

San Francisco Chronicle

A SoMa corner where there's more than meets the eye

By John King
July 24, 2015

Change hits cities in all sorts of ways, from blunt skyline changes to brash coats of paint. This stylized upgrade of a nondescript post-1906 corner building appeared in late May, commissioned by the bar inside that features such cocktails as Birds of Babylon. Exuberant yet dense, it's a head-turning contrast both to the tawdrier aspects of this stretch of Mission Street and such transition signals as the 11-story box opening next door that will house several hundred college students. Now we have a baroque-by-way-of-Wild West storefront. And when trends shift, don't be surprised if a new look follows.



IMAGE 1 OF 5

This three-story building at Mission and Washburn streets now houses the bar Oddjob, which hired the Los Angeles artist Shrine to give it a distinctive new look in May. Nearby are at least five new large residential buildings either under construction or recently completed.



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Oddjob

1337 Mission St. Artist: Shrine | Style: Trompe l'oeil

Size: 3 stories | Date built: 1913

Cityscape is a weekly look at a distinct slice of San Francisco; words and photos courtesy of jking@sfchronicle.com.