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# FREE VENICE BEACHHEAD

SINCE 1968

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Summer 2025 #490

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## Coyote

by Lydia Ponce

They are Tricksters all year ‘around. 90291’s unofficial mascot roams free. This article is intended to declare that Coyotes are our relative. The four-legged crafty family member you’ve forgotten about.

How do we find the strength to power through these difficult days? We find it in the medicine as Relatives cross paths to help us. Hummingbirds, raccoons, butterflies and yes, spiders, too, show up in our day to encourage us and to inspire us as medicine. Theirs is more than character, it is their presence as medicine, and they want to gift that to you. They want to help you.

Many West Side residents use the Ring and Next Door Apps to report various coyote sightings. Words of fear and caution fill those technology spaces. Coyotes venture out and about from sunset until early morning hours. I’ve witnessed the Coyotes frolic and play, as a dance with the sunset by the Silverlake Reservoir. Over here, all through out the Westside, the Coyotes have been courageous and brave to traverse the concrete land. A land that can’t breathe, clogged with cement. It’s sad how hard the concrete must

*continued on page 3*

## June 2025 California Coastal Commission

General Comment: by Lydia Ponce

Our humanity is redefined with each month passing. With each California Coastal Commission, CCC, meeting this country’s further ruin reeks of the ugly historical past. We must recognize and honor both coastal businesses and successful coastal homes that are greatly profitable due to employment of undocumented relatives. Yes many undocumented relatives do own their businesses, starting with nothing, creative, and their rooted business are entrepreneurs mostly co-opted by Americanos. Our Indigenous relatives have known the American Dream, now nightmare.

Masked people pull up and grab people - no warrant, no response to the questions of who the fk are they and what’s their badge number.... Brown and Black relatives are subject to deportation - doe not matter if your documented, going through the process or not. For the people saying, “undocumented people need to do it the right way...” Clearly you do not know the obstacles for your ill informed idea - of the right way.

Humane request for California Coastal communities, it is our shared responsibility to have a Rapid Response to ICE Raids. Defend, protect and honor everyone Black, Brown and Indigenous, undocumented and or so called Americans. Our relationships must nurture our shared future or we will continue to feed the fear and continue to feed the hate machine that disappears people. It is kidnapping. It is human and sex trafficking. All of this contributes to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women Crisis. It’s unchecked and Indigenous Women are not searched for rapidly. Searched for? If ever.

How we treat Earth Momma is directly connected to how society protects, defends and honors Women Nation. This is written in honor for all who identify with divine feminine, uplift this connection and support Rematriation.

Prime example:

What was shared at June 2025 CCC meeting was abusive and racist language. It was the short sighted pleas to clean up the Tijuana River. When speaking of the polluted and dangerous river water, it is named Mexican. North of the divide, North it is named as the American Border, let’s correct it: it is the Mexican and American Border. It is a colonial border. The government, federal, state or local, will never clean TJ River because it is a deterrent to migrants crossing from south to north and vise

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## ABOUT THAT VENICE DELL COMMUNITY PROJECT

By Jon Wolff

Many people in Venice might be confused about the status of the Venice Dell Community project. This affordable and supportive housing project proposed by Venice Community Housing will soon be built on the corner of Venice Boulevard and Dell Avenue in Venice. But construction of the project has yet to begin because it's been delayed by a group of NIMBYs.

These NIMBYs have attempted to block Venice Dell with lawsuits. They have made appeals to departments within L.A. City government that had no authority over the project. They've managed to elect NIMBY Number One, Traci Park to the office of L.A. City Council District 11. Park has stalled the project for years, even though it was already approved twice by the City Council.

But the NIMBYs' most insidious weapon so far has been their talent for conjuring up the illusion that the project is a lost cause. They've circulated email reports saying that Venice Dell is "dead in the water" while, in reality, it's still very much going forward. And of course, they have continued to ask for money from their followers to carry on with their efforts.

The Beachhead Collective recently received information about an informal meeting that the NIMBYs had planned. The meeting was to be held in the patio area of a local restaurant in Venice. A couple of Beachhead Collective members infiltrated the party.

The meeting was in the evening. There was food and alcohol served. The fire pit tables provided warmth for the attendees, and filled the patio with a celestial golden glow. The NIMBYs were finally among friends here. Unlike a Venice Neighborhood Council meeting, where there will be Venice people opposed to their positions, the NIMBYs were in an environment where they were free to speak openly. They could express their whole NIMBY selves. Or so they thought.

After a good while of self-congratulations for defeating the Venice Dell Community project, the main organizers reminded their NIMBY audience that they still needed funding to continue to fight the good fight. They thanked Councilmember Park (who was also present) for her success in stopping an affordable and supportive housing project in Venice.

All was well. The believers were of "one acc-

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The staff reserves the right to make all decisions collectively on material published. There is no editor on the Beachhead. The printing is financed by ads, sustainers and donations. The articles, poetry and art work express the opinions of the individual contributors and are not necessarily the views of the Beachhead Collective.

To submit material, include your name and telephone number. Anonymous material will not be printed, but your name will be withheld on request. No payment is made for material used.

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**LETTERS**

Dear Editor.

It is sad, the way of the world:

Rich females, so absorbed in themselves, buy an amusement park ride into "space." After their few minutes of weightless fun, they return to earth to brag about overcoming fear and showing a picture of a flower for a daughter.

I don't remember hearing anything about any one of them turning and looking out the window to observe the magnificence of the blue planet, which was behind them, and realize all the beauty of nature on the sphere itself.

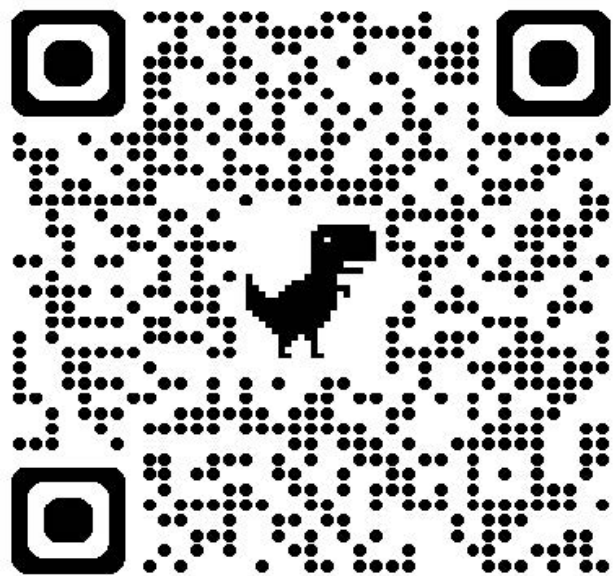
I did not read nor hear any appreciation of this phenomenon and remark: "All this beauty, and all we do is fight."

Sincerely,  
Barbara Eisenberg



Sean Silva, Field Deputy for Councilmember Traci Park, enjoys reading the Beachhead at a recent meeting of the Venice Neighborhood Council.

**Please support us, make a donation.**



**JUNETEENTH EMANCIPATION DAY**

By Jon Wolff

This year's observance of the Juneteenth holiday was celebrated in Reese-Tabor Oakwood Park in the heart of Venice. There was music and food, as well as activities for the kids. The speakers' program was emceed by Dr. Naomi Nightingale. She called this day of remembrance, "Emancipation Day".

Original Save Venice (OSV) Member Lydia Ponce delivered the land acknowledgement. She also reminded everyone about plans to have the City of Los Angeles add the names of Venice Founders Arthur Reese and Irvin Tabor to Oakwood Park.

Dr. Nightingale talked about President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation of 1863. She asked, "Where is the freedom?" She said, "We still struggle and we still make strides."

Original Save Venice Founder Laddie Williams gave an update on the efforts to refurbish the First Baptist Church of Venice, and to build low-income housing on the adjacent parking lots. OSV is currently in meetings with City officials to make funding available for the work. Ms. Williams spoke about OSV's record of saving the church building from being re-purposed. She said that Original Save Venice wants what's best for the community, which includes getting Venice people back into this church.

Rita Cofield is the Associate Project Specialist for African American Historic Places Los Angeles of the Getty Conservation Institute. She talked about the barriers and injustices to overcome when seeking to designate Black historic sites for their cultural value. Ms. Cofield called for young people to contact her organization to recommend more historic sites for historic designation.

