

NAPA
THE VALLEY'S
ULTIMATE
PLAYGROUND

**PALM
SPRINGS**
THE TOP
DESERT
HOTELS



CALIFORNIA STYLE

AMY ADAMS

CHARMING
HER WAY TO
THE TOP.

THE NEW DIVORCE
HOW HOLLYWOOD
COUPLES ARE
SPLITTING
WITH SMILES

THE

ENTERTAINMENT ISSUE

STYLISH SCREENING ROOMS
CALIFORNIA'S BEST NEW BANDS
MOVIE MAKEUP ARTISTS' BEAUTY SECRETS
L.A.'S NEXT IT GIRLS

JAN/FEB 2009 \$4.99

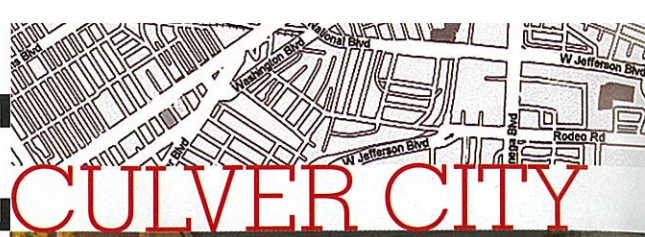
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INSIDE CULVER CITY

Local luminaries share their hometown favorites



Miguel Nelson and Sherry Walsh

After diligent vetting, husband and wife team **Miguel Nelson** and **Sherry Walsh** chose contemporary art haven Culver City for their cooler (and greener) than-thou event destination, **Smog Shoppe**. Housed within a 1980s cinder block building, the space surprises with a salad of sustainable, modern and vintage-chic design elements like vertical succulent gardens, plant chandeliers, recycled denim sound-proofing and beautifully reappropriated wooden tables and

chairs. An artist himself, Nelson says: "THE MAIN DRAG ON LA CIENEGA IS THE MOST AWESOME ART WALK IN TOWN. YOU JUST STUMBLE INTO

GALLERIES AND FIND ALL THESE GEMS." CASUAL EATS **Beacon** serves exceptional Japanese country food and the

best miso soup we've had outside of Japan. 3280 Helms Ave., 310-838-7500. **TEA TIME** We're addicted to the barley tea at **M. Café de Chaya**. 9343 Culver Blvd., 310-838-4300. **DINNER RUSH** We love **Fraiche** for their stellar European/Old World wine list by the glass. 9411 Culver Blvd., 310-839-6800. **COCKTAIL CROWD** There are long lines at

Father's Office for the great beer selection. 3229 Helms Ave., 310-736-2224. **BAR FLIES** **Mandrake** does a great



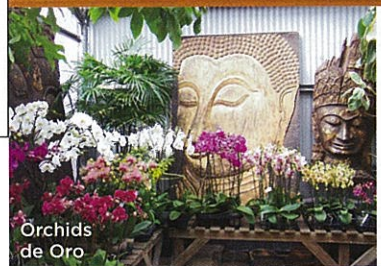
Taylor de Cordoba

ARTS SCENE

For emerging artists, we love **Taylor de Cordoba**. 2660 S. La Cienega Blvd., 310-559-9156.

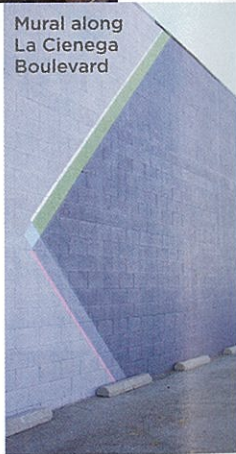
job with Micheladas. During construction, we were welcomed even in our grungy

clothing, so it has a Cheers vibe for us. It's also where all our friends in the art world hang out. 2692 S. La Cienega Blvd., 310-837-3297. **JUST DESSERTS** **Ugo**, an Italian cafe, serves to-die-for gelato and it's open late. 3865 Cardiff Ave., 310-204-1222. **RETAIL THERAPY** **Surfac** (8777 Washington Blvd., 310-559-4770) is a great commercial kitchen supply store with an awesome little cafe and gourmet items. For rare botanical specimens, **Orchids de Oro** (3077 S. La Cienega Blvd., 310-838-4262) is really inspiring. **OUTDOORS** Ride your bike or run along **Ballona Creek Trail**. It goes all the way



Orchids de Oro

Mural along La Cienega Boulevard



from National Boulevard to Marina Del Rey. **MURAL IMAGE** When we moved in, we found a mysterious layered mural in the parking lot next door. We copied it on our building, like a reflection. **NORA ZELEVANSKY**

TREASURE TROVE

We like things that have character, so **Empiric** is in line with our aesthetic. 6021 Washington Blvd., 310-842-9777.



Smog Shoppe

GUEST LIST

Smog Shoppe is Culver City's newest, greenest event space. 2651 S. La Cienega Blvd., 310-922-6609.



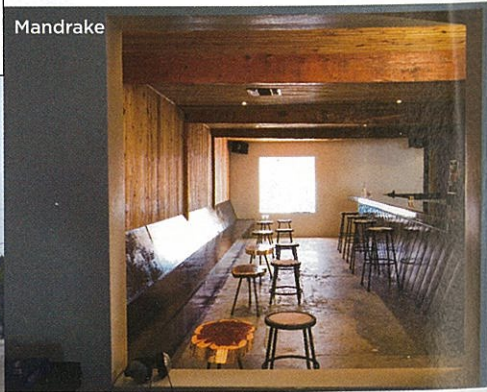
Beacon



M. Café de Chaya



Father's



Mandrake