

grammatical error on ours) is one swanky eatery.

We're half-joking — the place is immaculate, from the decor (inside and out) to the attentive staff, but it's also warm and welcoming, and we didn't feel out of place for long. They pride themselves on that warmth — as they state on their website, "etta is an affordable neighborhood restaurant that serves delicious

perfection, as well as a giant wood-fired hearth for spit roasting and grilling."

Culver City, incidentally, is the only Californian location — there are two in Illinois and one in Arizona.

All of that said, we didn't opt for the heaviness of pizza. We did take advantage of the brick oven by picking an appetizer — the Rack-Roasted Oysters. The smoked tomato butter,

like sweetener celery, and lemon brings the shellfish to life, and we swear you can taste the smoke from the wood.

Importantly, the oysters aren't overcooked; they retain the texture that the food is famous for. It's easy to get oysters wrong — go to most fish-frys in the country for proof. But these are magnificent, and honestly artistic.

They should be, mind you.

bite, they have to be good.

We went with the Market Tabouli for our main course.

The marinated kale wasn't at all bitter or overly chewy, and the roasted zucchini (perhaps the one thing on this dish that did enter the wood-burning stove) was beautifully charred and softened.

A hearty helping of quinoa tied the whole thing together,

crunch. It might seem like a simple dish, but the balance of ingredients is all important and etta gets it exactly right.

Overall, etta is a restaurant that feels a bit special, from the aesthetics to the food. Treat yourself.

Etta is located at 8801 Washington Blvd., Culver City 90232. Call 424-570-4444 or visit ettarestaurant.com.

Folk Collection brings their traditional folk to Boulevard

By Brett Callwood

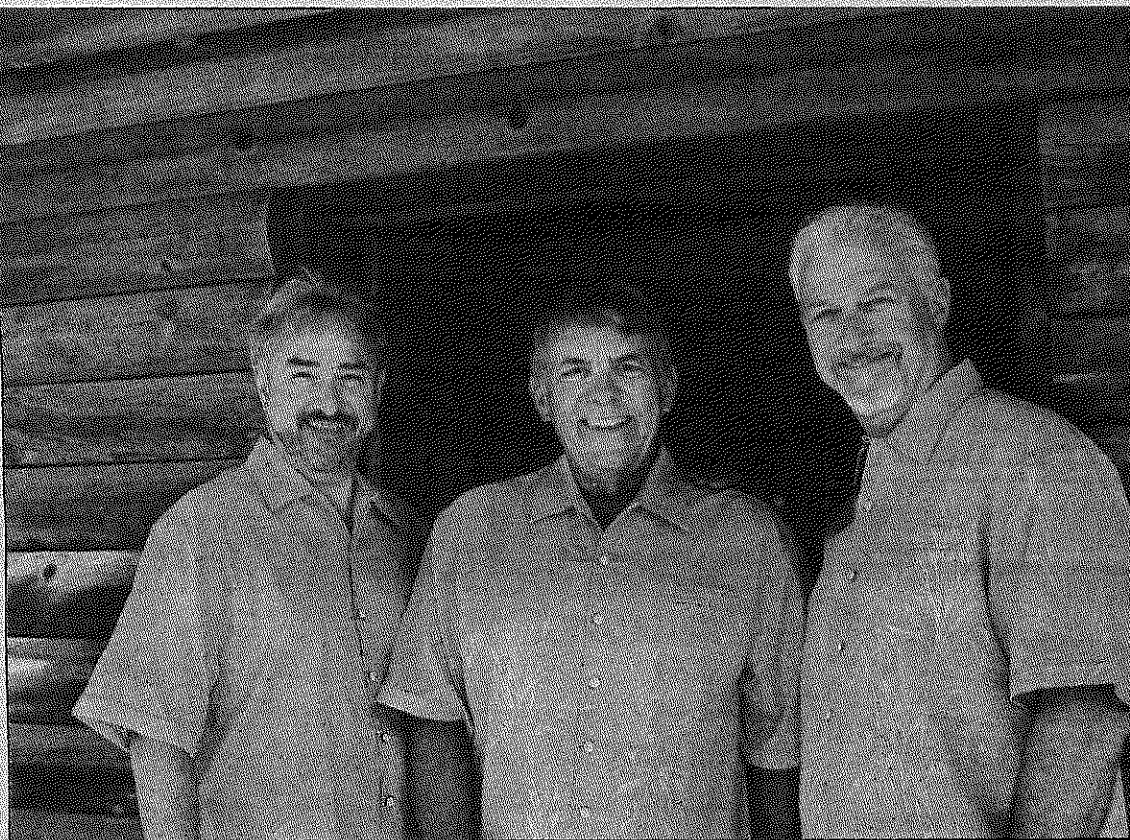
Live music returns to Boulevard Music this weekend, with traditional folk trio the Folk Collection bringing some folkie standards with them. The band told the CCN what we can expect...

