

Apple Edition

ThaWilsonBlock

For Tha Revival & Preservation of Local Culture
thawilsonblock.com

THANKS for **GIVING** time!
A Special Thanks to Volunteers

Magazine

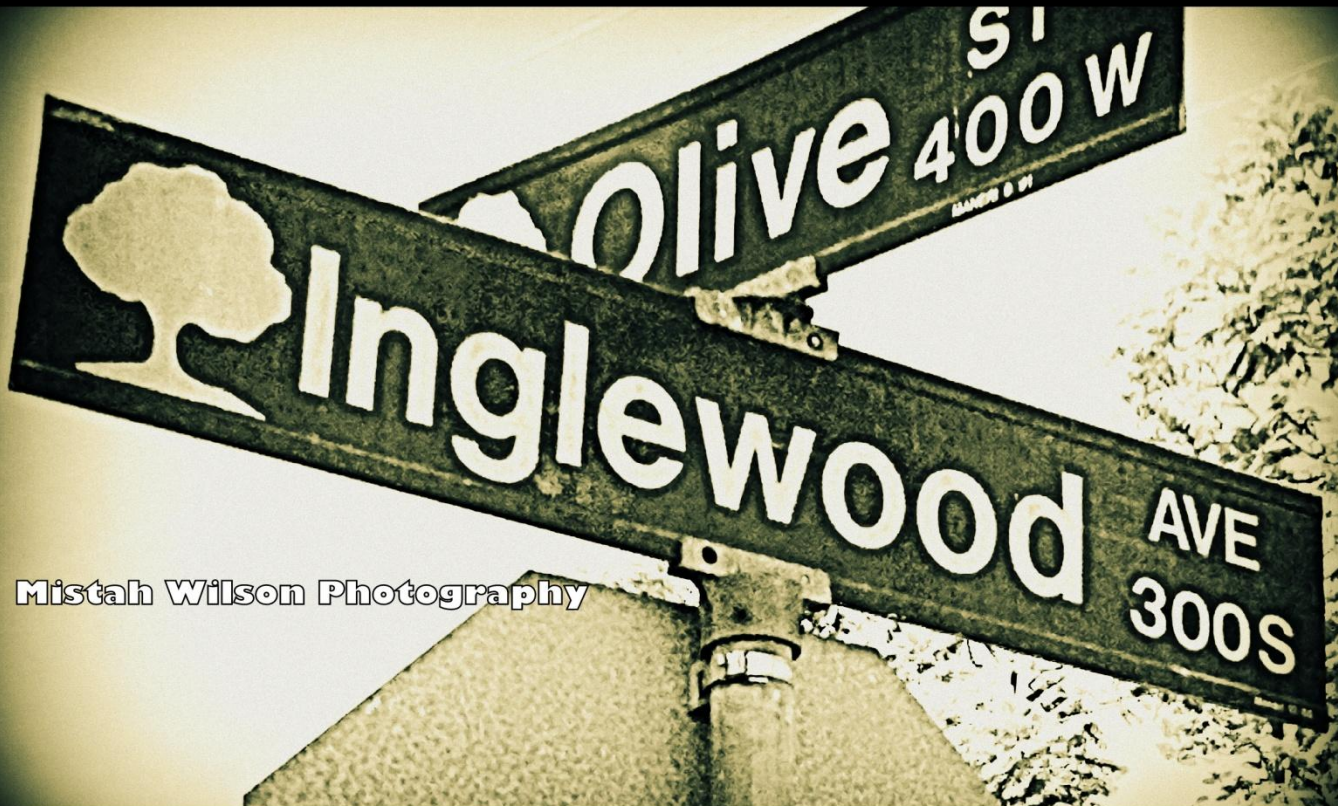
Issue33

November 2015

Inglewood, California Collection

Volume One by Mistah Wilson Photography

Queen Street ♠ Market Street ♠ Manchester Boulevard



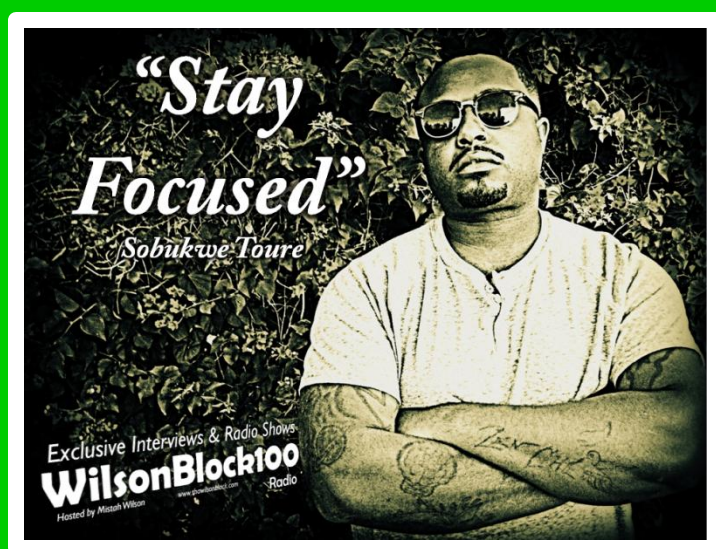
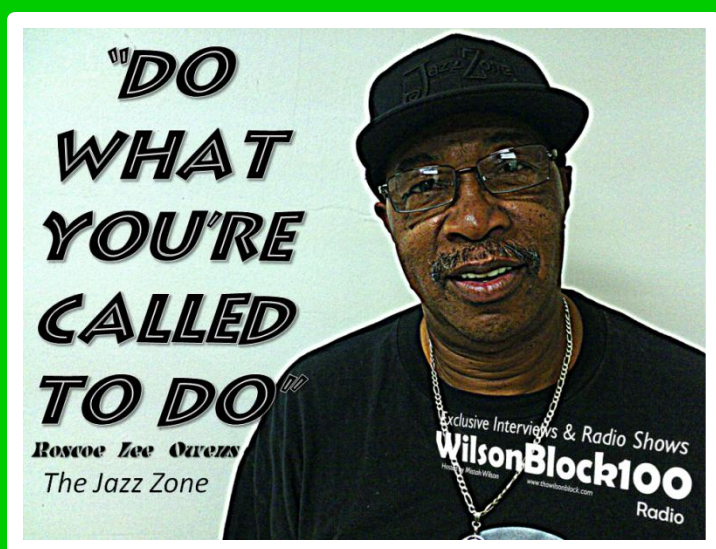
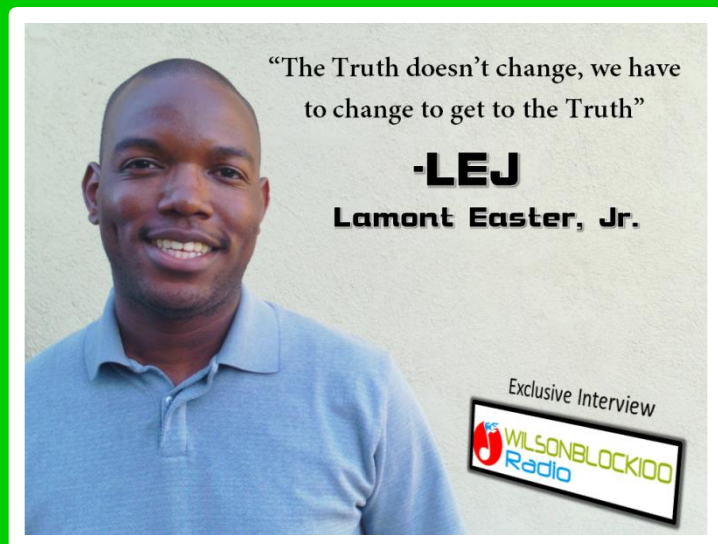
Mistah Wilson Photography

