East Marries West at Jazz School

Palestinian, Moroccan and Israeli musicians unite

By Peter Holstein

Five guys from Palestine and one from Morocco took to the stage at the Jazz Performance Space at 55 W. 13th Street in November. In short order, they jumped into an improvisation of Van Morrison’s “Moondance.” The jam was a long, free-spirited jaunt, but this time it featured no lackadaisical riffs of an electric guitarist who is, presumably, tree-huggers. “It’s ridiculous for the administration not to give us fair warning or give us help,” relocating to a new office, said fourth year BA/MA candidate Kate Goff, who is also an LSU member. The LSU office is located in the basement.

Val Vinokur, a literature professor at Lang whose office is in the basement, had only heard of the construction from a colleague. “I haven’t gotten an e-mail,” he said.

Major Renovations
Set for Lang Buildings

By Elsa Delcan and Kevin Dugan

The boiler rooms connecting the 11th and 12th St. buildings are somewhere between a dump cave and a pack rat’s basement. Black mold spores across some of the walls, and the heat from the blasting boilers diffuses angrily through the air. Stacks of chairs, clothing racks, and a heavy mahogany desk fill some of the rooms like a purgatory for unwanted furniture.

While this area is off-limits to students and most faculty now, administrators are planning to gut this space and convert it into new classrooms and offices by January 2009. The construction, beginning on December 27, will close all of the current student and faculty offices in the basement, as well as the “Fish Bowl” classroom, and relocate occupants to undecided locations throughout the campus.

Administrators plan to build a new boiler on the roof and convert the current heating system to accommodate these changes. As of press time, student groups and faculty in the 11th St. basement had not been officially informed that construction would take place on their floor.

“I think it’s offensive and ridiculous for [the administration] to not give us fair warning or give us help,” relocating to a new office, said fourth year BA/MA candidate Kate Goff, who is also an LSU member. The LSU office is located in the basement.

Val Vinokur, a literature professor at Lang whose office is in the basement, had only heard of the construction from a colleague. “I haven’t gotten an e-mail,” he said.

The construction will yield four new classrooms, including a renovated Martha Graham dance studio in room 001, and bring the...
Letters to the Editor

Re: Issue 6, Nov. 13-Dec. 10

The controversy around these articles illustrates how difficult it is for a student publication to manage its responsibilities. As a newspaper, we have a duty to inform the student body of news and issues that bear on their experiences at the university. We also believe that we should operate as a learning environment, allowing students, however unpopular their views may be. At some views too offensive for publication, even if they are not presented as satire? Clearly the answer is yes. Were these views too offensive for publication? The answer, even for our own staff, is debatable. Since the meeting, all of us have been talking about issues like the limitations of free speech, our editorial policies and our relationship with the university. Some people are offended by the viewpoint of female students. We should work to educate them about the particular challenges of journalism. In short, this is a problem within our student body, and evidence of a lack of social consciousness in our education. We demand a meeting with the Free Press staff, in which both Hollerbach and Maynard are present, to be able to further voice our concerns with these articles and the general conduct of the newspaper.

Re: Opinion: Lo Mein and High Maintenance

I would like to reflect on the so-called “controversial” articles in your latest issue from a Parsons perspective. To begin with, I was not outraged after reading the article. In fact, I found it humorous and should instead be putting our energy into getting to know the women at Parsons. Give us a chance. We may surprise you.

Re: News: Loeb Evicts Students

I really enjoyed reading Julia Davidson and Kevin Dugan’s article “Loeb Evicts Students,” much in the same way I enjoy watching Fox News. I have heard claims that the story is “false news,” and should instead be putting our energy into getting to know the women at Parsons. But I have heard claims that the story is “false news,” and should instead be putting our energy into getting to know the women at Parsons. Give us a chance. We may surprise you.

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News & Features

From the Courtyard to the Corps
Lang Alumni return to U.S. after Iraq

By JULIA DAVIDSON

Like many others at Lang, Capt. Dan McSweeney, who graduated in 2004, was drawn to the college in hopes of better understanding the world around him. And yet, unlike many others at Lang, McSweeney just completed his tour of duty in Iraq.

During his most recent tour with the Marines, McSweeney was part of a joint team working to improve the living conditions of the Marines. General David Petraeus, the coordinator of all Coalition forces in Iraq, McSweeney’s team helped officials interact with the media and develop a comprehensive command information system within an hour.

Reflecting on his four tours after his first visit in 2003, he said it was interesting to observe the progress in Iraq, or lack thereof.

McSweeney believes that Coalition forces now have more viable plans for Iraq’s future, and that the complete job on the ground is much better than people think.

McSweeney felt a strong anti-war sentiment while he was at Lang. “I remember thinking how ironic it was that The New School and Lang prided themselves on being student run, while many points of view could be considered and discussed,” he said in an e-mail, “since they really didn’t offer harbor to anyone who wasn’t anti-war and, in some cases, anti-military.”

