out and about

Katt Hefner is Back on July 13

▶ Katt Hefner's next musical legend tribute at Manatee Performing Arts Center is set for July 13 when she presents "Sophisticated Lady: The Songbook of Natalie Cole." Cole's career spanned several decades and genres, from R&B to pop. Her

peer-juried, open, all-media, all-subjects exhibition is in **Gallery Four**.

Opening reception for all four exhibits is July 18, 5-7 p.m. Art Center Sarasota, 707 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. Info: 941-365-2032 or visit www.artsarasota.org.

▶ Tampa Museum of Art has Tableau and Transformation: Photography from the

pected to be shown together.

This once-in-a-lifetime collection features some of the most beautiful still life, land-scape, and banquet scenes of the "Golden Age." The works reflect the growing power of the middle class in this time period, the impact of maritime trade, the desire to capture images of luxury and abundance in art, and the emergence of the art

examines a multigenerational group of artists who challenge painting surfaces by making cuts, carvings and indentions. CUT features more than 20 artworks by leading abstract artists, including Al Loving, Elizabeth Murray and Jack Whitten, alongside younger artists such as Clara Varas, Maria de los Angeles Rodriguez Jimenez, Loriel Beltran, and Alejandro Contreras. CUT presents a diverse group of artists, 15 of the 17 are artists of color.

■ The other exhibition debuting this summer, Spheres of Meaning: An Exhibition of Artists'
Books presents more than 30 works ranging from manipulated texts to new narrative forms.

Spheres of Meaning, celebrates artists' books by creatives who are either living in Miami or have called Miami home, including Purvis Young, Margarita Cano, Lydia Rubio, Diego Gutierrez, Carlos Macia, Jeannette Stargala, and Rosemarie Chiarlone.

During the 20th century, many American abstract artists challenged traditional methods of art-making, using a palette knife instead of a paintbrush, soaking their canvases in diluted paint, and other ways of "cutting" that transformed their two-dimensional abstract paintings into three-dimensional works. For some of these artists, their "cuts" were seen as incisively political. For others, the new ways they pierced their canvases or cut the paint itself were investigations into the very materials they used.

CUT features work by artists such as Al Loving, Elizabeth Murray, Sam Gilliam, Jack Whitten and Ed Clark. The roster of younger generation artists in CUT includes Nanette Carter, Roberto Jamora, Loriel Beltran, and Clara Varas. Other artists in the exhibition are Jacin Giordano, Jeffrey Gibson, Mark Bradford, Charo Oquet, Howardena Pindell, Maria de los Angeles Rodriguez Jimenez, and Angel Otero.

Spheres of Meaning celebrates the rich and varied talent of artists living in Miami, alongside other artists who once called the city home, but whose books remain tied to the cultural fabric here. Seven of the artists in Spheres of Meaning will be creating entirely new work, thanks to support from Oolite Arts. These "spheres" present philosophical inquiries, personal reflections, and ruminations on complex and often related notions such as nurture and nature. The works present eclectic interpretations on the book — from the ethereal to the deconstructed, and many bringing to light poignant reflections on autobiographical experiences.

Visitors will be able to personally explore some of these artists' books via accompanying iPads or facsimiles. One of the largest free-standing art museums in Florida, the Patricia

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"The Wonders of Florida" at Island Gallery West

Pat O'Neill is Island Gallery West's July featured artist with his display titled "The Wonders of Florida." Known for his appreciation and love of nature, wildlife and the ocean, Pat's paintings capture the realistic view of the many subjects he paints. Pat is a uniquely talented self-taught artist from Dora, Alabama and living in Bradenton since 2005.

The opening reception is on **Friday**, **July 12**, **5:30-7:30pm**. Meet Pat and the other artists while enjoying a glass of wine. Island Gallery West is located at 5368 Gulf Dr., Holmes Beach on Anna Maria Island. **Runs through July 31**. Visit www.islandgallerywest.com or call 941-778-6648.



greatest success was her "Unforgettable... with Love" album, originally made popular by her father Nat King Cole, which sold over seven million copies.

Tickets are available at www. manateeperformingartscenter. com or by calling the MPAC Box Office at (941) 748-5875 and which is located at 502 Third Avenue West in downtown Bradenton.

