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#### HOME

#### COVERSTORY

#### Hijacking the AM Band

Beating the odds and predictions of its demise, Air America not only stays afloat, but helps swing an election and spawns a new industry in progressive talk radio

# (FRONTLINES)

# Silencing Tia Chucha's

Artists and patrons rally around the Valley cultural mecca, now in search of a new home

# **Secret Police**

Newly confidential disciplinary hearings protect controversial LAPD matters from public scrutiny

# 7 DAYS

# Hearts of Protest

~ By DR. REBECCA EPSTEIN ~



Photo by Omni Hotels

I'm Bringing Sexy Back (see Wednesday)

eil Young's Living With War Today website (Neilyoung.com/lwwtoday) may not be the most unusual site out there, but it brings together people of a common cause in a way only the Internet can. Young's Living With War protest album was released last year to much media attention. Among its related website's features is a growing collection of links to more than a thousand Iraq war protest songs written and submitted by a large variety of amateur and professional musicians. Some are better than others, and some are a lot worse, but the populist impulse driving the endeavor perfectly suits the sentiments of the protest genre.

The best tunes on the site don't bother bullshitting you. L.A.-based musician Cindy Lee Berryhill has her own favorites, many of which will be performed by the original artists during the group concert "Songs of Protest: An evening with the songwriters featured at Neil Young's Living With War website" this Saturday at Fairfax nightclub Largo. Berryhill organized the event, hoping to offer a dose of reality in this













#### SRD DEGREE

# **Daniel Ellsberg**

The Pentagon Papers leaker on the coming war with Iran and why government employees must stop it

# EDITORIAL

A Star Is Jailed

LETTERS

STREET

LAX Businesses Not Happy, Elephant Hill Under Review

LEFT COAST

Cartoon By Ted Rall

TAKE MY PICTURE

Photographs by Gary Leonard

7 DAYS

**Hearts of Protest** 

# L.A.&E

# **Double Exposure**

Exhibition showcases photographer Mary Ellen Mark's portraits and reportage

#### MICK'S MEDIA

#### **Lexicon Devilment**

Arianna Huffington's next goal is to become a verb

#### LIVE

# Take 'Two Shoes,' Add Booty -- Shake!

The Cat Empire brings the antipodal funk to the Key Club

#### FILM

#### **Being Barney**

New documentary takes a closer look at the 'Cremaster' master

~ LATEST REVIEWS ~

~ SHOWTIMES ~

town known best for heralding escapism.

"This show is a great alternative to a month's worth of entertainment awards," says Berryhill, who plans to donate half the proceeds to the nonprofit Bridge School for handicapped children (Bridgeschool.org), a favorite Young charity. "I read an article by a guy, a soldier who came back from Iraq, and what he kept saying was, 'I just can't believe life is going on like normal here.' You know, when it's just such a mess over there."

Among the performers will be John Hughes, whose "Bring 'Em On" is the site's most clicked-on selection; John Hisle, who served two tours of duty in Iraq; L.A. songwriter Jenny Yates; John Doe of X; and Berryhill herself.

"I chose people [who] I felt had some kind of conviction," she says. "For me, it's not just about being some kind of bleeding-heart liberal. I have a nephew who just turned 19, and he's in Baghdad right now doing 14- to 15-hour days. They're overworking these guys." Berryhill's conviction extends even beyond her nephew, however. "My husband had a brain injury 11 years ago," she continues, "and a lot of these soldiers — more than 16,000 — have come back with head injuries. This is the most brain injuries that have happened in any war. I know what these families are going through, because I went through it, too."

#### -Alfred Lee

Songs of Protest: An evening with the songwriters featured at Neil Young's Living With War website. Largo, 432 N. Fairfax Ave., L.A., (323) 852-1073/1851. Sat. at 8 p.m. \$20. Largo-la.com.

#### THIS WEEK IN THE CITY

# **Thursday 8**

ILLUSTRATE, MY LOVE

.....

If the latest generation of cartoonists – those who illustrate the mundane, ironic, and quietly revelatory aspects of modern life – made valentines, what would they consist of? A toothpick and a glittery sticker? A scrap of found lace and a chocolate ladybug? Get a hint tonight, when Gabrielle Bell, Kevin Huizenga, and Anders Nilsen, three cartoonists published by Drawn & Quarterly, appear at Skylight Books. As part of a national tour promoting their books Lucky (Bell), Curses (Huizenga), and Don't Go Where I Can't Follow (Anders), the three will present a slide show, sign copies, and speak about their work and the passions that fuel it, whether existential, cathartic, or merely, deeply, poetic. 7 p.m. Free. 1818 N. Vermont Ave., Los Feliz, (323) 660-1175. Skylightbooks.com; Drawnandquarterly.com.

# Friday 9

PROJECT, MY LOVE

Pinker and more delectable than a Valentine's Marshmallow Peep is the new Billy Wilder Theater at the Hammer Museum. Tonight, the UCLA Film & Television Archive welcomes the public into its new home, as it launches its first screening series there – fittingly, honoring director Wilder himself. Kicking off its opening weekend, Archive honorary chairman (and no slouch of a director himself) Curtis Hanson will introduce tonight's inaugural film – the Oscar-weighted The Apartment (1960) – plus moderate a discussion with actress Shirley MacLaine and Audrey L. Wilder, the filmmaker's widow. The theater, designed by





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#### **Struck Dumb**

After a muted release by Fox, Mike Judge's 'Idiocracy' arrives on DVD

# SONIC NATION

#### **Man with Many Names**

Blur's Damon Albarn concocts another fine side project with 'The Good, the Bad & the Queen'

# STAGE

# **Humor and Humanity**

There's empathy behind the laughter in 'Kimberly Akimbo' and 'Search and Destroy'