Ken Bernstein is the Principal City Planner of the Los Angeles City Planning office of Historic Resources. He's working on a cultural preservation strategy for L.A., which would start first with Oakwood. He asked about other heritage sites in Oakwood and how we could make these "more visible and legible."

Jonathan Hunter is the Manager of Community Engagement for Venice Community Housing. He had once lived in Texas near the last plantation to be emancipated. He said, "We still have a job to do to free others," and that Venice Community Housing frees people by providing housing.

Kendra Moore is the President of the Holiday Venice Apartments Tenants Association. She spoke about the Project Action Apartments in Venice where 246 families are able to pay 30% of their income on rent. She described her organization's negotiations for another contract to keep these apartments affordable, or to purchase them for the community. She said, "Housing is a human right."

Sarah Mahir was recently elected to the board of the Venice Neighborhood Council. She declared that the work to build affordable housing next to the First Baptist Church of Venice will enable Venice community members who have been forced out of Venice to come back to Venice.

Billy Faniel was born and raised in Venice. He gave a heartfelt testimony of living 35 years "in the wilderness" until God called him. Mr. Faniel answered the call and said to God, "If you keep me out of trouble, I'll surrender."

The day's program concluded with all the people singing, "Lift Every Voice and Sing".

COYOTE- continued from page 1  
 be to toughen all four paws and all the toe beans.

Coyotes are not a threat unless you leave your fur fam unattended and outside in the night. Are you really surprised that coyotes are everywhere in Venice?

Well, there is one in particular Coyote hanging out- specific area of California Avenue to Linden Avenue and not crossing Lincoln Blvd. I do not know the true route it takes, however at 6:am my Coyote sighting was pretty amazing! It glanced at my two dogs on their leashes. The coyotes saw my two small dogs, both under 17 pounds, as potential meals. Coyote made a millisecond decision, perhaps it was the jackets and sweaters my fur kids wore. The jackets may have caused the coyote to stop viewing my fur babies as a snack. Too much trouble! It kept trotting along and trotted away.

The breeze off the ocean - chilled my ears and sent a message - "Leave the Coyote alone. That's Jim Morrison. He has reincarnated and returned to Venice." I laughed. Maybe it was Carol Fondlerier who spoke the message into the wind, or was it Emily Winters? It was a woman's voice.

Pam Morrison is that you? Jim, who not too long ago found love, humor, and wrote poetry during some of our community's blessed and extremely artistic days. The Door's lyrics revered by so many! We sing along to the iconic songs that warm our hearts and we remember. We remember when Venice was filled with music and we remember to dance.

So please report Coyote sightings on the various apps, but don't cause harm to Jim. He is here in his favored place in all of California.

I believe.

Coastal Commission- continued from page 3  
 versa. Many Americanos walk over to cross south when it's low tide at Imperial Beach for an adventure in TJ or Rosarito. There will never be a cleansing of the river there. So how are the Women Nation thriving on both sides of that river?

We, Brown and proud people; we are human beings. It is yours and my responsibility to treat each other as equals. Our humanity cannot be further diminished.... Is the future for the rich economic elite only? Is the future a televise real live Hunger Games challenge in the common public space..... Windward Plaza?

It is a human right for everyone to quench our thirst with water that is not chemically or bacteria questionable. My Sage and Copal smoke prayers are up for everyone to have access to healthy water, everyone's first medicine, for our bodies, our minds and our souls.

Don't know how you can help or what to do? Volunteer or donate to support your employees with your full heart in your chest

- support immigration legal orgs
- Mutual Aid grassroots orgs
- Food NOT Bombs local chapters
- Patrol your hood to defend neighbors, family, friends and employees
- Train to join Rapid Response Boots on the Ground
- Help support food banks
- Support your neighbors
- What we need for our community -
- food and food delivery
- Prepaid phone cards
- Gas cards

Dear Venice community, this is the "what the fuck" moment. We share the wtf moment, here, at the end of this article. May hope and faith keep our hearts open and minds open to a better and connected community... 90291, we are everyday people. Venice, go big BLUE!

No one is illegal on stolen land.

Lydia Poncé

## FRIENDSHIP BAPTIST CHURCH IS CALLING ON THE VENICE COMMUNITY

by Jon Wolff

Friendship Baptist Church is an historic African American church located at 606 Broadway Street in Venice. It has served the Venice Black community for decades and is, along with the First Baptist Church of Venice, one of the primary spiritual centers for the people of Venice. Today, it is under threat of being sold away from the community that built it.

Friendship Baptist Church was founded in 1952 by the Reverend Leonard C. Clayton. Reverend Clayton's great-grandson, the Reverend Art Patterson recently contacted the Beachhead to alert the people of Venice that the church is currently going through a struggle.

The church building has been closed for 1 1/2 years after one church member re-wrote the church's by-laws and gifted the building to herself. Friendship Baptist Church needs your help to stop the sale of this sacred space. Please sign the petition at:

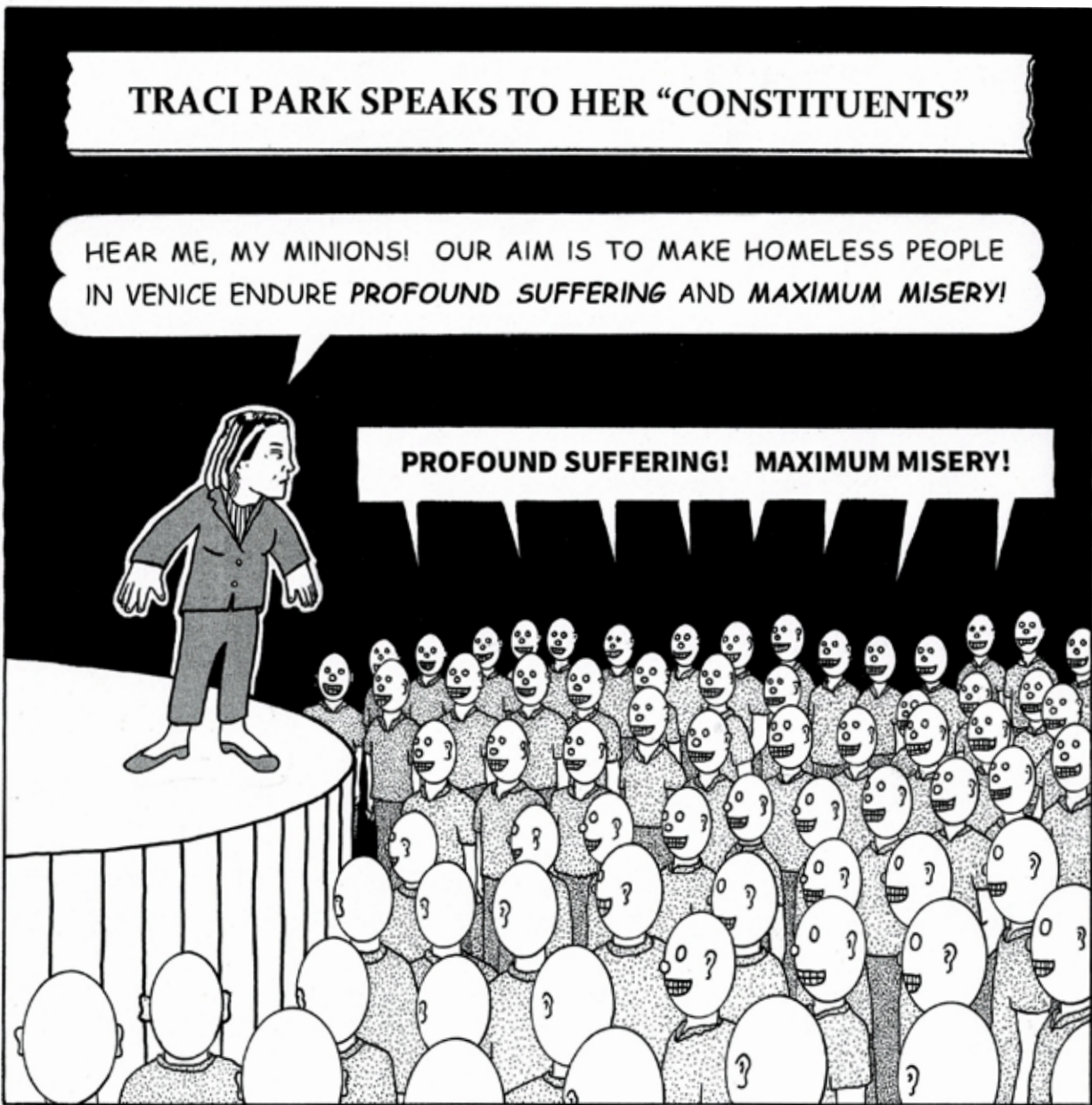
<https://www.change.org/p/halt-the-unlawful-sale-of-friendship-baptist-church-help-preserve-another-venice-legacy>

Venice-Dell Community – continued from page 1  
 cord" as the spirit of NIMBY-ness was upon them. The food and liquor and warmth and camaraderie had everybody in a big state of group arousal. Until the bubble was suddenly popped when one of the Beachhead agents yelled out, "You haven't won anything! The case is still in litigation!" An audible gasp rose up from the crowd. The NIMBY faces went from smiles to gnashing of teeth. The atmosphere of the evening was instantly dissipated.

