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BBC NEWS

DECEMBER 2024

On Wednesday, October, the BBC celebrated Greenwich Village's storied literary history by showcasing the rich and diverse talents of current Villagers in its 9th annual Literary Soiree. Memoir, poetry, fiction, and personal essay were among the genres read by a roster of very accomplished and engaging writers to an appreciative audience.



Michele Herman was the 2024 recipient of the Sub-nivean Fiction Prize, judged by **Gish Jen**. She read a personal essay called "Across the Table from an Old Friend," about having coffee with a guy I hadn't seen since high school and putting my foot in my mouth, politics-wise.

Laura Fredricks is a long-standing member of the BBC, and 7-time Best Selling Author. This October Laura was featured in the *Village View* interviewed by her neighbors and writers for the newspaper – **Joy and Brian Pape** – on her love and her experiences living here for the past 22 years. Laura shared a travel article that had a twist.

Michael Anastasio has been a resident of the West Village for nearly 30 years. Michael is proud to have self-published his 300 page memoir "Gay Boy's

Life" three years ago and is currently working on the manuscript for his second book with the working title, "I Didn't Think to Ask for More." Michael read a chapter from "Gay Boy's Life."

Stephanie Urdang is a healer and writer.

She has received awards from The American Film Institute, has had advice columns, and was published in a contest in *Huntington Post*. She has lived on Barrow for decades, has written fiction and essays and is working on a new book of stories, myths, and facts about the human body. She read a piece about the heart.



Katharine Squires read her piece called "The Joy of Painting," about a recent revival of the art scene in SoHo vis-a-vis Bob Ross.

Richard Eric Weigle, a neighborhood legend, is a filmmaker, writer, organizer of The Greenwich Village Film Festival and longtime President of the Grove St Block Association. read "The Glorious and Tragic History Of The Color Pink," which analyses the complicated symbolism and meanings of the color pink through the ages.

Diane Wildowsky read two pieces called "Snippets" a short story about learning how to write fiction and the other was her letter to **President Biden** regarding the election.

Steve Wulf, an esteemed Sports Illustrator writer, especially about baseball read an article he wrote about the great **Mickey Man-**



tle “The Mick”.

Most of all, thanks to ALL of you who attended our literary soiree. It was such a fun evening, and so wonderful for us all to be together again, celebrating the writers and writing of our beloved Greenwich Village.

You will love our new look in the spring. Thanks to the generosity of film companies, we were able to plant



3000 bulbs and add mulch to all our tree pits. We planted daffodils, tulips, hyacinths and grape muscari. Enjoy the results!

The passing of **Jane Marx**, NYC tour guide extraordinaire, comedian and friend of the BBC. Many of you might recall the very funny, a bit eccentric Jane Marx who treated us to her acerbic humor while walking us through and sharing the history of various downtown neighborhoods over the years. Aside from her comedic talent and quick wit, Jane was known for her colorful collection of hats and scarves, which always make you smile whenever you would see her. After two bouts with pneumonia, in February and again in April, Jane passed away on May 3, 2024. A small service was held at the time. She is buried with her family in New Jersey. An unveiling is being planned for next spring. R.I.P. Jane. You are missed but you live on in many good memories.



2024 GUIDE TO HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

Village Preservation

The Second Annual Sullivan-Thompson Historic District Holiday Shop and Stroll, Saturday, December 7, 4:00-7:00pm. In person, pre-registration suggested.

Join us in celebrating South Village month by coming down to the Sullivan-Thompson Historic District for some holiday shopping! Take a stroll among the district's many wonderful independent stores and businesses while enjoying the festive decor. Several shops will be offering treats, prizes, or discounts for those who sign up. All full list of participating businesses will be available soon! Pre-register now! [rsvp:villagepreservation.org](https://rsvp.villagepreservation.org)

Washington Square Music Festival Free Concert, Sunday, December 8, 4:00pm, St. Marks Church in the Bowery, 132 East 10th Street at Second Avenue. Featuring the WSMF Chamber Orchestra and **Ahmed Alom, Rosario Armas and Julian De La Chica**.

Church of St. Luke in the Fields, 487 Hudson Street, Dec.12, 2024- 7:30pm (lecture at 6:30pm with **Dr. Sarah Davies**) A French Baroque Christmas Music of Marc-Antoine Charpentier. The Choir of St. Luke in the Fields **David Shuler**, music director Baroque in the Fields Orchestra.



