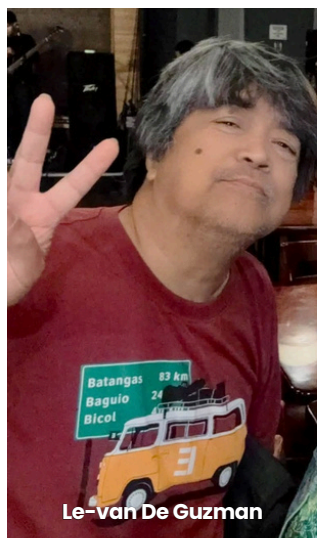


year58: Still Making Noise

Giving Original Music a Stage

BY MIC DIAZ | PUBLISHER

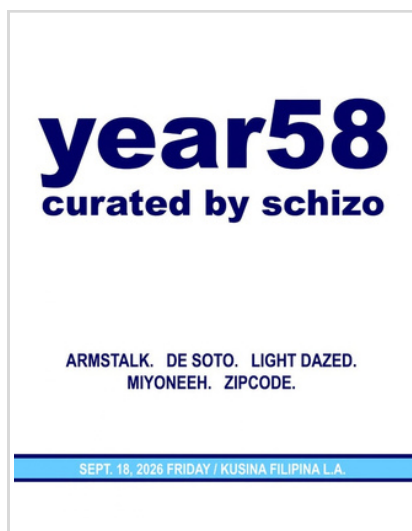


Le-van De Guzman



ZIPCODE

Photos by Mic Diaz



For his 58th birthday, **Le-van De Guzman** could have made the celebration about himself. Instead, he did what he has done for decades—gave musicians a stage. On September 18, **year58** transformed Kusina Filipina in Los Angeles into an evening of original live music, bringing artists and music lovers together to celebrate both a milestone and the community De Guzman has helped nurture.

The night featured performances by **Miyoneeh**, **Light Dazed**, **Armstalk**, **De Soto** and **Zipcode**, with the program curated by De Guzman under his pseudonym, **Schizo**. Each brought a different sound to the lineup, creating an evening that reflected the variety of artists continuing to make original music in Los Angeles.

For De Guzman, supporting musicians is nothing new. More than three decades ago, he helped create Lokalpinoyisila, an independent platform that gave Filipino-American bands and musicians a place to perform original material at a time when opportunities to develop their own musical identity were limited.

The first **Lokalpinoyisila** gathering took place in 1995, beginning as a grassroots effort built by people who wanted something of their own. Flyers were made, sound equipment was assembled and musicians came together

around a simple idea: Filipino-American artists deserved a space where their original music could be heard.

Over the years, that effort became part of a larger story of the Filipino-American music scene in Southern California. Rather than simply recreating music from the Philippines, the artists involved were developing their own sounds and identities as Filipino Americans growing up and creating music in the United States.

That history made year58 more than a birthday concert. The lineup connected artists from different points in the local music community, including Zipcode, whose roots reach back to the earlier Lokalpinoyisila scene, alongside performers carrying original music into a new generation.

During my **Chat With Mic** conversation with De Guzman, we talked about the importance of creating spaces where musicians can be heard. His story is not simply about producing events; it is about helping build a scene where artists can perform their own work, find audiences and connect with one another.

Nearly three decades after Lokalpinoyisila began, the circumstances may have changed, but the need for

ENTERTAINMENT

year58: Still Making Noise (Continued from Page 1)

those spaces remains. Independent musicians still need stages, audiences and people willing to champion original work. year58 showed that De Guzman remains committed to helping provide that platform.

At 58, Le-van De Guzman is still making noise—but perhaps more importantly, he is making room for others to be heard. His birthday became another opportunity to put musicians at the center, proving that after decades of supporting the scene, the music—and his commitment to it—still plays on.



