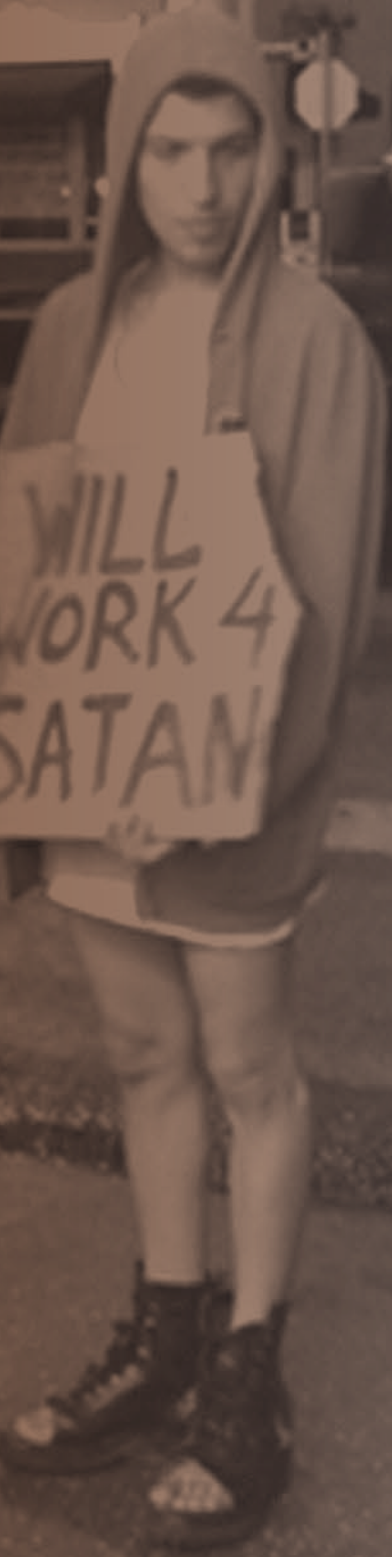


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GUIDE TO THE  
ASSHOLES OF  
LOS ANGELES



... FARRELL

# Assholes of Los Angeles Are Everywhere

Lisa Anne Auerbach

Assholes of Los Angeles are everywhere. Sometimes they get me riled up and other times I refuse to engage. I have a not-so-secret appetite for conflict. [I like to yell. I'm inappropriately rude sometimes.](#) I relish the chance to flip someone off. If there's a chance of winning the contest of whose the bigger asshole, I want the winner to be me. I don't want to be the biggest asshole in Los Angeles—I only want to be the nice lady who triumphs in a duel. I know when I've met an asshole that is out of my league. I don't put up a fight. *I just talk shit later.*

In Culver City, looking at the just painted mural of Julia Roberts, the guy in the turquoise Lotus honks at me. He bears down on his horn and gestures impatiently. One second later he gives me the finger. [His sports car is curvy and would be lots sexier if the driver wasn't such a jerk.](#) How are you gonna get laid in this town? Asshole in sports car—what a cliché.

The woman in the lingerie department at Barney's tells me to get a boob job because none of their bras will fit me. I went there especially because I heard they have "French" lingerie and the French don't go under the knife to fit into clothes. But this is Beverly Hills. Not necessarily a bitch, [a female asshole is still an asshole.](#)

We need assholes in order to live. We need our body's *holes* to function, and when the shit pours out, [it's a pure joy.](#) It makes me wonder why "asshole" is a pejorative term. The actual anus is a beautiful thing. I look at the BevHills lady and she opens a drawer and takes out a business card. She's giving me a referral to a plastic surgeon. Really? It's disappointing. I try not to take it too personally. It's cultural, not about me. It's part of being American.

Getting around town is an [asshole fest](#), from a saddle of a bike, it's even worse. Too many stories to tell but the endings are nearly always the same: me, middle finger raised, yelling "MOTHERFUCKER" at some car making an aggressive move. Whether it is the well-meaning church lady who thinks she is doing a good deed by reminding me that bicycles need to ride on the sidewalk (it's not true, we're legally obligated to ride on the street), to the superjerk who buzzes his car past me at close range. I comfort myself by saying that a motorist doesn't really want to kill a cyclist, it's too much trouble. But I get into such a rage that I think I might actually be provoked enough to murder, and I imagine they are too. [Striking a car with a bike is not the same as striking a bike with a car.](#)

*Metrolink.* Assholes! They make it nearly impossible to take the train to work. The schedules are bunk and the trains don't run on time. Sometimes they stop for no reason and you can be sitting for hours on end. The

ticket machines are clumsy. You could miss a train waiting behind someone who can't navigate the software; and a missed train could mean waiting two hours for the next one. [Why isn't this system better?](#)

[The landlord](#), of course. The landlord is an asshole simply by virtue of his position in the economic pyramid. He has the power to change your life and may do so on a whim. He parks a fancy car downstairs and tells you he needs to raise the rent because he can barely cover the expenses. He decides the outside of the building should be refinished, sending lead paint and fumes into our home. He doesn't care. He doesn't live anywhere in the neighborhood. It doesn't matter to him if we have rats or if the toilet leaks. We know there are termites, they fall from the ceiling. The place is infested and might fall apart. *For two seconds, I reconsider my atheism.*

A knock at my door brings on a frenzy. Three Jehovah's Witnesses in shabby dress clothes wait to bring me news that, from their perspective, is miraculous and transformational. Seeing them out there I feel the venom dripping down my throat. The fangs emerge from my gums, [horns erupt from my skull](#), the inner monster appears. They think they are doing the lord's work. It's hard to call them assholes right to their faces, but they're bothering me at a bad time and they are spreading lies that could lead, for some, to political action. Anyone who uses the lord's name to restrict another person's rights is an asshole. [I have a soft spot for Seventh Day Adventists because they are vegetarians](#), but I can do without the rest of the vocally religious.

[Doctors that don't call back](#): I'm not naming names. It's happened nearly every time I've gone to see a professional. One time it was Christmas Eve and a doctor called to say the test results were bad. She, a woman doctor in South Pas. She had so many scented candles in her waiting room, that in order to see her, I had to wait outside on the street. Some people are sensitive to scented candles, I can't even walk into a Bed Bath and Beyond without having a panic attack. Thankfully it's nerves and not asthma. I called her back as soon as I got the message, but her offices were naturally closed for Christmas Eve. [On vacation with my parents, I churned through all the possibilities, from cancer to AIDS.](#) Worst vacation ever. January 2nd I learned that it wasn't a big deal. I never went back to see her.

I was standing at the sidewalk bus stop, an area that had some construction going on. The bus driver honked at me and told me, via some loudspeaker, to go to the next bus stop—he wasn't going to stop for me. I'd successfully caught a bus there just two days before. Why did that bus driver stop for me and this guy just drive by? I felt the wind from his bus as it took the air with it down Spring Street. I was pissed. I yelled, but he couldn't hear me. [I chased him with my middle finger.](#) Then I got very quiet and angry and nearly started weeping. I had to be somewhere. When you are a bus driver in a city of scarce buses, driving by a citizen who obviously needs a ride, this is a cruel act. That bus driver wasn't just an asshole he was mean-spirited, [the sadist behind the wheel of the 733.](#)

## Notes on Performance Art in L.A. ...or, Some Antagonisms Never Go Away

Jennifer Flores Sternad

In 1969, one year before police attacks on Chicanos protesting the Vietnam War would end in the murder of four civilians, a group of Chicano artists had a springtime picnic at the Sheriff's station in East L.A. Their picnic was no picnic, but the *Piglick*: an abject protest against the police's freewheeling violence against the city's brown youth and their militarized occupation of East LA. They laid out their picnic blanket atop a Volvo they had driven onto the station's grounds, covered it in slimy delights—fruit cocktail, pudding—and then proceeded to lick it off in what became an "orgy of food."<sup>1</sup> One of these artists, Robert Legorreta, would soon take on the performance persona Cyclona, which he describes as "a living political art piece." Cyclona was the star of *Caca Roaches Have No Friends*, staged that same year in Belvedere Park and advertised as a "a play for the whole family." Though the families who came likely didn't expect the performance to climax as it did in "Cyclona's cock scene," in which the 17-year-old Legorreta, lipsticked and bare-chested, a black gown shoved down around his waist, tore open a penis water balloon with his teeth as a "protest against gerontocracy."<sup>2</sup>

Gronk, the director of *Caca Roaches* and one of the *Piglick* picnickers, would later become a founding member of Asco, a Chicano/a art group that used the cityscape as a stage for interventionist performances that put into relief systematic exclusions and forms of violence through which LA's racial order is sustained. In 1971 Asco performed *Stations of the Cross*, a procession down Whittier Boulevard of an altar boy in an animal skull headpiece (Harry Gamboa Jr.), Pontius Pilate bearing a bowl of popcorn and giant purse (Gronk), and a deathly Christ-calavera (Willie Herrón) who bore a 15-foot cardboard crucifix. The surreal procession ended at the front steps of the U.S. Marines Recruitment Station where Pontius Pilate sprinkled the grounds with popcorn—(a perverse benediction?)—and the artists deposited the giant cross.<sup>3</sup> In this mordant interpretation of *The Passion*, a paradigmatic representation of suffering and death sublimated in religion is made darkly absurd in a meditation on the massive sacrifice of Chicanos' lives for the devotees of U.S. imperialism.