La Brea Avenue ♠ Centinela Avenue ♠ Beach Avenue

Conceptual Street Sign Photography

WilsonBlock100 Radio

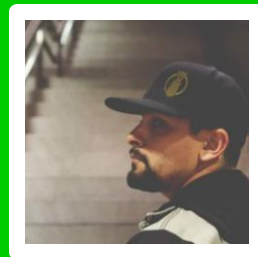
New Shows & Interviews Every Wednesday @ 1p



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Volume One by Mistah Wilson Photography

*Inglewood, California
Collection*

Thanks for Giving Time!

Welcome to ThaWilsonBlock

*Magazine Issue33! We wanted to take
this very special opportunity to thank
those who volunteer their time &
efforts in making a positive impact in
today's world. It's people like you who
give hope to others, and who truly
makes a difference in people's lives.*

Thank you for giving time!

A man with a beard and mustache, wearing a dark baseball cap with a gold emblem and a dark jacket with light-colored stripes on the sleeves, is shown in profile, looking down. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor setting with warm lighting.

Exclusive Interview

*“I want my
listeners to be more
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and unloved.”*

-IMAGINE

Exclusive Interview w/ Imagine

Mistah Wilson: Yo, Imagine! Glad to have you here for this exclusive interview with ThaWilsonBlock! How ya' been?

Imagine: I've gotta say that I feel great. Life has been something else in recent years and I can honestly say that I feel happy again. Life is Amazing.

Mistah Wilson: Before we go any further, could you give us a quick background on yourself?

Imagine: Of course. I'm that kid in your school you never paid much attention to, but still got along with. That one guy who was always told by the ladies, "your cute, but I don't see you like that" when I asked em on a date. That one kid who was always up to no good causing trouble, stirring the pot but always with the best of intentions towards the world.... And I decided to be a rapper in 2008 and have been doing so ever since. The Dork became the Cool; who knew?!

Mistah Wilson: Now, we met you when you hosted the Stars & Streetlamps stage at MakeMusicPasadena 2015. How long have you been involved in the festival?

Imagine: I've been partnering with that festival since 2012 and it's been a great relationship thus far. They've been incredibly supportive and welcoming to our hip hop stage, performers, and fans. Not to mention Club 54 as well, they've been super dope too.

Mistah Wilson: Tell me a little about your performance history both as an act and hos What do you enjoy most?

Imagine: Shortly after taking to the mic in 08, I realized it wasn't easy to book an honest show. Too many bad pay to play shows later, I decided to do shows myself in 2010 and created my label, Stars & Streetlamps. Been rocking shows for myself and anyone else looking for a shot ever since.

Mistah Wilson: Would you classify yourself strictly as a rapper? If not, what would you say your overall genre is as far as the things you do?

Imagine: Rapper is one of the things I classify myself, but the best description is Artist. I do so much more than rap. I write poetry and screenplays, make movies, and even paint here and there as member of the Art Collective Ink Bombers. I just enjoy creating.

Mistah Wilson: So, what current & upcoming projects do you have?

Imagine: I just released my latest mixtape effort called The Liftoff. It was 2 years in the making and I feel very proud of the partnership I developed at Agruv Studios as well as the artists who contributed. It was definitely more honest and genuine of who I am as a person in comparison to the rapper persona. That journey cultivated into the overall sound and topics I wrote about. It's a great project. Now, I'm going deeper and stronger with my 2nd Album, Beyond Clouds. That is going to be amazing. I can't wait to share it sometime in 2016.

Mistah Wilson: Do you consider yourself a West Covina artist?

Imagine: I've never been one for repping my area until I started going elsewhere and performing. Hip Hop is odd in its territorial mindset, but I can't help but divulge and partake. With that said, it's 626 all day. Nothing but love for everybody in the overall Los Angeles scene, but 626 has got some really talented people.





Mistah Wilson: Who are some artists you've worked with and who would you like to work with some time in the future?

Imagine: I've had the pleasure of working with some incredibly talented people with my music. The Twin Towers are solid artists and even better people. O.K.I.M. is an amazing talent who featured on my first album; he's a great guy as well. The most exciting collaboration was working with Susan Jon Rose, a vocalist from Australia. She was amazingly professional and such a sweetheart. No room for egos or anything like that, I only work with people I'm legit fans of and who are sincerely great people.

Mistah Wilson: Where do you pull inspiration from when writing new material?

Imagine: I used to pull inspiration from how pissed off I was at the world for not giving me a chance or taking me seriously. I was so hell bent on proving myself that I wasn't being myself. I've been learning to let that go and just do me by putting out the music I enjoy and hope people enjoy it as much as I did developing it. Sonically, everything inspires me. I've been listening to a lot of rock lately and that's been reflecting in my sound. I dig that.

“I used to pull inspiration from how pissed off I was at the world for not giving me a chance or taking me seriously. I was so hell bent on proving myself that I wasn't being myself. I've been learning to let that go and just do me by putting out the music I enjoy and hope people enjoy it as much as I did developing it.”

Exclusive Interview w/ Imagine

Mistah Wilson: What have been some challenging things along the way when pursuing a career as an artist?

Imagine: I'm not sure I'm pursuing a career anymore, or anything at all for that matter. I enjoy making music and I enjoy sharing it with people. That basis alone is strong enough for things to happen. I've seen it all though; non-supportive family and friends, shady promoters, crappy venues, haters and non believers. It takes a toll, but in the end what matters is you, the music, and the fans. Everything else is secondary.

Mistah Wilson: What are some of the more rewarding things?

Imagine: Easily, there is nothing better than being at a show and seeing people sing along and finish your lyrics for you. There is a connection that is beyond words. It's so fulfilling to know that I made a difference.



Exclusive Interview w/ Imagine

Mistah Wilson: What overall message are you trying to send through your brand?

Imagine: When I listened to music in high school, it was like the bands were my friends. They felt as I did, so I didn't feel so alone. I want to convey the same thing. I want my listeners to be more than fans, I want them to be my friends and know they got someone out there that feels the same. That's why I say, I make music for the lost and unloved.

Mistah Wilson: Who are some of your influences who motivated you to become the artist you are today?

Imagine: Limp Bizkit, hands down! I've always loved that band and how Fred commands a crowd at a live show. That would be a goal for sure, perform on stage with Limp Bizkit. Other than, Lupe Fiasco and Incubus have been huge influences as well.

Mistah Wilson: From your point of view, what's the current state & condition of the local music scene (in general)?

