

T H E

L A L A

There is no shortage of must-see openings, events and happenings throughout the city at any given moment. So where to turn your attention first? We've put together our cheat sheet of the people, places and things to have on your radar right now.

BY **ALLISON BERG**

L I S T

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Photorealistic-cum-abstract painter Calida Rawles unveils her highly-anticipated solo exhibition, "A Dream for My Lilith," at Various Small Fires gallery and a coinciding solo presentation at Frieze Los Angeles this February. Utilizing the duality of water as a platform to cull significant cultural, historical, spiritual and political references, variously-scaled and meticulously-detailed compositions submerge viewers alongside the paintings' subjects in mesmerizing canvases that connote fear, exclusion and violence while also celebrating the beauty, strength and resilience of Rawles's African American culture. VSFLA

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JAMES M. HARRIS FOR VARIOUS SMALL FIRES, LOS ANGELES, SEUL

Calida Rawles's *Lost in the Shuffle* (2019)

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THE LALA LIST

This winter, Milan-based Nilufar Gallery opens its inaugural LA iteration of **SQUAT**, the modern masters and contemporary design show that Iranian dealer and collector Nina Yashar first launched eight years ago in Paris and has subsequently brought to Beirut, Milan and London. The Highland Avenue exhibition in a 5,000-square-foot industrial space includes over 150 pieces by more than 40 designers ranging from vintage ceiling lamps by Hans Agne Jakobsson, an extendable desk by Finn Juhl, signature works by Bethan Laura Wood, Claude Missir and Michael Anastassiades to vintage hand-knotted rugs and exclusive limited editions. NILUFAR.COM



Gabriella Crespi's *Cubo Magico* coffee table from the *Plurimi* collection, Italy (c. 1970s)

PHOTO BY LEE TYLER THOMPSON; ILLUSTRATION BY SEA ZEDA



An installation view of Morfat Takadiwa's "Son of the Soil" at Nicodim Gallery

Eight blocks south of the Arts District, the intersection of Olympic Boulevard and Santa Fe Avenue has emerged as the buzziest culture corner in DTLA. Over the past several months, four well-regarded small-to-mid-size contemporary art galleries have taken up residence at **1700 South Santa Fe** inside a former tire factory that has been converted into an airy, light-flooded four-story creative campus—a one-stop shop to take in some of LA's most compelling shows at **Vielmetter**, **Nicodim Gallery**, **Gavlak** and **Wilding Cran Gallery**. VIELMETTER.COM; NICODIMGALLERY.COM; GAVLAKGALLERY.COM; WILDINGCRAN.COM



A rendering of Dakota Jackson's 2020 *Saturn Stool*; illustration by Sea Zeda

This March, antique restorer and furniture designer Dakota Jackson marks the 50th anniversary of his eponymous brand with a limited-edition run of his reimagined seminal 1970s **Saturn Stool**. Over the years, the stool has made its way into collaborations with the likes of Diane von Furstenberg and Absolut Vodka. This latest numbered iteration, rendered in bronze and brass with etched signature, will be unveiled during a celebratory live-music event at the designer's new LA showroom. DAKOTAJACKSON.COM



This January, eminent fitness evangelist and former member of the USA Track and Field Team Angela Manuel-Davis, with elite tennis athlete Akin Akman and creative strategist Trey Laird, opens the doors to **AARMY**, a bi-coastal community-based training program featuring Manuel-Davis's unique blend of physical challenge and spiritual gratification. At the temporary West Hollywood location, wellness devotees can join the likes of Beyoncé, Jay-Z and David Beckham for uplifting, high-intensity cycling and cardio boot camps. AARMY.COM

PHOTO CREDIT: WILLIAMS LAIRD; COURTESY OF THE ARTIST AND FORT GANSEVOORT; PHOTO BY STEPHEN BUBSEN



Baradaran's mood board for her textile collection in her LA studio.