Asco's best known intervention is probably *Spray Paint LACMA* (1972)—a brilliant denunciation via sly appropriation wherein the artists tagged the L.A. County museum in a response to its institutionalized exclusion of Chicano artists, while also claiming the entire edifice as their own work of art (since they signed it, after all).

Artists of color have continued to face—and denounce—the white norm of the city's high culture, even in its feminist variant. Senga Nengudi was among several artists who created *Spooks Who Sat by the Door* (1983), a performance outside of the Long Beach Museum of Art that protested a major exhibition of feminist art for its inclusion of just one black artist. The artists sat silently on the steps at the museum's entrance, costumed as ghosts in white sheets, and held up commercial products that bore stereotypical images of African Americans like Aunt Jemima and Uncle Ben.<sup>4</sup> In doing so, they marked the phantom-like invisibility accorded them by the institution and its representations of feminism, while suggesting that cultural brokers' pretensions to progressivism that satisfied themselves in familiar white circles, were of a piece with the most parochial expressions of racism.

Guillermo Gomez Peña also used his own raced body in silent performances that addressed the implacable social invisibility that was part of his experience of racism in LA. In one of the actions in the series *The Loneliness of the Immigrant* (1979) he spent twenty-four hours in a public elevator, bundled in fabric and bound in rope; in another he lay on the streets of downtown LA, wrapped in a serape.<sup>5</sup> These can be read as a representation of the invisibility and perceived disposability of brown bodies as part of the ideology through which many Angelenos experience their city. At the same time, *Loneliness* is also a meditation on a wholly personal experience of a young artist who has arrived at the frontier of multicultural liberalism only be hailed as a Mexican (and introduced to what this means in the U.S.).

Perhaps the dual nature of this performance—at once intimate and subjective, while also metaphorical and critical—points to a way in which the position-taking antagonistic art entails becomes more difficult to delimit when racism is at issue and the subject is raced—that is, when one *can't help* but occupy a position in an order that precedes her, or reasonably hope to escape its hostility.

<sup>1</sup> Jennifer Flores Sternad. "Cyclona and Early Chicano Performance Art: An Interview with Robert Legorreta," *GLQ: A Journal of Gay and Lesbian Studies* 12.3 (2006): 475–490.

<sup>2</sup> Jennifer Flores Sternad with Ricardo Bracho, "Cyclona: A Polemic on Perception," in *MEX/LA: Mexican Modernism(s) in Los Angeles, 1930–1985*, ed. Museum of Latin American Art Long Beach (Ostfildern: Hatje Cantz Verlag, 2011).

<sup>3</sup> Harry Gamboa Jr., "In the City of Angels, Chameleons, and Phantoms: Asco, A Case Study of Chicano Art in Urban Tones (or Asco was a Four-Letter Word)," in *Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation, 1965–1985*, ed. Richard Griswold del Castillo, Teresa McKenna and Yvonne Yarbro-Bejarano (Los Angeles: University of California, Los Angeles, 1991), 123–4.

<sup>4</sup> Senga Nengudi. Interview by Amelia Jones, October 2009. Transcript held in the LACE Archive of Southern California Performance Art, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE).

<sup>5</sup> Guillermo Gómez-Peña. Interview by Irina Contreras, 2010. Transcript held in the LACE Archive of Southern California Performance Art, Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions (LACE), Los Angeles, California.



Asco and Harry Gamboa Jr., *Decoy Gang War Victim*, ©1974. Courtesy of Harry Gamboa Jr.

## A People's Timeline

Compiled by Laura Pulido

This timeline was compiled to highlight forms of top down domination, exploitation, and oppression on the part of the state and capital in L.A. County. The author collected events listed in her book *A People's Guide To Los Angeles* (University of California Press, 2012) and other sources, which demonstrate a diversity of ways that power has been wielded to crush dissent, discipline surplus labor, and otherwise control life. Pulido contends that these tactics are used to uphold the value of profit and white supremacy.

— 1919 —

CA passed the Criminal Syndicalism Act outlawing numerous organizing activities

— 1923 —

Upton Sinclair is arrested for reading the Bill of Rights in support of the efforts of waterfront workers to unionize

— 1929 —

Mexican Repatriation begins: one million persons of Mexican ancestry and American-born children forcibly deported to Mexico

— 1932 —

David Alfaro Siqueiros's mural, "America Tropical Oprimada y Destrozada por los Imperialismos" is white-washed within a week of its unveiling

— 1933 —

El Monte Berry Strike: civic leaders and growers immediately try to squash the strike by deploying the "Red Squad"

— 1942 —

Sleepy Lagoon murder trial racist hysteria results in the apprehension of hundreds of Mexican youth and the wrongful conviction of 17 of them in the death of Jose Diaz

West coast Japanese Americans are forcibly sent to concentration camps

— 1945 —

City of Los Angeles fines and imprisons Anna and Henry Laws, an African-American couple, for violating a racially restrictive housing covenant on their home in South L.A.

— 1950 —

The McCarran Act (aka The Internal Security Act of 1950) is passed with profound consequences for L.A. activists, such as Dorothy Ray Healey. For example, *subversive* organizations and members must register with the state

William Parker becomes LAPD's Chief of Police

— 1959 —

Last remaining Mexican-American residents are forcibly evicted from Chavez Ravine

— 1964 —

Voters pass Proposition 13 which invalidated the Rumford Act and upheld the right of homeowners to discriminate in the sale and rental of properties

— 1965 —

Watts Riot

— 1969 —

The LAPD launched a predawn raid on the headquarters of the Black Panther Party's office in Los Angeles



— 1970 —

Journalist Ruben Salazar is shot to death by L.A. County Sheriff Deputy Tom Wilson

— 1978 —

Regents of the UC v. Bakke

— 1980s —

California Department of Corrections seeks to build a "reception center" in East L.A. Signals the explosion of California's prison industrial complex

— 1980-82 —

Five of CA's six auto plants close, 21,000 workers lose their jobs, and the era of deindustrialization begins

— 1982 —

President Reagan declares the "War on Drugs" with devastating consequences especially for communities of color

— 1985 —

The City of Los Angeles slates its first waste-to-energy incinerator, known as Lancer, in South L.A., a classic case of environmental racism

— 1990 —

LAPD beat Justice for Janitors protestors. In 1993 the City was forced to pay over \$2,000,000 in damages

— 1990s —

MTA builds separate and unequal transit system

— 1992 —

The officers charged with beating Rodney King are acquitted

— 1994 —

California voters pass Proposition 187 (aka: the Save Our State initiative)

— 1995 —

72 Thai garment workers were held as slaves in El Monte

— 2004 —

Walmart tries (unsuccessfully) to build a supercenter in Inglewood

— 2006 —

The 14 acre community garden known as South Central Farm is bulldozed

— 2007 —

At a May Day protest in MacArthur Park the LAPD attacks journalists and peaceful protestors

— 2010 —

ACORN is attacked and discredited by right-wing activists

— 2011 —

Five undocumented students are arrested at ICE prosecutors office in Los Angeles. Protesting President Obama's deportation of undocumented immigrant youth

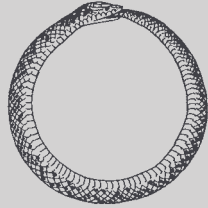
TOP TO BOTTOM

John & John, *Rub in/Lube in* at Macy's in downtown LA, December 2011. Photograph courtesy of Jade Thacker.