Art Exhibits

- Art Center Sarasota's Cycle 5 (to July 5) Gallery One will feature "Monumental," a group show featuring small-scale sculptures.
- In Gallery Two, local artist Keith Crowley will exhibit a recent series of meticulously layered, photo-based oil and watercolor paintings.
- Gallery Three will feature paintings and drawings by the Tampa-based artist Caitlin Albritton, whose work often explores gender issues and body politics.

Albritton's work was most recently featured in the SKYWAY exhibition at the Museum of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg, and in issue #130 of New American Painters.

- "Made Fresh," a members-only, all-media, all-subject, juried exhibition is in Gallery Four.
- Cycle 6 (July 18-August 23), in Gallery One, will feature Sarasota artist Judy Saltzman who will exhibit a recent series of her photography-based watercolor paintings.
- In Gallery Two, Brooklyn-based artist Kyle Petreycik will exhibit a series of sculptural combinations and internet-inspired, photocollages and videos.
- "Imprint," a summer invitational exhibition in Gallery Three, will feature regional, national, and international artists pushing the boundaries of contemporary printmaking.
- "Natural Selection," a

Permanent Collection on view through October 6. The exhibit explores the Tampa Museum of Art's holdings of 20th-century photography and highlights explorations in photography through darkroom effects, distinct studio practices, and unique compositions in the work of photographers such as Zeke Berman, Chuck Close, and Lucas Samaras.

Artists such as James Casebere, Robert Cumming, and Stephen Frailey create constructed environments, often blurring the boundaries of truth and fiction in their images. Several artists in Tableau and Transformation, including Eileen Cowin, Victor Burgin, and Cindy Sherman, reference art history as a means to explore identity, gender, and visual culture.

Tampa Museum of Art Cornelia Corbett Center, 120 W. Gasparilla Plaza, Tampa. Visit tampamuseum.org.

A Feast for the Eyes: European Masterpieces from the Grasset Collection" offers a glimpse of life in the 1600s and 1700s, along with many hidden meanings, in an exhibition of 40 paintings.

Dreamy landscapes and luscious still life paintings from one of the world's greatest private collections join together in this exhibit at the **Museum of Fine Arts**, St. Petersburg.

The exhibition features 40 of the finest Old Master paintings by artists from the Netherlands, Italy, Spain, and Germany—including Jan Brueghel the Elder and Canaletto, one of the greatest view painters of all time represented here with an iconic view of Venice. The works span from 1600 to 1750. The collection is on loan from the Grasset family of Spain, whose patriarch assembled this group of masterpieces. The St. Petersburg exhibition is the last time the works are ex-

market, along with a number of subtle "hidden" symbolic meanings to be discovered.

A Feast for the Eyes **runs to July 28** and <u>will not travel to</u>
<u>other venues</u>. The Museum of
Fine Arts is at 255 Beach Drive
NE in St. Petersburg. For more
information, visit mfastpete.org.

The Artists' Guild of Anna Maria Island will continue Art Walks during the summer months. The Art Walks take place on the second Friday of each month. The dates for the summer are: July 12, August 9, September 13, and October 11. Visit the gallery on the Art Walks and at other times at 5414 Marina Drive, Holmes Beach. The Art Walks run from at 5:30 to 7:30.

There will be themed windows for each month of the off-season: <u>July</u>: Three Cheers for the Red, White and Blue; <u>August</u>: Beach Blanket Bingo; <u>September</u>: Shower Power and <u>October</u>: Harvest.

- Avenue, Sarasota, has "Summer Showcase" which continues through September 30. This exhibit features 4 sculptors, 1 printmaker, 24 painters, 1 pastel artist and 1 photographer. This is a diverse award winning group from California to Sydney, Australia, Brooklyn, NY, Wisconsin, Missouri, Vero Beach and New Smyrna Beach, Florida, including nine of Sarasota's best. Info: 941-955-1315.
- The Patricia & Phillip Frost
 Art Museum FIU, part of Florida
 International University, has
 two shows running: CUT: Abstraction in the United States
 from the 1970s to the Present;
 Spheres of Meaning: An Exhibition of Artists' Books. They run
 through August 25.
- CUT: Abstraction in the United States from 1970s to the Present

out and about continued

& Phillip Frost Art.