Threats and curses followed us Beachhead people as we were hastily elbowed out of the meeting. The management of the restaurant politely requested that we never return (even though we had paid for our own food and drinks.) The NIMBY get-together was spoiled by a couple of Venice trouble-makers.

And further trouble was to follow. At the June 11, 2025 meeting of the California Coastal Commission, the Commission unanimously approved a 12-month extension to a land use plan amendment which allows Venice Community Housing to continue working on the Venice Dell Community project.

Now the battle must rage on, and the NIMBYs will need more monetary donations to keep going. But the Venice Dell Community will become a reality. Most of the people in Venice support the project, especially the ones who are born and raised here. If the NIMBYs don't want affordable and supportive housing "in their backyard", then maybe they can go live somewhere else, by the ocean, down the coast. And maybe the Beachhead can recommend some lovely restaurants with patios... in Redondo Beach.



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## DOUGO SMITH STRAIGHT OUTTA VENICE

by Gerry Fialka

Preeminent Venice artist DougO Smith captures the true spirit of our Beachtown with his decades of creativity in paintings, murals, comedy, music and . . . well, words can't express the far-out phantasmagoria . . . I got it: THE EPITOME OF VENICE CALIFORNIA !!! He is much like the Library of Congress description for N.W.A.'s Straight Outta Compton: "culturally historical and aesthetically significant." And more so like "culturally hysterical and angelically mind fucking." His brilliant and stimulating art expands Venice minds, bodies and souls with a great googly moogly sense of humor.

DougO is constantly bursting with unbridled glimpses of the universe that capture his colossal imagination and intensifies our community. He once told me, "Art isn't" - a variation of McLuhan's "The Balinese have no word for art, they do everything as well as they can." DougOisms run rampant



in my lexicon: "Thelonious Monk heard all the same notes Charlie Parker heard, but only decided to play some of them." I have blown major jazz musicians' minds with that maxim.

Thanks Doug. You are beyond verbal description. Your art induces laughtears that transcend all space and time.

In the 80's, when the Abott Kinney Fest was really "VENICE" he joined my band Black Shoe Polish as special guest vocalist, Hymie, the Puerto

Rican Jimi Hendrix, singing "The Wind Cries Maria." He transformed musical performance art/street theater into otherworldly merriment. (Currently, that yuppie-ass consumer fair is not like it was back in the good ol' daze. Now, I ask people there "In which direction shall I projectilely puke?") DougO has always stayed true to Venice grassroots and street culture, the real thing!!! His outrageous sense of humour accentuates having FUN!

DougO is a teacher, too. He taught me how skiffle music spawned the Beatles. We'd talk for hours probing the human condition and the creative process ala conversational curiosity. Then he'd combine Lenny Bruce with Salvador Dali and R. Crumb singing every Beatles song in a medley ala Father Guido Sarducci, but better. And that's pretty dang good. Ned Sloane and our crew at "the bench" on

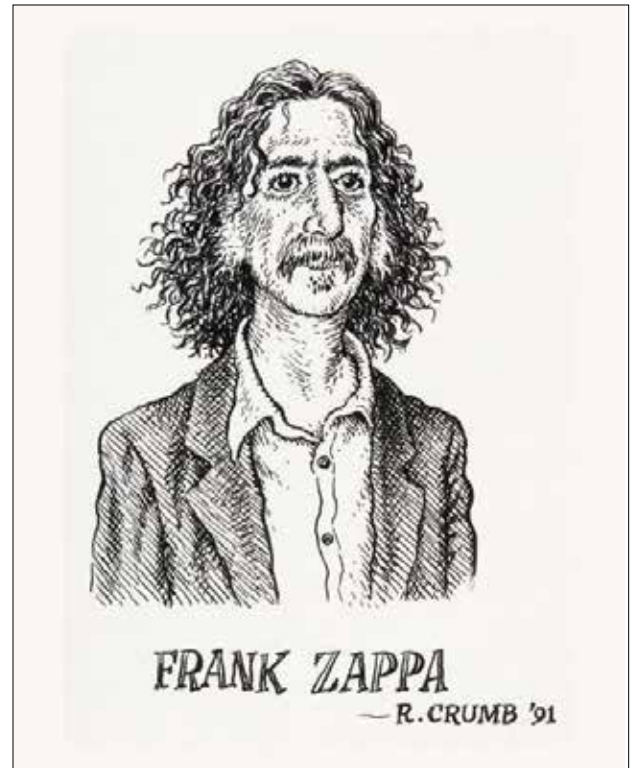


the Boardwalk would rejoice in laughing so hard the tears would flow from the sky to eternity and beyond. Dig infinity. DougO has sung nearly every bebop song by Charles "YardBird" Parker to me personally with righteous rascality. Beatific!

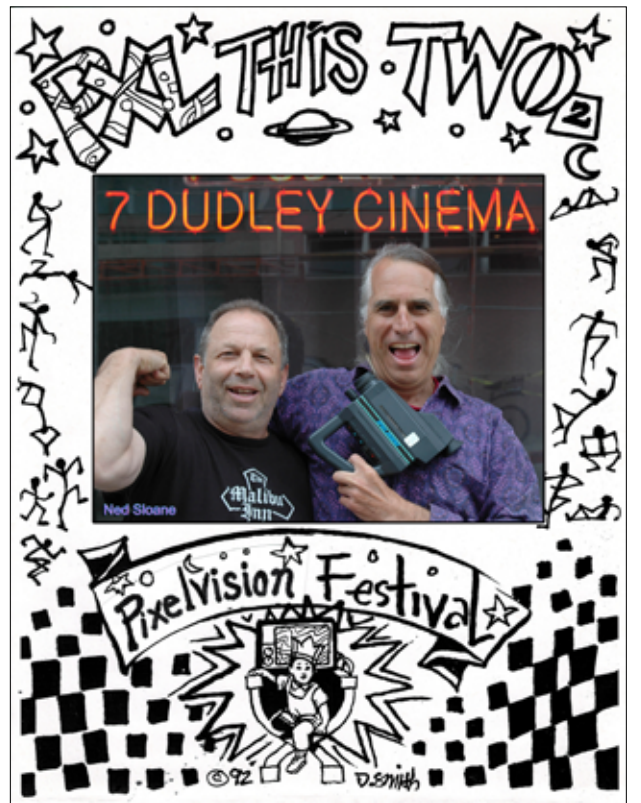
He's been a mentor to many, including artist/drummer supreme Sky Willie Z. They recently painted the new mural together at the Trading Post, 1313 Main Street. Sky writes: "DougO Smith and I go way beyond just painting together. It's a Venice-born brotherhood. Doug's the kind of artist that bleeds the street. His lines, colors, layers and funny quotes tell the story in motion. It makes the art a stationary cartoon sequence. It tells the truth about this city. No filters. No fake shit. We didn't link up to chase galleries or play art world politics. We linked because we both see Venice for what it really is - it's our Dirty Paradise - beautiful, broken, loud, and alive. Doug taught me to paint the noise, the grit, the ghosts of ghost town. Every collab we've done feels like we're tagging the soul of the city, not to mark it, but to bring it back to life. The Trading Post Mural is a direct reflection of a time when artists like Doug Smith, Jeff Ho, Ric Clayton and so many others I looked up to growing up in Venice thrived. They were/are living that raw, beatnik, creative skate life I've always connected with - simultaneously coexisting in Venice, all creating something unique and raw that makes me get excited to live every day. When I started sketching the scene, I knew it had to be more than just a mural. It was a homage to Venice in 1984 punk rock shows, backyard ramps, surfing every morning, and making art every night. A snapshot of the culture that raised me. When I showed it to them, they were instantly stoked to jump in. That meant everything. It was their era — the time they were thriving — and now I get to honor that moment while living my own version of it. This piece is for them, for us, and for Venice. Always. Our work hits hard because it has to. It's



punk rock. It's street gospel. It's for the skaters, the burnouts, the lifers, the dreamers. Doug's a legend out here, and he's helped shape not just my art, but the way I walk through this world. Yes, we Kill."