Alex Schaefer with painting of *Chase Manhattan Bank on Fire*, 2011. In response to what he perceived as a corrupt bailout of the financial industry by the U.S. government at the tax payers expense, Schaefer began a series of plein-air paintings of L.A. area banks which he would decorated with flames. Schaefer was visited by LAPD on several occasions owing to complaints of his paintings' subject matter.

Unidentified AAAAAArtist performing Mikal Czech's scores, (41) *Dear Officer* and (42) *With Blue Hands* at Los Angeles City Hall, 11/30/11. Both scores available <http://uploaddownloadperform.net>

July 18th, 1999, Reclaim The Streets protest; Pershing Square, Los Angeles. Anti-capitalists abandon a car in the intersection of Olive and 5th Street, where it blocked traffic, and was painted with slogans like "No G8" and "Native American" and then generally trashed till the police appeared. The protest hoped to shutdown LA's financial district- a goal the organizers proudly accomplished. Photograph courtesy of Anita Martinez.



## Agonism & Antagonism in L.A.'s Cultural Sphere

An abandoned shoe, a rotten tooth, a snub nose, the cook spitting in the soup of his masters are to love what a battle flag is to nationality.

An umbrella, a sexagenarian, a seminarian, the smell of rotten eggs, the hollow eyes of judges are the roots that nourish love.

A dog devouring the stomach of a goose, a drunken vomiting woman, a slobbering accountant, a jar of mustard represent the confusion that serves as the vehicle of love.

A man who finds himself among others is irritated because he does not know why he is not one of the others.

— Georges Bataille, sections from *The Solar Anus*<sup>1</sup>

This guide frames for users sites worthy of creative exploration in Los Angeles. We hope your practice benefits from it. The guide was sketched out asking L.A. citizens where jerks and assholes dwell. The responses locate banks and businesses, politicians and polluters, war contractors and museums. Here also is a neighborhood troll and a crappy teacher. The hobo folk singer Utah Phillips said “The earth is not dying it is being killed, and the people who are killing it have names and addresses”. If Phillips is correct we aim to locate these spaces as sights for arts in the expansive field.

About the four months pushing hard against New Years 2012, Los Angeles experienced the occupation of its City Hall and the premature death of artist Mike Kelley. The two events are unrelated except for their proximity so they are connected in our minds. We are unaware if Kelley completed any works about L.A.'s City Hall—however it is not difficult to imagine the City Hall as a model in his 1995 sculpture, *Educational Complex*.<sup>2</sup> In that artwork Kelley constructed, from memory, replicas of institutions (mostly schools) he participated in. Full of detail the buildings contain noticeably incomplete voids. To Kelley, these gaps are spaces of forgetting, of repressed memory, where institutionalized abuse occurred. But these holes are equally seen as apertures and stages. They allow you to peer in, to study the guts of the spoiled institutions. The voids also form arenas where anything might happen—an ameliorative act like a band-aid placed on the civic skin. Or perhaps a shitty return for the repressed, emanating outwards, polluting the idea of a city hall itself.

Mike Kelley's death returns us all to his, and these, theaters of abjection—where the literary victim/victimizer play out their eternal anguishes and affectations. Or perhaps his passing frees us from this circus of language all-together? Occupy Wall Street, camping out at such institutional spaces, spawned a movement that for many is a re-birth for a cycle that could lead a way out of this abject state for the poor and the planet. Others see occupation as just another window into Samsara, which we like Kelley

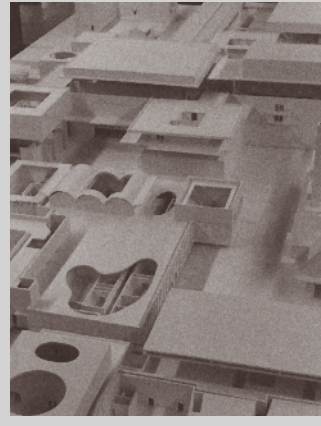
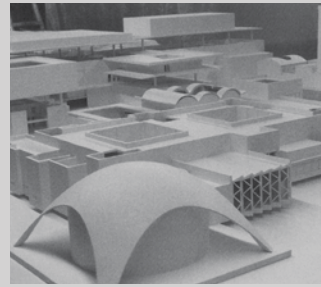
all participate in. While epistemologically the options appear as hope or abjection, either action appear as a form of affective performance.

There are two terms we wish people to know; *agonism* and *antagonism*. Agonism is a concept of philosophy and governance that sounds like antagonism, but it isn't. To agonize someone means to engage in intense partisan battle. Though this battle is in the spirit of indefinite highly competitive sport, not annihilation. To antagonize some one means to bother them as in a state of agitation. Agonism is a post-structuralist idea, perhaps made for very critical art, and how it could function in relationship to the state; somewhat of a delicate dance involving freedom of speech within and against suspicious reactive structures. Antagonism is a practice for those seeking something much less delicate- a small rise or a downfall. The manner of performance in either case is not defined- the address can be abjection (as in the case of Kelley) or didactic (as in the case of critical art), or something else.

Art Historians Claire Bishop's 2004 article in the journal *October*. “Antagonism and Relational Aesthetics”, and subsequent writing, have for many in the social art community polarized the terms “antagonism” and “agonism”. It is the feeling of the authors of this forward that the debates between Bishop and her primary respondent, Grant Kester, are unfortunately dualistic in nature. Kester rejects Bishops criticism of positivist artwork as an act of art historical retrenchment by an academic who, in his mind, reveals a bias towards maintaining hegemony for elite critical aesthetics over creative grassroots problem solving. He charges that Bishop's embrace of Mouffe and Laclau's philosophy of agonism is nothing more than philosophical trend-chasing. For her case, Bishop finds positivism in art toothless, and locates her discourse within vanguardist history rather than council communism (as Kester appears to). Within the intensity of the debate between the partisans are equal truths: positivist social artwork can be anything from good to bad art, to a distraction, to a band-aid, to something amazing; art history can function as a hegemonic tool for re-prescribing cannons, philosophical trendiness frequently defines the art press, and by definition vanguardism largely is not interested in horizontalism. None of these critiques negate the other. The binary nature of the attacks the two historians have mounted are unfortunate. An interesting corollary to Bishop and Kester's debates are the antagonistic tactics used during the 2010 UC Strikes and in Oakland during the 2011 Occupy actions. Supporters of these strikes and occupations have both rejected agonism and

<sup>1</sup> *The Solar Anus*, 1931.

<sup>2</sup> Mike Kelley, *Educational Complex*, 1995. Synthetic polymer, latex, foam core, fiberglass, and wood, 57 3/4 x 192 3/16 x 96 1/8 in. (146.7 x 488.2 x 244.2 cm). Whitney Museum of American Art, New York; purchase with funds from the Contemporary Painting and Sculpture Committee.



Details from Mike Kelley's *Educational Complex*, 1995.

RIGHT Hand flyer advertising performance of *The Solar Anus* and *The Widow* at 1428 W. Chicago Ave, Chicago, IL.; April 10th and 11th, 1999. Courtesy of Ron Athey.

**THE SOLAR ANUS** relentless fetishes of Molinier and a part of the physical extremes of Hollywood "glam" as vulgar—such as the "penetration can cut the languid and slow paced movements, set to a violin concert composed by Athey—collaborator Julie Fowells) create a melanchol and poetic mood which elevate and recontextual the intent of the actions

**and THE WIDOW**

**HOOK TORTURE**  
1428 W. CHICAGO AVE  
CHICAGO  
APRIL 10th at 10:30pm  
APRIL 11th at 8:00pm

reservations recommended—please call 312-666-7331  
\$10

council communism. The criticism here is that the political concept of agonism is a utopian joke within a capitalist state—where capital always wins—and what is needed is aggressive antagonism by a political vanguard to bring about a confrontation with capital.

Putting aside these terms, what is the history of antagonism or agonism within Los Angeles? Popular allegories portray the tale of our city similar to that of other North American towns, with our own regional flair. A story of the democratic melting pot. A tale of continual triumph of capital over all other concepts of social organization. A fable of a majority ruling a minority who seek redress through periodic social unrest.

What would it be like for artists to engage in serious playful competition with these seemingly fixed mediatic-narratives? Or perhaps stage serial critical interventions destabilizing them?

In either case, the demand on the performer is terrifying- including not only the fear of artistic failure but also the repercussions of free speech. Not discounting the multiple-counter-traditions (some explored in this guide), Los Angeles is still a city where artists are most comfortable cloistered indoors. However it is edifying to consider the story of contemporary art in Los Angeles is mostly one of artists taking daring, frequently groundbreaking, risks in those sheltered spaces.

