



Bedford • Barrow • Commerce

Block Association
46 Barrow Street • New York, NY 10014

Annual Membership is still (only) \$20;
For information,
Please call 212.366.1451.

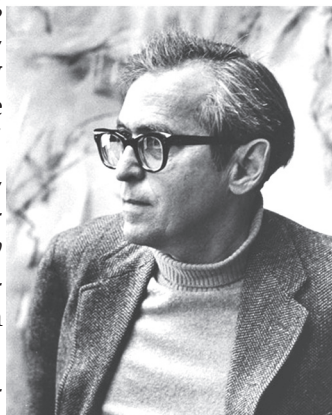
OCTOBER, 2014 BBC NEWS AND VIEWS

PLEASE NOTE: There will be no October meeting

The BBC thanks good neighbor Caliente Cab Company for generously hosting, yet again, a cocktail party on Monday, September 29, at which charitable organizations received their contributions (totaling \$5,000 raised through Ye Olde Village Fair).

The following is a list of organizations that received charitable contributions from the BBC Block Association this year: **Cherry Lane Theatre; Greenwich House-Caring Community, Greenwich House Music School; Greenwich House Pottery; Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation; Hudson Park Library; Jefferson Market Garden; Shadybrook Stray Animal Fund; St. Luke's Saturday Night Supper; St. Joseph's Soup Kitchen; Village Care Foundation; Visiting Neighbors; Washington Square Association; West Village Chorale.**

At the next BBC Meeting (November 12), at 7:00 PM, BBCer (and producer) **Patsy Powers** will screen "Some Things Need To Be Said," a documentary of the late, great painter (and our neighbor!) **Jack Levine**. *The New York Times*, in its 2010 obituary of Levine, described him thusly: "Jack Levine [was] an unrepentant and much-



admired realist artist whose crowded history paintings skewered plutocrats, crooked politicians and human folly. . . ." Join us at 6:30PM for refreshments, then stay to watch this terrific film.

2014 BBC Holiday Party

This year's BBC Holiday Party (it's never too early to mark your calendars to make sure you're in town for the best holiday party for kids and grown-ups, not just in the Village, but in all of New York City!) is set for Saturday, December 13 at Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow St.) 6-9 PM. So save that date!

The Bedford Downing Block Association will carry on their unique tradition—a Fall sidewalk sale—on October 4, 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, with proceeds going to the ACE/SoHo partnership and neighborhood beautification. For information about becoming a vendor (crafters of quality jewelry and pottery, vendors of antiques and collectibles) email elizabethmann.livvie@gmail.com. The sale, which is open to the public, will be held on Downing Street between Sixth Avenue and Bedford Street. No rain date. Whether buying or selling, BBCers are always welcome!

NABE NOTES

Join us for Viva Vino—An Evening of Wine and Opera To Benefit the West Village Chorale on Thursday, October 30, 2014 – 6:30PM at Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Square South (at Thompson Street).

What goes with Chianti? Verdi, of course! Prosecco? Puccini! A French Sancerre? Bizet! Massenet! Gewürztraminer and Mozart! California Cab and Copeland! The pairing possibilities are endless (and fun)! Mark your calendars and plan to join us at Judson for a festive evening of wine, cheese, and opera pairings, with arias performed by some of the city's most talented artists. All proceeds benefit the West Village

Chorale, a community choir that, over the last four decades, has become a city institution. For tickets and more information, please call WVC at 212.517.1776; 917.334.0711; or contact at westvillagechorale@gmail.com, www.westvillagechorale.org.

Join us in celebrating the Arts at Greenwich House on Tuesday, October 28, 2014 at Battery Gardens, 1 Battery Place, New York, NY 10004. Cocktail Reception 6:00 - 7:00 PM; Dinner and Awards Ceremony 7:00 - 9:30 PM. Honoring: **Aura Levitas, George A. Davidson and Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP** for their continued dedication to the arts and the Greenwich House community. (Proceeds support Greenwich House Arts: Pottery, Music, Senior Centers, After-School and Summer Camp.) For tickets and more information, please go to www.greenwichhouse.org. ght to Remember

On October 6, the **Cherry Lane Theatre** will celebrate 90 years of theater, serving artists and audiences, by honoring the playwrights and performances that helped to build our past, present, and future. COME CELEBRATE with **F. Murray Abraham, Billie Allen, Lewis Black, Lynn Cohen, Kia Corthron, Gretchen Cryer, Tyne Daly, Crystal Dickinson, Anton Dudley, Charles Fuller, Katori Hall, Dulé Hill, Israel Horowitz, Marin Ireland, Judith Ivey, Rajiv Joseph, Richard Kind, Mark Linn-Baker, David McElwee, Marsha Norman, Kevin O'Rourke, Lisa Peterson, Tonya Pinkins, Joe Pintauro, Bill Pullman, Jay O. Sanders, Mary Testa, Adriana Trigiani, Alfred Uhry, Jean-Claude van Itallie, Matt Williams.**

