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## Music, exhibits and loitering on tap

BY JIM SKEEN Special to the Valley Press  
Dec 20, 2019



The Los Angeles County Museum will feature an exhibit, which is a mid-career look at the work of Ethiopian-American Artist Julie Mehretu.

Courtesy photo

This week, we're seeing movies amid Victorian homes, visiting exhibitions at LACMA, loitering at Barnsdall Park, shopping at Grand Central Market and exploring the themes of bondage and freedom in an exhibition in East Hollywood.

### Street Food Cinema

On Dec. 20, Street Food Cinema is kicking off a holiday movie series amid the historic Victorian homes at the Heritage Square Museum, 3545 Pasadena Ave.

Dubbed "Yuletide Cinemaland," the event combines the nostalgia of classic holiday movies outdoors with Christmas carolers, delicious food, hot chocolate, mulled wine and craft beer.

"Explore picturesque Victorian-era homes authentically dressed for the holidays, join piano sing-alongs in the Perry Mansion ballroom, sign up for Scrooge's Victorian Dance Lessons in the old church and experience the Holiday Light Tunnel," [streetfoodcinema.com](http://streetfoodcinema.com) says.

Each night will feature two screenings of a movie (6 and 8 p.m.) in the town square.

The movies for the opening weekend are "Home Alone" on Dec. 20, "Gremlins" on Dec. 21 and "Muppet Christmas Carol" on Dec. 22.

The other movies in the series are "Elf" (Dec. 23), "Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone" (Dec. 28), and "Edward Scissorhands" (Dec. 29).

Advance tickets are \$25 for adults and \$10 for children 6 to 12. Tickets are available online at [streetfoodcinema.com](http://streetfoodcinema.com)

Tickets at the door are \$30 for adults and \$14 for children 6 to 12.

Parking is not permitted at Heritage Square Museum. There is a lot at 3545 Pasadena Ave. for \$10 with advance online purchase or \$15 the day of.

There is a Heritage Square Station on the Metro Gold Line that is about a 10-minute walk from the museum.

#### Two Exhibitions at LACMA

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA) has two exhibits worth considering.

The first is "Fiji: Art and Life in the Pacific," described as the first substantial project on the art of Fiji to be mounted in the United States. The exhibition features over 280 artworks drawn from major international collections.

The exhibition includes figurative sculpture, ritual kava bowls, breastplates of pearl shell and whale ivory, large-scale barkcloths, small portable temples, weapons and European watercolors and paintings.

It's on display through July 19.

The second exhibition is a mid-career look at the work of Ethiopian-American Artist Julie Mehretu and includes nearly 40 works on paper with 35 paintings dating from 1996 to the present.

Mehretu art examines history, colonialism, capitalism, geopolitics, war, global uprising, diaspora and displacement.

The exhibition will be on display through March 22.

The museum is located at 5905 Wilshire Blvd. and is open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday; from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Friday; and from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. It is closed Wednesday.

Admission is \$20 for LA County residents and \$25 for others. Note that LA County residents can get in free after 3 p.m., Monday through Friday. Those 17 and younger get in free.

#### 'Loitering is Delightful'

The act of loitering, often viewed negatively, is viewed differently in an exhibition at the Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery in Barnsdall Park, 4800 Hollywood Blvd.

The exhibition presents the work of 10 Los Angeles artists who respond in varying ways to the joyful possibilities of slowing down.

“Loitering is traditionally considered the preserve of delinquents, teenagers and miscreants. Generally speaking, those up to no good,” the gallery’s website says. “Could loitering offer some respite, however temporary, from the capitalist cycle of consumption and production? In a world consumed by digital devices and driven by productivity, what possibilities does daydreaming offer? Can fulfillment be found in staring into space? Is there pleasure in simply hanging out? What does it mean to be seen engaging in a seemingly aimless pursuit and, moreover, to take up public space in the process? Is loitering contagious?”

The Los Angeles Municipal Art Gallery is an ideal place to loiter. Admission is free and visitors can find a place sit, look and think.

“Spending a long time in the gallery is not considered threatening; on the contrary, it is encouraged,” lamag.org says. “Loitering is delightful posits the municipal gallery, a civic space with free admission, as a safe place to sit, look and think.”

The exhibition is display through Jan. 12.

The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday through Sunday.

#### Artists and Fleas at Grand Central Market

If you’re looking for some unique gifts, you might want to check out the Artists and Fleas pop-up market at Grand Central Market, 317 South Broadway from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Dec. 21-22.

Artists and markers from throughout the greater LA area will offer everything from handmade art and ceramics to clothing and accessories, records, health and beauty and jewelry.

#### Holiday Sing-Along

You can exercise your pipes at the annual Holiday Sing-Along at the Walt Disney Concert, 111 S. Grand Ave., on Dec. 21.

“Join in song with hundreds of fellow revelers — plus a jazz combo, a choir, and the mighty pipe organ — for this joyous annual tradition. A jolly good time for the whole family,” laphil.com says.

There are two sessions, one at 11:30 a.m. and another at 2:30 p.m.

Tickets range from \$38 to \$94.

## Drapetomania

The East Hollywood gallery Fort Gansevoort, 4859 Fountain Ave., is presenting “Drapetomania,” featuring the work of New York City artist Christopher Myers.

The title of the exhibition comes from a debunked theory of mental illness that, in 1851, American physician Samuel A. Cartwright hypothesized as the cause of enslaved Africans fleeing captivity.

Comprising monumental textile works, including large-scale quilts and sculptures, the exhibition will explore ways in which cherished narratives of freedom are constituted by converse notions of bondage, the gallery website says.

Much of the work is inspired from Myers’ visits to juvenile detention centers over the past 15 years.

“The United States currently imprisons an excess of 50,000 children, all with the same dreams of freedom that have been fed to them by a culture obsessed with the signifiers of liberty and bondage; that echo in contemporary debates, from civil rights to gun rights. Such topics have become the subject of Christopher Myers’ appliqué quilt work,” the gallery website says.

The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday.

The exhibition is on display through Feb. 8.