



Bedford • Barrow • Commerce

Block Association
46 Barrow Street • New York, NY 10014

Annual Membership is still (only) \$25;
For information,
Please call 212.366.1451
bbcblockassociation.org.

BBC March 2016 NEWS AND VIEWS

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 2, 7:00pm at the Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow Street). Grove Street President and BBC member **Eric Weigle** will show his documentary "Greenwich Village: A World Apart" A twenty minute film which won the first ever Greenwich Village Film Festival. It stars 18 theater legends including **Elizabeth Ashley, Eva Marie Saint, Ben Gazzara**, and 15 more who either lived or worked in Greenwich Village.. Come and join Eric and Associate Producer, **Michael Anastasio** for a screening and conversation about this gem of a film. Refreshments at 6:30pm.



BBC Membership

BBC President Kathy Donaldson reports that over 210 have already rejoined the Bedford Barrow Commerce Block Association. Thanks to all who have re-upped. You will find your new membership card in this mailing. Those of you who have not rejoined will find a return envelope for you to send in your payment. Be sure to make your checks payable to BBC Membership. You can also go to www.bbcblockassociation.org and click on join. Either way, please do remember those trees! You'll feel great-guaranteed!!

Dale Belli writes the BBC: "Since its inception in 1997,

the BBC has been a part of The Urban Life Source Connection and their Christmas project. This year we were able to give out 1,885 wrapped Christmas gifts and 115 Christmas stockings filled with toiletries. We also held seventeen Christmas parties with complete lunches and went room to room and bed to bed caroling and distributing gifts at three other hospitals. Thank you, BBCers, for participating by donating gifts at the Holiday Party. We wrapped and gave away every one of them." And thank YOU, Dale, for YOUR generosity, and commitment to such a worthy cause.



Chemo Comfort, a non-profit all volunteer organization, founded by BBCer **Anne Marie Paolucci** needs volunteers! Chemo Comfort helps cancer patients undergoing chemotherapy by providing them with kits of products to manage the side effects of treatment. Approximately 75% of kits distributed annually are donated. Chemo Comfort needs volunteers for office work (our office is at 154 Christopher St, in the Archive building), social media and on our PR/Events committee (committee is currently working on our upcoming Confections for Comfort and Cocktails for Comfort events). We also need help getting out a mailing on Saturday, April 16 and gift wrapping at the Union Square Barnes & Noble on Friday, May 6. If you are interested, please e-mail us at volunteer@chemocomfort.org.

Big Apple Beautifiers Street Cleaning: Come join neighbors on March 20 at Hakata Tonton Restaurant on 61 Grove Street: 9am-11:45am Raise your awareness of the environment by practicing 4 Rs (Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) so that you can be a Green Consumer. If you choose to



share in a special lunch afterwards, there is a \$10 fee.

NABE NOTES

The Taste of Greenwich House, Monday, March 14, at The Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, between Sixth and Avenh Aves. Each year Greenwich House partners with a select group of top tier New York City restaurants for the Taste of Greenwich House, Greenwich House's premier fundraiser, featuring open bar, silent auction, photo booth, live music from JD Parran and Dance Clarinets, and dancing with featured dancers From Baylov Dance. At Taste, restaurants dish out menu samplings to 600 foodies, restaurant scene regulars and community mover and shakers as they learn about the crucial community services Greenwich House provides. For information re tickets, go to www.greenwichhouse.org

Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow St.) presents *Uncharted 2016*, a concert series featuring high-profile local artists debuting first-time performances of new work or new collaborations. The Uncharted concert season covers a broad selection of performative genres, from jazz to traditional folk, electronic to classical, cabaret to tap dance. Performances for Uncharted will take place every Thursday from March 24 to May 12.

The Uncharted series was founded as a safe space for artists to take risks," says series curator **Jennie Wasserman**, formerly of SFJAZZ, Jazz at Lincoln Center, Joe's Pub and Carnegie Hall. "Last season's collection of sold-out concerts proved that audiences are always excited to hear something new from their favorite performers. That success has emboldened us to vary our lineup even further. Greenwich Village is one of America's oldest and most successful social melting pots; reflecting the neighborhood's artistic excellence and diversity is one of the goals of our programming."

Performances start at 8:00 pm. Concerts are staged at Greenwich House Music School under the chandeliers of its Renee Weiler Concert Hall, an intimate 100-capacity room featuring excellent acoustics, a welcoming neighborhood vibe and a pair of Steinway grand pianos. All shows are general admission and open to all ages. Complimentary beer and wine is served prior to and during all concerts.