DougO is true to his hometown. He declares, "Bloom where you are planted." As a kid, he collected pop bottles under the Cheetah Club, not really realizing what great music was over him. Years later, his amazing Mom took his to see Frank Zappa at the Santa Monica Civic, which was highly influential. Recalling the "Morning of the Magicians" book, he mashed alchemy and Egyptology to cover all the walls of Kelly's apartment on Rose Avenue. Someday the Getty will be peeling back the layers of paint to discover art that resonates as much as any cave drawings.



I have shot much film footage of DougO for years on many different formats including Pixelvision. You can see in this very article the design he did for the 2nd PXL THIS Film festival, featuring the Fisher Price PXL2000 toy camcorder. We celebrate our 35th Film Festival on Nov 16, 2025. Maybe someday, all this footage will be joined in one solid lump, so we can wallow in the mythological happenings, like his hilarious imitations of wild Boardwalk characters Ralph and Crazy Mary. I am most proud of a sequence that looks like a Fellini film, where DougO yelps, "What ever happened to mailbox cereal?" What did? Who knows? Dig unknowingness.

I documented the surreal soiree of DougO singing "Mannish Boy" (classic blues by Muddy Waters & Bo Diddley) with the erotic dancer Wendy deep in the real Venice underground (curated by the great Will Raabe of the Comeback Inn) at a venue which is now called Gin Rummy on Washington Blvd. A local artist said she felt as though she was knee deep in the swamp muck of 1930's Berlin sensations. DougO's cosmic cabaret evoked Albert Einstein's "One cannot help but be in awe when one contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality. It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery every day."

His celestial marvels always inspire me. We  
*continued on page 5*



were so proud to produce his first art show entitled "Art and Nothingness" at Sponto Gallery in October, 2003. That historical event can be seen on Youtube in Koby Newell's <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K40U6QgKeD4>, and SelectaRasKel's <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TxDQ5sLuyME> My film SPONTO BEATS details DougO's endless influence <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rB-dt78GF3Uc>

DougO has always been inventive creating some-

thing outta nothing. His free-spiritedness has helped me see the paradoxical exuberance of being through art, summarized by Brian Eno's "Play is how children learn. Art is how adults play." I look forward to how DougO will reword dat aphorism.

One of his ripplin' ripplin' murals still reverberates the Pacific Ocean vibrancy. It is located at the NE corner of Holly Court and Harbor Street. Whomever the patron was who commissioned this 1996 mural has to be thanked for supporting a local art hero. Twenty nine years later, it still holds up - transcendental masterworks are timeless.

He'll paint on anything: skateboards, guitars, surfboards, cardboard boxes, splintered wood planks, jackets - it is unending. Check online to see his phenomenal surfboard called "Venicopoly" subverting the board game Monopoly to make a statement about gentrification. Dan Levy of Juice Magazine wrote: "DougO's work depicts the power of the ocean along the simple lines of beach architecture in a classic presentation of style and soul . . . Smith's work continues to be a unique and invaluable part of the LA urban art community."

A local source wrote that DougO is hard to track down. Not really, since he has lived on the streets of Venice, his hometown for decades, and truly knows the ins and outs of this community. He's always been around and survives whatever extreme conditions. DougO might be heard barking, "I don't need no stinkin' studio," to quote the bandit "Gold Hat" in the infamous 1948 film "The Treasure of the Sierra Madre." DougO, the source of the real mother mountain range of Venice arts, can be reached through his instagram @dhugsmith. So put that in your smoke and pipe it!

So what is the take-away from reading this essay? Or better, what can we do? Befriend and support creative makers in our community, like DougO. He continues to practice how to share resourcefulness in seeing with new eyes, hearing with new ears, discovering new questions and metaphors. DougO lives in the present and paints a detailed history of the future.

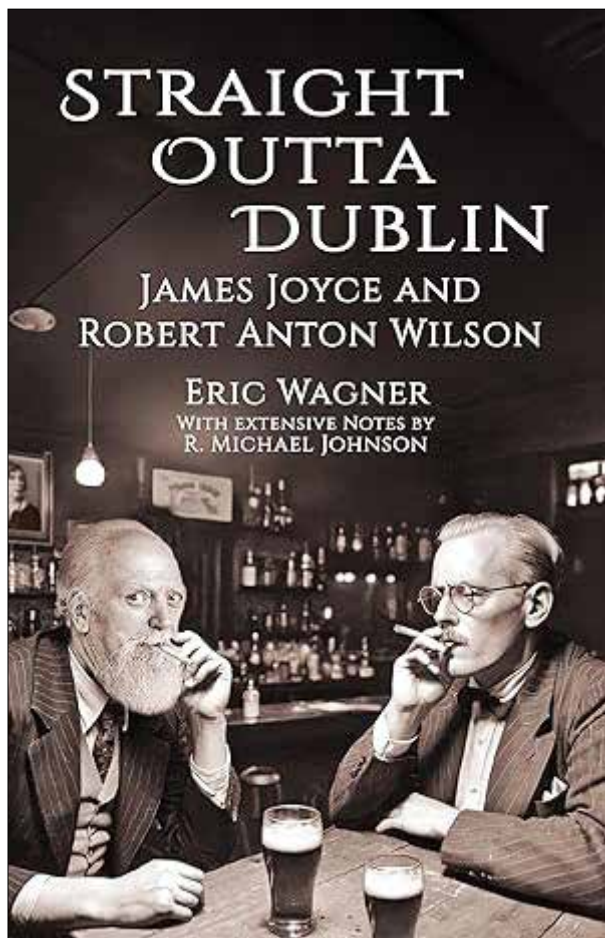
Straight Outta Addendums:

Straight Outta Gratitude to Eric Ahlberg's dedication to the Venice Community, THANKS ERIC

"Straight Outta Dublin" is a recommended new book that connects James Joyce and Robert Anton Wilson, who wrote "You're always looking for what you can learn from everybody. I've learned something from every writer I've ever read. The strongest influences are certainly Joyce, the blind man who saw, and Ezra Pound, the crazy man who understood." Check out our "Dream Awake" free event on Sat Aug 9 at 2pm at the Venice Library. Fiery readings, discussion and songs about the 1939 epic FINNEGANS WAKE. Joyce invented blotter acid and disguised it as a book.

Straight Outta Cucamonga - Frank Zappa started The Mothers of Invention in 1965 in Cucamonga. Celebrate powerful pop-jazz-rock-avant-garde metamusic on Thurs Aug 14, 2025 at Venice West. Gerry's Zappa Rant opens the concert, which features the amazing 14-piece STINKFOOT ORCHESTRA with Zappa vet NAPOLEON MURPHY BROCK, who stars in the new Zappa film CHEAPER THAN CHEEP.

Straight Outta Literature - July 19 SATURDAY - The 18th ANNUAL LIT SHOW <https://www.facebook.com/events/1060429092088901/> at Beyond Baroque, 681 N Venice Blvd at 7pm In the annual celebration of song and literature, LA's Diva Deluxe SUZY WILLIAMS & BRAD KAY perform songs based on words by Kurt Vonnegut, Edna St Vincent Millay, J.D. Salinger, Samuel Beckett, Raymond Chandler, Truman Capote, Vladimir Nabokov, Rudyard Kipling and more at Beyond Baroque. Dorothy Parker wrote a song that Billie Holiday sang. Tennessee Williams wrote a song that Marlon Brando sang as a rambling troubadour in The Fugitive Kind. Lonely House was written by Kurt Weill and Langston Hughes. Jack Kerouac & Allen Ginsberg wrote Pull My Daisy with David Amram. New this year: Zelda Fitzgerald, Maya Angelou, Sophocles, Ogden Nash, Alfred Tennyson, and more. You've read the book, now hear the song.



