



Catherine Wargo

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Web Contributor

Bootie — Second Saturday of every month at Cherry Bar

917 Folsom St at 5th St • 415-974-1585 • www.thecherrybar.com
\$5 cover before 10 pm, \$10 after



photo: John Liechty

Bootie is possibly the best dance party in San Francisco. Presented by well-known mash-up DJs Adrian, MysteriousD, and Party Ben, attendees find themselves on the cutting edge of the bastard pop scene as it is created. What is mash-up (or bootie, or bastard pop)? DJs mix the vocal track of one song over the instrumental track of another to produce combinations that you never dreamed would work. Like “Black Beatles,” a mix of the Beatles, the Black-eyed Peas, Ludacris, and Kelis. Or “Sweet Home Country Grammar,” which features Nelly’s vocals over Lynyrd Skynyrd’s classic instrumentals. It sounds crazy. It is crazy. But Bootie is coming up on its second anniversary, and they’re throwing a party at the Ricksaw Stop (155 Fell St) on August 13 to celebrate. As demonstrated by their pirate flag logo, this is technically illegal. Many artists have gone on record as loving hearing their songs mixed by these dj’s, but the record companies hate it. Mash-ups played at these dance parties are only available online or on the free CDs the DJs give away at the events. Bootie draws quite a diverse crowd; would one expect any less from a party that features mash-ups of Kelly Clarkson and the Eagles?

Foreign Cinema

2534 Mission St • 415-648-7600 • www.foreigncinema.com
Open every day of the week, showings begin at dusk
Now Playing: Woody Allen’s *Sleeper*, July 25-August 14

The concept at this original Mission District restaurant is as brilliant as the food. Every night, starting at dusk, Foreign Cinema shows a foreign film (with subtitles, so the sound can be low enough to allow dinner conversation to continue) on one wall of their outdoor courtyard. Every seat in the house is a good one, and there is a clear tarp ceiling and plentiful heaters for when the weather refuses to cooperate. It would be remiss not to mention the food, which is delicious although a bit pricey. This is a haven for the carnivore, with a selection of alternative meat like rabbit and venison on the eclectic menu of Californian-Mediterranean cuisine. There is an extensive wine list that comes with a knowledgeable and unpretentious sommelier to aid your choosing. Refreshing in its concept, food, and service, Foreign Cinema also has a great bar next door, Laszlo, which makes an addictive mojito and is a great place to hang out while waiting for a table.

Hang

556 Sutter St • 415-434-4264 • www.hangart.com
Hours: Daily 10 am-6 pm; Thursday 10 am-9 pm



photo: Peter Diggs

This gallery near Union Square showcases scores of emerging Bay Area artists and sells their work at prices that make the art accessible to, well, us. In honor of their 7th anniversary, the Hang Annex (located across the street at 567 Sutter) is displaying pieces priced at \$700 and under. Hang is geared toward the first-time art buyer and focused on the needs of clients that live in the real world—their entire inventory is located online for the convenience of people that don’t have the luxury taking afternoon gallery strolls. Hang also has an art rental program—each piece is listed with a price for purchase and a price for a three-month rental. Having the in-laws over for dinner? Dress the house to impress. Most rental prices are in the low hundreds of dollars. The cavernous vaulted space with cushy couches hosts an ongoing stream of events such as the “Quick Draw” open house, which features artists making art on location. You can buy the work right off the easel.

The Canvas Gallery Café

1200 9th Ave at Lincoln Ave • 415-504-0060 • www.thecanvasgallery.com



photo: Catherine Wargo

This Sunset District café hosts an eclectic mix of amenities and entertainment as well as serious coffee and tasty food choices. Sitting by the large windows, you can look out on the verdant greenery of Golden Gate Park and people-watch along Lincoln Avenue while enjoying the free wireless Internet. The Gallery is an important venue for emerging Bay Area artists of all mediums, holding regular art openings, musical events, and comedy open mic night—generally doing its part to support the city’s arts. The full bar assures that brunch can include a proper Mimosa or Bloody Mary. A highlight is the Sunday night jazz (always priced at \$3), which draws some quality talent from the Bay Area and beyond. The relaxed, artistic atmosphere lacks pretension and encourages exploration—That’s pretty much all we could ask for in a café.



Dottie's True Blue Café

522 Jones St, San Francisco • 415-885-2767

Hour: Open daily 7:30 am-3 pm except Tuesday



photo: Catherine Wargo

See photo: this is how Dottie's should look when you arrive. Closed. The doors open at 7:30 am, and by eight there is a line to rival that of Ruby Skye's on a Saturday night. There are two surefire ways to minimize your waiting: show up with friends at opening time or enjoy a solo breakfast at the counter. Touted by locals as the "best breakfast in San Francisco," the ten-table Dottie's draws hordes of visitors, even though its location in the slightly seedy Tenderloin is a bit off-putting for some tourists. The phenomenal fresh baked goods include cream-cheese zucchini bread and chocolate-chip toffee scones. Dottie's permanent menu has well-prepared standbys like eggs and potatoes with chicken-apple sausage, and a peek at the specials board indicates delicacies such as eggs over black bean cakes. Not on the menu: ask for the amazing fruit salad mixed with homemade crunchy granola and yogurt. The efficient regular wait staff keep your coffee cup full. Dottie's intimate kitschy décor is enjoyable but superfluous; the food would be worth it if they served it out of a hole in the ground.

"The Art of Richard Tuttle" at SFMOMA

151 Third St • 415-357-4000 • www.sfmoma.org

Hours: 10 am-6 pm, Thursday open until 9 pm, closed Wednesdays

Adults: \$12.50



New Mexico, New York #14, 1998
 Acrylic on plywood; 22 3/4 x 10 1/2 x 1/2 in
 Collection of Susan Harris and Glenn Gissler, New York; © Richard Tuttle;
 Photo: Tom Powel, courtesy Sperone Westwater, New York

One of the most impressive things about this exhibition is the sheer diversity of materials that Tuttle has used in his art over the years. Having started his career in the mid-60s, Tuttle began with geometrics in neutral colors and materials, including card-stock and galvanized iron installations on muted backgrounds. Moving through the 80s, color and light come to the forefront with large floor installations in bold colors and sculptures including strings of small light bulbs, which are displayed in a dark room lit warmly by the sculptures themselves. Moving through the large exhibition takes the viewer through Tuttle's creative stages, and you can witness his growth as an artist. In one room, the 20-foot-tall walls are painted with bands of blue, green, and yellow watercolors, against which framed paintings are displayed. The entire space of the room is used as a graphical field in an impactful way. In another room, Tuttle moves on to book art, having designed and published a range of unusual books that include plastic and crystals, tiny stackable books, and books that are too large for a person to hold. It is clear that Tuttle, as an artist, has taken the time and creative initiative to explore many different mediums, and it is also clear that he has no plans to stop producing art anytime soon.



Catherine Wargo is a freelance writer, editor, and translator who resides in fabulous San Francisco. She is most at home while traveling, and has done extensively on every continent except Antarctica. You can also find her writing in the Newspaper for the Expo for the Artist and Musician. She is working on her first novel, "Uncommon Ground," forthcoming from anyone who wants to publish it.