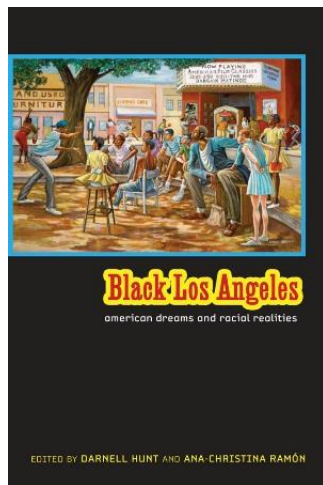


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## Black Los Angeles: American Dreams and Racial Realities Saturday, August 28th, 4:00 pm



*Black Los Angeles: American Dreams and Racial Realities*, co-edited by Darnell Hunt, director of UCLA's Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, and the center's assistant director, Ana-Christina Ramon, delves into the long and rich history of African Americans in Los Angeles and presents a snapshot of contemporary issues affecting the community.

"African Americans have played important and pivotal roles in Los Angeles' history," Hunt says. "As our book demonstrates, African Americans have had a powerful impact on the development of the city from being part of the first settlers in 1781, through the period of the region's tremendous growth, to the present day."

"Black Los Angeles is and has always been a space of profound contradictions," Hunt writes in the book. "Just as Los Angeles has come to symbolize the complexities of the early twenty-first century city, so too has Black Los Angeles come to embody the complex realities of race in so-called 'colorblind' times."

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**Wanda Wen - The Art of Gift Wrapping  
Saturday, September 25th, 4:00 PM**



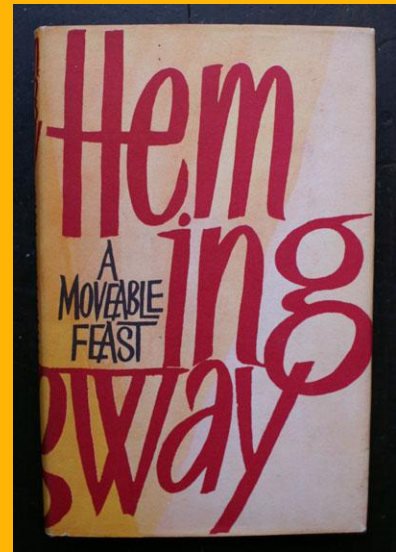
From organic and eco-friendly wraps to lush and romantic presentations, the more than 50 projects and ideas contained in *The Art of Gift Wrapping* will remind you that it is as much fun to wrap as it is to receive.

Gift wrap and paper expert Wanda Wen knows what it means to give thoughtfully wrapped presents a talent that has made her and her store, Soolip, a favorite among celebrities and tastemakers. With her expert tips and techniques and creative vision she invites you to use natural, luxurious, and everyday materials to perfectly dress any present for its occasion. Whether nestling your gift in a bed of all-natural moss, creating custom packing tape, cascading fresh flowers down a tower of boxes, or simply matching a festive paper with just the right ribbon tie your thoughtful packages will leave lasting impressions long after the gifts have been opened.

"The rise of the contemporary artisan movement and allure of the artisanal is in direct response to the influx of digital technology in today's world," says Wen, whose Soolip Paperie & Press boutique and custom letterpress design studio has long been recognized for its signature collection of handmade designs and artistry. "People innately yearn for things that are tactile and speak to the senses. That's why we are drawn to the aesthetics of the artisanal. It's refreshing and real."

Wanda Wen is the founder and creative force behind *Soolip*, the Los Angeles paper and lifestyle boutique that is a favorite among Hollywood celebrities and tastemakers and corporate clients. Wen has successfully combined her passions for paper and nature with her background in fashion, launching the unique brand Soolip with multiple extensions and satellite businesses. Wen and Soolip have been featured in numerous publications, including *Martha Stewart Weddings*, *Town & Country*, *Vogue*, *InStyle*, *Elegant Bride*, *Travel + Leisure*, *People*, *The New York Times*, and *The Wall Street Journal*. Wen has also appeared on *Today*, *HGTV*, the *Style Network*, *E!*, and the *Fine Living Channel*. She is also an expert gift wrapper for Scotch brand and a judge for the annual Scotch Brand

**Book Club Information**



Our next Book Club meeting is on **Saturday, September 25th at 5:00 pm**. We will be discussing **Ernest Hemingway's *A Moveable Feast***.

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Most Gifted Wrapper Contest. Wen resides in Los Angeles with her three children, a dog, two birds, and a guinea pig. Visit her online at [www.soolip.com](http://www.soolip.com), [www.asoolipwedding.com](http://www.asoolipwedding.com), and [www.soolip.blogspot.com](http://www.soolip.blogspot.com).

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**Art Walk Night**  
**Thursday, September 9th:**  
**Continuing - A collection of images from giigi**  
**photography**  
**5:00 pm to 9:00 pm**