Straight Outta VHM - Expand your mind on Thursday July 17 at 3pm Gerry Fialka hosts Venice Culture Salons (VCS) at Venice Heritage Museum 228 Main Street - Fun, fiery, interactive discussions about our Beachtown. Free admission. Bring your stories and tales. Delve deep into Venice music, film, art, literature & current events. Live oral history, featuring: VHM founding member Todd von Hoffmann. (upcoming guests include Susan Millmann, Marty Schatz, Eric Ahlberg).

Straight Outta Laughtears.com welcomes your input: Gerry Fialka [pfsuzy@aol.com](mailto:pfsuzy@aol.com) and Instagram: [laughtears](https://www.instagram.com/laughtears) and BlueSky: [@laughtears.bsky.social](https://www.bsky.social) and walking on the Venice Boardwalk.

## Occupied Los Angeles by Matt Sedillo

In the weeks preceding  
The military occupation  
Of the city of Los Angeles  
On the city streets  
On burning asphalt  
An eagle  
Slay a snake  
During the military  
Occupation of the city of Los Angeles  
El Tri flew over burning Waymo's  
Scooters and chipped pavement  
Fell from overpasses  
Leaf blowers repelled smoke  
Back into the faces  
Of agents of the state  
Sometimes they were driven away  
And that is historic  
And no one can take that away  
Sometimes people ran patrols  
Sometimes they warned of the raids  
Crowds gathered  
Often times las senoras  
Led the way  
Sometimes the agents of the state  
From horseback beat people with batons  
Sometimes they snatched  
People from their homes, their jobs  
Sometimes they destroyed families  
Sometimes they harassed  
High school graduations  
Sometimes they gassed children  
They sent in the national guard  
They sent in the marines  
In times like these  
Sometimes we light a match  
In times like these  
Sometimes we wave a flag  
And the televised racists  
And the stay at home fascists  
Used it for a rallying cry  
Evidence  
A talking point  
A political view  
Same people who had no issue  
With January 6th  
Confederates  
Or the flag bearing the face of one man  
But I am through  
I am through  
Trying to make political points  
Pointing out the hypocrisy  
Of the so called conservative  
Cause if this life has taught me anything  
It is this  
The people  
Least likely to acknowledge their own  
hypocrisy  
Are hypocrites  
So instead  
At this time  
I will say this  
I am a proud son of Los Angeles  
And wherever I stand  
Is Mexican land  
Que viva Mexico



photos by Eric Ahlberg. Below Refurbished Bungalows, on the upper right Debra Groening thanks her staff and supporters. Lower Right – The baby and childcare facilities on site.



*We love to see the creation of new supportive housing projects in our community. The requirements are a challenge. This is the opening ceremony for this project “Well Family Marian Place Well Baby Center” Below is from their brochure.- editor*

It began in 2008 as a parenting center with a focus on supporting early childhood and maternal mental health. It has grown over the years to serving thousands of children and their families, couples, adults, and teens. In addition, we have provided specialized clinical training to hundreds of therapists and social workers in infant-parent, maternal, and family mental health. Our free community events continue to provide parents with social support, known to be vital in the early years of parenthood. Our hybrid model combines therapy, mindful parenting programs, and community-building to ensure the wellbeing of our families.

Our mission is three-fold:

Delivering affordable, quality mental health and parenting support services to children, families, and adults in the community. Developing the mental health and social work workforce with specialized infant-parent mental health training programs for master’s and doctoral level clinicians.

Partnering with other family services organizations to create a community wellness hub.

Well Family attends to the needs of struggling families and children by providing accessible prevention and early intervention programs with a focus on Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH).

Healthy early relationships are the cornerstones of all infants’ emotional, cognitive, and physical growth and development. In addition to providing clinical services and parenting education we provide free weekly events to encourage emotional and social support, the single most important protective factor against family dysfunction and despair.

We believe that when parents mindfully reflect on their interactions with their children, three things occur: they don’t burden them with their own unresolved childhood issues; they help them reach their full developmental potential; and they help them build lifelong relationships with others.





*hues & values of venice*  
the paintings of three california women



Karen Landry Mulkey



Barbara Mastej



Mary Jane Lang

Experience Venice through the palettes of three local artists  
Available at Small World Books and Beyond Baroque — Venice, California

# Lovely New Book Celebrates 3 local Painters

**I was born loving color**  
Karen Landry Mulkey's impressionist paintings express the joy of raising children in a beautiful place. She captures the colors of Venice with deft strokes that reveal the pastoral beauty of the place, so rarely depicted.



**Vestiges of My Venice**  
Barbara Mastej's forthright portraits of Venice locals reveal her keen observations of a personal connection to her subjects. Her paintings serve as a record of these people and a testament to how core diversity has always shaped Venice.



**Mary Jane Lang** is an artist, poet, actress, director, producer, activist, and an iconic fixture of the Venice Community. In this book, she expresses her boundless enthusiasm for Venice and the Canals, with both detailed pen & ink drawings and lively watercolors.



## Art at SPARC



Artistic Director:  Corina del Sol

Special Guest Artists:  Dino & Yolanda Arango

Invited Guest Artists:  Jordi Caballero & Chelina Folorunso

**Sunday, July 20 at 3 pm**  
 Tickets: \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door  
 Reservations: [FlamencoTango2025.eventbrite.com](https://FlamencoTango2025.eventbrite.com)  
[CorinaDelSol@verizon.net](mailto:CorinaDelSol@verizon.net)  
 Electric Lodge, 1416 Electric Avenue, Venice

Theodore (Ted) Hajjar



Theodore (Ted) Hajjar was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, friend, and mentor to many. He was also an educator and peace activist, with a passionate and unwavering commitment to justice. Ted died May 30th of gastric cancer. He was 82.

CSPG's featured poster promoted November 15, 1969, date of the huge Moratorium against the Viet Nam War—over 500,000 protested in Washington, DC and over 250,000 in San Francisco. The San Francisco march and rally was also his first date with Carol Wells. Ted and Carol were partners, friends, lovers, organizers, and comrades for over 55 years.

Ted was not raised with radical politics but was suddenly exposed to them when he started graduate school at UC Berkeley in the Fall of 1964, arriving at the start of the Free Speech movement. It was his "baptism of fire," transporting him from a 1950s parochial mindset that didn't question authority to the 1960s where the world was challenged.

In 1966, he began working with the Peace and

Freedom Party, helping to qualify it for the 1968 ballot in California. He worked on Robert Scheer's 1970 campaign to run for US Senate on the PFP ticket, and in the 1980s was an organizer for the Citizen's Party. In the 1990s, he worked with Ed Pearl, trying to reopen the legendary Ash Grove on the Santa Monica Pier.

His international solidarity work was as extensive as U.S. imperialism but primarily focused on Israel/Palestine and Central America. Ted was one of the founders of the Nicaragua Task Force, mobilizing opposition to President Reagan's war against the Sandinista Revolution.

The Center for the Study of Political Graphics was one of Ted's most important political accomplishments. For over 35 years he helped build it into the largest collection of post-World War II social movement posters in the U.S., creating a critical legacy for future generations.