Light Dazed



Miyoneeh



Armstalk



Vince Peña



Jojo Zipagan



Chino Lee



De Soto

Photos by Mic Diaz

LOKALPINOYSILA 2026

10.23 FRIDAY

DE SOTO

DUARF

ECHO FOR EONS

GLENN JACINTO

MELODY DEL MUNDO

ZOSIMO

10.24 SATURDAY

ANTITRUST

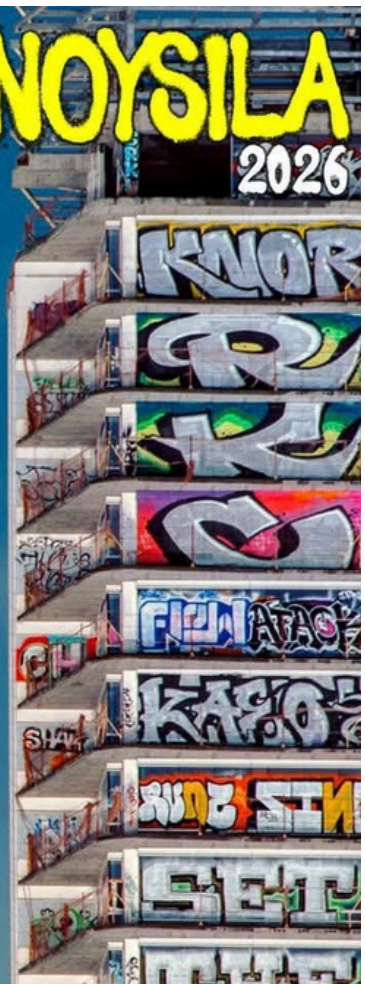
DOMINION

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TED REYES

ZIPCODE with GERTH

7 PM. ALL AGES. \$15
KUSINA FILIPINA L.A.presented by
schizo's bootleg!

CHAT WITH MIC

Jae Park: Choosing the Hard Road and a Life of Service

BY MIC DIAZ | PUBLISHER

For public adjuster **Jae Park** of JPA Adjusters, success is rooted in a simple philosophy: “Choose hard.” It is a lesson shaped by his immigrant upbringing, his family, and an unexpected career journey that eventually led him to advocate for property owners navigating insurance claims.

Park came to the United States in sixth grade and grew up helping his father, who supported the family by cleaning swimming pools. He later studied hotel administration at UNLV and built a career in hospitality, but his life changed when his father suffered a heart attack and stroke. Park left Las Vegas and returned to California to help care for his parents—a decision that ultimately opened the door to a new career in insurance.

After working as an insurance adjuster, Park began noticing what he believed were challenges faced by non-English-speaking policyholders who did not always question or challenge decisions regarding their claims. That experience

eventually led him to become a public adjuster, representing policyholders and helping them better understand the claims process. Park describes his role as helping to “balance the seesaw” between property owners and insurance companies.

Today, Park also mentors aspiring public adjusters and emphasizes service, honesty and accountability over simply generating business. His message extends beyond insurance: difficult choices can sometimes lead us toward an unexpected purpose. “Choose hard,” Park says—choose what is right, serve others well, and leave something meaningful behind.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Check out the full interview in *Chat With Mic* on the Mic Diaz Presents Youtube channel.



New conversations every week on *Chat With Mic* Talk Show at Mic Diaz Presents Youtube Channel



CHAT WITH MIC Episode 80: Jae Park

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TRAVEL

Why River Cruising Is Travel's Hottest Trend

BY ALVIN ADRIANO, LUXURY TRAVEL ADVISOR, TRAVELWISE INTERNATIONAL



Photos by Alvin Adriano

Rising costs continue to shape travel decisions in 2026, prompting many travelers to look more carefully at where they spend their vacation dollars. Yet rather than traveling less, many are seeking experiences that deliver greater value, convenience, and enrichment in a single trip. That preference is helping fuel one of the hottest trends in travel today: river cruising.

I discovered this firsthand on a sailing from Amsterdam to Frankfurt, an itinerary that revealed the true appeal of traveling by river. Rather than juggling multiple hotel bookings, packing and unpacking each day, and managing daily logistics, I leisurely sailed along the Rhine and watched Europe unfold from my floating front-row seat.

The adventure began in Amsterdam, where historic canals,

vibrant neighborhoods, and rich maritime heritage provided the perfect introduction. As we sailed, each day brought a new landscape and story. Medieval towns, terraced vineyards, grand cathedrals, and centuries-old castles appeared around every bend. We also discovered the legendary tale of Lorelei, one of the Rhine's most enduring myths.

