

Venice Beach: The last days of a bohemian paradise?

By MARYELLEN MCGRATH
Aug 4, 2018, 5:21 PM ET

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Photographer [Dotan Saguy](#) has been documenting the diverse and bohemian spirit of the iconic Venice Beach boardwalk for the past three years.

He was drawn to the free-spirited, anti-materialistic and inclusive nature of the world-famous location, which he found to be a "breath of fresh air from Los Angeles' sometimes homogenized, celebrity-obsessed, plasticized culture," comments Saguy.



Singing in the Rain - A group of young hippies sing on a bench across from the Muscle Beach Gym.



Documenting the diversity and free spirit of the iconic Venice Beach boardwalk



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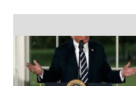
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Trump has privately expressed openness to broad criminal justice reform



Democrat set to become first Muslim



Mr. Muscles - "If it wasn't for the price of pizza revealing the contemporary nature of the scene, one could mistake this ph... [more +](#)



Neptune Parade - King and Queen Neptune frolic in the Pacific Ocean waters, celebrating the start of summer with the y... [more +](#)

The renowned Venice Beach Boardwalk includes the famed Muscle Beach outdoor gym, funky shops for souvenirs, street buskers, mimes to musicians and everything in between.

The boardwalk is great for people-watching. But Saguy and others believe it is now giving way to upscale boutiques, coffee bars, high-priced homes and through gentrification, is, unfortunately, being threatened from the way of life that has defined Venice for decades.



Graffiti Wall - A little boy who came with his family to paint on the Venice Art Walls mischievously peeks at two teenage gl... [more +](#)



woman elected to Congress



Ohio special election too close to call, GOP claims victory; Primary results come in



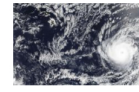
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Reward for missing Iowa student goes up again, which an expert says could help



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Challenge Monday - Venice Dynamics is a group of calisthenics enthusiasts who meet regularly in the sand pit by Muscle... [more +](#)



Muscle Beach Gym - A weightlifter lifts a barbell loaded with heavy plates while a bodybuilder performs an aerial handst... [more +](#)

Saguy knows that he has documented what could be a lost society should the people portrayed in his book are forced to acculturate. It is his hope that [Venice Beach](#) will help bring awareness to the issues at stake before this amazing way of life is left to fade away.



border wall



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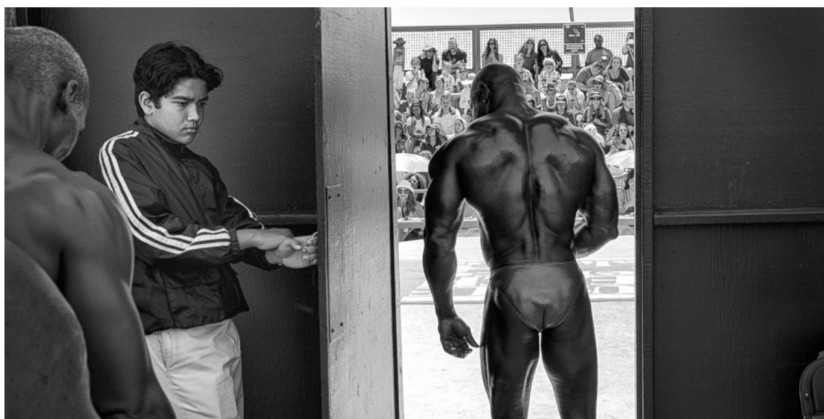


Grateful - The man portrayed in this photograph tells photographer Saguy, his name was Keetoowah Eagle Soaring.



Back from Surfing - After an exhausting but satisfying surfing lesson on a stormy spring afternoon, a group of teens on a ... [more +](#)

The exhibition and opening reception on Aug. 11, from 5 to 8 p.m., runs until Sept. 21, and is presented as part of Venice Arts' 25th Anniversary celebrations. It corresponds with the publication of the monograph [Venice Beach: Last Days of a Bohemian Paradise](#) by the German photo book publisher Kehrer Verlag.





Venice Gladiator - An oiled-up bodybuilder wearing nothing but a Speedo enters the stage of the Mr. Muscle Beach contest. Dotan Saguy



Jingles' Blessing - The older man, who goes by the name of "Jingles," has been preaching for animal rights and a vegan li... [more +](#) Dotan Saguy



Hello Sunshine - Jenna carefully watches two giant boa constrictors that their owner, a street performer she barely know... [more +](#) Dotan Saguy

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Investigators working to identify remains found at squalid New Mexico compound

By MEGHAN KENEALLY and JULIA JACOBO
Aug 9, 2018, 4:58 PM ET

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WATCH | Investigators working to identify remains from New Mexico compound



Investigators in New Mexico are working to identify remains that were found on the squalid campgrounds where police found 11 children living with five adults.



"The remains are in a state of decomposition that has made identification challenging," Chief Medical Investigator Kurt Nolte said in a statement.

"Investigators often try to compare remains to radiologic images, fingerprints, DNA or other identification materials. At this time, investigators are using all known methods to make an identification, but this will not be a quick process. If we must rely on DNA results, identification could take many weeks," he said in the statement.

The search of the decrepit compound occurred in response to a search warrant for Siraj Ibn Wahhaj, who was believed to have kidnapped his then-3-year-old son in Georgia.

(MORE: Man found with 11 children on filthy New Mexico compound was training them to commit school shootings, prosecutors say)

When officers searched the compound, they found 11 children under the age of 15 and five adults, including Wahhaj, but not the young kidnapped boy.

Taos County Sheriff Jerry Hogrefe said Tuesday that the remains belonged to a young boy.



Eleven children were held with little food or water in a makeshift compound in Amalia, N.M., for an unknown period of time... [more +](#)

The remains were found on Monday on an "inner portion" of the compound, Hogrefe said.

(MORE: New disturbing details emerge from New Mexico compound where 11 abused children found)

Wahhaj is under investigation in the death of the child.



Debris outside the location where people camped near Amalia, N.M., Aug. 5, 2018.

All five adults -- including Wahhaj, another adult male and three adult women -- have been arrested and charged with 11 counts of felony child abuse. Wahhaj was also charged with child abduction, while the other adult male, Lucas Morten, was charged with harboring a fugitive.

(MORE: Remains of young boy found on filthy compound where authorities rescued 11 children)

Wahhaj did not enter a plea when he appeared in court Wednesday afternoon. A judge ruled that he be held until a no-bond hearing takes place within the next five days.

The four other adults also appeared in court Wednesday. Morton and two of the women pleaded not guilty, while a third woman did not enter a plea.

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