Remembering Sekou Sundiata

By Amelie Granger

The New School and the larger community paid tribute to the life of Sekou Sundiata, esteemed faculty member and poet, on August 22. A powerful memorial service unfolded before a packed house in Tishman Auditorium, incorporating poetry, music and strong emotion, like so many of the late poet’s own works.

Sundiata, who was born Robert Feaster, died of heart failure on July 18, 2007. His later life was marked by health problems, including kidney disease and the lasting effects of a car crash. The memorial included readings from his work and testimonials from friends and colleagues.

NSSR MOVE GIVES GRADS THE BLUES

By Peter Holslin

Now that several departments of The New School for Social Research have moved from 65 5th Ave. to 79 5th Ave., students are protesting the loss of coveted research space and the building this graduate program has called home for over four decades.

“We’re losing. We’ve been for awhile”

The administration prompting us to ‘go to Bobst’ is insufficient,” Jeffrey Puchla, a first-year MA candidate for Sociology, wrote over email. “We do not have wireless access there, advanced students cannot have a study booth and the reference staff is not contractually obligated to assist students who need help.”

A small space in the basement of 79 5th has been secured as a quiet reading room. But a New School administrator in charge of construction said the area is difficult to soundproof, which students said is a necessity for quiet study.

The New School for Social Research, a corner-stone for the study of modern philosophy in America, opened 65 Fifth Ave., also known as “GF” for Graduate Faculty, in 1997. The building has been a hub of the graduate division, but some years ago the university began to move other divisions’ classrooms and administrative offices into the building.

The New School expects to demolish the building at 65 5th Ave. entirely by the summer of 2008, according to New School President Bob Kerrey. A state-of-the-art building, replete with the latest audio-visual capabilities and more public space, classrooms and offices will take the GF’s place as this university’s flagship building.

The administration estimates that the project will cost $400 million. The university has raised about $70 million for the project, Kerrey told Inprint, and funding work will continue during construction.

The new building, Kerrey said, will be “essentially an undergrad-uate space.” Renovated buildings at 79 and 80 5th Ave. are expected to become the new home for NSSR.

NSSR students said they have struggled with the administration for two years over construction.

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NEW SCHOOL SHAKEUP

New School Trustee on the Lam

According to multiple press reports, a New School trustee is in some serious trouble. Norman Hsu, a Chinese businessman, Longtime Democratic Party supporter, and member of both The New School’s Board of Trustees and of Eugene Lang College’s Board of Governors, is technically a fugitive.

An August 30 article in The New York Times reported that Hsu was arrested in 1991 for attempting to defraud investors in a startup business. In 1995, he failed to appear for sentencing in a California court after pleading no contest to one count of grand theft, a charge that could have earned him three years in prison.

The scheme involved buying and selling latex gloves. Hsu raised $8 million from investors but was busted after authorities discovered that he never actually bought any gloves, nor had any plan to resell them.

Hsu’s shady business practices don’t end there. On August 31 The Los Angeles Times reported that in 1990, Hsu was allegedly kidnapped by Chinese gang members in an attempt to collect an unpaid debt.

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Kerrey Weighs Bid For Senate

Depending on Republican Senator of Nebraska Chuck Hagel’s decision, The New School may soon find itself in need of a new President.

On Thursday, August 23, New School President Bob Kerrey informed the Board of Trustees that he is considering a move back to Nebraska to once again represent his native state in the U.S. Senate.

Kerrey tells Inprint that Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid of Nevada and Chuck Schumer of New York, both Democrats, asked him to run. He says he will not run for the Senate seat if Hagel, who has been in the Senate since 1996, decides to seek re-election.

Kerrey plans to announce his decision after Hagel.

“I’d like the answer to be ‘yes’ or ‘no’ as close to when Chuck makes his decision,” Kerrey said in an August 24 interview with The
I wasn’t going to talk about Iraq. I planned on introducing myself as the new Editor in Chief of Inprint, and writing a simple “welcome back” message to the students, faculty and employees of The New School. But last Wednesday, a friend of a friend invited me to a candlelight vigil on the steps of Union Square, intended to honor the 3,737 US soldiers who have died and the 27,136 who have been injured in Iraq, or “Operation Iraqi Freedom,” as the Pentagon calls this disastrous war.

The sky was already beginning to dim when a young woman stepped up to the podium. Her little brother is a Marine currently serving in Baghdad. She told the audience, a large group of people holding placards that read “End the War Now” or “Bring Our Troops Home,” of the pride she felt for him and the fear that possesses her while watching the news and waiting for his daily text message.