Imagine: The local music scene is on life support. There's too many people who are money hungry, promoters and artists alike. They don't care about anything but themselves and that's like cancer to the scene; a slow death. We need to cultivate the people who have a genuine love for it all and are willing to play their positions. Not everyone is a boss, because not everyone can be, and that's ok. Most importantly, we need to start putting on shows that people want to go to. Quality shows, quality music, and quality artists. Then and only then, people will come again.

Mistah Wilson: How about the mainstream? Do you think it's gotten easier or harder for artists to break out?

Imagine: It's gotten completely easier. Back in history, it was talent over hard work. If you had "it" you could genuinely make it. Now, because of the internet, hard work trumps everything. If you want it bad enough and you have the talent, you could totally make it. You gotta be a badass at what you do of course, but hustling hard will definitely get you there. There's tons of cats who are waaaay talented, but don't hustle.

Mistah Wilson: What do you feel the game needs these days?

Imagine: Sincerity and Honesty. There needs to be a genuine love for it all. People are dumb, and will support fads and trends. Yet, the individual listener will see right through bullshit and stick with the artists that really make a difference to them. can't be worrying about making everyone a fan, cause it doesn't work that way. People will gravitate towards you when you just starting doing and being you.

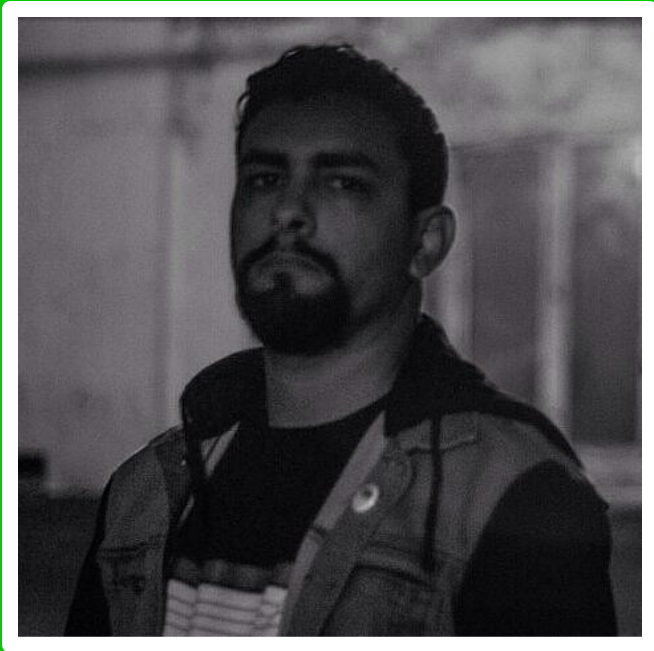
Mistah Wilson: How important is giving back to the community for you?

Imagine: It's very important. I feel as if the idea of community has plummeted in recent generations, I also blame the internet on that one. It's funny though, everyone is so quick to claim their hood, but I bet those same people know nothing about the hood they even claim. It's ironic.

Mistah Wilson: What positive, encouraging words do you have for aspiring artists looking to pursue a career in entertainment?

Imagine: Stop worrying about everyone else. Your creations are yours, and yours alone. There's always going to be a nay-sayer or non-believer, it comes with being in the spotlight and subject to public opinion. Besides that, do your homework and research. DIY until you can't do it anymore.

Exclusive Interview w/ Imagine



Mistah Wilson: Where can we find your music and stuff at?

Imagine: My handle for all social media is @that_imagine and my music can be found primarily at thatimagine.bandcamp.com

Mistah Wilson: Yo, Imagine, thanks so much for coming through for this exclusive interview with ThaWilsonBlock! Please know, you will always be appreciated here. If you have any shout outs, let's hear em!

Imagine: Much love and respect to you Mistah Wilson and ThaWilsonBlock for allowing me a voice to reach. My only shout out is to the person reading this right now, thank you... oh, and come out to a show sometime; let's have some fun.

“Shortly after taking to the mic in 08, I realized it wasn’t easy to book an honest show. Too many bad pay to play shows later, I decided to do shows myself in 2010 and created my label, Stars & Streetlamps. Been rocking shows for myself and anyone else looking for a shot ever since.”

