

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Pocho Research Society of Erased and Invisible History
Announces:

Echoes in the Echo

*A Series of Public Interventions About Gentrification
In and Around Echo Park*

What? Clandestine historic plaques placed on sidewalks outside of various hipster bars

When? June 24 2007

Where? The Echo, Cha Cha, Bar 107,

Contact: pochohistory2001@yahoo.com

A group known as the Pocho Research Society (PRS) has installed “unofficial” plaques in public spaces to commemorate formerly queer Latina/o bars in the Echo Park, Silverlake and the Downtown area on June , 2007. The group operates in a clandestine fashion. Since the longevity of the plaques at the sites is unknown, visit the following locations ASAP in order to view before they are taken down.

Site Locations:

Le Barcito, currently the *Cha Cha* 2375 Glendale Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90039

Klub Fantasy at the *Nayarit* aka *The Echo* 1822 W Sunset Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90026

Club Fire at the *Nayarit* currently *The Echo* 1822 W Sunset Blvd, LA , CA90026

The Score 107 W. 4th St, Downtown Los Angeles, currently *Bar 107*

Echoes in the Echo is a series of public interventions that will explore History and memory in and around Echo Park. This phase of the project commemorates a few of many queer Latina/o spaces that were a ‘home’ to many for periods of up to a couple of decades and have since changed ownership and now cater to a new, straighter, younger and whiter clientele. This project takes place while the city, itself, is at a crossroads in its own history. Dramatic increases in real estate prices coupled with commercially driven development projects facilitated by elected officials are two of a multitude of forces that push many working class communities out of the city “core”. Waves of new ‘immigrants’ (albeit from the Midwest) have in the process displaced longstanding cultural spaces created over several decades. Within this massive “land grab” questions like ‘where do drag queens, closeted quebradita dancers and gay cholos go once they been pushed out?’ arise. How and who defines a space? Is a space defined by its present incarnations or does its past ruthlessly resurface like dust in unswept corners?

The PRS is a semi-anonymous collective that investigates Los Angeles history through various modes of public intervention. For this project the PRS collaborated with numerous writers and artists who were patrons and organizers of these spaces. Dedicated to the systematic investigation of space, memory and displacement, the PRS understands history as a battleground of the present, a location where hidden & forgotten selves hijack & disrupt the oppression of our moment. For more info visit: www.hijadela.com/projects/prs/prs1.html