

[ THEATER ]

## Curtain Raiser

A town built on cinema takes to the stage

» This month L.A.'s painfully shy theater community hosts no fewer than three major festivals and the West Coast premiere of the off-Broadway hit **The Method Gun** (below). The last comes to the Kirk Douglas Theatre from Austin's Rude Mechanicals, who cheekily reimagine *A Streetcar Named Desire* sans Stanley, Stella, Blanche, and Mitch. *June 14–26; go to centertheatre group.org*. **Radar L.A.** stages productions from around the planet at REDCAT and elsewhere. *June 14–20; go to redcat.org*. The **National Asian American Theater Conference and Festival** presents ten works, including from L.A.'s Denise Uyehara. *June 16–26; go to 2011.caata.net*. And the **Hollywood Fringe Festival** crams dozens of solo performances and ensemble plays into about 30 venues. *June 16–26; go to hollywoodfringe.org*.



# GREATEST SEVENTY-YARD PASSER IN THE HISTORY OF NEW MEXICO STATE

REFORMATORY

ART

## The Beat Goes On

The Ed Ruscha: On the Road exhibition at the Hammer includes more than 50 photos from the artist's 2009 limited-edition interpretation of Jack Kerouac's novel and painted landscapes captioned with quotes from the book. Ruscha discusses Kerouac and art in a faint Oklahoma drawl. *June 3–Oct. 2; go to hammer.ucla.edu*.

**Q:** Why does this novel still inspire?

**A:** The older that book gets the more innocent it becomes. At the same time it's tough.

**Q:** You drove to L.A. in 1956 on your own road trip. Did that spark the same kind of romance for the highway that

Kerouac's book celebrates?

**A:** The trip was similar to the book's. They also do a bit of hitchhiking in the book, and I thought, "That's tasty!" because I did that, too—hitchhiked around the country when I was in junior high school.

**Q:** Did the highways look much different back then?

**A:** Sure did! When you would go through towns, the highway would blend into Main Street. Nowadays they're sidestepped by freeways. There was only one freeway back then, the Pasadena.

**Q:** How did you choose the text fragments, randomly?

**A:** One way of making art is to throw something up in the air and see where it lands. Sorta like a dartboard. That's not the case here—these are phrases that I responded to personally.

[ DANCE/FILM ]

## En Pointe

A festival that keeps step

» At this year's **Dance Camera West** film festival, director Mike Figgis (*Leaving Las Vegas*) presents the U.S. premiere of *The Co(te)lette Film*, his cinematic adaptation of hot-topic choreographer Ann Van den Broek's meditation on three women torn between "lust, fame, and stillness." You can also catch four feature documentaries and 27 shorts related to dance and attend panel discussions. Split among the Getty Center, UCLA, and the Hammer Museum, all events are free to the public, but reservations are required at the Getty. (A paid festival pass guarantees seating and entry to dinners and receptions.) *June 16–19; go to dancecamerawest.org*.



[ THEME PARKS ]

## Joy Rides

Disney attractions go deep

» The Little Mermaid finally gets her own real estate. At the new **Ariel's Undersea Adventure** at California Adventure, riders in giant clamshells travel through an underwater world teeming with animatronic characters. Over in Tomorrowland the revamped **Star Tours: The Adventures Continue** (above) boasts space-flight simulators that propel you into

one of dozens of 3-D *Star Wars* scenarios. As if the original tour wasn't dizzying enough. *Opens June 3; go to disneyland.disney.go.com*.

[ ARCHITECTURE ]

## Home Work

Master the art of living

» If anyone can show how to make our castles "sustainable" and comfortable, it's design bible *Dwell* magazine. Most of its **Dwell on Design** expo takes place at the L.A. Convention Center, where panels and awards for restaurant design, home innovations, and hip furniture will be featured. Green activist-actor Ed Begley Jr. will also teach you how to turn your home into a Prius. *June 24–26; go to dod.dwell.com*.

// BY STEVEN MIKULAN



For more must-do events this month, see our expanded online listings at [LAMag.com/guide](http://LAMag.com/guide).