Although the backdrop of her speech was disheartening and sad, her comments about young Americans’ ability to effect change in our country made me think about our own potential here at school.

“We have neither a Democrat or a Republican to look up to,” she said. “Whether you just show up or you speak up, do something. You are the hope for this country.”

So for all students, new or old, whatever the issue you want to take on, I say this: go do it. It is up to us to produce the change that we want to see, both in our small community at The New School and the global community. Create an art collective, write articles, organize people from your neighborhood or campus—the possibilities are endless.

And if you still haven’t decided on your own personal mission, consider joining one of the many student organizations on campus. From the newly established New School Radio Station, the Out, Proud Environment at Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), the Sustainability Committee or Inprint—whichever sort of issue or work you’re into, we have an organization that could use your talent. And if we don’t have the kind of group you’re looking for, start your own.

As for Iraq, whether you believe we should end the war tomorrow, bump up the surge or aren’t entirely sure just what you believe, keep thinking and keep talking about it. At the very, very least, we owe it to all the US soldiers and the Iraqis to remain engaged.

The semester is just beginning, and at Inprint we are looking forward to whatever you come up with. Welcome back.

-Hannah Rappleye
Rembering Lang's Favorite Poet

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Sekou reading at an unidentified performance.

NEW SCHOOL TROUBLES

Hsu, CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Hsu apparently kept busy while on the run from the law. According to the Times, besides moving in “circles of power and influence,” Hsu donated a total of $257,970 to various Democratic candidates and committees since 2003—including $5,000 to Senator Barack Obama’s political action committee.

But it’s Hillary Clinton’s spokespersons—people who have had to do damage control since Hsu’s legal troubles surfaced. Hsu was a bundler for Clinton, responsible for gathering campaign checks from friends, family members and business associates. An individual is allowed to donate only $4,000 to a presidential campaign, and bundlers serve as a way for major fundraisers to bypass this rule. Clinton promised to give to charity some $229,000 that Hsu donated to her campaign.

In the LA Times article, New School President Bob Kerrey said personally recruited Hsu to serve on the board of trustees. Hsu also served on Lang’s board and established a graduate scholarship in his name. The University does not do background checks for its board members. The exact date of Hsu’s appointment to the board could not be determined.

Hsu also co-chaired the La Guardia Award dinner in 2006, which featured Clinton as its keynote speaker. Clinton helped raise almost $1 million for The New School to fund a mentoring program for disadvantaged youth. A spokesman for The New School said Clinton was just getting going, when he was arrested. “This isn’t Osama Bin Laden or some drug kingpin,” Kerrey said. “What he’s done is he’s volunteered to help out with my campaign. Their doesn’t make him either unique or bad.” Kerrey also said that Hsu has not been asked to step down from the board, but that his tenure will be discussed in September.

Hsu issued a statement on Aug. 20, saying he was “surprised” at the outstanding warrant for his arrest, and that he had “not sought to evade any of my obligations and certainly not the law.”

According to press reports, Hsu is expected to turn himself into authorities, but had not done so by the time this article went to print.

KERREY, CONT. FROM PAGE 1

Omaha World-Herald

Kerrey also said the Board did not want him to leave but would support his decision. Kerrey is the current governor of Nebraska for four years before he was elected to the Senate in 1988, and has served there for two consecutive terms.

“This is not the first time Kerrey has faced real challenges. He presided a presidential run in 2000 before joining The New School. Kerrey was opposed with the idea of running for mayor of New York City in 2005.

Omaha World-Herald, Kerrey has been considering the move for several months. In June he addressed 500 Democrats at a fundraising dinner in Omaha, and recently paid for a survey to determine the amount of support he would receive if he ran.

Despite his apparent interest in re-joining the Senate, Kerrey insists he is still on the fence.

“T3 started off hell no and I’ve gone to no,” Kerrey said.

Both articles written by Hannah Rappaport

NSSR, GRADUATE STUDENTS FEEL THE SQUEEZE OF MOVING

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

This move was made necessary by cutting space and reconfiguring classrooms to multiple buildings, just after a raise in tuition costs.

“As the same time, they’re adverising the interdisciplinary nature of this division,” Jaffe said. “How we are so wonderfully adept at cultivating ideas across divisions.”

Scholer seems sympathetic to the concerns, but said that given the current construction plans, the division has limited options. “We’ve done a good job of keeping at least a chunk of departments together,” Scholer said.