*The Solar Anus* was a performance by artist Ron Athey held in Los Angeles, and elsewhere, in 1999. For the performance Athey appeared in nothing more than high heels, garters, and stockings. The show began with Athey pulling a long string of iridescent pearls from his asshole. Two subsequent acts followed. The first had the artist attach a sharply radiating steel crown to his head using metal hooks that were pierced to his head. After performing “difficult poses” involving the metal crown he blew gold glitter at the audience.

The second act involved a back-story— for the performance Ron got a tattoo. The tattoo formed a corona around his asshole's sun. A video of its application was projected during the show. With that as a backdrop, onstage Ron methodically fucked himself in his tattooed ass with a large dark dildo attached to one of his spiked heels.

Pat Califia, writing in *Out Magazine* in May of 1999<sup>3</sup>, reported the crowds reaction to the performance ranged from blasé (seen it), to clinical (“Girl Miss Ron Athey needs an

<sup>3</sup> Pat Califia, “In Praise Of Assholes,” *Out Magazine*, May 1999: 42–46.

intervention”), to deeply moved. Califia reflects upon a sequence in the tattoo video where a bright light begins to emanate from Athey's asshole—marking a sort of transcendence. Literally when Ron's solar anus begins to shine. Transcendence over the swelling miasma of pain (the violation of the tattoo gun, the piercing, the penetration of the dildo, living with the HIV<sup>4</sup> virus) and pleasure (the sexuality, the darkly erotic performance). And this is of course Bataille's surrealist story of *The Solar Anus*—a metaphor for a cosmic ouroboros—the permanent interdependence of the relationship between horizontal and vertical motions in rhythmically creating and destroying, maintaining, the wholeness of the universe. The sweep of history that came upon Athey as an artist effected by the aids crisis, then with the weight of the U.S. Congress and U.S. media sitting upon him as an artist associated with the NEA's funding controversies<sup>5</sup>— all sublimated in a miasma of cosmically publicly (becoming a politicized figure) recognizable and irreducible (dealing with an illness) human experiences. Finding meaning all in one. The performance of pain and pleasure—crapping out from the inside—the contradictory dignified and blasphemous God from within a mortal.

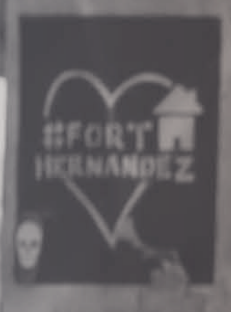
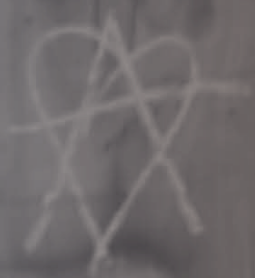
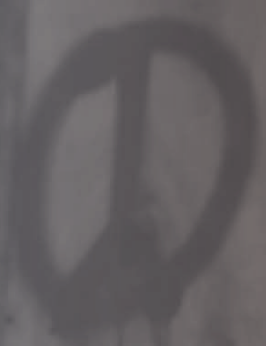
This guide to assholes of Los Angeles, as we imagine what could be produced in ongoing flowing fecund relationship to society—we hope the performances grow to be as affectively syncopated as Athey's. Moaning, complaining, sighing, chanting, laughing, whispering, yelling, breathing, crying, farting, cumming, bitching, playing, didactic, aesthetic, inside, outside.

— Llano del Rio Collective  
*Winter 2013*

<sup>4</sup> Ron Athey is a survivor who has been living public with the virus for almost thirty years. If his work can be considered infamous this is owed in part to the fact that its viscerality can be coupled to his medical status.

<sup>5</sup> Athey's work was a target for criticism by the U.S. Congress for receiving federal funds through the National Endowment for the Arts, for a work which members of the congress considered offensive. The controversy (involving such artists as Robert Mapplethorpe, Andes Serrano, Karen Finley, Tim Miller, John Fleck, and Holly Hughes) resulted in the U.S. government, through the NEA, ultimately ending funding for individual artists.

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# AN anta gonis t's GUIDE TO THE ASSHOLES OF LOS ANGELES

*This list was sourced through an open public call and collective research. Verify. Do your own research. Cultivate a position.*

## **AECOM**

515 S. Flower Los Angeles, CA 90071

"Los Angeles-based company, heads a joint venture called Combat Support Associates, which employs 3,000 workers at Camp Doha, Q'atar, a key staging area for the Iraq invasion." (Corpwatch). Right before the U.S. and Nato declared war on Libya, Mommar Gaddafi's son Khamis was an intern with AECOM and was touring U.S. Military installations around the world as part of his position.

## **AEROSPACE CORPORATION**

2310 E. El Segundo Blvd. El Segundo, CA

"The company has an annual budget of \$350 million, and its primary customer, the Space and Missile Center of the U.S. Air Force, is located across the street at L.A. Air Force Base."

## **AEROVIRONMENT, INC.**

181 W. Huntington Dr # 202 Monrovia, CA

"AeroVironment, Inc. is a technology company in Monrovia and Simi Valley, California, that is primarily involved in energy systems, electric vehicle systems, and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs)." Drone manufacturer.

## **AMERICAN APPAREL**

## **ANSCHUTZ ENTERTAINMENT GROUP (AEG)**

800 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 305  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Accused blood suckers on the corpse of Michael Jackson. Owner of Staples and Home Depot Center. Outsized influence on the governance and development of Los Angeles. "Owned by a Republican who funds anti-global warming research."

## **AON CORPORATION**

707 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA

Aon Corporation is the largest reinsurance broker in the world, offering risk management and insurance brokerage consulting. In 2005, they were found guilty for receiving cash rewards from insurance companies for steering clients to them. Their British subsidiary Aon LTD was charged in 2009 for engaging in corrupt overseas insurance operations, resulting in 7.5 million pounds of illegal earnings.

## **ARCO**

Arco Plaza/City National Plaza  
505 S. Flower St. Los Angeles, CA 90071

ARCO is owned by BP (though they put their Southern California ARCO properties up for sale in 2011). ARCO is responsible for one of the biggest superfund sites in Montana. They have historically donated to the Republican Party.

## **BANK OF AMERICA**

333 S. Hope Plaza Los Angeles, CA 90071

The Bank of America is the second largest bank holding company by assets and was listed by *Forbes* in 2010 as the third biggest company in the world. During the 2008 financial crisis, they purchased fraud-ridden Merrill Lynch. Their downtown property was previously BP and Arco Plaza. Along with other banks and Wall Street giants, the B of A awarded their workers \$1 million bonuses, while recently trying to charge customers fees to withdraw their own money. According to a GAO report, they have 115 offshore tax havens.

## **THE BEACH COMMUNITIES**

Climate change will obliterate the towns west of Crenshaw Blvd.

## **BEL AIR**

### **MARIO BELTRAN**

Former City Councilman of Bell Gardens. What else to say? Got busted lying about being mugged by a couple black guys, when what really happened was that he got really loaded and then went to a whore hotel/brothel, and lost his man-purse with his mayoral badge there after having some freak-out incident there.

## **BITCH IN THE HUMMER**

### **BLYTHE ELEMENTARY SPECIAL ED TEACHER**

If yelling doesn't work, scream.

## **BOEING**

2260 E. Imperial Hwy. El Segundo, CA 90245

Boeing is an aerospace and defense corporation, the 13th largest corporate producer of pollution and 11% of transportation greenhouse gas production. Along with producing killing machines, they have been charged for illegally obtaining government documents for their own use, paying women less than men, exposing unbeknownst employees to hazardous substances for studies, and improperly storing hazardous waste.

## **BRENTWOOD**

## **ELI BROAD**

Hey Eli, why not focus on your golf game? Working on your handicap is so much less bothersome than fucking with L.A.'s schools and art institutions. Palm springs has some really good courses. Drive due east on the 10 freeway. While you're leaving town and heading out to the desert, how about taking down all those tacky KB McMansions? That would be a nice thing to do, okay?

## **RIC CARUSO**

## **ALLEN CASDEN**

## **CB RICHARD ELLIS**

11150 Santa Monica Blvd. Los Angeles, CA

L.A. based CB Richard Ellis (CBRE) is reportedly the world's largest commercial real estate firm. CBRE holds congressionally funded contracts to lease office space to the Department of Veterans Affairs. It also is involved in redeveloping military bases turned over to the private sector. CBRE is controlled by Richard C. Blum. In 2009, it was reported that Blum's wife, Senator Dianne Feinstein, introduced legislation to provide \$25 billion in taxpayer money to the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, a government agency that had recently awarded her husband's real estate firm, CB Richard Ellis, what the *Washington Times* called "a lucrative contract to sell foreclosed properties at compensation rates higher than the industry norms". Blum is also the owner of Career Education Corporation, a large operator of multiple for profit universities, while serving as a Regent for the University of California.

