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The Women of Los Angeles Beer, Wine, Spirits, and Bars

By Hope Ewing

Women's History Month is still going strong, threatening to run right into April. Los Angeles is not only one of the best places in the country to get a drink, but is also a wellspring of women in the booze business. In *Movers & Shakers: Women Making Waves in Spirits, Beer, and Wine*, I interviewed women around the country who have built careers in the beverage industries, but came back time and again to Los Angeles, where the talent runs deep. The following are a few of L.A.'s finest in the beer, wine, spirits, and bar worlds that are shaking things up and making a better culture (along with fantastic drinks).



Christine Wiseman - Broken Shaker

Broken Shaker at the Freehand Hotel in Downtown L.A. (416 W. 8th St., Los Angeles 90014) is awash with personality. It's apparent in the eclectic patio furniture, the playful drinkware, and most notably Bar Director **Christine Wiseman**. Wiseman's creativity and sense of fun infuse the cocktail menus here and at previous projects—she was part of the opening crew at Break Room 86 and her resume is a greatest hits list of L.A. cocktail bars. It is the fun and a little kitsch—that makes this quite elevated cocktail program right at home next to the pool on the Freehand's rooftop. Despite Wiseman's publicly professed love of shooters, there are flavors and presentations here for even the snobbiest among us.