Some of my favorite moments happened on deck. Watching mist rise from the river at sunrise, passing picturesque villages, and enjoying uninterrupted views of Europe's countryside created a sense of tranquility that is increasingly rare in modern travel. After days on the river, we arrived in Frankfurt, the perfect blend of old and new, and a chance to reflect on the experiences and friendships made along the way.



Cologne, Germany



Alvin Adriano

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Originally published in *In the Mix Magazine* – Issue Zero: Founder's Edition.



Never miss an issue of *In the Mix Magazine* (Quarterly) and *In the Mix Weekly* newsletter.

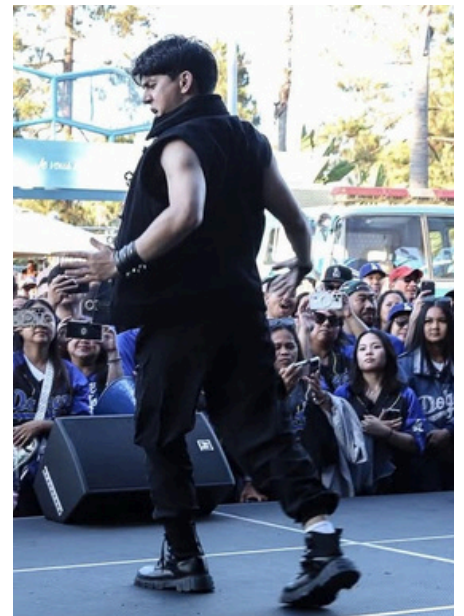
CREATOR SPOTLIGHT

Jascel Valencia: Creating His Own Path Through Dance and Music

BY MIC DIAZ | PUBLISHER



Photo by John Mark Almeria



From the Philippines to international stages and now Los Angeles, **Jascel Valencia** has built his career through movement, music and a willingness to evolve. He began performing professionally at age 10 and later became part of **Junior New System**, the Filipino dance group that gained international recognition through *Asia's Got Talent*, *America's Got Talent* and other global competitions.

In 2022, Valencia won the grand prize on the reality competition *Top Class*, opening another chapter in his career. Today, he is expanding beyond dance as a singer, songwriter and composer performing under the name **Nerdie**, creating original music that reflects his experiences, individuality and growth as an artist. The transition has given him another way to tell his story beyond movement.

Now based in Los Angeles, Valencia continues to pursue opportunities in both music and performance. His journey reflects an artist who refuses to be defined by one creative path—carrying the discipline he developed as a dancer into a new chapter centered on his own voice and music. For Valencia, each new creative direction is another opportunity to grow while staying connected to the performer he has always been.



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PEOPLE
HISTORY
CULTURE
COMMUNITY
CREATIVITY
OUR FUTURE



OCT 1 THU

- FAHM Kickoff Mahjong** ⌚ 6:00 – 9:00 PM
📍 Café 86, Placentia | **ORANGE COUNTY**
- Baryo Brunch + Bazaar** ⌚ 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
📍 Grand Central Market | **LOS ANGELES**
- Kapwa Square Dedication**
📍 Panorama City | **SAN FERNANDO VALLEY** | @cd6losangeles

OCT 2 FRI

- FilAm Creative Film Festival** ⌚ 10:00 AM
📍 Luckman Fine Arts Complex, Cal State LA | **LOS ANGELES**

OCT 3 SAT

- FilAm Creative Film Festival** ⌚ 10:00 AM
📍 Luckman Fine Arts Complex, Cal State LA | **LOS ANGELES**
- Fil-Am Festival**
📍 Santa Clarita | **SANTA CLARITA**
- FAHM UbeFest (Oct 3–4)**
📍 Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts | **CERRITOS**
- Baryo Bazaar x Grand Central Market** ⌚ 12:00 – 5:00 PM
📍 Grand Central Market | **LOS ANGELES**
- Pinoy Poolooza**
📍 Wild Rivers Waterpark, Irvine | **ORANGE COUNTY**

OCT 4 SUN

- FilAm Creative Film Festival** ⌚ 10:00 AM
📍 Luckman Fine Arts Complex, Cal State LA | **LOS ANGELES**
- Haven City Market** ⌚ 3:00 PM – 10:00 PM
📍 West Covina | **WEST COVINA**
- Sunday Jump Open Mic** ⌚ 5:00 – 7:00 PM
📍 Pilipino Workers Center | **HISTORIC FILIPINOTOWN** | @sundayjump
- PMASD Carabao 5K Run**
📍 San Diego | **SAN DIEGO**