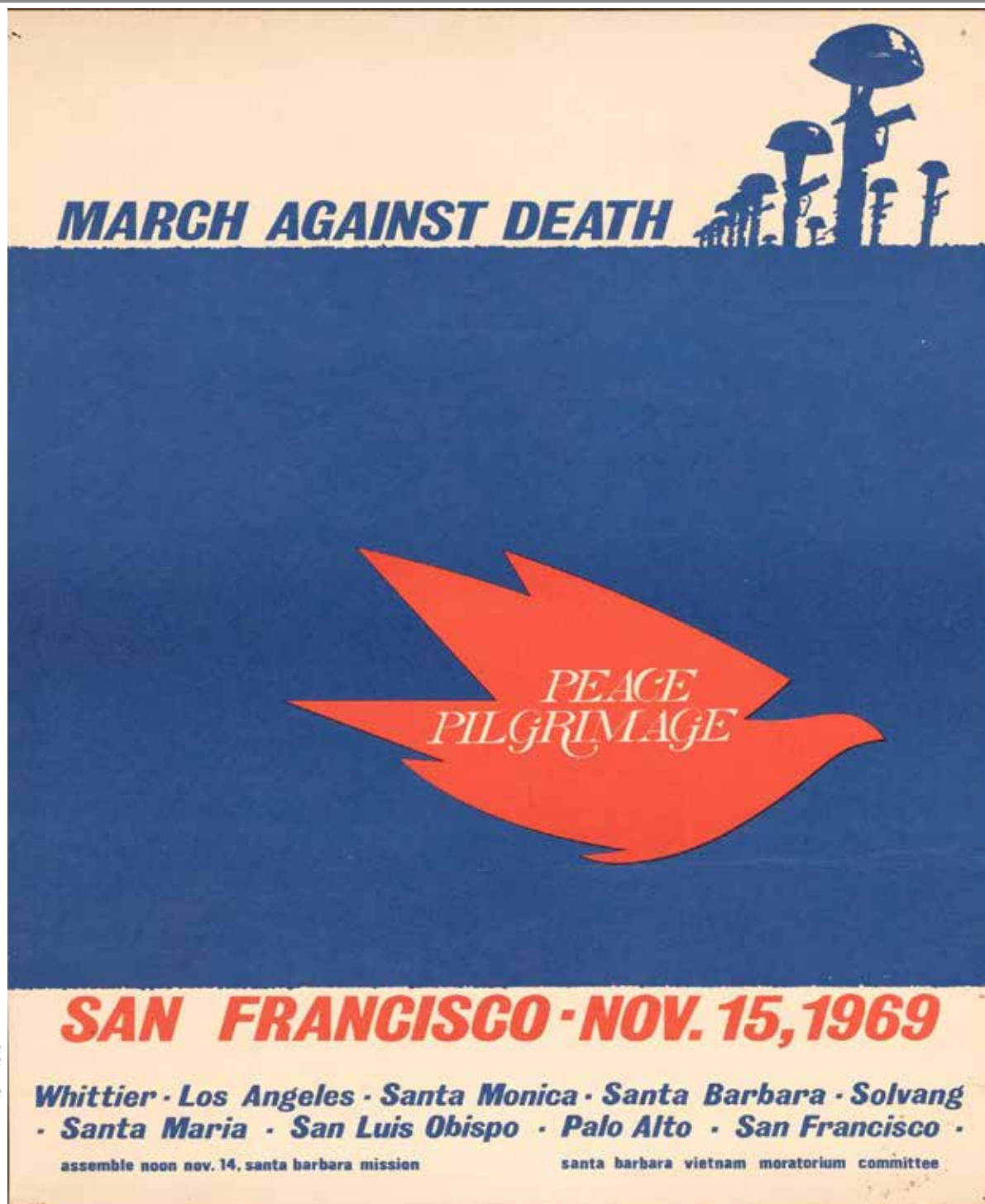
At his core, Ted was a teacher, both in the classroom and in his everyday life. Although he taught Sociology at Cal State Northridge for nearly a decade, he was most proud of the years he taught at Middle College High School, an experimental LAUSD high school in South Los Angeles. One of his former students, class of 2004, recently said, "I wasn't your easiest student... but I want you to know that you taught us the right way, you made us appreciate history... you didn't select what you "should" teach us but taught us exactly what we should learn. You had a profound impact on my life."

Ted is survived by his wife Carol, daughter Dara, grandson Sage, son-in-law Brandon, sister Justine, and many family members and friends. Visit [activist-videoarchive.org](http://activist-videoarchive.org) to see a 2023 interview of Ted by the Activist Video Archive. In lieu of flowers, donations to the Center for the Study of Political Graphics in his memory would be greatly appreciated.

We also invite you to share memories, sympathy messages, or words of encouragement in the form of a note mailed to CSPG's office: Attn: Carol Wells, 3916 Sepulveda Blvd, Suite 103, Culver City, CA 90230. We will share all notes with Ted's family.

Crush ICE by Matt Sedillo

Terrorize and terrify  
 Terrorize and terrify  
 Terrorize and terrify  
 They will say freedom  
 Of speech has it limits  
 That you just can't  
 Cry fire in a burning building  
 If a federal agent set it  
 They will say that  
 Public policy is not  
 A matter of public safety  
 And you will know  
 By expression and tone  
 Who is the public  
 And who is endangered  
 And its not like it hasnt  
 Happened before  
 The 30s  
 Repatriation  
 The 40s  
 The assault on the zoot suit  
 The 50s  
 Operation Wetback  
 The 60s and 70s  
 Cointelpro  
 Its not like we were ever  
 Welcome ever since they waged the war  
 They're talking about deporting US born  
 They're talking about building camps  
 They're talking about ethnic cleansing  
 As televised academics  
 Debate whether or not to use  
 The word fascism  
 Others still call it a distraction  
 As masked armed men disappear  
 People from the street  
 And wage war on the city of Los Angeles  
 And it is plays well  
 In Indiana  
 Arkansas  
 Ohio  
 Iowa  
 In the deep red counties  
 Across the country  
 Because they can think  
 Of nothing better to do  
 With their lives  
 Than to terrorize  
 And terrify  
 Terrorize and terrify  
 Terrorize and terrify  
 But there are those among us  
 Who born to fight  
 To resist  
 To defy  
 Terrifying as it may be  
 Crush ICE



Poster courtesy CSPG

**AMERICA WON'T LAST**

\*\*\*\*\*

by, **MOISHE DRECK(c)**

Our America won't last  
 we need a drastic change from our past.  
 Climate change & global warming  
 ecological disasters are looming and alarming.  
 We cut down every tree  
 our water fouled with poison, shit & pee.  
 Our factories & cars spew out pollution  
 this is the end of our civilization.  
 So much sewage flows into our ocean waves  
 we are only digging our own graves.  
 Better not drink the water or breathe the air  
 politicians and industry don't care.  
 All they want is more & more bucks  
 they fuck up the world & it sucks!  
 Politicians lie & lie, they're all full of shit  
 come on and try and get over it.  
 Global warming will burn the land  
 our soil will be turned to sand.  
 The weather is going mad  
 heat, floods, drought, it's getting bad.  
 Icecaps are melting, seas will be over our head  
 millions will soon be drowned and dead.  
 We pave over the entire city  
 killing every plant, what a pity.  
 Scorching fires everywhere burning  
 tornadoes & hurricanes churning & turning.  
 Politicians & corporations cause tribulations  
 continuing emissions and pollutions.  
 We have been taught to consume, waste & buy  
 from all this worthless crap we may all die.  
 Nuclear waste and radiation everywhere  
 H bombs are still a scare.  
 We cover our crops with poison & pesticide  
 we're poisoning ourselves and it is suicide.  
 With giant nets we catch every fish  
 soon there will be nothing to put on our dish.  
 The water is dirty, the air has a stink  
 like the dinosaurs we'll go extinct.  
 Industry dumps chemicals & poison  
 soon even the rich will have nowhere to run.  
 The Earth has it's Time and seasons  
 weather change has its reasons.  
 The world is falling apart  
 how to fix it or where to start?  
 Mother Earth sheds a tear  
 we must keep our rivers clean and clear.  
 The trees are our breath  
 kill them and it's our death.  
 The plants and animals are our brothers  
 the waters and land are our mothers.  
 We need to replant our flowers and trees  
 stop poisoning the plants and bees.  
 Stop burning gas & coal  
 zero emissions our goal.  
 Everything we can learn to recycle  
 instead of cars & jets, walk or ride a bicycle.  
 When corporations pollute & make us sick  
 kick their CEO pricks in the dick.  
 We must once again love the Spirit of the land  
 protect wildlife, forests, waters & keep it grand.  
 From fish to mammals to apes to man  
 our survival rests on a pollution ban.  
 We must again love the Great Spirit Earth  
 from the land and waters we were given birth.  
 If we don't quickly change our ways  
 we will soon see the end of our days...