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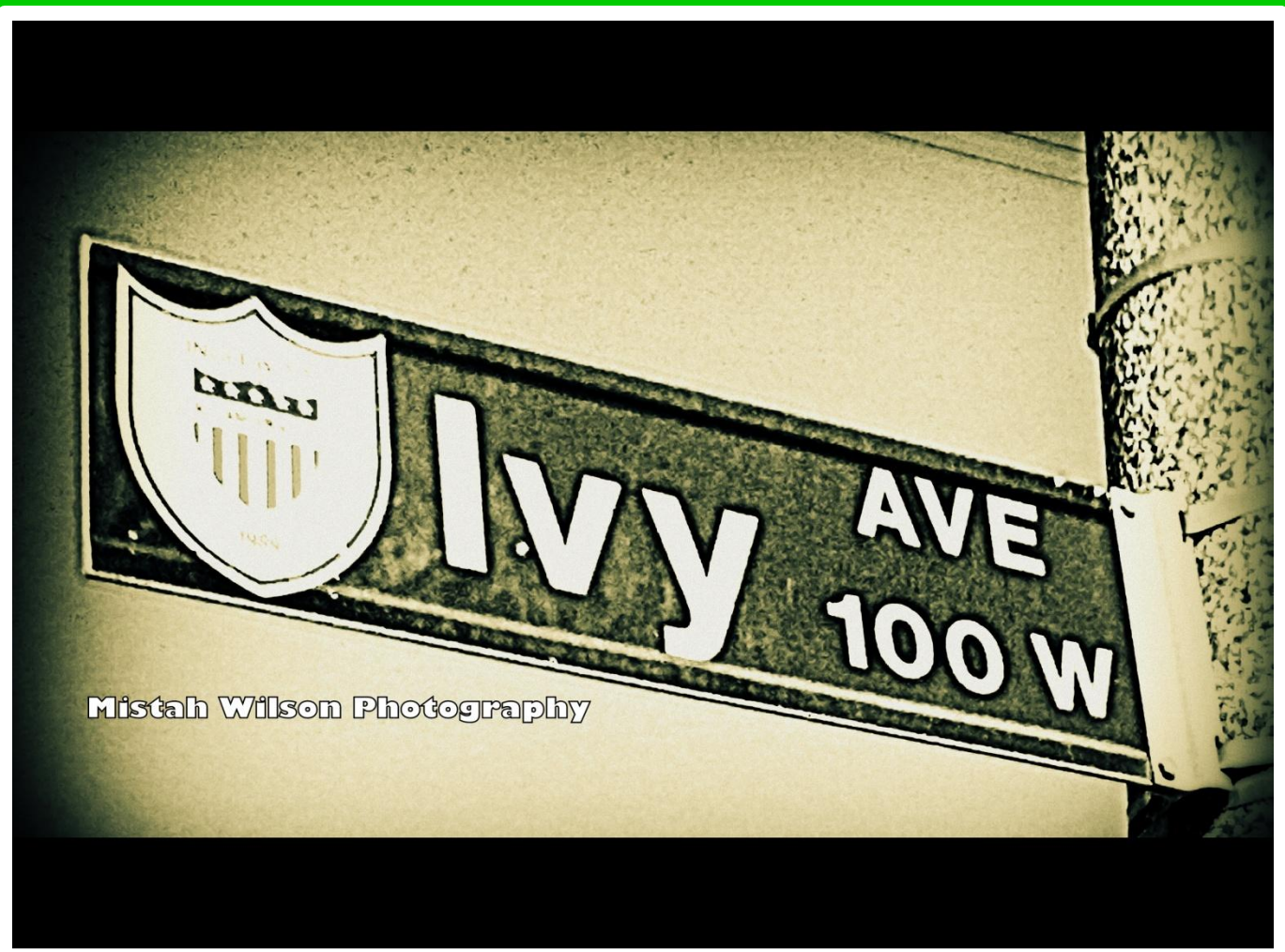
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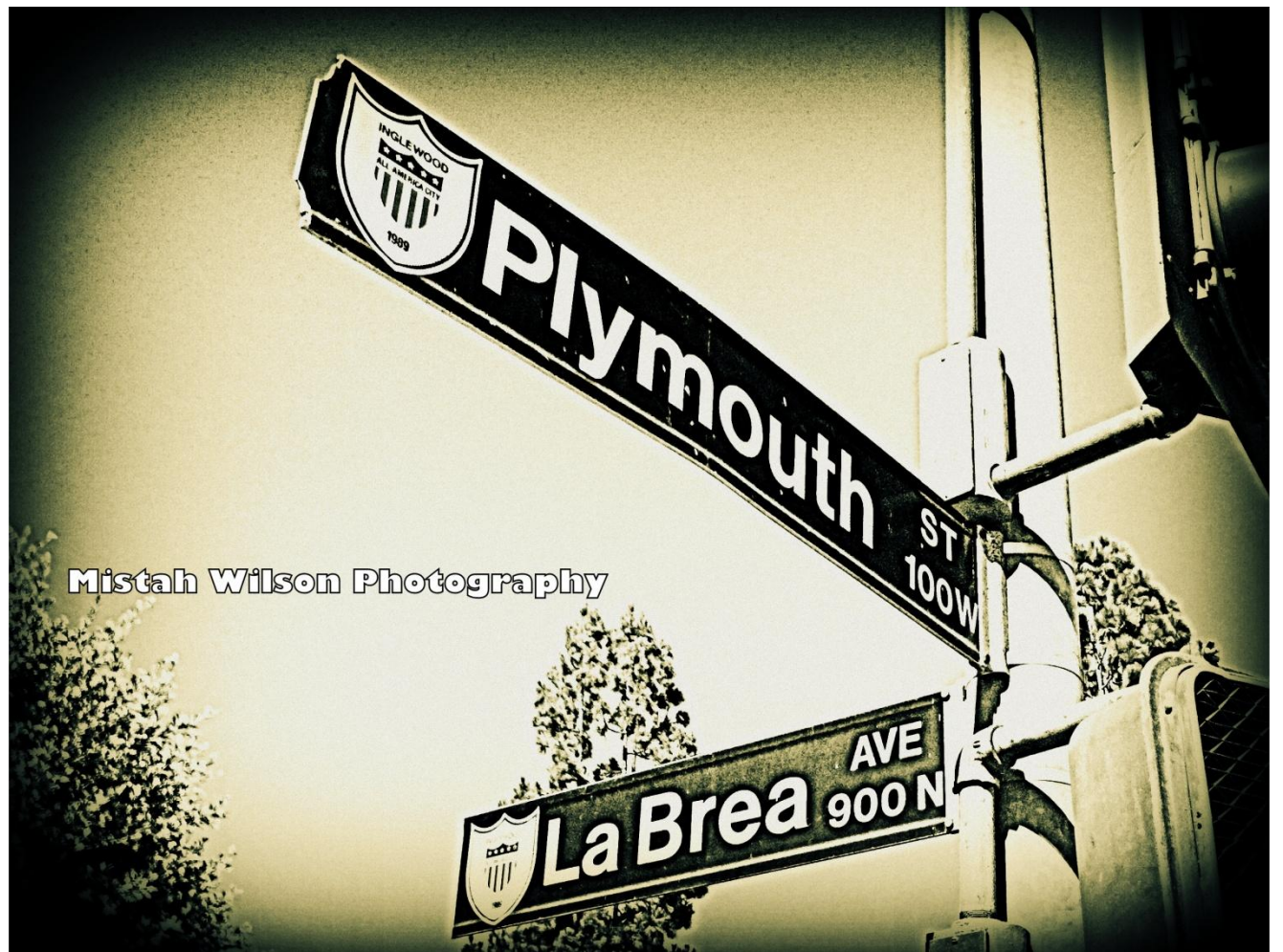