OCT 5 MON

- SIPA Giving Greens Golf Tournament**
📍 Historic Filipinotown | @sipacares

OCT 9 FRI

- Meet LA28 in HiFi** ⌚ 12:00 PM
📍 SIPA | **HISTORIC FILIPINOTOWN** | @projectpamana

OCT 10 SAT

- FAHM/Halloween Hangout + Mini Mahjong** ⌚ 6:00 – 9:00 PM
📍 Malaya, Arcadia | **ARCADIA (LOS ANGELES COUNTY)**
- A Concert for Mindanao**
📍 Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts | **CERRITOS**
- Baryo Bazaar x Grand Central Market** ⌚ 12:00 – 5:00 PM
📍 Grand Central Market | **LOS ANGELES**
- Bass Building featuring Bambu & Friends**
📍 The Ford | **LOS ANGELES**
- FAPCCA Legacy & Media Awards Dinner Gala**
📍 Sheraton Cerritos | **CERRITOS**
- Remote Control Crawl & Trail Challenge**
📍 Eagle Rock Plaza | **EAGLE ROCK** | @projectpamana

OCT 11 SUN

- Filled Market**
📍 Smorgasburg at ROW DTLA | **LOS ANGELES** | @filledmarket
- Tikim at Tiles: Mahjong Day**
📍 Almuchow | **WEST COVINA**

OCT 16 FRI

- City of Los Angeles FAHM Honorees** ⌚ 10:00 AM
📍 City Hall Council Chambers | **LOS ANGELES**
- FilAm Fiesta** ⌚ 5:00 – 9:00 PM
📍 Anaheim Packing District | **ORANGE COUNTY** | Kabataan Culture
- City Hall FAHM Lighting Celebration** ⌚ 6:00 PM
📍 Los Angeles City Hall | **LOS ANGELES**

OCT 17 SAT

- Baryo Bazaar x Grand Central Market** ⌚ 12:00 – 5:00 PM
📍 Grand Central Market | **LOS ANGELES**
- Long Beach FAHM Celebration**
📍 Long Beach Civic Center Plaza | **LONG BEACH**
- Pistahan sa Almuchow**
📍 Almuchow | **WEST COVINA**

OCT 18 SUN

- Kultura Pilipino Day**
📍 Disneyland | **ORANGE COUNTY** | @dkababayan
- 2nd Annual Filipino American Fiesta**
📍 Museum of Ventura County | **VENTURA**

OCT 21

- Filipino American History Month Celebration**
📍 Irvine Valley College | **IRVINE**

OCT 22–24 THU–SAT

- FilAm FunFest**
📍 OC FilAm Comedian Shows | **ORANGE COUNTY**

OCT 23 FRI

- Katipunan Poetry Slam**
📍 Historic Filipinotown | @sundayjump
- SoCal Filipinos Plaza Meetup** ⌚ 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM
📍 Plaza West Covina | **WEST COVINA**

OCT 24 SAT

- Baryo Bazaar x Grand Central Market** ⌚ 12:00 – 5:00 PM
📍 Grand Central Market | **LOS ANGELES**
- Carson FAHM Celebration** 📍 Community Center | **CARSON**
- Larry Itliong Day Festival** ⌚ 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
📍 Pilipino Workers Center | **HISTORIC FILIPINOTOWN** | @pwcs
- FAHM Brunch (Oct 24–25)** ⌚ 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
📍 Manila Inasal | **HISTORIC FILIPINOTOWN** | @socialfilipinos

OCT 25 SUN

- ManilaSound: Daytime Disco**
📍 Historic Filipinotown | @manilasound.la
- FAHM & Howl O Ween** 📍 Café 86 | **WEST COVINA**

OCT 26 MON

- Filipino American History Month Celebration** ⌚ 12:00 – 6:00 PM
📍 Café 86 | **WEST COVINA**

OCT 27

- Kuya Lord x Kasama Kamayan**

OCT 29

- Mahjong Lumpia Collab** ⌚ 6:00 – 9:00 PM 📍 Green Cheek | **ORANGE COUNTY**

OCT 31

- Mabuhay CU FAHM Poster Making Contest** 📍 MCU | **CARSON**



IN THE MIX

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