## **CENTRAL CITY ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES**

626 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90017

"The CCA is a business advocacy group that lobbies city and state government to grease the wheels for development in downtown. They represent local businesses, as well as large corporations, such as Chevron, Walmart, Verizon, JP Morgan Chase & Co., Wells Fargo and Bank of America."

## **DOV CHARNEY**

## **CHASE BANK**

300 S. Grand Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90071

In 2004, JP Morgan Chase was awarded \$2 million contract for export guarantees with Iraq to "stimulate their economy" with foreign exports, provided that the Iraqi government mortgages their oil revenues through the American bank to ensure credit. Chase was found guilty in January 2011 for improperly foreclosing and overcharging several thousand military families and officers on duty for mortgages. (The Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, lowers mortgage rates and bars foreclosure for those on active duty).

## **CHEVRON REFINERY**

232 Main St. El Segundo, CA

Chevron is America's fifth largest corporation. They evaded \$3.25 billion in taxes from 1970 to 2000. Chevron was part of L.A.'s streetcar scandal in which Chevron, General Motors and Firestone purchased and dismantled L.A. streetcar lines to replace them with oil dependant buses. They now own Unocal, an oil company responsible for leaking thousands of barrels into the ocean near Santa Barbara and were sued by Burmese Villagers for complicity in forced labor, rape and murder. Chevron has caused irreparable environmental damage in Ecuador, California, Africa, Brazil and Bangladesh. In 1998, the company responded to an activist demonstration in the Niger-Delta by hiring the Nigerian military to shoot and teargas the protesters, killing two. Chevron was cleared of all charges.

## **CIM GROUP**

6922 Hollywood Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90028

Developers. "They have an outsized influence on the City Hall. They get what they want."

## **CITIGROUP / CITIBANK / BANK OF THE WEST**

787 W. 5th St. Los Angeles, CA 90071

Citigroup Inc, owner of Citibank and Bank of the West, has the world's largest financial services network, thanks to a bailout in 2008 from the U.S. government. Scandals range from fraud to stealing from customer accounts. They were one of the main financiers of Enron, and paid billions in settlements for helping commit fraud. In 2008, Citi paid millions in bonuses to their employees, while running a program that would transfer about 53,000 customers positive credit balances into the bank's general holdings.

## **THE CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS SUPERFUND SITE**

Located on approximately 38 acres of land divided into multiple parcels. The site consists of 22 individual parcels of land that are owned by as many as 20 landowners. Owners and tenants operate roughly 35 onsite small businesses that surround the perimeter of the site. A high school with athletic fields is located immediately adjacent to the northeast corner of the site. A residential area is located just across the street to the east of the site.

## **CITY HALL**

## **COMPUTER SCIENCE CORPORATION**

2100 E. Grand Ave. El Segundo, CA 90245

"Among the largest outsourcing companies in the world".  
Owner Dyncorp etc...

## **CONOCOPHILLIPS**

1660 W. Anaheim St. Wilmington, CA 90744

ConocoPhillips operates gas stations 76, Conoco, and Phillips 66. According to the Political Economy Research Group, ConocoPhillips is the 13th largest corporate producer of air pollution. They promised to pay millions towards global warming research under the U.S. Climate Action Partnership, but the company backed out three years after joining. Suspiciously, they are a member of the National Wetlands Coalition, and were granted the first permit to build on a wetlands reserve in Alaska.

## **THE COOPER DRUM SUPERFUND SITE**

9316 S. Atlantic Ave. South Gate, CA

The Cooper Drum Superfund Site is a 3.8-acre facility. The site is in an urban area of mixed industrial, commercial and residential uses. Rayo Avenue borders the site to the east and the former Tweedy Elementary School property is located directly to the south. From 1941 until 1992, Cooper Drum Co. reconditioned closed-topped, steel drums that previously held a variety of industrial chemicals.

## **CORNELL CORRECTIONS**

9411 S. Central Ave. Los Angeles, CA 90002

Cornell was an American corporation operating correctional facilities, contracting them to state and local governments. The company's headquarters are located in Houston, Texas. On August 12, 2010, Cornell and the GEO Group merged. See GEO Group.

## **JEFFREY DEITCH**

### **DEL AMO BLVD. AND VERMONT SUPERFUND SITE**

From 1943 until 1972, the Del Amo Facility site was a center of large-scale industrial activities. Originally built to produce synthetic rubber during World War II and owned by the United States government, the 280-acre operation consisted of a styrene plant operated by Dow Chemical Co., a butadiene plant operated by Shell Oil Co., and a synthetic rubber plant operated by U.S. Rubber Co., Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., and others. In 1955, the U.S. Government sold all three plants to Shell Oil Company and Shell continued to operate these plants until 1971.

## **DELOITTE-TOUCHE**

350 S. Grand Ave. # 200 Los Angeles, CA

Accounting scandals involving Deloitte include El Paso Natural Gas and Reliant Energy for round trip trading, and Nortel telecommunications for overpaid corporate bonuses. Locally Deloitte installed the SAP HR payment system for the Los Angeles Unified School District in 2007 for \$95 million. Faults in the system led to teachers being unpaid, underpaid, and overpaid, resulting in the LAUSD giving \$140 million to Deloitte for system maintenance.

## **DI CARLO PIZZA**

4518 Hollywood Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90027

The owner there demanded that my kids take their shoes off. He said that kids in the past have come in with dirty shoes and stood on his chairs and got them dirty. My kids are clean and don't stand on chairs.

## **1830 W. 8TH STREET LOS ANGELES, CA 90057**

Laundromat / Subway / Burger King

The men's bath there is like the *Trainspotting* bathroom of L.A. They make you purchase something to use it, but it will exhibit no working features except water and Mara Salvatrucha gang scrawls.

## **MICHAEL EISNER**

### **ERNST AND YOUNG**

355 S. Grand Ave # 2000 Los Angeles, CA 90071

In 2010, the firm was charged for fraud related to the collapse of the investment bank Lehman Brothers, in which E&Y was aware of the company's classifying loans as sales to pay down debt and boost their balance sheet.

### **EXXONMOBIL REFINERY (TORRANCE)**

3700 W. 190th St. Torrance, CA 90504

ExxonMobil, a descendant of Standard Oil, is the largest of six oil supermajors. They have had detrimental oil spills in Brooklyn, Montana and Alaska. The corporation has anti-LGBT policies for their employees, and have historically channeled millions in funding to organizations that challenge scientific evidence of global warming. They are currently developing one of the biggest oil fields in Iraq.

### **FARMERS INSURANCE GROUP**

2975 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90010

Farmers Insurance Group is the third largest insurance company in the United States. In 2003, Consumer Reports rated them the worst for "problems with claim" and "delayed payments". They have been fined millions for failing to pay customer claims, attempting to settle for as little money as possible, and not paying their employees for overtime among other accusations.

## **FOX STUDIOS**

10201 W. Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90035

20th Century Fox is a part of right wing asshole Rupert Murdoch's media empire consisting of film, television, and print outlets. Murdoch owns quasi-fascist media mouthpiece Fox News and capitalist rag *The Wall Street Journal*. Recently Murdoch and his minions were involved in UK's Newscorps scandal which had UK journalists hacking the phones of officials and citizens to spy on the public.

## **MONICA GARCIA**

Board President of LAUSD—is she a charter school puppet or what? This is an ethnic studies lady! You could say the same for Villaraigosa and Linda Romero—they talk like socialists, but are huge privatization boosters.

## **DAVID GEFFEN**

### **GEO GROUP**

6100 Center Drive Los Angeles, CA 90045

"While the nation's economy flounders, business is booming for The GEO Group Inc., a private prison firm that is paid millions by the U.S. government to detain undocumented immigrants and other federal inmates." The Geo Group now owns Cornell Corrections.

## **GETTY VILLA**

### **GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER LLP**

333 S. Grand Ave # 4600 Los Angeles, CA 90071

The firm represents a number of evil big brand cases, including Chevron's environmental dispute with Ecuador, Wal-Mart in an employee discrimination case, and a conglomerate of auto manufacturers against a multi-billion dollar global warming lawsuit from the state of California. Current partner Theodore Olson was lead counsel for George W. Bush in the case of Bush v. Gore, later serving as United States Soliciter General during Bush's first term.