Natasha Baradaran debuts her first textile collection exclusively at Thomas Lavin this winter. The LA-based interior designer presents her love letter to lace with a narrative-driven capsule collection that abstracts traditionally delicate patterns into bold and contemporary motifs. THOMASLAVIN.COM



Christopher Myers

Critically-adored New York gallery Fort Gansevoort has opened its long-anticipated East Hollywood outpost with "**Drapetomania**," a solo show from acclaimed author and playwright Christopher Myers featuring grandly scaled, richly colored and deeply narrative quiltworks and sculpture inspired by the craftsmanship inherent to the slave trade. In February, Russian-born, Tel Aviv-based contemporary painter Zoya Cherkassky will mount a display of bold figurative paintings that recall Socialist Realism. FORTGANSEVOORT.COM

THE LALA LIST

The **Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)** offers free admission at both of its locations beginning January 11, granting museum access to a wider audience and more diverse communities. Made possible by a 10-million-dollar gift from MOCA Board President Carolyn Clark Powers, the occasion will be marked with a day of performances, music, food and artmaking. MOCA.ORG

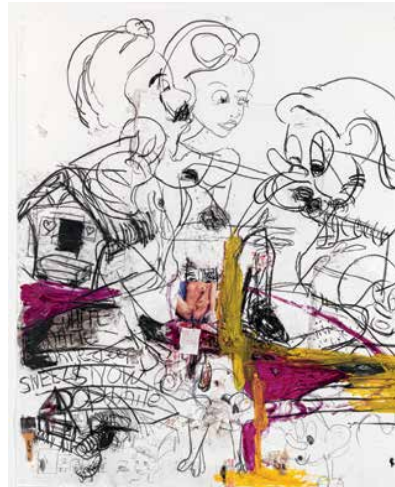
MOCA Grand Avenue

The Art of Our Time
On View

MOCA

The **Power to the People!** festival, co-curated by Herbie Hancock and Gustavo Dudamel, celebrates the intersection of humanitarianism and music with a series of performances at the Walt Disney Concert Hall beginning in March. The star-studded diverse lineup alongside the Los Angeles Philharmonic includes Hancock, Patti Smith, Latin artist Residente, pianist Conrad Tao, jazz legend Terence Blanchard performing music from Spike Lee films with Ben Harper, and activist Dr. Angela Davis. LAPHIL.COM

"**Paul McCarthy: Head Space, Drawings 1963-2019**," the first comprehensive survey in the US of drawings by the iconic LA artist, best known for his performance, installation and film work, debuts at the Hammer Museum in February. The over 600 playful yet often perverse works on paper spotlight pop culture and art historical references and feature an iconography of recurring figures from fairytales, Hollywood, politics and Disney movies. HAMMER.UCLA.EDU



Paul McCarthy's *Dopwhite, WS (2009)*



In conjunction with Frieze Los Angeles, NY-based Swiss contemporary artist **Nicolas Party** has his first LA solo exhibition at Hauser & Wirth. Transfiguring quotidian objects and nature into biomorphic shapes, Party borrows from Surrealism, The New York School, René Magritte, Giorgio Morandi and Milton Avery to offer up a site-specific universe of vivid hues and surreal personae that includes murals, sculpture and a monumental installation. HAUSERWIRTH.COM

Nicolas Party's *Portrait with a cat (2016)*



Gucci Osteria is slated to open on the rooftop terrace of the fashion house's Rodeo Drive flagship the first half of this year. The partnership that spans many decades between famed three-star Michelin chef Massimo Bottura and the luxury brand has already seen culinary success with Gucci Osteria at Gucci Garden in Florence, which opened in 2018. A more casual, relaxed take on its Italian predecessor, the Beverly Hills restaurant will serve "joyful" yet sophisticated dishes, such as tortellini, pork buns and burgers in appropriately chic surroundings designed by Creative Director Alessandro Michele. GUCCI.COM

Paying homage to the brand's 75th anniversary and Southern California mid-century modern design, Brown Jordan is issuing a revamped **Walter Lamb** outdoor furniture collection in February. Expanding on the beloved attributes of the original aluminum and rope chairs, chaises and tables, the 2020 iterations are offered in a variety of new colors, sizes and finishes. BROWNJORDAN.COM

A Walter Lamb-designed rocking chair



The Prospect, a 1939 Hollywood Regency-style 24-room boutique hotel in famed Whitley Heights, is set to begin welcoming guests this January. The Martyn Lawrence Bullard-designed, bespoke property features a charming lobby, lounge and central courtyard garden, all informed by the surrounding Tinseltown neighborhood and conjuring the spirits of legendary screen icons like Jean Harlow, Marlene Dietrich and James Dean. THEPROSPECTHOLLYWOOD.COM



Herbie Hancock

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