Greenwich Village Chamber Singers

Alleluia, I Heard a Voice, Friday, December 13, 2024, 8:00pm, Our Lady of Pompeii Church 25 Carmine Street. An extension of last year's successful “Dialogues” program, our winter concert will showcase the famed Missa O Magnum Mysterium by the mystical Renaissance-era composer **Tomás Luis de Victoria** alongside an array of a cappella gems by **Janet Wheeler, André J. Thomas, Nathaniel Dett, Valentin Silvestrov, Amy Summers, Rosephanye Powell, Adolphus Hailstork, Eslon Hindundu and Zanaida Robles**.



West Village Chorale

Greenwich Village Caroling Walk Sunday, December 15, 2024 at 2:00 pm Starting/Ending at Our Lady of Pompeii Church, 25 Carmine Street.

Get out your Christmas sweaters (ugly or otherwise!), your Santa suits and your festive holiday finery, and warm up your fa-la-las! Join us for our 50th annual Caroling Walk—and stroll with members of the Chorale through our historic West Village neighborhood,

singing along as we lead seasonal favorites! It's fun for the entire family, it's free (donations gladly accepted), and we even supply the music...which will feature some new carols, added this year by popular demand! Come sing with us!

Holiday Concert

Dwell in Unity, Friday, December 20, 7:30pm. Judson Memorial Church 55 Washington Square South (note the weekday!), focus on themes of unity and peace. In addition to works by **Abbie Betinis, Leonard Bernstein, Mark Miller, and Zanaida Stewart Robles**, the program centers on **Margaret Burke's** *This Holy Hour*. This meditative reimagining of the "Ceremony of Carols" for harp and chorus pairs traditional carols with new poetry by **Charles Anthony Silvestri**. Tickets are on sale now.



Christmas Eve, at 5:00 pm is the traditional time to celebrate the holiday with carols at the Washington Square Arch. "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men" will ring out to remind us all of the true meaning of the holidays.

Our Lady of Pompeii Christmas Activities (Roman Catholic) (212.989.6805) 25 Carmine St. Tuesday, December 24, 5:00pm: Vigil Mass; 12:00am, Midnight Mass; Wednesday, December 25, 9:00am: Mass; 11:00am: Mass; 12:15pm: Mass

Judson Memorial Church (Ecumenical) 55 Washington Square South at Thompson Street. For Christmas service times, please call 212.477.0351.

Church of St. Luke in the Fields (Presbyterian) 87 Hudson Street. Tuesday, December 24: Festive Chorale Eucharist, Caroling begins a 9:30pm. Wednesday, December 25, Services 8am, 9:15am, 11:15am.

Resources & Information

Whitney Museum

Until Feb 9, 2025. *Edges of Ailey* is the first large-scale museum exhibition to celebrate the life, dances, influences, and enduring legacy of visionary artist and choreographer Alvin Ailey (b. 1931, Rogers, Texas; d. 1989, New York, New York). This dynamic showcase—described as an "extravaganza" by curator Adrienne

Edwards—brings together visual art, live performance, music, a range of archival materials, and a multi-screen video installation drawn from recordings of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT) repertory to explore the full range of Ailey's personal and creative life.



Presented at the Museum in two parts, *Edges of Ailey* consists of an immersive exhibition in the Museum's 18,000 square-foot fifth-floor galleries—featuring works by more than eighty artists and revelatory archival material—and an ambitious suite of performances in the Museum's third-floor theater, including AILEY in residence for one week each month during the exhibition.

Museum of Modern Art

Until February 17, 2025. Encapsulating 100 years of moving-image history, Christian Marclay's *The Clock* (2010) is a 24-hour montage composed from thousands of film and television clips depicting clocks and other references to time. James Bond checks his watch at 12:20 a.m.; Meryl Streep turns off an alarm clock at 6:30 a.m.; a pocket watch ticks at 11:53 a.m. as the Titanic departs. With each clip synchronized to the local time, *The Clock* collapses the fictional time presented on screen with the actual time of each passing minute. The work is both a cinematic tour-de-force and a functioning timepiece.

The Clock speaks to cinema's rich history as both a mirror of and escape from reality, a paradox that is ever more central to daily life in today's era of instant broadcast, streaming **services**, and artificial intelligence. Marclay's assemblage of carefully selected clips takes us on a journey through the past in order to heighten our awareness of an ever-elusive and unfolding present. By editing together fragments from cinema's vast archive to tell the current time, Marclay reframes our collective memory of movies as an uncanny confrontation with ourselves.