**TO LIVE & DIE IN VENICE -marty liboff**

In Venice I live & die  
 I'll soon be walkin the boardwalk in the sky...  
 People come & go  
 most we never know.  
 Some drinkin expensive wine & getting a tan  
 others broke & eatin out of a garbage can.  
 Musicians, vendors & crooks  
 movie stars, politicians & snooks.  
 Some tryin to make a buck  
 others lookin to fuck.  
 Pot, crack & tweakers  
 in shorts, bikinis & sneakers.  
 Lovers walk hand & hand  
 listening to a Venice rock band.  
 Music of all kinds  
 morons & great minds.  
 Wide beaches are grand  
 kids play in the surf and sand.  
 Bikes & scooters run ya down  
 runners & skateboarders from Dogtown.  
 Dogs of every kind  
 some people who have lost their mind.  
 The Free Venice Beachhead tells us the news  
 sometimes it is happy & sometimes the blues.  
 Jim Morrison, the Beach Boys & Dogtown  
 people with a smile or frown.  
 Jay Adams, John Haag, Abbot Kinney &  
 many more  
 the Ocean Front is never a bore.  
 Everything changes & doesn't stay the same.  
 I remember your face but not your name.  
 Old & young, short & tall  
 Venice has got it all.  
 The most beautiful sunsets on earth  
 Venice is the place of my birth.  
 Pigeons poop, seagulls fly by  
 Venice is where I want to live and die.  
 So when I die don't cry  
 I'll be walkin the Venice Boardwalk in the sky...

**4-2-25 William Kingsbury**

**A Boy Walks with His father on the Harbor Breakwater**

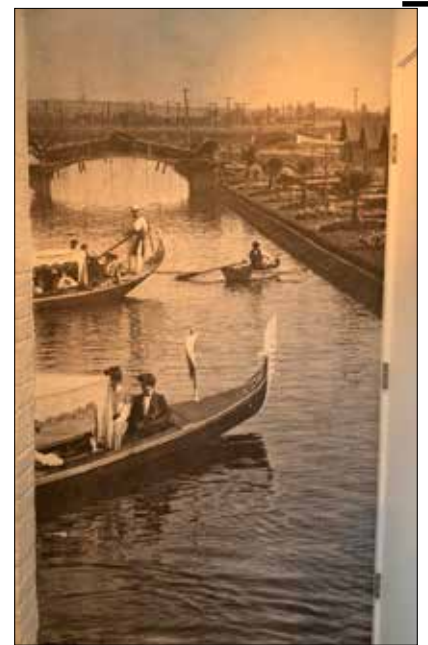
I am 5 years old  
 We walk out in the  
 early morning fog  
 The water in the harbor  
 is still as glass  
 The boats, motionless  
 like a photograph  
 The gulls, crying  
 The surf, rhythmic,  
 gentle against the  
 breakwater  
 I smell the ocean, sea  
 bracken, iodine  
 We talk about the  
 future which opens out  
 forever in my mind  
 I am safe with my  
 father who knows of  
 worlds beyond my  
 imagination



**WHY THE BALD EAGLE WENT BALD**



**Where the hell in Venice is this?**



Answer to last issue's, "Where the hell in Venice is this?":  
 Market Street (formerly Zephyr Avenue) looking east toward Pacific Avenue (formerly Trolley Way).  
 The car is a Flanders, built in Detroit from 1910 -1913.  
 (Special thanks to Todd von Hoffmann and the Venice Heritage Museum)



Above, Venice Art Crawl in the Linda J. Albertano Garden at Beyond Baroque. Below, right, and above right, A Zine Festival at Beyond Baroque.



See ICE?  
¿Ves a la migra?

**WEST LOS**

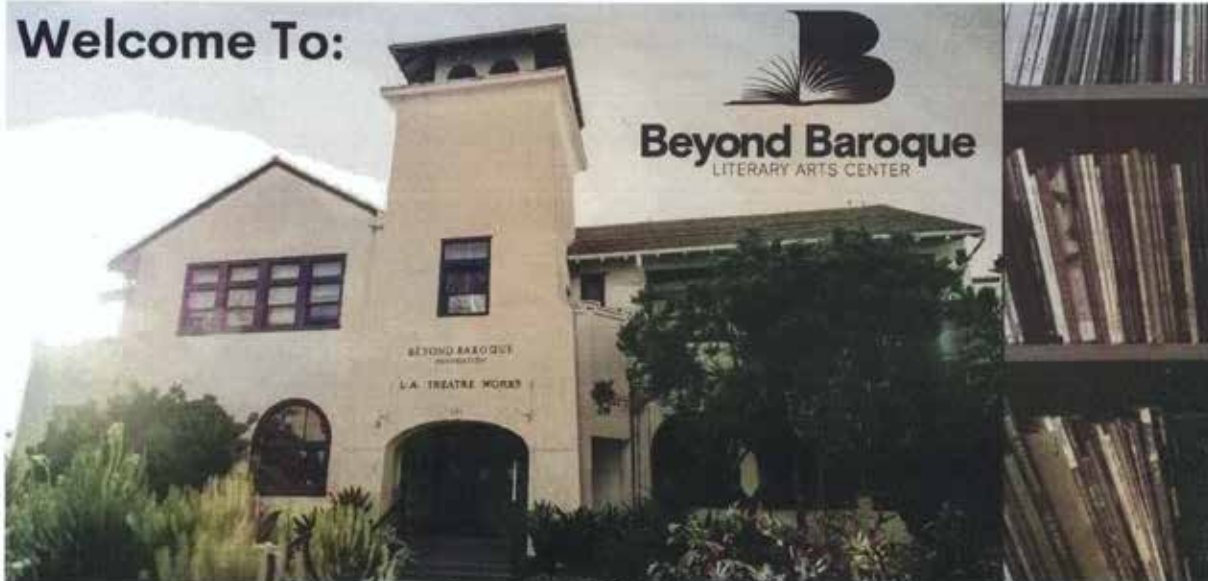
**310-513-5539**

**RESPUESTA RÁPIDA**

Call Us  
**Llámanos**

Síguenos en Instagram @WestLA.RRN

Welcome To:



### About Us:

Beyond Baroque is one of the United States' leading independent Literary | Arts Centers and public spaces dedicated to expanding the public's knowledge of poetry, literature and art through cultural events and community interaction.

### Quick Facts:

- Our space features:
  - The Scott Wannberg Bookstore
  - The Mike Kelley Gallery
  - The Wanda Coleman Theater
  - The Poets' Garden
- Hosts over 10,000 attendees between our workshops and reading series each year
- Hosts of the Southern California Poetry Festival, the International Poetry Film Festival, and more
- Notable Workshop alum include: Dennis Cooper, Wanda Coleman, Amanda Gorman, Tom Waits, Exene Cervenka, and Amy Gerstler



Terrance Hayes reading in the Wanda Coleman Theater, 2023



Poets meet for the Wednesday Night Poetry Workshop, 1970's

### Want to support, rent out our space, or learn more?

Visit our website: [beyondbaroque.org](http://beyondbaroque.org) and check out our upcoming events!  
find us on social media @bbllitarts  
681 Venice Blvd. Venice. CA

### City Phone Numbers

Police: Non-Emergency	877-275-5273
Police: TDD Service	800-660-4026
City Park Emergencies	323-913-7390
Water & Power / Report a Problem (no immediate danger)*	800-342-5397
Natural Gas Service	800-427-2200
Traffic Signal Outage	213-485-4184
Street Light Repair	3-1-1 (or 213-473-3231)
American Red Cross	310-445-9900
Animal Services	888-452-7381
Building Inspection Request	888-524-2845
Refuse collection	800-773-2489
Sewer & Storm Drain Issues - 3-1-1 (or 213-473-3231)	
Fallen Street Trees / Debris - 3-1-1 (or 213-473-3231)	

For assistance with most other City services, dial 3-1-1 within City limits;  
or call 213-473-3231 -- from anywhere.  
Weekday hours: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm;  
Weekends and holidays: 8:00 am to 4:45 pm.  
Or, visit MyLA 311.