The Museum at Florida International University was founded in 1977 and is the Smithsonian Affiliate in Miami. The museum's new lakeside building debuted in 2008, designed by Yann Weymouth (the chief of design on the I.M. Pei Grand Louvre Project). The Frost is located at 10975 SW 17 Street. More information at frost.fiu.edu or 305-348-2890.

Art at Art Ovation Hotel

▶ Art Ovation Hotel offers art exhibitions that are open to the public. Here's what's on exhibit now:

Honoring a Teacher: A Tribute to Leslie Lerner runs to October 2, 2019.

Leslie Lerner (1949-2005) began his artistic career in California in the 1960s, where he was influenced by San Francisco's pop culture Hollywood's stage sets. He became a sort of "visual writer" whose paintings depicted the tales of an imaginary voyage titled "My Life in France." His magnificent world was inhabited by his alter-egos "The Man with the Wooden Arm" and "The Poor Boy." Through his illustrated stories, he was able to transport the viewers to fantastic places and share with them a beautiful, dreamlike world.

The exhibition features paintings, drawings, and sculptures, as well as works by some of his former students whom, over the years, became distinguished artists in their own right including Michael Crabb, Tim Jaeger, Julie Kanapaux, Claudia Ryan, Nancy Turner, and Shawn Pettersen.

Michael Crabb's paintings strive to capture shapes and forms through a variety of mark making and texture within a strong composition. Tim Jaeger's works are gestural constructions inspired by Florida's symbols and imagery. Julie Kanapaux's unique fusion of graphics and fine art result in inspiring pieces that combine different physical spaces and experiences. Claudia Ryan's paintings are inspired by her own private world, while Nancy Turner's work stresses a critical view of women's experiences, notably discrimination and violence. Finally, Shawn Pettersen places animals in NASA-based photographs to suggest a relationship between the epic-yet-detached historical loss and contemporary displacement.

In 2005, Leslie Lerner passed away after a long illness. A Fine Arts faculty member for 15years at Ringling College of Art and Design, he taught and influenced many students who would go on to become professional artists. His work is in numerous museum collections including the Corcoran Museum of Art, Arkansas Arts Center, Oakland Museum, the Progressive Corporation, and

the Norton Museum of Art, and continues to be shown in museum and gallery exhibitions.

Art Ovation Hotel is located at 1255 North Palm Avenue, Sarasota. Info: 941-316-0808.

At The Ringling

▶ Interpolations: Artworks from The Ringling and Monda Collections runs to September 8, 2019. This exhibition, presented inside the Arthur F. Searing Wing in the Museum of Art, brings together artworks from The Ringling's permanent collection of modern and contemporary art and selections from Keith D. and Linda L. Monda's collection.

In spring 2018, the Museum added to its grounds Beverly Pepper's Curvae in Curvae (2012), the lyrical sculpture in Corten steel, which is a part of four promised gifts from the Monda family. The other three promised gifts are compelling works by artists Teo González, Yayoi Kusama, and Richard Serra. These gifts significantly enrich The Ringling's holdings of works by important artists working today, some new to the collection. The artworks enable the Museum to present a broader, and more complex history of late twentieth- and early twenty-first-century art. These new promised gifts will be featured along with other selections from Monda's collection and key works from the Ringling's own growing collection of modern and contemporary art.

The Museum also has Natasha Mazurka: Order Systems runs to September 29, 2019. Order Systems, the first US solo museum exhibition by Natasha Mazurka, debuts a new body of paintings, embossings, and site-specific installations using textured layers of colored vinyl. Mazurka's work centers on the communicative potential of pattern by sampling and combining visual references from a spectrum of disciplines, including architecture and biology, data analytics, and instructional code.

The resulting visual syntax seen in her work stems from intense research looking into different pattern languages and ways they are designed to lend order to our experiences.

Friday Fest at the Van Wezel Continues

▶ Friday Fest is The Van Wezel's free outdoor summertime concert series. The events run from 5-9 p.m. and are located on the bayside lawn of the Van Wezel. Each event will feature food trucks, beverage vendors and more.