### **GLENDALE MEMORIAL HOSPITAL & HEALTH CENTER**

#### **EMERGENCY ROOM**

1420 S. Central Ave. Glendale, CA

Fuck you greedy fucks—after waiting 3 hours in the ER to speak with a medic who had no better idea than to stick his thumb in my ass and give me an antacid, the Dr. doctor finally arrived and instructed me to go to the poor people's hospital since I had no insurance. They then charged me \$2500+ for the thumbjob, the price of which included the poor-person-with-no-insurance "discount." Fuck you, fucks.



## **GREYHOUND**

You have to go through three steps in order to get an advertised discount on their tickets. Also in order to get a refund you need to mail your ticket back to them—no immediate refunding. And, you can't take your bike on the bus without it being boxed and in pieces.

## **THE GROVE AND PARK LABREA**

## **THE GUY DOWNSTAIRS**

## **HONEYWELL AEROSPACE**

2525 W. 190th St. Torrance, CA 90504

Honeywell Aerospace is the largest American producer of aircraft engines and avionics. It was one of the defense contractors to profit off the Iraq war and after acquiring Allied-Signal chemical company, is responsible for contaminating Onondaga Lake, a sacred site for the Native American Onondaga Nation, and superfund site of industrial waste and sewage.

## **JACOBS ENGINEERING GROUP INCORPORATED**

1111 S. Arroyo Pkwy. Pasadena, CA 91105

Jacobs Engineering Group is a Fortune 500 company and involved in the aerospace defense industry. They own one-third of the atomic weapons establishment in the UK.

## **JET PROPULSION LAB SUPERFUND SITE**

Sources of contamination at the site include approximately 35 seepage pits where liquid and solid wastes were reportedly disposed of, a settling chamber in the Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) storm drain system, contaminated soil excavated from part of that system, and an area where waste solvents were dumped into three separate holes. Substances located at JPL include waste solvents, solid rocket fuel propellants, cooling tower chemicals, sulfuric acid, freon, mercury, and chemical laboratory wastes. In 1990, JPL detected significantly elevated levels of contaminants in the groundwater underneath and down-gradient of the site.

## **KB HOMES**

10990 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90024

Developers of immense upscale tract homes and developments. Drivers of the housing bubble. Firm founded by Eli "always gets his way" Broad.

## **MY LANDLORD KEVIN**

## **KPMG**

355 S. Grand Ave. # 2000 Los Angeles, CA

Though their job is to make sure their clients are accountable, they have often missed or generated illegal profits. KPMG was accused in 2005 by the United States Department of Justice for marketing tax evasion shelters to wealthy clients who ultimately avoided \$2.5 billion in taxes. They were sued by Fannie Mae for approving erroneous financial statements in 2006.

## **LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART**

5905 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90036

Location of reported 25 million dollar greenwash, the BP Grand Entrance. (Deepwater Horizon, anyone?)

## **LATHAM & WATKINS**

355 S. Grand Ave. # 100 Los Angeles, CA

In 2009 the firm's lawyer Maureen Mahoney defended former assistant attorney general Judge Jay Bybee in a case charging former Bush officials for the mistreatment of prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay detention camp. During their time representing Bybee, Latham & Watkins gave the judge \$3.2 million dollars worth of legal aid. Despite his authorizing a memo on methods of illegal torture and water boarding, he was not charged for criminal conduct. Latham & Watkins have also historically represented the Church of Scientology, and passed out threatening legal warnings on their letterhead to Scientology protesters from the group Anonymous.

## **LAUSD BOARD OF EDUCATION**

333 S. Beaudry Los Angeles, CA 90017

With only one exception, Marguerite LaMotte (and, on occasion, Steve Zimmer), the Los Angeles Board of Education continues its decimation of public education as it drives its charter school agenda with the support of its new superintendent, John Deasy, former director of education at the Gates Foundation. The Gates Foundation, with the Broad and Walton Family Foundation, form the Big Three. They spend millions on education reform campaigns against public education, waging war against teachers and unions, championing competition and deregulation. In May 2012, the LAUSD continued its assault on parents and teachers by eliminating the community vote from the Public School Choice process. Instead, they will hold workshops.

## **LANGERS**

All the pigs there.

## **LAX**

## **THE LEFT TURN LANE**

Parkman Ave. on to Silver Lake Blvd.

There are three lanes there. One goes right one goes straight and the other goes left. People use both the left-hand turn lane and the middle lane for left-hand turns. Those people who use that lane wrong, they're assholes.

## **LOS ANGELES AIR FORCE BASE**

483 N. Aviation Blvd. El Segundo, CA

Home to U.S. Space And Missile Systems Center, notorious for seeking a future where the United States will dominate space through missile and satellite technology. Also home to a base whose primary purpose seems to be interfacing with U.S. military contractors.

## **ROBERT MAGUIRE**

## **MALIBU**

All Malibu Residents illegally restricting coastal access.

## **ALL MALIBU RESIDENTS**

## **RUDY MARTINEZ**

He ran against Jose Huizar in a recent city council election. He was also the guy who bought the Self Help Graphics building from the Catholic Church, and turned the gallery into some kind of cafe. Some kind of reality-tv guy / developer who owns a crappy sushi restaurant in Eagle Rock and scams

on the ladies from his joint. Also, the Catholic Church was selling off the property to help pay the hush money to the victims of priest-rape. But it was pocket change to them—they shuffled the money around so the law couldn't get at it.

### **MARY MUTCHA**

Downtown

### **MY IMMIGRATION ADVISOR**

#### **METRO BOARD**

Assholes for removing the 10 trip ticket.

#### **MIKE LEWIS**

President of Lewis & Company, Resident of

Hacienda Heights

A political fixer at the county level who helps promote big development projects. Works for Wal Mart, Athens Disposal, CoCs, some big Buddhist temple in Hacienda Heights.

According to his bio, his big deal was to privatize 1/3 of the RTD (pre MTA bus authority) in the SGV. No wonder we had shitty service when I was growing up. He also funnels corporate money into astroturf organizations.

#### **MILKIN INSTITUTE**

1250 4th St., # 2 Santa Monica, CA 90401

They are supporting means testing education reforms. They back charter schools at the expense of public schools.

#### **MOCA**

Increasingly unpopular director Jeffrey Deitch, selling the museum to the likes of Mercedes Benz and whitewashing challenging art.

#### **MOOG, INC.**

20263 S. Western Ave. Torrance, CA 90501

Moog Inc. makes control systems for aeronautics and defense companies, including strategic missile guidance systems and automatic ammunition loading for military vehicles. They also produce surveillance camera systems and industrial machinery.

#### **MORGAN STANLEY & CO.**

1999 Ave. of the Stars, Suite 2400

Los Angeles, CA 90067

Morgan Stanley is a global financial services firm, with a revenue last reported as \$31.622 billion and \$779 billion in assets, but doesn't pay taxes for all of it. A 2008 GOA (Government Accountability Office) report revealed Morgan Stanley had 273 subsidiaries in offshore tax havens. There is currently an investigation by the NY state attorney concerning Morgan Stanley's role in the housing crisis.

#### **NORTHROP GRUMMAN SYSTEMS CORPORATION**

One Hornet Way El Segundo, Ca 90245

Northrop Grumman is an aerospace and defense contractor, Fortune 500 company, and are linked to 52 superfund toxic waste sites. They are historically linked to the Republican party and Bush administration, and have been sued for knowingly providing defective machinery to the military and overcharging the government. In 2008, Northrop Grumman facilities released over 23,798 pounds of toxic chemicals into the environment.

#### **NORTHROP'S TEJON RANCH RADAR CROSS**

##### **SECTION FACILITY**

This is one of three outdoor radar test ranges operated by aerospace companies in the Antelope Valley. This secure facility, located on the Tejon Ranch property, is operated by Northrop Grumman, and was built in the mid 1980's to pursue the development of Stealth technologies, such as those employed in Northrop's B-2 Stealth Bomber.