Metropolitan Museum of Art

Until January 5. **Mexican Prints at the Vanguard** The rich tradition of printmaking in Mexico—from the eighteenth century to the mid-twentieth century—is explored in this exhibition of works drawn mainly from The Met collection. Among the early works presented are those by Mexico's best-known printmaker, José Guadalupe Posada, whose depictions of skeletons engaged in different activities helped establish a global

identity for Mexican art. Following the Mexican Revolution (1910–1920), printmaking proved to be the ideal medium for artists wanting to address social and political concerns and voice resistance to the rise of fascism around the world. Artists also turned to printmaking to reproduce Mexican murals from the 1920s and to create exhibition posters, prints for the popular press, and portfolios celebrating Mexican dress and customs.



Old News

Vincent Albanese, 8 years old of 16 Barrow Street went with his brother Joey, age 7, to Central Park yesterday to see Tom Mix, the wild rider of Hollywood and Tony, his wonder pony, who were there in real chaps and horsehide who were there to show little New York boys just how life is lived in the wild open



spaces of Movieland.

It was still daylight when the show was over. There were the wide open spaces of Centrak Park with trees in the distance where redskins might be lurking. Vincent and Joey had no pony, but they had imaginations so they went in search of Indians anywhere.

With infinite craft they reached McGown's

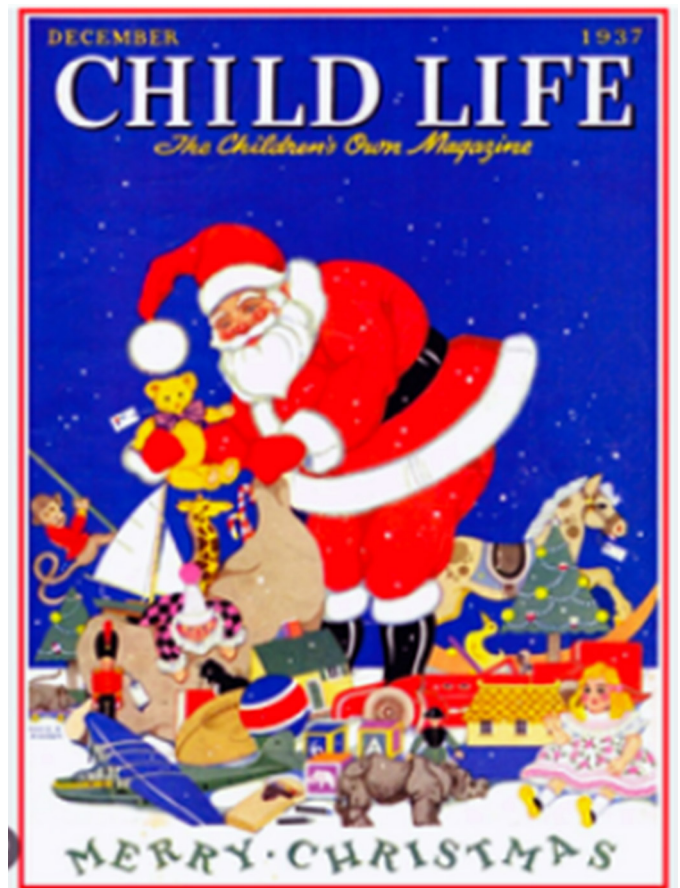
pass were once the British bivouaced for the night without one Indian seeing them. There, flat on their stomachs with ears occasionally pressed to the ground to detect the footsteps of lurking foes, they squirmed forward. Then it got dark and Vincent could not find Joey.

Regardless of marauding redskins who might in the fastness of the forest grab a little boy and scalp him Vincent searched everywhere for his little brother. He was still looking for him when he wandered into Fifth Avenue at Sixty Third Street where he found Miss Louise Pick who took him.....to the police station. Someone called Vincent's father on the telephone while the boy was telling his adventure and how, maybe, an Indian had got Joey. Before the tale was finished his father, John, his mother, Rose, and Joey appeared.

"I was looking all over for you and a lady brought me here," said Vincent.

"I was looking all over for you and a lady took me home," said Joey.

from the New York Times, April 7, 1925



THE BBC WISHES YOU
A HAPPY AND HEALTHY
HOLIDAY SEASON.