# LISTINGS

~ ROCK, POP, ACOUSTIC ~ ~ JAZZ, BLUES, LATIN

~ DANCEBEAT~ ~ CLASSICAL/DANCE ~

- ~ CABARET ~
- ~ CONCERTS ~
  - ~ STAGE ~
- ~ GALLERY ~
- ~ READINGS, ETC. ~ ~ GIVE IT UP! ~
  - EAT

# A Whimsical Winner

The décor is fun, but the food is fabulous at Lucy's 51

# (eat listings)

Guide

L.A. architect Michael Maltzen, is a technological and aesthetic confection for cinema. To finally see it in action will be sweet, indeed. 7:30 p.m. \$7-\$10. 10899 Wilshire Blvd., L.A., (310) 443-7000. Archive info: (310) 206-8013 or Cinema.ucla.edu.

# Saturday 10

CRAFT, MY LOVE

For DIY folks, crafting stuff oneself is more than just a holiday exercise. This weekend brings the 2007 DIY Festival, emphasizing the creation, promotion, and distribution of film, music, books, and digital media. Check out the panels, screenings, and guests, including Henry Jaglom (Egyptian Theatre, 6712 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, 323-466-3456; Diyconvention.com; Fri.-Sun.; prices vary). Also, from 10 p.m. until midnight tonight, see how an array of "underground" fine artists reinterpret a beloved DIY icon: the paint-by-numbers kit. The benefit Charity by Numbers at the Corey Helford Gallery includes innocent, pastoral scenes lovingly corrupted by, among others, Mark Ryden, Tim Biskup, and the Clayton Brothers. The paintings will be auctioned on eBay, with proceeds going to the Alliance for Children's Rights. 8522 Washington Blvd., Culver City, (310) 287-2340 or Coreyhelfordgallery.com. Free.

# Sunday 11

ADMIRE, MY LOVE

There's a lot to love about L.A.'s African-American cultural history, and two events today will send more admiration its way. This morning at the Pan African Film Festival, which opened February 8 at the Magic Johnson Theaters, see the affectionate documentary Leimert Park: The Story of a Village in South Central. Producer-director Jeannette Lindsay calls the recently completed and already adulated film "a celebration of this still largely unknown community and the artists and musicians who created it" (3650 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., L.A., 323-290-5900; Leimertparkmovie.com; 11 a.m.; \$7.50). Then, in Malibu, Bruin and Laker legend Kareem Abdul-Jabbar signs his autobiography On the Shoulders of Giants at Diesel, A Bookstore. Buy a copy in advance to save time and secure your place in the autograph line (3890 Cross Creek Rd., Malibu, 310-456-9961; 3 p.m.; free, book sold separately).

#### Monday 12

SHOUT, MY LOVE

If Valentine's Day for you is typically a Valentine's dud, maybe it's time for something radical. Tonight Sean Carnage – champion of L.A.'s present-day underground punk scene, who made the 2006 documentary 40 Bands 80 Minutes to give you a noisy-good taste of it – hosts another Monday night line-up at Il Corral, a raw performance space on Hollywood's eastern edge. Teaming with Totally Mag!, an off-center celeb zine, Carnage presents "St. Valentine's Gay: A Night of Radical Music, Food & Fun for Queers." Of course, even the straight sort can enjoy post-post-punkers Robin Williams on Fire, all-female hard rockers The Pristines, plus Kate Hall (Mika Miko) performing with guitarist Elijah Forrest. Outpunk Records' Joshua Ploeg, also a vegan master chef, will serve radical compassion with his entirely plant-based edible treats. 9:30 p.m.; \$5, all-ages. 662 N. Heliotrope Dr., L.A. Info: Seancarnage.com.

# Tuesday 13

WRESTLE, MY LOVE

And you think love gets you twisted ... . Back to knock you out are the Mexican wrestlers and divinely dishy characters of Lucha VaVOOM, presenting a "Valentine's Sextacular" tonight through February 15. It's not just comedy and brutality but garish costumes and stripteases, too – a bit like a relationship you maybe once knew. If you've never caught a Lucha show – this will be the 14th – take a date or just yourself down this brash candy aisle of fun. Featured performers include superstar luchadore Blue Demon Jr., twin female wrestlers the Poubelle Twins, the Wau Wau sisters, and, new to the crew, performance artistes Leroi and Lucy Fur. Meeoowie! Tue.-Feb. 15 at 8 p.m.; doors at 7 p.m. \$30-\$65. Mayan Theater, 1038 S. Hill St., L.A. Info: Luchavavoom.com.

# Wednesday 14

#### SURRENDER, MY LOVE

Here's an excellent Valentine's plan: First, see Love Conquers All, a collaborative art exhibit by graphic artists The Love Bandits and art-making cultural satirists The Love Movement, together exploring the love/hate dichotomy (project:, 8545 Washington Blvd., Culver City, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; Projectgalleryla.com; reception Feb. 10, 7 p.m.-11 p.m.; free). From 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., take your canine to the singles-and-their-dogs "Yappy Hour" at the Omni Los Angeles Hotel. Wine and cheese for you; gourmet Buddy Biscuits for your furry bodyguard; proceeds to PAWS/LA (Grand Café Terrace, 251 S. Olive St., downtown L.A., 213-617-3300; \$10). Couples, too, can get cookies and drool by taking an aphrodisiac cooking class from Diane Brown, author of The Seduction Cookbook: Culinary Creations for Lovers. Tonight's potent ingredients? Agavero tequila and you. (Chef's Inc., 10955 W. Pico Blvd., L.A., 310-470-2277; 7 p.m.; Chefsinc.net; \$190).



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