#### **OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM**

10889 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90024

Headquartered in Westwood, Oxy is the fourth largest U.S. oil and natural gas producing company and the 47th largest corporate producer of air pollution in the U.S., releasing about 1.2 million pounds of airborne toxic chemicals per year. The company, formerly chaired by arts entrepreneur Armand Hammer (Hammer Museum), was charged by a group of indigenous Achuar Peruvians for failing to clean up 30 years of approximately 9 billion barrels of oil pollution in their drinking and bathing water. In the late 90s, Oxy misidentified an oil site in Colombia as being occupied by terrorists and ordered it to be attacked, killing 17 civilians, seven of them children. Oxy is currently operating in Elk Hills, CA, obliterating ancient native american burial grounds and endangering species.

#### **LINDA OKUMORA**

#### **OMEGA CHEMICAL CORPORATION SUPERFUND SITE**

2504 and 12512 E. Whittier Blvd. Whittier, CA

Facility was a refrigerant and solvent recycling, reformulation and treatment facility that operated from approximately 1976 to 1991. Drums and bulk loads of waste solvents and other chemicals from various industrial activities were processed at the facility. As a result of the operations and spills and leaks of various chemicals, the soil and groundwater beneath the former Omega property became contaminated with high concentrations of tetrachloroethylene (PCE), trichloroethylene (TCE), and 114 and other contaminants.

#### **AN "ORGANIC VEGAN"**

Glendale, CA

A serial poster on Craigslist for veggie roommates. He'll take a deposit from you and never let you move in.

#### **MICHAEL OVITZ**

#### **PARAMOUR MANSION**

Dana Hollister has been buying up property in Silver Lake and Echo Park for nearly fifteen years, including the Paramour Mansion that sits atop L.A.'s Silver Lake neighborhood. If you want to see an asshole, look no further. Dusty's on Sunset, which Ms. Hollister owns, helped to transform that block into a nightmare, eventually pushing people from otherwise rent controlled neighborhoods. I don't have any physical proof at this moment typing away other than knowing the tales through friends who have worked as tenant organizers in the area and through people who "used" to live there. In 2007, *L.A. Times* said that Ms. Hollister buys up property the way she buys up fabric. Hollister recently opened Villians Bar in Downtown L.A. Ms Hollister is largely responsible for the trash that is 4100, Dusty's, Brite Spot, Bordello's, etc. She is also amidst her attempt to begin a line of boutique hotels in

the area with her most recent acquisition set to be in Griffith Park at an old Korean church.

### **PEMACO SUPERFUND SITE**

5050 Slauson Blvd. Maywood, CA

A former chemical mixing facility located in a light industrial and residential area at 5050 Slauson Blvd., Maywood, CA. It is believed that Pemaco began on-site operations in the late 1940's. Pemaco was purchased by the LUX Chemical Company on July 27, 1988, and operations ended at the site on June 21, 1991. Hazardous substances are known to have been used at the facility, including chlorinated solvents, aromatic solvents, and flammable liquids.

### **PORT OF LOS ANGELES**

425 S. Palos Verdes St. San Pedro, CA 90733

Biggest contributor to bad air in L.A.

### **POWERHOUSE BAR**

Corner of Highland and Hollywood Blvd., circa 1989

"What'll it be, boys" said the bartender with an English accent.

### **PRATT & WHITNEY**

6633 Canoga Ave. San Fernando Valley, CA 91303

Pratt & Whitney, a subsidiary of United Technologies Corporation (38th largest corporate polluter), is an aerospace manufacturer and defense contractor responsible for making engines for the military and gas turbines for industry. They were sued by homeowners in 2010 for dumping cancer-causing pollutants in Palm Beach in the 1950s.

### **PRICEWATERHOUSE COOPERS**

350 S. Grand Ave. # 4900 Los Angeles, CA 90071

PWC is one of the Big Four accountancy firms and the world's largest professional services firm according to revenue. Multiple clients of theirs have been involved in cases of tax evasion and accounting fraud, in which multi-billion dollar companies siphoned money to personal accounts and created false financial records to avoid paying taxes.

### **PXP OIL COMPANY**

Inglewood Oil Fields

The County of Los Angeles is allowing the Texas oil company Plains Exploration & Production Company ("PXP") to drill up to 600 oil wells in the Baldwin Hills in the next 20 years, an average of 30 wells per year. The oil company drilled an average of only 10 wells per year over the past 20 to 25 years. Thirty wells per year is about triple the drilling rate for the past 20 to 25 years before 2005, when PXP dramatically ramped up its drilling operations and surrounding communities experienced more problems. Its the same gas company that's been drilling offshore in Santa Barbara.

### **RAYTHEON COMPANY**

2000 E. El Segundo El Segundo, CA 90245

Raytheon is responsible for creating destruction machines for homeland security and the defense industry. Alone with arming the American military complex, they have paid millions in fines for inflating costs of missiles and radars, making false claims about company revenue, bribery, pollution, and illegally obtaining documents.

### **THAT FUCKING WHORE WHO CUT ME OFF AT THE ROBERTSON EXIT (10 FREEWAY)**

### **ED ROSKI**

### **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY SUPERFUND SITE**

The San Gabriel Valley Superfund sites include multiple areas of contaminated groundwater in the 170-square-mile San Gabriel Valley. The contaminated areas underlie significant portions of the cities of Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Industry, Irwindale, El Monte, La Puente, Monrovia, Rosemead, South El Monte, and West Covina. The groundwater contamination was first detected in 1979. Following this discovery, the California Department of Health Services (CDHS) initiated a well sampling program to assess the extent of contamination. By 1984, when EPA added four areas of contamination to the National Priorities List (NPL), 59 wells were known to be contaminated with high levels of volatile organic compounds.

### **SAN GABRIEL MISSION AND SAN FERNANDO MISSION**

The Tongva were enslaved to build the San Gabriel Mission in the City of San Gabriel and the San Fernando Mission in the City of Los Angeles.

### **THE SANTA MONICA PIER**

### **SHELL (WILMINGTON)**

1926 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. Wilmington, CA 90744

Shell, officially Royal Dutch Shell, is the fifth largest company in the world. Shell is responsible for the recent oil spill of 6.4 million liters in Nigeria, and have a torrid history of human rights violation and environmental pollution in the Niger-Delta region. In 1999 in Argentina, they were responsible for the largest fresh water oil spill in history, polluting drinking water. In 2004, they were caught for overstating their oil reserves and got slapped with a £17 million fine.

### **SILVER LAKE**

Los Angeles, CA

Full of A-holes (but has good food).

### **1612 MORTONS ST.**

Los Angeles, CA

The troll lives there. In the middle of the day he'll yell *be quiet* and slam his window shut.

### **DONALD STERLING**

### **TELEDYNE (A SUBSIDIARY OF DYNACORP/CSC)**

501 Continental Blvd. El Segundo, CA 90245

Teledyne Technologies currently operates four major segments: Digital Imaging, Instrumentation, Engineered Systems, and Aerospace and Defense Electronics. War contractor.

### **10 FREEWAY**

Near 110 intersection

A close friend had died, 33 with a 6 month old son who she had never been able to hold because of the nausea which accompanied the brain tumor that killed her. Her husband had given me a list of family and friends to call. In his grief, he had transposed some digits in the phone number of a

close childhood friend. I called the wrong number and the asshole on the other end said that he would pass along the message. I called back a week later, and the asshole said that he gave him the message. Finally, the day before the funeral, driving on the 10, I called again. He laughed and told me I had a wrong number. I saw red and he hung up. I called back and reminded him that a young mother was dead. He laughed then put his girlfriend on who laughed as well. I looked up and saw I was somehow on the 110, heading into the Figueroa tunnels.

#### **TETRA TECH, INC.**

3475 E. Foothill Blvd. #300 Pasadena, CA 91107

Tetra Tech provides a full range of consulting, engineering, remediation, renewable energy, and construction services worldwide.

#### **JAMES THOMAS**

##### **3771 WADE ST.**

Mar Vista, CA 90066

The person who lives there is named Raphael Mosley.

Asshole stole my dog.

#### **TRW**

300 S. Grand Los Angeles, CA 90071

#### **ITT CORP. IN THOUSAND OAKS.**

12669 Encinitas Ave. Sylmar, CA

#### **TUTOR PERINI**

950 Downey Way Los Angeles, CA 90089

"Tutor Perini Corporation (formerly Perini Corporation) is one of the largest general contractors in the United States." It is owned by Richard C. Blum, husband of Senator Dianne Feinstein. They are involved in civic and military construction. See CB Richard Ellis.

#### **TWIN TOWERS CORRECTIONAL FACILITY**

450 Bauchet St. Los Angeles, CA 90012

L.A. County Jail is under federal investigations for reports of systematic beatings by deputies under County Sheriff Lee Baca's command.

