



Danny Lyon, "Occupy Oakland, City Hall, Oakland," 2011. Collection of the artist, L139 © Danny Lyon.
COURTESY EDWYNN HOUK GALLERY, NEW YORK.

BOOM STAFF

The *Boom* List

What to do, see, read, and hear this fall in California

Visit **Danny Lyon: Message to the Future**. A leading figure in the American street photography movement of the 1960s, Danny Lyon has distinguished himself by the personal intimacy he establishes with his subjects and the inventiveness of his practice. With his ability to find beauty in the starkest reality, Lyon has through his work provided a charged alternative to the bland vision of American life often depicted in the mass media. This exhibition at the de Young in San Francisco brings together 175 photographs, films, and ephemera on Lyon's life in the Southwest; abandoned street children in Colombia; the political turmoil in Haiti; the chaos of life

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in the booming, polluted industrial outposts in China; and, most recently, the Occupy movement in New York, Los Angeles, and Oakland. *Danny Lyon: Message to the Future* opens on 5 November and runs through April 2017.

Get organized. November's presidential election has been a major topic of conversation for well over a year now, and it will continue to be through the fall. But all that noise has the tendency to drown out the state and local contests that will likely have a more immediate impact on the way Californians live our lives. We're electing our first new senator since 1993, and up and down the state voters have decisions to make about the death penalty, affordable housing, transportation improvements, marijuana legalization, green energy, and a whole lot else, besides. If there's an issue you care about—and with seventeen state-wide propositions on the ballot, plus local initiatives and countless candidates, there's bound to be at least one—find out how to get involved, and do it! Talk to friends and neighbors, knock on doors, make posters—we guarantee people will be glad of a break from Trump and Clinton.

Meet your animal neighbors without leaving the house. Beth Pratt-Bergstrom's love for California's charismatic mega fauna is no secret. In 2014, she wrote an essay for *Boom* about getting a tattoo of P-22, Los Angeles's most famous cougar, on her arm. Now she's written *When Mountain Lions Are Neighbors: People and Wildlife Working It Out in California*, a book that explores the evolving dynamic between California's humans and other animals. In telling the stories of P-22, the return of wolves to California after a ninety-year absence, and the campaign to keep Yosemite's bears wild, Pratt-Bergstrom celebrates a new paradigm for wildlife conservation: coexistence.

Tune in to Radio Imagination with a musical tribute to Octavia E. Butler. The Los Angeles arts organization Clockshop has been commemorating the tenth anniversary of the death of the brilliant science fiction writer Octavia E. Butler with a year-long slate of events. On the evening of

27 October, the Huntington Library—the home of Butler's papers—hosts *Xenogenesis Suite*, a musical tribute to the writer. Composed by Nicole Mitchell, the piece highlights a journey into otherworldly experiences inspired by the award-winning science fiction author and Afro-Futurist. Through music, flutist-composer Mitchell evokes an emotional journey into the horrific, yet fascinating unknown—a journey through the process of fear.

See All Power to the People: Black Panthers at 50. Social movement, political party, cultural influencer, government target, and Oakland-born—there are many ways to see the Black Panther Party for Self Defense. This exhibition at the Oakland Museum of California takes a contemporary view of the legacy of this visionary group, told from multiple perspectives using rare historical artifacts, first person accounts, and new contemporary art to show how the Party continues to inspire culture, activism, and community empowerment on local, national, and international levels. Throughout, consider why the Panthers remain controversial to some and inspirational to many, and how their political agenda continues to resonate with the social justice efforts today. The exhibition runs from 8 October to 12 February 2017.

Read Karen Tei Yamashita's *Tropic of Orange*. Before Paul Haggis's 2004 film *Crash* won the Academy Award for Best Picture, there was Karen Tei Yamashita's groundbreaking novel, *Tropic of Orange*, which former *Boom* editor Jon Christensen recently called his favorite novel about LA. Described as magical realism, the novel decentralizes race and space as complex lives are woven in with each other's narratives in LA, constantly moving to the impulse of romantic orientation to the north. After reading the interview here with Karen, be sure to pick up a copy of *Tropic* and put the novel that has influenced quite a bit of this issue of *Boom* into your Fall reading plans. Once you pick up this insightful book about LA, and travel with its seven characters through one intense week of summer heat, we doubt you'll be able to put it down. **B**



Unknown maker, *Untitled (Clenched Fist)*, circa 1965. Collection of the Oakland Museum of California.