■ **Rebel Heart** returns to Friday Fest at the Van Wezel with popular country songs,

mixed with a dose of hits from pop, rock, dance and the blues. The 5-piece band will put on a country rock act on **Friday, July 19**.

- Reverend Barry & The Funk return to the Friday Fest stage on Friday, August 16. Featuring 3 Grammy-nominated musicians, this 8-piece band plays a high-energy set of originals and covers of funk and soul music including Earth, Wind & Fire, Commodores, Kool & the Gang and Prince.
- Rounding out Friday Fest 2019 is the high-energy band, Ari and the Alibis. Infusing funk, jazz and samba with blues, soul and rock, this 5-piece group has earned two Grammy nods (Best Rock Song and Best Rock Performance) and an award for "Best Original Song by a Local Group" in the Bradenton Times "Best of the Bay". He performs on Friday, September 20 at Friday Fest.

Blankets and lawn chairs are welcome at all Friday Fest events, but outside food and drink, including coolers, are prohibited. For additional information, visit VanWezel.org.

Theatre

♦ Florida Studio Theatre has: Mainstage:

- **■** Ethel Waters: His Eye is on the Sparrow - through August 4 in the Keating Theatre. This musical biography celebrates the life of actress and singer Ethel Waters. From abject poverty to Broadway and Hollywood stardom, Ethel Waters crossed racial barriers to become a legend. No matter what challenges she faced, music gave Waters strength, solace, and success. This is her remarkable story, filled with the greatest hits of a lifetime, including "Stormy Weather," "Sweet Georgia Brown," "This Joint is Jumpin," and "Am I Blue?"
- The Cottage Runs July
 31-August 18 in the Gompertz
 Theatre. REGIONAL PREMIERE. Set in the English
 countryside in 1923, this sexy
 comedy of love and betrayal
 unfolds when Sylvia Van Kipness decides to expose her secret love affair to her husband.
 The true meanings of love and
 marriage are called into question as a surprising, hilarious
 web of secrets unravels in this
 ridiculous—potentially murderous—romantic comedy.

Cabaret:

■ Come Together: When the 60s Met the 70s. Runs through July 21 in the Court Cabaret. With music made famous by Cher, The Beatles, Simon & Garfunkel, and more, this rockin' revue explores the changing musical land-scape from 1965-1975. Come

Together explores the musical soundtrack of one of the most exciting, controversial, and impactful decades our country has ever seen. Featuring hits like "Dream a Little Dream of Me," "Come Together," and "Killing Me Softly."

■ The Swingaroos: Hollywood Serenade runs July 23-August 30 in the Court Cabaret. Back by popular demand, The Swingaroos return to FST with a brand new show. Inspired by the Golden Age of Hollywood, this jazzy music revue pays tribute to such icons as Frank Sinatra, Cab Calloway, and Fred Astaire. Travel back in time this summer to the '30s and '40s when big bands and swing dancing were all the rage. Featuring songs like "At Last," "The Joint is Really Jumpin' Down at Carnegie Hall,' and "Hooray for Hollywood."

Tickets can be purchased at the FST Box Office, by calling 366-9000 or at FloridaStudio-Theatre.org.

Urbanite Theatre has:

■ Scorch by Stacey Gregg; directed by Summer Wallace and starring Amber McNew. The show runs July 26-August 25. For Kes, falling in love for the first time happened online. But the exhilarating fantasy quickly turns into a terrifying reality when he's accused of criminal conduct. Inspired by real cases of 'gender fraud,' Scorch is a touching and provocative story of love though the eyes of a gender-curious teen.

Urbanite is at 1487 2nd Street, Sarasota. Tickets: www.urbanite theatre.com/season.

The Players of Sarasota's Summer Sizzler has:

- SHOUT! The Mod Musical.
 Created by Phillip George and
 David Lowenstein, the show
 runs July 10-21. With its blend
 of hip-swiveling hits, eye-popping fashions and outrageous
 dance moves, SHOUT! The
 MOD Musical takes audiences
 back to the music, style and
 freedom of the 1960s with classic tunes such as "To Sir with
 Love," "Downtown," "Son of a
 Preacher Man" and "Goldfinger."
- The Odd Couple by Neil Simon is next and runs August 14-25. Oscar and Felix are making their way to The Players stage. No other American playwright has made as many people laugh as Neil Simon. Considered to be his very best play, come see our salute to an absolute American treasure.
- Backstage at The Players allows you to witness the birth of a brand new play as regional playwrights compete each night to have their play produced at The Players the following season. Each night a new play just waiting to be born.