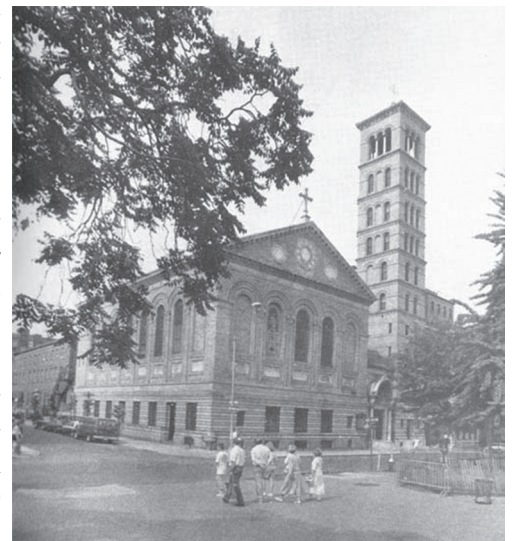
Thursday, March 24, 8:00 pm. **Eli Smith** with Special Guests. *Good News: A Town Crier's Hootenanny* - Bandleader and Brooklyn Folk founder Eli Smith invites an array of musical friends to create and present traditionally composed ballads on contemporary subjects.

Thursday, March 31, 8:00 pm. **Steven Bernstein** and Special Guests **Steve Cardenas, David Tronzo** and more TBA *Strange Quartet: One Trumpet and Three Guitars* - Acclaimed trumpeter/bandleader/composer Bernstein performs a unique set as the single brass instrument among a trio of famed guitarists.



Cherry Lane Theatre (38 Commerce Street) presents its award-winning festival of new plays Mentor Project 2016: Performances are Feb 24-Mar 5 (*The Surgeon and Her Daughters*), Mar 23-Apr 2 (*The Convent of Pleasure*), Apr 13-23 (*Pass Over*). See all 3 plays for \$40.50 (reg \$48) with a neighbor discount on a festival pass! Use code NEIGHBOR online: www.cherrylanetheatre.org or by ovationtix 866-811-4111. Single tickets \$19.

West Village Chorale Winter Concert, Sunday, March 6@ 6:00pm Judson Memorial Church- *Oh, Freedom! Oh Freedom!* offers a choral tapestry exploring the glorious triumph of peoples over social and political oppression and condemnation. The centerpiece of the concert will be the premiere choral performance of **David Hurd's In Honor of Martin**-with the composer in attendance. Tickets (\$25 general admission/\$10 students) are available online www.westvillagechorale.org. You may also purchase through a Chorale member, or at the door, but we strongly recommend buying online in advance.



The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation (GVSHP) announces its March 2016 programs: *The Social Geography of Village Housing in the Sixties: Westbeth, Private Developers and Public Housing for Artists*: A lecture with **Jeffrey Trask**. Co-Sponsored by Village Alliance and Westbeth Artists Residence Council Thursday, March 3, 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Free; reservations required www.gvshp.org Westbeth Community Room, 155 Bank Street, between West Street and Washington Street. [This venue is wheelchair accessible.] Jeffrey Trask, Assistant Professor of History, Georgia State University, looks back at the west Village in the 1960s to ask how the once disinvested waterfront neighborhood of run-down piers, abandoned warehouses and empty storefronts developed into the gentrified landscape of luxury lofts, architect-branded buildings, and



fashionable bars, restaurants and boutiques of today. Trask looks at various proposals for housing along the waterfront, and explains how a fairly radical idea at the time of converting factories into artist lofts sparked a revolution in ideas about the arts, urban planning and private real estate development.

Fiery Ladies: Radical Women of the Lower East Side:

A panel discussion with **Elissa Sampson, Joyce Mendelsohn, and Kate Pastor** Celebrating Women's History Month: Co-Sponsored by Lower East Side Jewish Conservancy. Tuesday, March 15, 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. Free; reservations required www.gvshp.org. Sixth Street Community Center, 638 East 6th Street, between Avenue B and Avenue C. This venue is wheelchair accessible.] The lives and

Emma Goldman



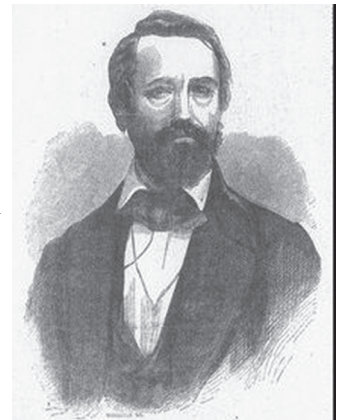
actions of **Lillian Wald, Emma Goldman, Rose Pastor Stokes, Clara Lemlich**, and others will be explored in this lively panel discussion, moderated by **Laurie Tobias Cohen**, Executive Director of the Lower East Side Jewish Conservancy. Issues such as women's voting and reproductive rights, workers' rights and the early labor movement, settlement houses, and political activism will be examined.