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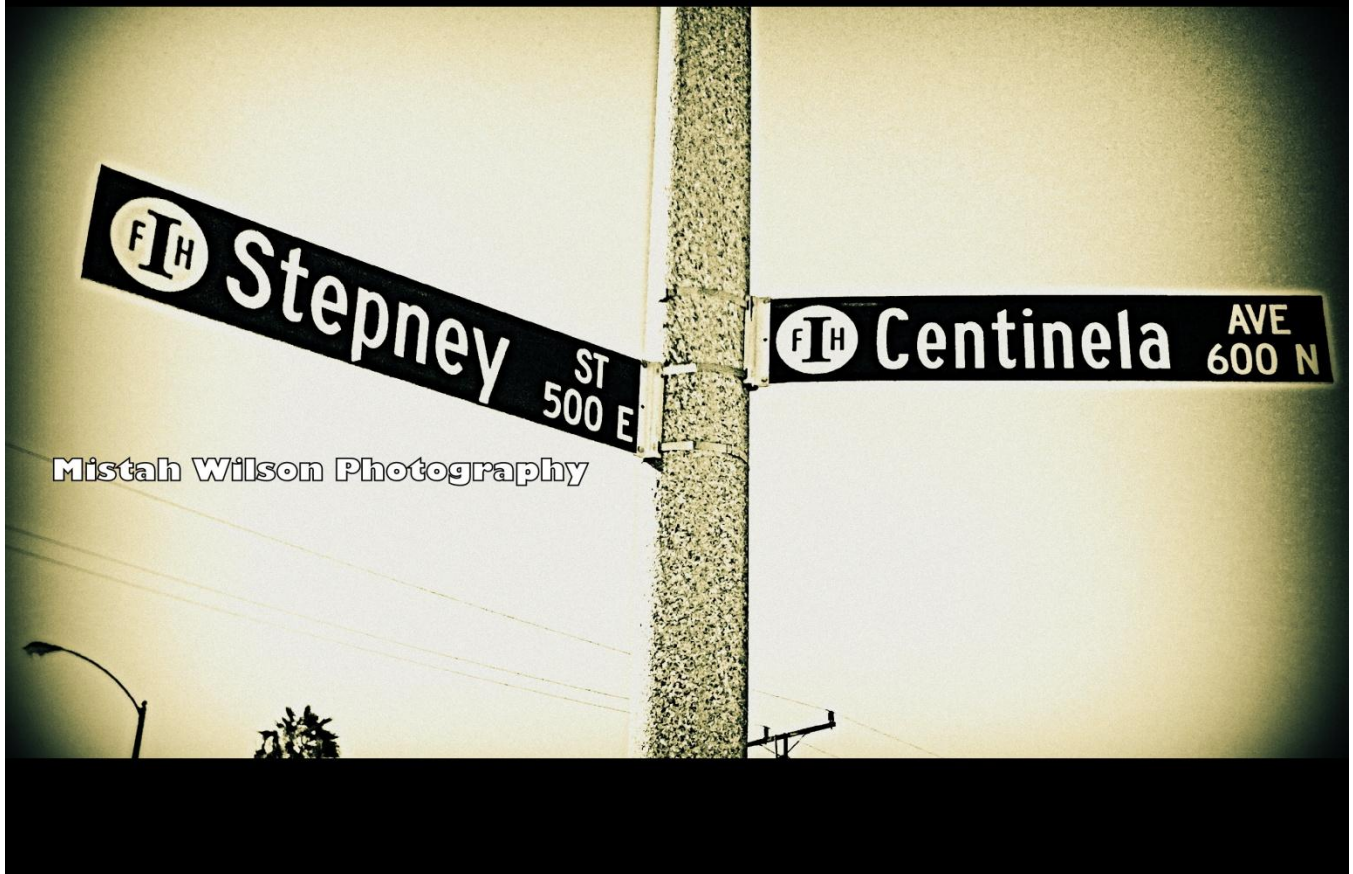
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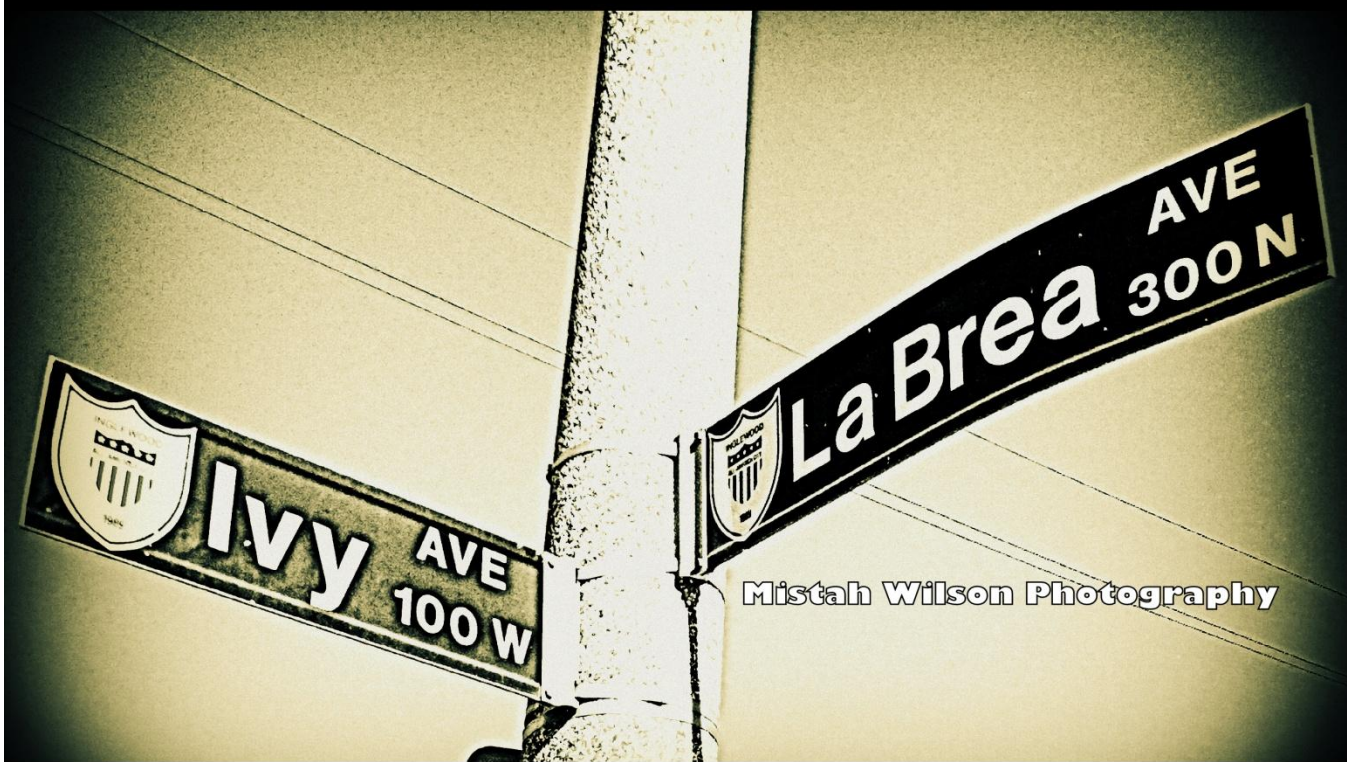