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■ Wonder of Our Stage by Monica Cross runs July 23-27 at 7:30 pm; July 28 at 2 pm. This brand new play is a thrilling look at the Elizabethan era and the idea that William Shakespeare was actually an automaton that was built and created to please the queen.

The Players are at 838 N Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. (941) 365-2494.

▶ Manatee Performing Arts Center has The Music Man on July 19 at 7 p.m. There's trouble in River City when Herald Hill, a fast-talking, traveling salesman, arrives and cons the town to purchase uniforms and musical instruments from him. Librarian Marion Paroo suspects he's a fraud, Herald begins to develop feelings for her, and weighs the difficult decision to skip town with his profits. A funny, wicked, romantic and touching family-friendly musical is a Broadway Bootcamp production.

Tickets can be purchased at the Box Office at Manatee Performing Arts Center, 502 Third Avenue W, Bradenton, or by calling 941-748-5875, or at www.ManateePerformingArtsCenter.com.

At McCurdy's

Pat Godwin appears July 10-14 — Singer, songwriter, comedian Pat Godwin has appeared on every top morning, worked for 6 years as a part of Philadelphia's Morning Zoo, 3 years for The Bob & Tom Show, and was a frequent guest and contributor to both Howard Stern's radio and TV shows.

■ April Macie appears July 31-August 4 — Macie was a finalist on NBC's Last Comic Standing in 2006, has appeared on E! Entertainment, Fuel TV, HSN, Sirius and XM Radio, Bob & Tom and Access Hollywood, and was labeled an "emerging talent to watch" by the Hollywood Reporter at the Just for Laughs Comedy Festival.

April is a regular guest on the Howard Stern show, where she was voted the "Funniest and Hottest" comedian in America. She was in the docu mentary, "I Am Comic" which premiered at the Slamdance Film Festival and is currently airing on Showtime and will also be appearing on Showtime in the stand-up special "Vegas Is My Oyster".

Box Office: (941) 925-3869. They're located at 1923 Ringling Blvd., Sarasota.

Embracing Our Differences

▶ Embracing Our Differences invites artists and writers to submit art and inspirational statements for its 17th annual outdoor art exhibit celebrating diversity. The work of 50 artists,

poets and writers will be selected for the exhibit, which opens January 20, 2020, in Sarasota's Bayfront Park. Final selections, based on artistic excellence and originality reflecting the theme, "enriching lives through diversity," will be made by a panel of professional artists, curators and arts educators.

The artwork will also be evaluated on how effectively it will read when enlarged to the exhibit's billboard-size dimensions of 16 x 12.5 feet. Quotations must be 20 words or less. There is no submission fee or limit on the number of entries. Submissions must be submitted online or received no later than October 8, 2019. Artists and writers can submit at: www.embracingourdifferences. org. For more information, call 941-404-5710 or visit www.embracingourdifferences.org.

Participation is open to everyone, including professional and amateur artists, writers, photographers, teachers and students.

A total of \$4,000 in cash awards will be presented in the form of four separate awards; \$1,000 each for "Best-in-Show Adult;" "Best-in-Show Student;" and the "People's Choice." Both of the "Best-in-Show" awards will be granted by a 25-member Art Task Force; the "People's Choice" award will be determined by visitors to the 2020 exhibit. A \$1,000 cash award will also be presented to the best original quotation.

Embracing Our Differences' annual outdoor exhibits are the heart of a year-round program of activities designed to use art as a catalyst to create awareness and promote diversity.

At The Bishop

National Geographic Photo Ark is at the Bishop. National Geographic photographer Joel Sartore's multi-decade quest to draw attention to the plight of the world's animal species and inspire their conservation through the National Geographic Photo Ark has taken him to zoos and sanctuaries all over the world to capture images of animals.

any snapshots; these stunningly beautiful portraits are intimate and moving -- designed to serve as an important record of each animal's existence and a powerful testament to the importance of saving them. This is a showcase of more than 50 images of the world-renowned Sartore's most compelling works. The extraordinary portraits have captured the imagination of people around the world and have even been projected on the Empire State Building and St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The exhibition, which is included in the price of admission, will be open through July 14.