Contemporary Writers on a Lost Greenwich Village: A discussion with authors **Vivian Gornick and Sarah Schulman**: Thursday, March 24, 6:30 – 8:00 pm. Free; reservations required www.gvshp.org Jefferson Market Library, Sixth Avenue at 10th Street [This venue is wheelchair accessible.] Chroniclers of an ever-changing New York City, Vivian Gornick (*The Odd Woman and the City*) and Sarah Schulman (*The Gentrification of the Mind*) join for a conversation on writing and reading New York on the occasion of the release of Schulman's new novel, *The Cosmopolitans*.

Butchery on Bond Street. A lecture and slide-show with author **Benjamin Feldman**: Co-Sponsored by Merchant's House Museum: Wednesday, March 30, 6:30 – 8:00 P.M. Free; reservations required www.gvshp.org Hudson Park Library, 66 Leroy Street, between Hudson Street and Seventh Avenue South. [This venue is NOT wheelchair accessible.] On the morning

of January 31, 1857, Harvey Burdell's body was found on the floor of his dentistry office in his home at 31 Bond Street. His widowed ex-lover (and landlady) was accused of his murder in a case that filled the headlines. Emma Cunningham's desperate attempts to force the playboy bachelor to marry her and provide a home for her and her five children captured the attention of New Yorkers and people across America. The murder of an upper-middle class professional in his own home, coupled with the accused murderess' efforts to wreak vengeance form a tale that was infamous in its day, but now long forgotten. **Gotham Center for New York City History:** All events are free and open to the public. Seating, however, is "first come, first served." All events take place at The Graduate Center, City University of New York, 365 Fifth Avenue, between 34th and 35th St. RSVP at 212-817-8471. or visit www.gothamcenter.org

Built with Faith: Italian American Imagination and Catholic Material Culture in New York City: March 8, 2016, 6:30-8 pm. Over the last 130 years, Italian



American Catholics in New York City have developed a repertoire of sacred spaces in their homes and neighborhoods. These ethnic traditions have been neglected by all but a few scholars. **Joseph Sciorra** spent thirty-five years interviewing these immigrant and U.S.-born Catholics and researching their community art forms. The result, *Built with Faith* offers a place-centric, ethnographic study of religious material culture, written in an accessible style that will appeal to general readers and scholars alike. It is a unique study that explores the question of how value and meaning are produced at the level of everyday life.

Resources & Information

The IFC Cinema at 323 Sixth Avenue is proposing to nearly double the size of its current facility. The multiplex style expansion requires building on two vacant lots on Cornelia Street. IFC has been waging a public relations campaign to persuade residents and businesses that its plans will not negatively impact them, but neighbors are not buying their arguments. Since IFC's plans include emergency exits on to Cornelia, patrons will use these exits as a means of egress. Residents also worry about the additional trash and garbage that the new venue will create and how IFC plans to deal with this issue.

On January 14 at approximately 6:20 pm two men robbed **Jonty Jacobs**, a South African beef store located at 114 Christopher Street. The pair claimed to have a gun and threatened a store employee. They got away with \$200 and a Dell laptop and are still at large.

Among new store openings, Orogold, a company selling \$4,000 creams made of real gold will open a store at 333 Bleecker Street. They have more than 200 stores worldwide and products include a \$498 neck lift treatment, a \$2,500 caviar and an \$8,000 Cleopatra regimen.

Another interesting new shop — and more in most people's price range — the Rice Creame Shoppe will open at 195 Bleecker Street just off Sixth Avenue. The store features flavored varieties of rice pudding along with gluten free low fat vegan options.

On February 23, 2016 the NYC Landmarks Preservation Commission to recommend 57 Sullivan

Street for landmark designation as part of its "Backlog Initiative". This 1816 federal-style house was first considered for landmark designation in 1970.

Sarah Jessica Parker and Matthew Broderick have indeed inked a deal for two townhouses on West 11th Street. It seems that Parker and Broderick are hopping on the megamansion bandwagon with plans to combine the townhouses at 273 and 275 West 11th Street into a 50-foot-wide 13,900-square-foot mansion. Parker and Broderick were seen eyeing the townhouses, which were put on the market by the nonprofit United Methodist Women in September with Eastern Consolidated for \$44 million. A rep for Eastern Consolidated confirmed that the listing has gone into contract at its most recent ask of \$35 million.

A good-government group is calling on city watchdogs to investigate **Mayor de Blasio** and political nonprofits he has set up like Campaign for One New York which alone had taken in \$3.87 million as of last September—that rake in millions, push his political projects, and pay his friends, unfettered by campaign finance restrictions. Common Cause New York says de Blasio's "unprecedented use" of nonprofits to raise money "has spawned a shadow government. Recently he created the United for Affordable NYC, in part with money from the former group, to push his controversial affordable housing plan. Both organizations run on money from big donors including developers, unions, taxi medallion kingpins, and contractors. Donations to the Campaign for New York have included \$350,000 from the American Federation of Teachers, which was negotiating a contract with the city, and \$100,000 from the developer Two Trees Management Company.



A 1910 photo of Hudson Street between Barrow and Grove Streets.