start with the K be and we literally roast these turn it into the N and the N go right into the machine where the stone wheels grind it for about 72 hours We have our organic cane sugar and this is sugar with that The colors we take these brushes and we literally can paint inside of these hollowed out What do you call this style Abstract I flatter the tray sometimes 25 or 30 at a time when this dries we pour the hot the liquid chocolate into and the chocolate comes out leaving a hollow chocolate shell because this is your passion It is I love it I can see myself doing this until I die Life really is like a box of chocolates or some chocolate fondue And we have more treats coming up Next Is your dog dogging you while you're trying to work from home A local service to wolf About when L A unscripted from Severance Wine Bar at the hotel is right back Scripted is celebrating it Severance Wine bar and if you come for the holidays you can enter their ugly sweater competition How fun is that Ok That I heard that you guys had ugly sweater contest You definitely win that That is an amazing what I would You guys should all come to Severance Cheers by the way Happy holiday from punch bowls to taking care of your pop We found a local service that offers dog lovers a break from the bark Cheers What do you think is the biggest single mistake you see between humans and their pets So I I believe that people think that when dogs come into their home that they're just obligated to know everything that we're saying in in English or whatever language Zoom room is a place where our motto is we don't train dogs we train the people who love them And if we're not training you it's not gonna be a successful relationship between you and your dog When do you know that you need a trainer for your dog before you get a dog Whether it's a breed whether it's adopting whether it's going to a breeder you need to know what you're getting into Every breed has specific traits and some traits have been bred out baby Come on Come we've all heard the expression You can't teach an old dog new tricks but can you in fact teach an old dog new tricks My partner had a 17 year old chihuahua that was half deaf half blind whatever And we still taught him things It's still the same brain It just has to be work when we don't work with a dog's brain It can get a little lazy just like we can if we sit and just watch TV meatball all day and there are tips and tricks to

get her moving along instead of freezing You know and if you took a treat and put it in front of her nose but not give it to her from your hand you toss it forward and ask her to find it My dog is completely spoiled She works for all her spoils in life No free lunch That's the no free lunch quality What a good girl you are a zoom room is all positive reinforcement We don't believe in any adversity or any balance training We also you know just as a another aspect we have the number one puppy book in the world that was written by our Vice President Liz Clain and our Ceo Mark Van Wy And so those crate training questions the the potty training questions all that stuff is in there and there's a reason why it's a number one book because we really put a lot of value in that in in in giving people the the knowledge that they needed Zoom room is a customizable flexible training pro program That's not a six week course We graduate on merit between the human and the dog and we have many open locations We want you to have the best relationship with your dog You will have a lifetime of joy You know who is not all far especially when it comes to cooking our very own Jessica Holmes you've got an important job but you're gonna crack eggs Ok Crack E for you Can you do it Yeah I know how to pack a shell instead of regular like Chala or sometimes we'd use raisin bread I'm gonna use the Italian sweet bread pan and you just pop it in the oven and you'll have Eggnog Panetta French toast Look at how beautiful So in here I see dried fruits and all kinds of yummy stuff So now watch out I'm gonna cut so you're gonna cut pretty decent size I'm gonna take a stick of butter and I have a big baking dish here and we're gonna just make sure the whole thing is buttered So I'm gonna lay the bread in our butter dish and just stack it kind of like fallen Domino's sort of thing to our eggs are eggnog Now you whisk a little bit of orange zest I'm gonna put some vanilla even though there's all the flavorings in here A little more can't hurt You can do more cinnamon because the bread has some sweetness and so does the eggnog I'm just gonna add a tiny bit of sugar Are you ready to pour this on OK Ready to dump Yeah I'm ready and all of this is gonna so yummy Right We pop it in the fridge two hours to overnight Ok My French toast was in the fridge for two hours or overnight whatever works best And now I'm going to pop it in an oven 350 for about 45 minutes So our eggnog uh Petone French toast is out of the oven and it because it's soaked in all the liquid It's puffed up The almonds have toasted So of course just to make it extra pretty some powdered sugar Breakfast is served Thank you J and we just got our pink slip from Severance So we got to go We had a great time going off script here though Where will we be next You never know email us

at all and at a dot com we'll see you next time