#### **UCLA**

#### **THE ITALIAN DEPARTMENT AT UCLA**

#### **UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION**

12011 San Vicente Blvd # 540, Los Angeles, CA

United Technologies Corporation, along with producing tons of technological products, are military contractors who produce missile systems and military helicopters. Their subsidiaries include Pratt & Whitney and Goodrich Corp, also on this list. In 1991, they were charged with the largest fine to date for illegally dumping hazardous waste, and were named 38th biggest producer of corporate pollution in 2008.

#### **URTH CAFE**

Cops and celebs eating at Urth Cafe plus all of their colleagues.

#### **U.S. BANK**

633 W. 5th St. Los Angeles, CA 90071

Owners of the tallest building in California, U.S. Bank, owned by U.S. Bancorp, is the fifth largest commercial bank, according to their \$330 billion in assets. In 2009, they made invalid bids to foreclose properties, failing to show they were the mortgage holders at the time of foreclosure. A disgruntled former U.S. Bank customer has dedicated a website to showcase the bank's bad behavior ([www.usbank-5starscrewed.0catch.com/](http://www.usbank-5starscrewed.0catch.com/)).

#### **USC INSTITUTE FOR CREATIVE TECHNOLOGIES**

12015 E. Waterfront Dr. Los Angeles, CA 90045

USC cinema school partnership with U.S. military, making 3D interactive environments for military training.

#### **U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE IN PRODUCING MOTION PICTURES, TELEVISION SHOWS, MUSIC VIDEOS**

10880 Wilshire Blvd.

ARMY Suite 1250, (310) 235-7621 t, (310) 235-6075 f

NAVY Suite 1220, (310) 235-7481 t, (310) 235-7856 f

AIRFORCE Suite 1240, (310) 235-7511 t, (310) 235-7500 f

MARINE CORPS Suite 1230, (310) 235-7272 t, (310) 235-7274 f

For information regarding U.S. military assistance in producing feature motion pictures, television shows, documentaries, music videos, commercial advertisements, CD-ROM games, and other audiovisual programs, please contact the Military Service being portrayed or being asked to provide assistance.

#### **VALERO (WILMINGTON)**

Known as one of the worst polluters in the state of California. It is a large contributor, and scofflaw to EPA regulations, to air pollution in the L.A. basin. The refinery produces 15 percent of the asphalt supply in Southern California. The company, which helped fund an unsuccessful 2010 ballot initiative to delay AB 32, California's global warming law, owns refineries that are subject to the state's cap-and-trade system.

#### **VENICE BEACH MEDICAL MARIJUANA**

#### **VENICE WHOLE FOODS**

Security guards with guns.

#### **VENICE**

Santa Monica rich liberal hippie yuppies ruin everything.

#### **WELLS FARGO MAIN**

333 S Grand Ave. Los Angeles CA 90071

Wells Fargo Inc. is the fourth biggest bank in the U.S. by assets, and the largest bank according to market capitalization. In 2010, they made a profit of \$12.362 billion. One of the banks embroiled in the mortgage crisis, an employee had been approving up to 500 foreclosures a day without verifying the claims. Meanwhile, an executive was caught holding extravagant parties in a foreclosed Malibu beach house whose previous owners were victim to the Madoff ponzi scheme. In 2010, Wells Fargo was sued for manipulating customer overdraft fees, charging multiple fees to increase revenue. Perhaps their most egregious connection, Wells Fargo's subsidiary Wachovia bank failed to monitor and report money laundering that was used by Mexican drug cartels.

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# A Ballad Between Black and Blue

Marisa Jahn

Adapted from *Pro+agonist: The Art of Opposition*,  
M. Jahn ed., 2011

Black: ...so wait—let's back up. What's 'agonism'?

Blue: Well, agonism is related to antagonism. Foucault defines 'agonism' as a relationship built on mutual incitement and struggle. And the political theorists Chantal Mouffe and William Connolly suggest that antagonism is to enemy as agonism is to adversary. Think of an adversary like this: you're playing a game of tennis, and it's only a good game if you have a worthy opponent. The person you're playing against is an adversary, but not an enemy. You respect them if they have good push back.

Black: Ok, so agonism is about mutuality, like the counterpoint within a musical score.

Blue: Right. Or, in physiology, the 'agonist' is a contracting muscle and the antagonist is the muscle that returns the limb to its natural state. For ancient Greeks, the word 'agon' referred to rivalry in sport and also the narrative tumult within a tragedy. Whether in sports and tragedy, the agon provides an arc (or telos) to the game.

Black: Gotcha. So it seems that agonism is a fundamental dynamic between things, people—

Blue: —and even within oneself—

Black: —but I still don't get why all the fuss.

Blue: Well, okay so you might agree that there is a great deal of attention—politically, philosophically, culturally—on agreement, concord, consensus. Harmony's important, but sometimes what gets occluded, tucked away, ignored, or smooshed out is the role of disagreement, discord, dissent, and dissensus. If you repress the dark you aren't aptly depicting reality.

Black: Okay, sure. So you're saying that an agonistic perspective is more empirically responsible and lays claim to a brand of realism.

Blue: That's a good way of putting it. And while many contemporary discourses about agonism tend to portray the notion of agonism as a newly minted term that originates from the radical left. *Pro+agonist* strives to demonstrate that 'agonism' is not a new concept—in fact one that has been around for millennia that resurfaces in various fields.

Black: Break it down, brother, break it down. We're losing listeners...

Blue: Let me situate it another way. From my experience, Lefties and Centrists are often unable to see how they can work together; conflict is often misperceived as a fundamental problem. But if you shift the perspective towards one that embraces conflict as *healthy* and *essential*, then we're able to make some progress. Neither camp is as easily threatened, and we move away from—dear God—identity-based politics—to one that recognizes the provisionality of hegemony.

Black: There you go again.

Blue: What? You mean 'the provisionality of hegemony'? Sorry. I mean, we can recognize that power is something that we can take turns with and share. Power is not everlasting nor universal but contingent on the rules and agreements that we as players establish for ourselves.

Black: Ok. So I'm afraid we have to cut the segment short, but let's end it on that note... everlasting power—

Blue: —no, no, *no!* NOT everlasting power. The *contingency* of power—

Black: —Ok. On that note, we're going to end this segment with a reminder to you listeners out there about the *contingency of power*. Remember: institutions and parties are human; they're subject to change; they're contingent. Now let's take it to the streets.

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The *Antagonists Guide To The Assholes of Los Angeles* was compiled through a public call to name assholes and jerks in and around the city and county of Los Angeles. Additional research was completed by Erin Schneider, Katie Bachler, and Robby Herbst.

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The Llano Del Rio Collective aims to expand cultural, social, and political imagination of Los Angeles through the production of thematic guides, related events and the hosting of a speakers bureau. We aim to frame practices, rather than be a practice. The project draws its name from the socialist colony founded in California's Antelope Valley by Job Harriman in the early Twentieth Century.

Though not strictly a collective, we negotiate collectivist ideals with an advisory group currently constituted by Katie Bachler, Sandra de la Loza, John Burtle, Adam Overton, Hector Gallegos, Ashley Hunt, Tom McKenzie, Ken Ehrlich, Kelly Marie Martin, Steve Anderson, Janet Sarbanes, Fritz Haeg, Kimberly Varella, Nicole Antebi, Lara Bank, Jen Hofer, and Colin Dickey. The Llano Del Rio Collective is organized by Robby Herbst.

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A large portion of the available printed copies of this guide are freely distributed to residents of L.A. County. Please consult [www.ldrg.wordpress.com](http://www.ldrg.wordpress.com) for a list of locations where the guide is available.

To Inquire about past guides—*Scores For the City* and *A Map For an Other L.A.*—or for any other matter please contact us [llanodelrio@gmail.com](mailto:llanodelrio@gmail.com).

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FRONT COVER Alice Cunt, with Ajax and Isaac Jorel Ledesm, perform *The Satanic Progression of a Diva Obsessed*, March 2011, at Los Angeles Contemporary Exhibitions. This was a part of Native Strategies' ([nativestrategiesla.com](http://nativestrategiesla.com)) first performance series "Funny It Hurts". Photo by Takahiro Yamamoto.

BACK COVER Fuerza Hernandez was a home in Van Nuys occupied by its residents and community against foreclosure by Bank of America. The Hernandez family and its supporters put up the blockade to keep the law and the bank out, and as a symbol of resistance. Their blockade lasted four months. Previously known as "Fort Hernandez".