VISIONARY AWARD Recipients: **Estelle Parsons**, Academy Award-winning, Tony-nominated actress and Cherry Lane alum ('62) and **David and Elizabeth McFadzean**, Artists, educators, award-winning film and television producer and lead supporters of Cherry Lane Theatre and the Mentor Project for two decades. For more info and tickets please call Jaime Norwood, Development Director: **212-989-2020 x 26.**



The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation (GVSHIP) announces its October 2014 programs: OMG!: *Churches and Synagogues of Greenwich Village: Shrine Church of St. Anthony of Padua*: A lecture by **Fa-**

ther Joseph Lorenzo, O.F.M. Thursday, September 25, 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Free; reservations required. Shrine Church of St. Anthony of Padua, 154 Sullivan Street (corner of West Houston Street). To register, please call **(212) 475-9585 X35 or rsvp@gvshp.org.**

Tompkins Square Park: From Bouwerie to Greenmarket: A pop-up exhibit. Sunday, September 28 and Sunday, October 2, 11:00 AM - 4:00 PM. Tompkins Square Park Greenmarket, at Avenue A and East 7th Street; Free.

My Great Great Aunt Rose of the Lower East Side: A Family Story by **Kate Pastor.** Thursday, October 2. 6:30 - 8:00 P.M. Free; reservations required. Jefferson Market Library, Sixth Avenue at West 10th Street. To register, please call **(212) 475-9585 X35 or rsvp@gvshp.org.**

Greenmarkets: A presentation by **Barry Benepe.** Tuesday, October 7, 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Free; reservations required. Church of St. Brigid, Avenue B at East 8th Street. To register, please call **(212) 475-9585 X35 or rsvp@gvshp.org.**

Footprints in New York: with authors **James and Michelle Nevius.** Monday, October 13, 6:30 - 8:00 PM. Free; reservations required. Washington Square Institute, 41 East 11th Street between Broadway and University Place. To register, please call **(212) 475-9585 X35 or rsvp@gvshp.org.**

Neighborhood Notes & Notables



The word is that **Joel and Ethan Coen**, known informally as the Coen brothers, have purchase the Quad Movie Theater on West 13th Street. Although the ultimate plans for the movie venue are unknown, an extensive renovation is reportedly being planned. Their films include *Blood Simple* (1984), *Barton Fink* (1991), *Fargo* (1996), *The Big Lebowski* (1998), *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (2000), *No Country for Old Men* (2007), *A Serious Man* (2009), *Burn After Reading* (2008), *True Grit* (2010), and *Inside Llewyn Davis* (2013).

On September 29, Three Lives Bookstore presented a

reading by **Damon Galgut** from his new novel, *Arctic Summer*. In his fictional biography of the novelist **E. M. Forster**, Damon Galgut reveals the renowned writer's creative process and his struggles with his sexual desires. From India to Egypt to England, Galgut traces the life of Forster and the relationships — from the poet **C.P. Cavafy** to an Egyptian tram conductor — that informed his life and work. Damon Galgut is the author of the Commonwealth Writers Prize winning novel, *The Good Doctor*, and the Man Booker Prize shortlisted novel, *In a Strange Room*. He lives in Cape Town, South Africa.



Promises! Promises! Neighbors of Claudette (24 Fifth Avenue) are fighting its push to get a sidewalk café permit — saying the eatery's owners promised not to apply for one when it opened last year. Tenants of a condo across the street are angry the proprietor, **Carlos Suarez**, broke his promise to keep the sidewalk clear — instead successfully petitioning the Department of Consumer Affairs for a permit.

In 2013, Suarez signed a list of stipulations that included “there is no sidewalk cafe (current enclosed sidewalk cafe will be removed)” and “the applicant agreed to... not use any backyard garden space or sidewalk cafe,” according to Community Board 2's Oct. 16, 2013 letter to the State Liquor Authority supporting the restaurant's application to serve alcohol.

Less than a year later, Claudette applied to the Department of Consumer Affairs asking for a unenclosed sidewalk cafe permit. The DCA approved the permit on July 2. They said their decision was based on information provided by the Department of City Planning, which convinced them the enclosed sidewalk's grandfathered status would apply to an unenclosed sidewalk café at that location.

DCA did not say whether Claudette's owners told them the restaurant's liquor license was conditional on not having outdoor seating. Councilmember Rosie Mendez said she asked the restaurant's owner if he had told them and he told her that he had not before applying for the sidewalk café permit. Reportedly, the 25 Fifth Avenue Condominiums board is in talks with the tenants of 33 Fifth Avenue; they are “considering all options, including taking appropriate legal action.”

from DNAinfo

Resources & Information

Theater Mitu and the Rattlestick Playwright's Theater (227 Waverly Place) presents *Juarez, A Documentary Mythology*, directed by **Ruben Polando** thru October 5. More than two years in development. Over 200 hours of interview footage. Theater Mitu creates an artful portrait of a community in crisis and transformation. Gangs, cartels, corruption, NAFTA, femicide, the War on Drugs, fear, familial honor, mythology and hope all appear in stories collected from parents, politicians, artists, activists, factory workers, journalists, professors and more. Tickets can be bought (\$25 or \$10 for those under 30) online (<http://www.rattlestick.org/buy-tickets>) or by calling 1-866-811-4111.