When did you start playing and performing? When did the band form?

The Folk Collection consists of Tony Unger (a Baptist pastor in Bishop, CA), Mike Sirota (a cantorial soloist at several L.A.-area synagogues), and Ed Labowitz (a Century City entertainment lawyer). Tony and Ed first started singing together in 1964 in the folk song club at Hollywood High School, when folk music and hootenannies were the rage. We went our separate ways for several decades, reunited,

and then started jamming folk tunes at his house or mine with our wives and friends — including Alex Hassilev of the Limelickers and the late Joe Frazier of The Chad Mitchell Trio. Ed met Mike in 2001, when Mike was singing for children, including Ed's 12 year old son, at a local synagogue. Ed invited Mike and Tony (who lived in LA County then) to my house because he thought our three voices would work well together, and we all sang the same great folk tunes of the 1960's. By the end of 2001, we were a trio, performing around L.A. and over the years we have played hundreds of concerts, including at performing arts centers and community concerts throughout the West and large-scale retirement communities in Arizona. We played every

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Courtesy photo

The Folk Collection consists of Ed Labowitz, from left, Tony Unger and Mike Sirota. The group will perform this weekend.

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in favor of forming an ad hoc subcommittee, consisting of Council Members Dan O'Brien and Freddy Puza, to explore options. That passed 4-0, with

Eriksson abstaining. Eriksson has long been against any increases in the minimum wage, saying in previous meetings that Culver City is so close to Los Angeles that the market takes care of it already.

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and safety risks, as unhoused people are forced to undergo extreme lengths to regain necessities."

Why is *this* the big idea

from our new council majority—the big idea that needed an emergency council meeting days before Christmas?

Do they mistakenly think that doing the same thing we've been doing, but with the addition of seizing the posses-

sions of unhoused residents, will be more effective at reducing homelessness?

Or worse, do they know it won't reduce homelessness, and the cruelty is the point?

— Stephen Jones

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year at Boulevard Music from 2006 until 2019 but, because of the pandemic, this is our first show there since fall 2019.

grand time.

What are your career highlights so far?

Singing "Greenback Dollar" with Bob Shane, who was the last surviving member of the original Kingston Trio, at his home in Phoenix a few years ago, before he passed away in 2020; and performing Limeliter's songs on stage, like the great Irish tune, "Whiskey in the Jar," when the founder of The Limeliter's, Alex Hassilev, was in the audience. (I am happy to report that Mike Sirota and I attended Alex's 90th birthday party a few months ago in L.A., which was a fabulous folkjam session, with many current and former folk artists singing for and with Alex).

What recorded music is available -- particularly the most recent?

We are most proud of our most recent album, *Live at The Coffee Gallery Backstage*, recorded at another venue we play at regularly, but which is in Altadena — not as geographically desirable for the folks on L.A.'s westside.

Have you performed at Boulevard Music before?

[As well as the shows mentioned above], in the summer of 2010 we played in the summer concert series held at in the courtyard of the City Hall in Culver City. We'd love to be invited back!

What can we expect from the

set this time?

Such tunes as "This Land is Your Land," a medley of "Blowin' in the Wind," "Where Have all the Flowers Gone," and "If I Had a Hammer," John Denver's "Take Me Home, Country Roads," and, our favorite, a medley our former bass player, Bob Packham.

What else do you have coming up?

We are in discussions about being an opening act for one of the great folk groups of the folk era, which is still performing in its third major incarnation.

The Folk Collection performs at 8 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 28 at Boulevard Music. Go to boulevardmusic.com for more in-

formation about the show and thefolkcollection.com for more information about the band.

Elsewhere this week

The Culver Hotel will be hosting the likes of Sylvia & the Rhythm Boys, and Scotty Bramer. Go to culverhotel.com for more info.

There's a full program of music at the Cinema Bar this week, as usual. The Hot Club of Los Angeles plays every Monday, and Wednesdays are singer/songwriter and open mic night. Other artists performing this week include Christopher Hawley Rollers, the Everglades, Michael Méssina, the Rambling Pony's, and Patrolled By Radar. Go to thecinemabar.com for more info.

COACH CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

tion that I had inappropriate contact with a student," Beaton said. "The school district

was never made aware of any rule that the school or district had against meeting students off campus.

For the record, Beaton was never charged with a crime

from the police, they've produced nothing from the school district so apparently the minor had withdrawn the complaint and nonetheless the coach was removed."

Such workouts are training sessions in which parents are prohibited from watching their children participate during a typical practice for a sport-

district did absolutely nothing. It's a problem for the district, it's a problem for students and it's a problem for the coaches and I'm sad that I predicted