



NOW IN L.A.

LOVE STORY
At the newly opened Museum of Broken Relationships, remnants such as torn jeans and men's cologne bottles tell tales of past romances.

MUSEUM NEWS

BROKEN ENDINGS

A somewhat unlikely museum has opened on Hollywood Boulevard. In the space vacated by Frederick's of Hollywood—the recently defunct lingerie shop once dedicated to underthings and promises of intimacy—the **Museum of Broken Relationships** now stands, part art concept and part repository. The institution's permanent collection is dedicated to the everyday objects and remnants of failed relationships and endings of all kinds, and represents personal narratives of separation and loss with varying degrees of humor and gravity. Crowdsourced and drawn from an international open call for submissions, the more than 100 objects and stories shown include everything from coffee makers, musical instruments, clothing and personal correspondence to a pair of silicone breast implants. Founded by John B. Quinn, an L.A.-based lawyer, art collector and the owner of Q restaurant in DTLA, the interior space was created by acclaimed designer Ryan Brown. After an inspiring visit to the museum's counterpart in Zagreb, Croatia (which began as a conceptual art project by Olinka Vištica and Dražen Grubišić to commemorate the end of their romantic entanglement), Quinn enlisted Brown to bring the space to life in L.A. "It's different from anything else out there," says Brown. "The aim was to create a peaceful place with warmth, not something stark and cold. It's not intimidating like a traditional museum; it's a place to house stories, memories and human experiences." Finally, somewhere to send all that baggage. *Tickets \$15-\$18, 6751 Hollywood Blvd., L.A., 323.892.1200, brokenships.la* —Marieke Freilhard

AUCTION UPDATE

HAMMER TIME

Billings Auction celebrates its first anniversary with its fifth spectacular sale.

By Maile Pingel

"It started as a conversation in a parking lot," says L.A. dealer Rich Carmichael of Billings Auction, the company he co-founded a year ago this September with Joshua Kritzer of Rewire Gallery, and Lorca Cohen and Greg Wooten of The Window.

"L.A. needed a good midlevel midcentury art and design auction house. We thought: We should do this!" The group secured a 3,000-square-foot warehouse in the DTLA Arts District, near popular establishments like Bestia and Silverlake Wine. Billings, which is growing by 1,500 square feet, has sold key pieces by designers Charles Hollis Jones and Wendell Castle, European antiques and even a 1958 Volkswagen Karmann-Ghia convertible Low Light that set a world record. They also welcome consignments (213.842.2857, info@billingsauction.com). "We aim to engage a new audience. Come in; talk to us; bid live or online," Carmichael continues. "From \$200 to \$160,000, there's something for everyone." On Friday nights before Saturday auctions, Billings hosts an auction preview and reception with music and food trucks. "We're not stodgy!" he says playfully. Don't miss the Sept. 10 sale, which will feature items like a set of Welton Becket chairs (estimated from \$1,200 to \$1,500) and a Lella and Massimo Vignelli coffee table (estimated from \$1,200 to \$1,500). Let the bidding begin! 1919 Bay St., L.A., 213.947.3784, billingsauction.com



IN THE ROUND
A 1980s dining set by Jack Rogers Hopkins was one striking lot for sale at a Billings auction last year.

MUSEUM OF BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS PHOTO BY MATT WEER