

FABRIK

ART | DESIGN | ARCHITECTURE | FASHION | LOS ANGELES

APRIL 2009



ISSUE No. 5
APRIL 2009



7 98304 00417 5

LA GETS STARCKED!
SOIREE AT THE SLS
DESIGN CRITIC: THE KRESS
INTERVIEW WITH
RUTH WEISBERG
PLUS...THE LA ART
GALLERY, MUSEUM AND
FASHION DIRECTORIES
+ EVENTS CALENDAR



ROYAL T

A genius architectural masterpiece of unobstructed space within a space, Royal T is LA's first Japanese style 'cosplay' (short for costume play) café, shop and art space. Get lost in a fantasy land of Susan Hancock's modern Japanese art collection encased in Lucite walls while enjoying high tea served by Japanese servers frocked in alluring white and brown French maid outfits. Royal T's concept is steeped in the Meido Kissa (maid café) phenomenon of Akihabara, Tokyo's electronic district. They offer Japanese-French breakfast and lunch but the result is something like a scene from "Lost in Translation".

Go straight for their creamy, sensual tiramisu served in a clear plastic egg shaped cup. No design detail of the space is ignored making the whimsical decor and interactive surprises the perfect event location for a party. Watch a high speed version of a tree's leaf cycle comfortably on a foam baroque couch or lock yourself in the "Porta-Party", a white port a potty equipped with an I-pod for a private moment of reveling. In the retail shop, find a unique gift of anime kitch, Japanese photography books, or a t-shirt designed by your friendly maid server.

8910 Washington Blvd, Culver City
(310) 559-6300
www.royal-t.org



SPF:A // MODAA

The colorful glow of the MODAA building is hard to miss as it illuminates an entire block on Washington Boulevard on any given evening in Culver City. Designed by Studio Pali Fekete architects or SPF:a, the building is a microcosm of the perfect world. Meet friends for a Blue Basil Mojito and upscale comfort food at Chef Michael Wilson's restaurant. Enlighten yourself with art-meets-architecture shows in the SPF:a Gallery. Live or work upstairs in one of the seven sleek loft spaces. And last but not least, have a mind-blowing tour of the genius SPF:a architectural office hard at work building wooden models of their projects ranging from a noise-reducing airport in Amsterdam to Nike's flagship store in the new Santa Monica Mall to the UCLA Stunt Ranch Green Educational and Research building in Calabasas and so much more it makes you wonder if they ever leave the microcosm... Their two most celebrated local private residence designs are the modern Beuth Residence on Blue Jay Way in Los Angeles and the Somis Hay Barn in Ventura County. The SPF:a style of design is uber-modernistic and in this era of 'green' consciousness, one has to ask if it is also eco-friendly. To answer that, they simply reply, "Good design is eco-friendly. We don't advertise we are a green architecture firm, but we utilize nature's gifts." As a side note to SPF:a's powerful impact on the landscape of Los Angeles, when the multi-use MODAA was built in 2005, SPF:a's belief in Culver City's revitalization became a powerful catalyst for other artists to join in the budding creative energy. More than 35 other prestigious galleries have opened around them, firmly establishing the Culver City art district.

8609 Washington Blvd., Culver City
(310) 558-0902
www.spfagallery.com • www.spfa.com