Councilmember **Corey Johnson** will hold a town meeting on October 9, 2014, 6:30- 8:30 PM, High School for Fashion Industries Auditorium (225 W. 24th Street) to discuss the affordable housing crisis. Panelists include **Vicki Been**, Commissioner Housing Preservation and Development; **Sarah Desmond**, Executive Director, Housing Conservation Coordinator: **Joe Restuccia**, Executive Director, Clinton Housing Development Company. The panelists will share their perspectives on achieving more affordable housing in New York City, how those units actually get build, and how we can preserve the affordable apartments we now have.

In a recent *Gothamist* article on the best pocket parks in New York City, the charming gardens located behind the Church of St. Luke In The Fields got a mention. The gardens are technically private, but the Barrow Street and North gardens are open daily from 8:00AM until dusk, and the Rectory garden is open Monday through Thursday from 10:00AM to 5:00PM. During those hours, the tree-starved are free to take in the 2/3 acre worth of breathtaking flora and fauna, butterflies and birds; there are benches for quiet reflection, with Cloisters-esque architecture amplifying all that natural peace.

A brazen butt-grabber groped a woman in full view of an NYPD officer, police said. A 22-year-old woman was outside Le Poisson Rouge (158 Bleecker St.) about 3:55 AM on September 19 when **David Coleman**, 36, walked up to her, slapped and grabbed her butt. Coleman was arrested and charged with forcible touching, sexual abuse in the third degree, and criminal possession of a controlled substance for a small Ziploc bag of alleged cocaine that police said they found in his right

front pants pocket.

In another *Gothamist* piece *What I Learned From Five Manhattan Palm Readers*, **Molly Fitzpatrick** checked out several psychics including Village Psychic (Third Street and MacDougal Street) and Zena Clairvoyant (Seventh Avenue South and Bleecker Street). Four hours and \$75 later, she was disappointed. She had hoped that the five sessions would turn up at least one unexpected insight, whether by a reader's keen powers of observation or even by sheer chance. "Some might argue that you get what you pay for, and I didn't pay for much. It's possible that if I'd shelled out for tarot cards or sentient crystal balls, my readers would have put on more of a show — but of course, that's where things get dark. Some mediums are notorious for preying on the vulnerable. **Sylvia Mitchell**, who worked out of Zena's shop, was convicted of grand larceny last year after

two private decks with built-in irrigation systems.

But if you need more space and have a bit more to spend, the 13,238-square-foot building at 134 Charles Street is here to help solve that problem. The boxy former factory just hit the market for a whopping \$47.5 million, and it's being marketed as "an unparalleled opportunity to create a spectacular West Village mansion." According to the *Journal*, the building is owned by investor Ciaran O'Kelly, who bought it for \$17 million in 2008. He renovated the building to hold two floors of office space and two rental apartments, which were most recently listed for \$33,000 and \$17,000 per month.
from Curbed

Old News

A Deer's Foot Brought Ill Luck

According to the affidavit of Annie Ellis, wife of a gun-smith, Martha Severn, wife of a cook, attacked her at Nol 54 Barrow Street, where they live, "with a calf's limb," and blackened her eye on Thursday. Yesterday, Mrs. Severn was arrested and she told a very different story. She says that she and Mrs. Ellis had a little dispute. The latter in her rage knocked her head against a shelf and hurt herself. Mrs. Severn,



full of sympathy, procured a leech and applied it to her opponent's eye/ Notwithstanding this act of kindness when Mrs. Severn was doing down the stairs, Mrs. Ellis poured boiling water on her from a kettle, and she was horribly scalded on the right arm, shoulder and breast. Then Mrs. Ellis went to Mrs. Severn's room, and taking "a deer's forepaw" from a closet, said that

Mrs. Severn had struck her with "that calf's butt." Mrs. Severn explained to Justice White that the deer's foot came from a noble animal that was shot by President Arthur when he was in the Yellowstone region. It was sent to Duke's Hotel, Hoboken, and Mrs. Severn hearing of it, and believing that a deer's foot brought luck, induced her husband to get it. Mrs. Severn was unable to support a long examination, and the case was adjourned to March 17. Mrs. Severn went to St. Vincent's Hospital when she left court.

from the New York Times, March 9, 1884



stealing more than \$100,000 from her clients".

If you have \$4.24 million to spend and you don't mind living "small" there is a cute townhouse near the corner of West 12th Street on Eighth Avenue for sale. It measures 1,500 square feet. The ground floor and basement are commercial, while the top three floors hold a triplex that was completely remade by ASH NYC. The rooftop level features a huge skylight in the den and