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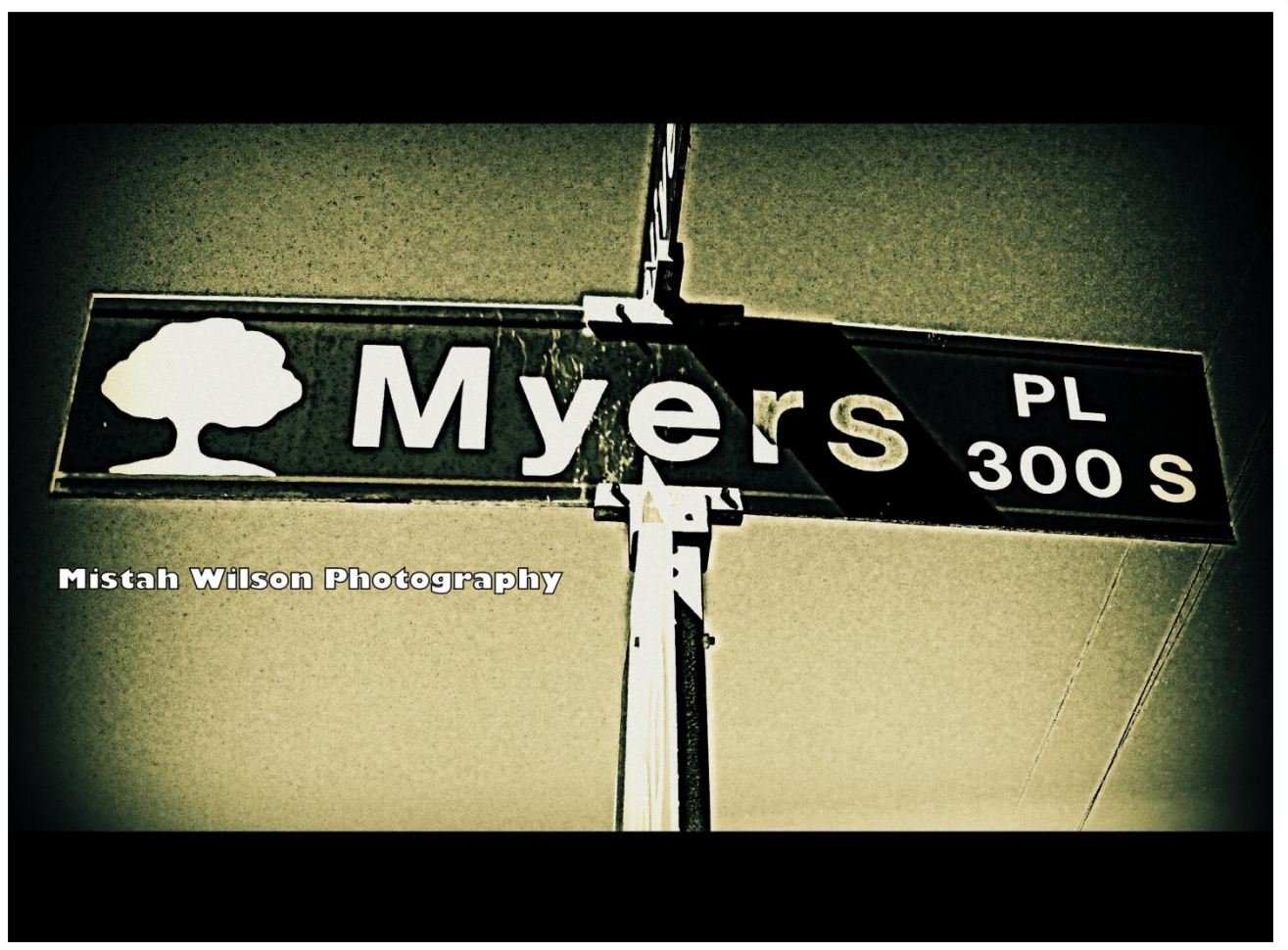
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