“Asked about the students’ concerns over losing space, President Kerrey said it was necessary by cutting space and reconfiguring classrooms to multiple buildings, just after a raise in tuition costs.

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“After discussions with the students and committees involved, we agreed on the move,” Jaffe said. “I believe it’s going to be a significant change in terms of flexibility.”

HIDDEN JACOBY prepares for construction.
The Fruit Fly Life

By Courtney Nichols

I am not a fagbag. I am a fruit fly. I do not choose to only have gay friends; I just happen to attract them. I have replaced the need for a best girl friend with my male counterparts, and I am happier because of it. I did not have a summer fling due to my fruit fly ways, but I did have an emotional relationship with my gay man that I would not trade for the world. Gay men are catty, I do admit, but at times their honesty creates bonds that no woman could create. I am not a girl looking for a shopping buddy or a quick way into hot guys, I am a girl struggling to maintain a straight girl life in a gay male world.

However, such a perfect situation did not come easily and was only accomplished after following twelve distinct commandments:

1. If your gay friend abandons you at a club to hook up with another gay man it is not personal. Therefore, never act closer to a man it is not your gay man friends might be lost.
2. Never ask a gay man if you look fat. He will tell the truth.
3. Though a majority of your friends might be gay men, it is important to always keep some women by your side.
4. Never tell a gay man they have gained weight. They will develop a compensatory eating disorder.
5. A gay man is not automatically attracted to another gay man. Therefore, in an attempt to hook two people up, do not assume that since they are both gay they are perfect for one another.
6. Do not depend on your gay friends to introduce you to straight men.
7. Feeling depressed, drunk, or out of body? Then snuggle. Gay men are never afraid of a little physical contact.
8. Just because they are male does not mean they will be willing to treat their women to meals and movie tickets and other miscellaneous outings. For this reason, always remember your credit card.
9. Gay men are quite possibly the most jealous people in the world. Therefore, never act closer to a gay man that is not your gay man or a friendship might be lost.
10. Gay men are not sluts. They are "experienced."
11. Compliment them and they will compliment you right back.
12. It is crucial to remember that no matter how many times he says he loves you or kisses you like you are the only one, he will never love you like he will love another man.

My situation is not rare, and many college students are struggling to balance a boyfriend and a gay boyfriend. Though I have yet to find a boyfriend, gay men provide me with what I need....and the rest I can do by myself.
Mmmmmm... Fancy Toast

By MARI SILVA

The George Foreman Grill is quite possibly the best invention known to college student kind, offering students a cheap way to make burgers, quesadillas, crepes, grilled cheeses and much more. I was shaken to my core when I found out that the G.F.G is blacklisted from every single New School dorm, putting a crimp in my only option for a quick fix was to shell out $7 to $10 for a decent grilled cheese, and the wallet, for the stomach and the wallet, was quite possibly the best invention known to college student kind, putting a crimp in my only option for a quick fix was to shell out $7 to $10 for a decent

Besides house panini like BBQ Toast (chicken or beef with cheddar, onions and BBQ sauce: $4) and the House Toast (Swiss cheese, onions, olives, French dressing and either salami, beef or turkey: $4), you have the option to create a personal "Toast." For $3 you can choose one filling, such as avocado, feta cheese or roast beef, or indulge in two fillings for $4.50, it's no wonder that...
PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS: THE AUDACITY OF OBAMA

Barack comes to Brooklyn

By KEVIN DUGAN

New York welcomed Senator Barack Obama in late August for several appearances throughout the city to further support his bid for the presidency. He met sold-out, enthusiastic crowds and did not fail to impress everyone in attendance with his charisma and political acumen.

Obama’s most attractive feature is his ability to unite his supporters. By banking on Bush fatigue and painting himself as a beacon of “hope,” he has emerged as the alternative to the status quo. He has the voice and dialect of a Chuck D or General MacArthur—most will listen and few can refute.

But if he wants to win wide- spread respect along with his popularity, Obama must act more like a president than a president—such as former President Clinton. His campaign focuses on personal popularity instead of discussing in detail, the irony is that as presidential politics, rather than personality-driven politics, rather than personalities instead of résumés, when campaigns are driven by the Coalition Provisional Authority concocted years ago, some domestic and foreign policies that have sidelined a Marine. He will deliver.

Yet, there is the catch: But here’s the deal: he was twenty. Four years, technically, or ‘three and a half, real-time’; he’d told me. “Followed by a six month breakup.” Before it happened, he expected it wouldn’t be too bad. After all, he might be able to regain the social life he was missing by being in a relationship. “But in reality,” he said, sipping his Boddington’s, “I was missing by being in a relationship. I was twenty. Four years, that’s a long time.”