■ The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature has a special exhibition, Florida Feathers: Birds in Peril, which highlights the plight many of Florida's native bird species face through the breathtaking images captured by photographer Grant Jefferies.

Florida's native birds offer a beautiful array of color and fascination. Yet for many species, survival is a delicate balance between nature's habitat and our constant human change.

Nature photographer Grant Jefferies, a fourth generation Manatee County native, is dedicated to conserving and documenting Florida's wildlife and landscapes through his photography, research and photo lessons. Jefferies, who grew up in Palmetto and enjoyed a successful career as a photojournalist at the Bradenton Herald, is now teaching photography and has turned his focus to nature photography.

Florida Feathers: Birds in Peril focuses on some of the most precious jewels that our paradise has to offer: strikingly pink roseate spoonbills, fierce ospreys and eagles, majestic herons and skittering shorebirds. As these Florida favorites struggle to survive loss of habitat and are listed as threatened and endangered species, Jefferies brings them to life through the beauty of his images. Florida Feathers: Birds in Peril runs through Aug. 25.

The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature (formerly the South Florida Museum) is located at 201 10th St. West Bradenton. Visit www.Bishop Science.org for hours, info and admission details or call 941-746-4131. The Bishop Museum of Science and Nature.

Venice Events

Discover Venice Train Depot's rich history with a train depot tour. Stroll through Rollins W. Coakley Railroad Park, featuring scenic walkways, picnic tables, and a restored caboose. Volunteer docents from Venice Area Historical Society provide free docent-led tours of the historic Venice Train Depot and its surrounding campus. The length of tours can vary based on visitors needs. Self-guided tours are also offered. Learn about the Venice Train Depot from panel displays that illustrate key events in Venice's history and the history of the Train Depot in the Depot's two waiting rooms.

In the mid-1920s, the Venice train station was the arrival point for people interested in purchasing property. During World War II, trains delivered personnel, vehicles, construction materials, and supplies to maintain the Venice Army Air Base. From 1960 to 1991, the Ringling Bros. & Barnum and Bailey Circus made its winter home in Venice. The circus arrived by train and left weeks later for circus performances

around the country. Passenger service ended in 1971.

The Venice Train Depot is open on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. year-round. The last docent-led tour begins at 12:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The caboose is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sat. 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. year round Mon., Wed., & Fri. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. 303 E. Venice Ave., Venice. Info: 941-412-0151.

- Christmas in July is on July 19 starting at 9 a.m. at Venice's Main Street. Venice Forget your stresses and get in the spirit at the Downtown Venice "Christmas in July." You can catch Santa and Mrs. Claus riding the trolley and visiting area shops. Ride the trolley on both days from 11am to 4pm. They'll be raffling off 4 large gift baskets. Pick up your free raffle tickets at many of the participating downtown businesses. The raffle will be done on Tuesday, July 23 and winners will be contacted. For more information, visit: www.visitvenicefl.org.
- Venice Farmer's Market runs 8-noon every Saturday at City Hall. Sample local delicacies and take in some artwork. A variety of other ready-to-eat foods are available at the more than 50 stands featuring vibrantly colored baskets of organic and farm-to-table fresh produce from regional farms, as well as plenty of handmade arts and crafts. Info: 941-445-9209 or visit TheVeniceFarmersMarket.org.

For more information on events in Venice, visit www.visitvenicefl.org/calendar or call 941-484-6722. **©**

west coast WOMAN

est Coast Woman in Saraso ta is a monthly publication on the west coast of Florida. We have been publishing since 1989 and cover the two-county area that includes Sarasota, Bradenton, Venice, Lakewood Ranch, Siesta Key, Longboat Key, St. Armands and Anna Maria Island. We are ad-supported so that means our publication is FREE and is located at over 600 quality locations from doctor's offices to fitness centers to health food stores. In addition, we are in newspaper boxes in prime locations such as post offices and busy streets.

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