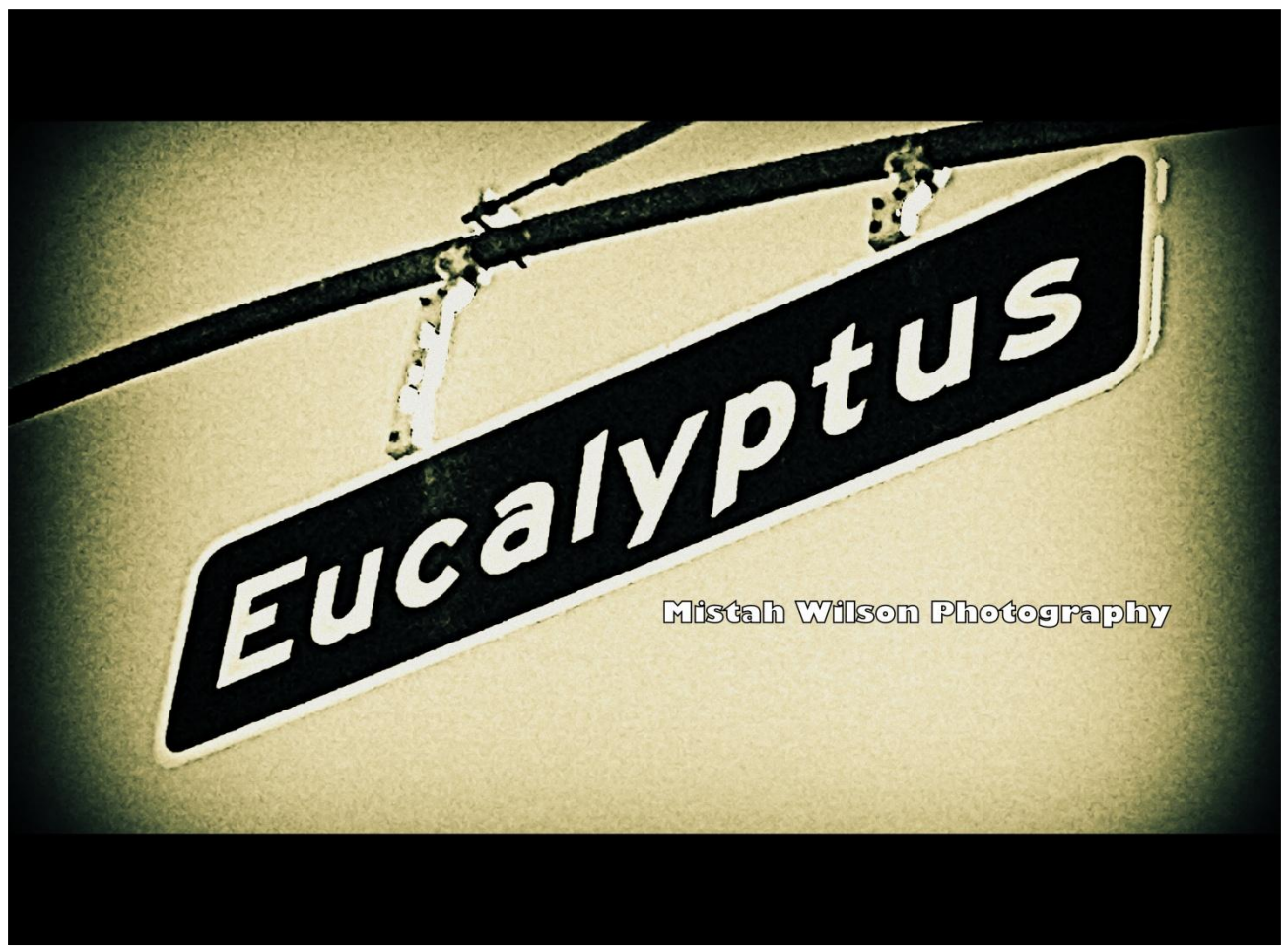
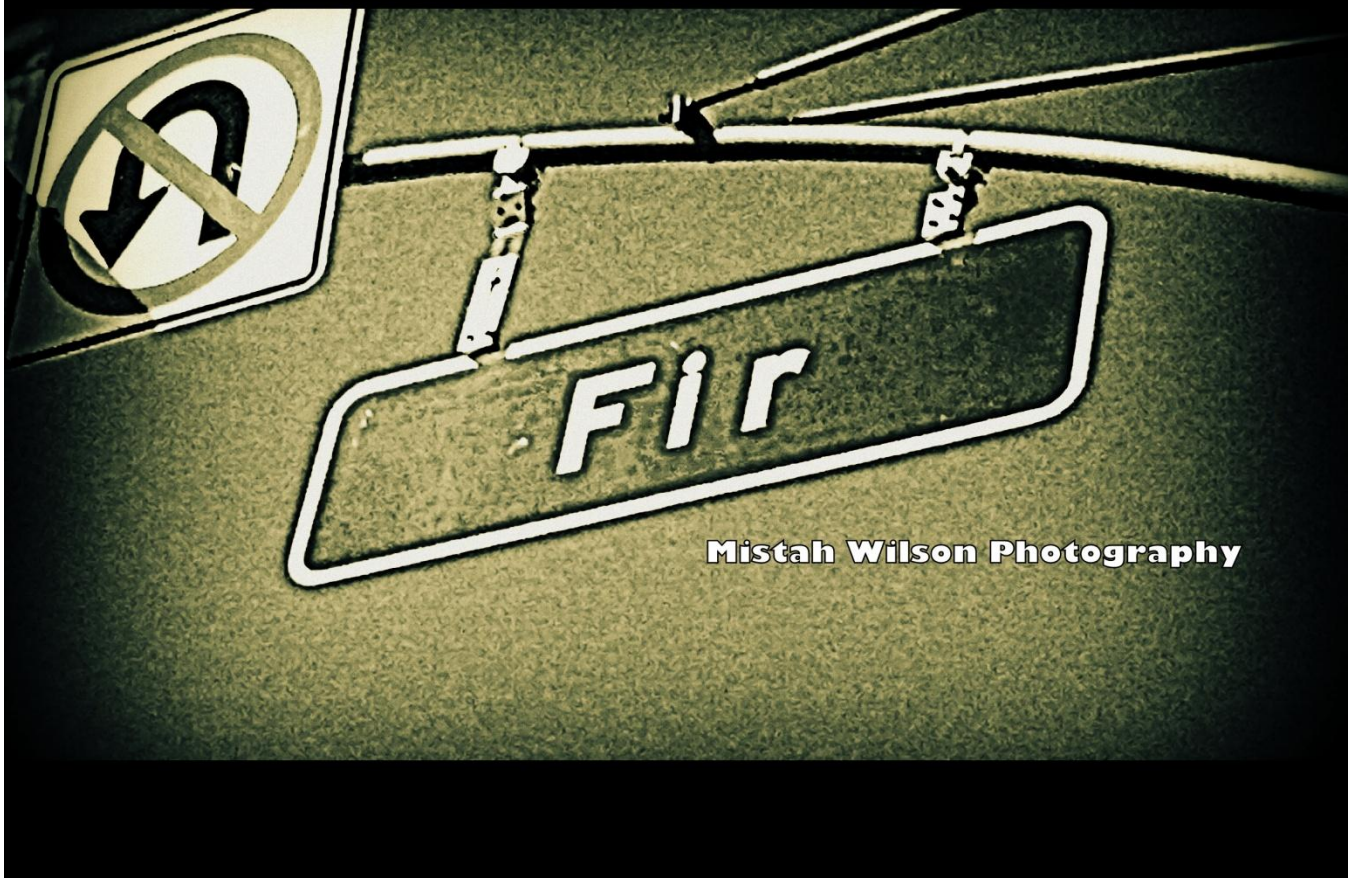
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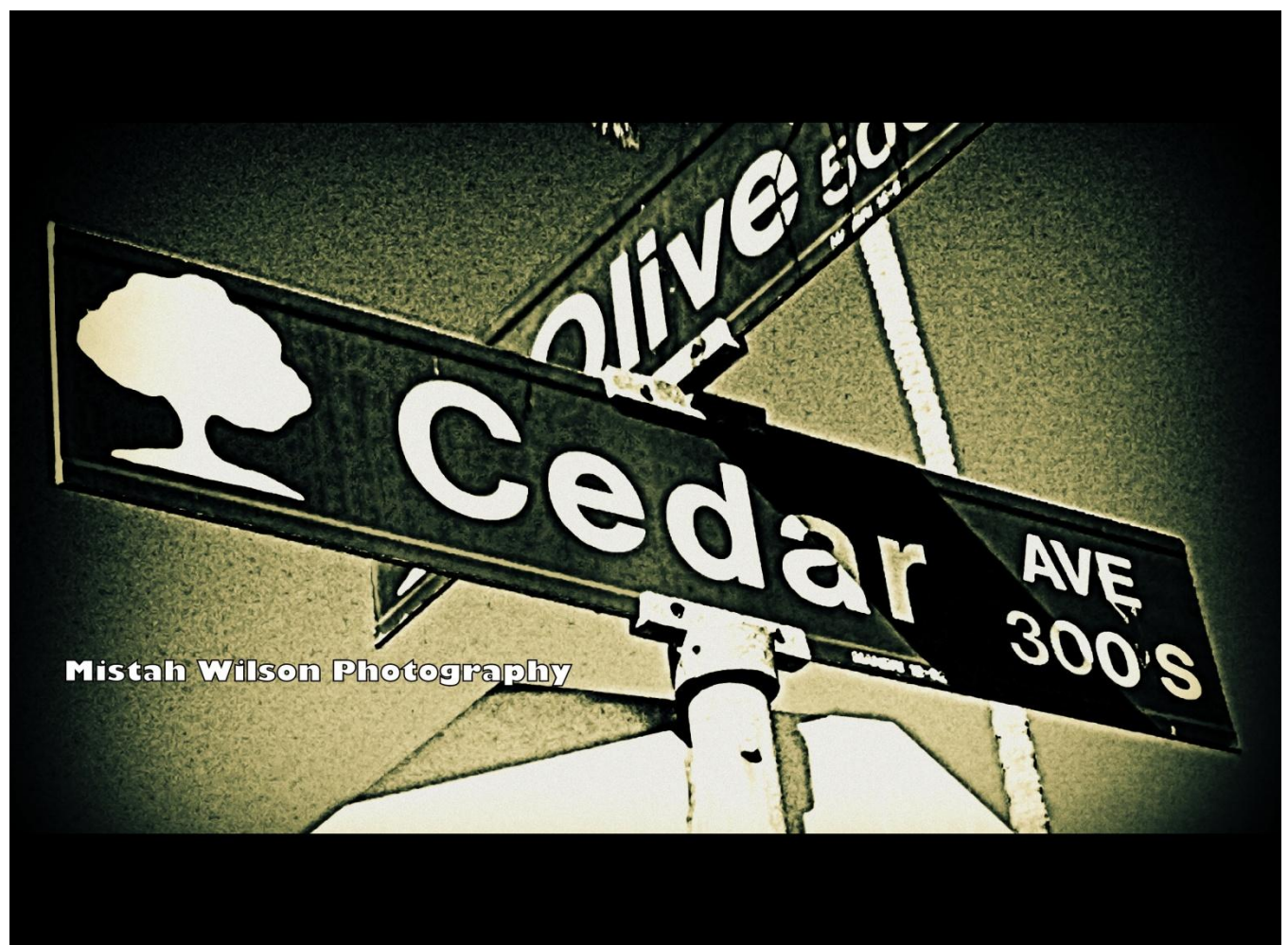