Barack attacks Brooklyn.

So, let’s see: that means they’re moving out of your house, independent for the first time in their life, with their girlfriend/boyfriend/whatever probably moving to some equally distant city to attend a different college. And at three-and-a-half-months, this may be the longest time they’ve ever spent on one person. But who expects a high school love to survive college? Even freshmen aren’t that dim.

The study specifically addressed the prediction of how shitty they would feel after the breakup, compared with the reality of how shitty they felt when it actually ended.

“Love without fear.”

One unanswered question,” states the study, “is whether such affective forecasting errors are due to participants’ poor estimation of their initial emotional reactions to an ending, or whether it’s an ex- 

imation of the rate at which these emotional reactions diminish over time (a decay bias), or both.” So they’re asking whether the freshman poorly estimates his love of the single life at college, or underestimates that he gets better at being single over time?

In short, the study took a group of Northwestern students and fol- 

lowed them over a nine month period, having them rate their happiness factor on a regular ba-

sis through online questionnaires. Very organized, very scientific.

The study found that, on average, s t u d e n t s s e r i o u s l y o v e r e s t i m a t e d how devastated they would be by the breakup, though they were correct in predict- in g that it would get better with time.

But here’s the catch: the study, you had to be for an enter- ing freshman (first problem) between 17 and 19 years (second problem) who had been in a serious relationship for at least two months (final problem).

breakup was pretty terrible.” The worst part, he concluded, was that post-breakup, he was too emotionally drained to connect with anyone, no matter how inter- ested they were.

That’s where Ali is. In while they were only together for a couple months—“Bad timing,” they agreed—Matt’s inability for in- 

timacy was on bloom, who was staying in New York as their landlord. It might be bad, but it’s still his life he was missing by being in a relationship. “But in reality,” he said, sipping his Boddington’s, “I was missing by being in a relationship. I was twenty. Four years, that’s a long time.”

Barack attac...
Special Feature: Best of

BEST “THAT’S WHAT SHE SAID” IN NEW YORK CITY

Even the most stoic of souls can’t resist unleashing a “...that’s what she said” upon walking through the intersection of Cumming St. and Seaman Ave. Located in the Bronx, it’s a dream come (cum?) true for all those who appreciate lewd jokes and always laugh when someone says the word “beaver.” But if that’s not good enough for you, Dyckman St. is just a few blocks away.

BEST BOOKSTORE

You try to be clever with these kind of lists and think of something that no one else has, but when it comes to bookstores in this fine city, there’s really only one place to go: Strand Bookstore. And everyone knows it. With “18 miles” of books and two locations (the better of the two is at East 12th Street and Broadway while the other resides at 95 Fulton Street), whatever you need can be easily found within their endearingly cramped aisles. Plus, the people there are a lot nicer than the ones at any Barnes & Noble or Borders.

BEST PLACE TO GET DRUNK FOR FREE

If you like free wine and artwork ranging from terrible to not-so-terrible, the art galleries in Chelsea on Thursday nights are the place to be. Located between Ninth and Tenth Avenues in, well, Chelsea, the galleries become packed with hopeful artists, creepos looking to pick up a chick or dude or both and people like me who know how to take advantage of a good thing.

BEST PLACES TO REENACT AN ALBUM COVER

There’s nothing as readily recognizable in New York City as, say, The Beatles crossing Abbey Road, but there are places where you can go to see where iconic photos were taken. If you’re in Greenwich Village head to the intersection of Jane and 4th Street, and you’ve got where Bob Dylan and his then-girlfriend, Suze Rotolo, stood for The Freewheelin’ Bob Dylan. Once you’re finished, walk over to 96 and 98 St. Mark’s Place and that’s where Led Zeppelin’s Physical Graffiti was shot.

BEST PLACE TO SEE UNDERGROUND HORROR MOVIES

At the Pioneer Theater, you can view films like The Tripper, described as, “A Ronald Reagan-obsessed serial killer targets a bunch of hippies who are heading to a weekend-long concert.” Intrigued? If so, head over to East 3rd St. between Avenue A and B, and be sure to check our their upcoming “Fourth Annual Month of Horror, Terror and General Mayhem” in October.
Aren’t We Worldly?

Summer breaks from around the globe

New York City

Santa Monica, CA

Rome

Coronado, CA

New York City Photo by Sam Lewis, California Photos by Linh Tran, Italy Photos by Kayley Hoffman