For information about emergency preparedness programs in the City of Los Angeles, contact:  
LA City Emergency Management Department (EMD)  
Phone: 213-484-4800  
E-mail: [emd.emdweb@lacity.org](mailto:emd.emdweb@lacity.org)



# Beyond Baroque

Gallery and Bookstore now open  
 Tuesday - Thursday, 2:00-6:00 by appointment  
 Friday - Saturday, 12:00 - 6:00 open  
[beyondbaroque.org](http://beyondbaroque.org)

## An Evening of Poetry: Michael C. Ford, Jeffrey Graham, & Paul Cummin

Friday, July 11, 2025 7:30 PM PT  
 In Person at Beyond Baroque & Live on YouTube  
 Lawyer and poet Jeffrey Graham and renowned educator and activist Paul Cummins will read from their respective books and from new works! Their writings compile decades worth of dedication to the art of poetry. Legendary L.A. poet Michael C. Ford will also be reading new and selected work.

## Voice in the Well Presents: Snapshots, A Classic Saturday Matinee

Saturday, July 12, 2025 7:30 PM PT  
 In Person at Beyond Baroque & Live on YouTube  
 Hosted by Eric Vollmer and Frank Strasser, this lively event will showcase a talented ensemble of performers inspired by Hollywood silver-screen classics. Dramatic readings and storytelling will be brought to life by Dalia Vosylius, Judd Angel, Ginger Otoole, James Tripp, Jeffrey Lebeau, and Frank Strasser. Musical performances will feature chanteuse Christina Linhardt, guitarist Leon Rubenhold, and accordionist Tuba Heatherton. Plus a touch of theatrical charm and humor with Cathrine Allison as a clown!

## 826 LA & Beyond Baroque Present: Community Open Mic

Friday, July 18, 2025 6:30 PM PT  
 In Person at Beyond Baroque & Live on YouTube  
 Beyond Baroque and 826LA welcome you to showcase your talents on stage! Youth and community members will have a chance to share their poetry, music, storytelling, and creative energy. Students from 826LA's summer writing workshops will be featuring new work, so be sure to come join them on the mic or support our future creatives! The event will be MC'ed by Ariadne Makridakis Arroyo. Sign-ups start at 5:45.

## The LIT SHOW

Saturday, July 19, 2025 6:30 PM PT  
 In Person at Beyond Baroque & Live on YouTube  
 Join us for the 18th annual LIT SHOW! L.A.'s Diva Deluxe Suzy Williams and pianist/composer Brad Kay lead an unforgettable celebration of literature-inspired songs, featuring new pieces based on Tennyson, Joyce, Zelda Fitzgerald, and more, alongside past favorites based on Whitman, Pynchon, and Hughes. With a stellar band and special guests, this beloved event blends music, wit, and the written word. Seating is first come, first serve (arrive early!). Admission: \$20. Free parking available. For more info visit [laughtears.com](http://laughtears.com) or reach out to Gerry Fialka at 310-306-7330 or [pfsuzy@aol.com](mailto:pfsuzy@aol.com).



This Paper is a Poem

## Are You Hungry? Free Food At Venice Beach

(Times and places occasionally change)

- \***You Matter- Michael's picnic with friends.**  
 Tue. & Thur. around 11 am. North border of Venice on the Ocean Front Walk near Ozone Ave.
- \***Free Food with Dan and pals-** various groceries, bread, fruit, vegetables. Sat. & Sun. around 8am. Ocean Front Walk by Ozone Ave.
- \***St. Joseph Center-** their clients, to-gomeals. Mon. 10-11:50, Tues. & Thurs. 12-2:50. 204 Hampton Dr.. Also weekly food if you register at (310)396-6468 ext.313
- \***St. Mark Church Free Food Pantry**  
 Every Saturday from 11am to 1pm  
 940 Coeur d'Alene Ave, Venice 90291 (entrance Garfield Av) Vegetables, fruits and other food items. No registration needed. Drive-thru and walk-in options. Call St. Mark Parish at 310-821-5058 or email us at [loavesandfishes@stmarkvenice.com](mailto:loavesandfishes@stmarkvenice.com)
- \***Venice Family Clinic** - Free bag of fruits and vegetables. Every 3rd Wed. of the month. 10 AM to 12 PM. 589 Rose Ct.
- \* **Community Corp Veggie Giveaway Weekly** 3pm to 5pm on Wednesday 2033 Virginia Ave, Santa Monica, CA 90404, USA

### \* BAR Center at the Beach \*

201 Ocean Front Walk  
 Senior Schedule  
 LUNCH for seniors (60+years)  
 Monday thru Friday-12 PM  
 - FREE SENIOR CLASSES -  
 Mondays  
 10 AM Dance class with Zhanna  
 11 AM Virtual Travel Tours  
 1:45 PM Arthritis Exercise with Kathrin

Tuesdays  
 1:15 PM Tai Chi with Anton  
 Wednesdays  
 10 AM Shakti Naam Yoga with Allyn  
 11 AM Rummikub games  
 12:40 PM BINGO!  
 1:30 PM Arthritis Exercise with Shifra  
 Fridays  
 10 AM Fit & Fun in Motion with Shifra  
 11:15 Shabbat Celebration with Shifra  
 \* Every 1st

Friday of the month at 12:00 PM-  
 Klezmer music with Gustavo, Freddy and Marty.

Marty's Movie Matinee once a month.  
 Arts and Culture Club with Sheryl- alternate Mondays.  
 + Plus Special Events and Parties Every Month!

• Additional classes available on ZOOM...

## Live Music The Trip Bar

2101 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica  
<https://www.tripsantamonica.com/calendar>

## Unurban Cafe

3301 Pico Blvd, Santa Monica  
 Open Mic Fridays 7:00  
 The Sunless Sea Poetry and Spoken Word Open Mic Show  
 Tuesdays 7:30  
 Often A Sunday Afternoon Show with  
 Brad Kay and a number of lovely chanteuses

## Venice West

[www.thevenicewest.com](http://www.thevenicewest.com)



847 Venice Blvd, Venice CA (310) 402-2229



## Need a website?

One-page sites starting at \$500

Launch a mobile-friendly site within a week!

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## FREE LEGAL HOUSING CLINIC

CALL  
**323-951-1041**

The California Women's Law Center is helping tenants answer their legal questions. Attorneys are available to discuss your legal housing needs, including questions about emergency measures related to COVID-19.

To receive free legal assistance please contact  
[cwlc@cwlc.org](mailto:cwlc@cwlc.org) or (323) 951-1041  
 to schedule your reservation.



## Los Angeles Tenants Union West Side Local Meetings

1st and 3rd Wednesday; 7-8:30pm  
 Oakwood Recreation Center  
 767 California Ave., Venice, CA 90291

## Sindicato de Inquilinos de Los Angeles Reuniones de la Sección Oeste

1er y 3er miércoles; 7-8:30pm  
[westsidelocal.latu@gmail.com](mailto:westsidelocal.latu@gmail.com)  
 424-272-1618

Casework de cases: 213-986-8266

## THE SPIRIT OF VENICE



Advertise in the Beachhead  
 Black and white business card size \$25  
 Color business card size \$40  
 \$5 per square inch color  
 \$4 per square inch black and white  
 1/4 pagecolor \$200, black and white \$160  
 1/2 Pagecolor \$400, black and white \$160  
 Full Pagecolor \$800, black and white \$640  
 email [free@venicebeachhead.org](mailto:free@venicebeachhead.org)  
 or call 424-256-3886

**PATROL YOUR HOODS!**

**GET TO KNOW BUSINESSES  
ON YOUR BLOCK**

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YOUR NEIGHBORS**

**JOIN A RAPID RESPONSE  
NETWORK**

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WAREHOUSES AND TAKE  
PICTURES**

**CALL/TEXT 213-444-6562 TO  
REPORT ICE**

**ATTEND CITY COUNCIL  
MEETINGS AND GIVE PUBLIC  
COMMENT!**

**ORGANIZE PROTESTS AND  
YELL YOUR LUNGS OUT!**

**CREATE SIGNAGE WITH A  
MEANINGFUL MESSAGE**

**WE HAVE A COMMON ENEMY.  
LET'S WORK TOGETHER TO  
GET ICE THE FUCK OUT OF LA.**

*You Elected a RAPIST, Expect to Get FUCKED!*

*ICE MELTS UNDER The LIGHT of TRUTH!*