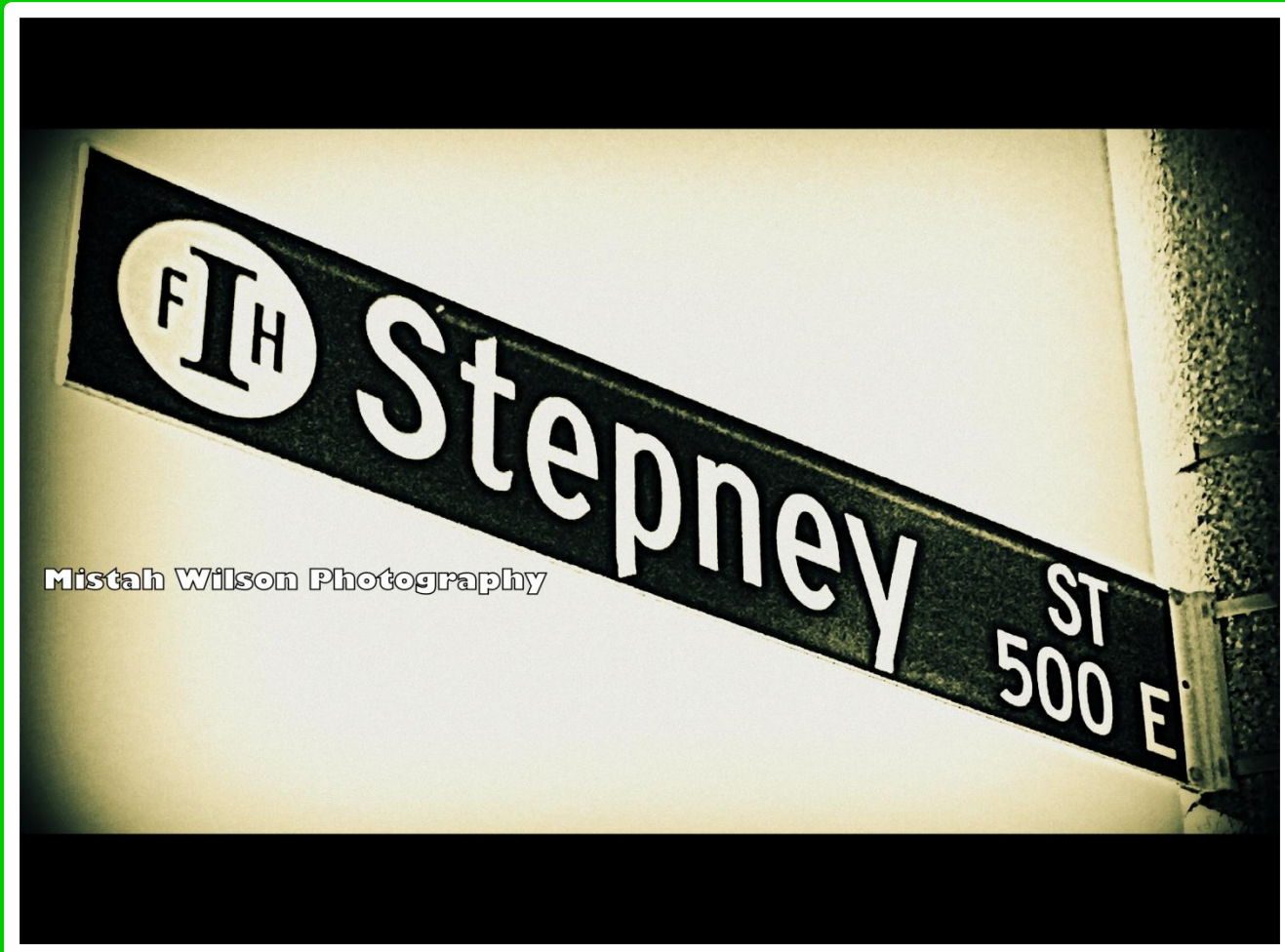
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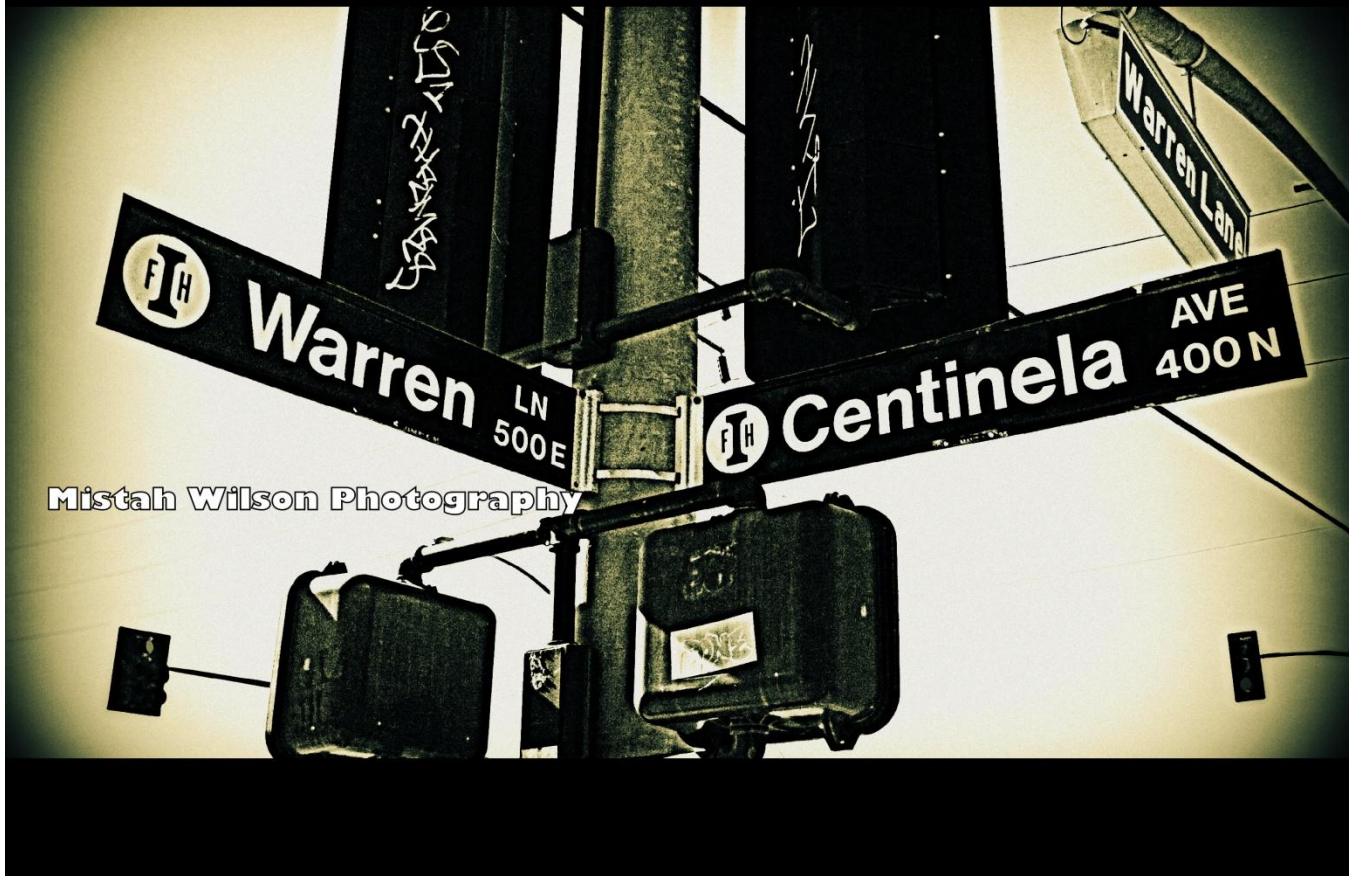


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Outreach Through Creative Arts

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