“The military has a wildly diverse population,” McSweeney added. He explained that the stereotype of a dominant ‘good’ boy culture is inaccurate, and that many diverse cultures exist within the military.

“An organization like the Marine Corps that is military and static, is actually incredibly complex, dynamic, and nuanced,” he added.

After graduating from Lang and completing a public affairs fellowship with the Coro Foundation, McSweeney went on a year-long backpacking trip through Europe. During that time, he realized that he couldn’t “escape the draw to joining the military,” McSweeney said. “Also, I wanted to serve our country, which was a value inculcated into me through my family and my high school experiences at Valley Forge Military Academy.”

An active member of Lang’s community, McSweeney was a leader in the Lang Student Union for three and a half years. He co-founded Lang’s Latino student organization, and published “Notes on the City,” a short-lived journal for the humanities and social sciences.

Stefania deKenessy, an Arts professor at Lang, remembers McSweeney as a serious and hardworking student. “Of course I was surprised that he entered the Marine, since that is not a typical post-graduate career for Lang students,” she said. “But even as I disagree wholeheartedly with our military policies, I respect Dan’s willingness to be different and to try to negotiate disparate worlds.”

New School President Bob Kerrey said that McSweeney was featured on the New School’s website, along with Major Susan Romano, another Lang graduate who went to Iraq, “because they are proud of Lang and we are proud of them. I am bothered by any negative reotyping,” he added, referring to anti-military sentiment.

Both of McSweeney’s parents are immigrants, his father from Scotland and his mother from Puerto Rico. This spurred his interest in international policy, which he pursued at Columbia University. He received his Masters of International Affairs in May.

During his Iraq tours, McSweeney contributed to a blog that he helped establish at Columbia, www.themilitaryinsight.com. “These posts were drawn from missions I volunteered for in order to develop a better sense for what’s actually happening on the ground,” he said.

“I am writing instead to congratulate you on the sheer audacity of publishing a paper called the Neu School Free Press that seems to specialize in misinformation and the manipulation of the facts. Yes, my lawn is green and my dog is white, but that is truly only half the story; for allowing that to be the only half covered in your article, I say keep up the good work!”

Mareeold Wolkin Freshman, Lang

According to the reporter’s notes, Wolkin said he had considered transferring as a result of the University’s disciplinary action. In addition, he was not writing up for smoking, but for drug paraphernalia, a hoax. The Free Press regrets both errors.

Re: Issue 6, Nov. 13-Dec. 10

If the opinion writers at the Neu School Free Press have ever tried to engage the community in an intelligent public debate about unwise battles being fought in a far off country or the ethnic demographic implications of our institution, then they should all stop and use the newspaper as a forum to do so. If you are seeking to write sensible articles, then I suggest that you get to the point of antagonizing the student body, which your writing is doing. I would urge them to take their words elsewhere.

Using their clout to demand that we censor articles would be an incredible misunderstanding of what the concept of free speech is intended for. The right we have as American citizens is to actively address issues that we should (especially as college students) be vigorously discussing. The content of these opinion pieces is not what I am trying to criticize; it is the manner in which they are written. They are not merely taking on contentious matters but making a mockery of what journalists ought to be doing when they choose to make their opinions public.

Eugene Lang College rightfully prides itself on the quality of its Writing Program. As an active member of that community, which endorses the Free Press, I find it appalling that we allow this type of shoddy work to be published. The school newspaper, as an outlet for the opinions of our student body, should represent the best of what the Writing Program has to offer to the world. These articles do not. The Neu School Free Press has made incredible strides in recent years in regards to improving its quality, both aesthetically and intellectually. It ought to continue this trend and become a source of pride for Lang, not one of embarrassment.

Sean Carlson Senior, Lang

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I can’t quite work out whether the course is handled internally or is externally ironic. “Lo Mein and High Maintenance,” Maynard presents us with his own offensive satire (please, tell me it’s a satire), in which Asian women are feticized and judged based on ignorable cultural presumptions. His ultimate conclusion, that Lang “have little to offer,” does not offset this. Is this funny, while the posters at Leob were unacceptably ugly? Where and how is that line drawn?

Leilja Hannah Junior, Lang


I’m hoping this can be directed to Adam Solomon to show my appreciation for his covering a performance of New School Jazz students at Sweet Rhythm (Issue 4, Oct. 16-29). I am very grateful that our efforts there are made known to the community, especially Lang, and I would welcome any ideas for cooler jazz ways and Lang students to sit together again. Thank you for shining the light on contemporary news reporting,” McSweeney added. Like a true Lang graduate, he added that information is meaningless without “context and nuance.”

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News & Features

Controversial Professor Slams Israel

By HUGH RAPPLER

Controversial scholar Norman Finkelstein was a packed hall at Judson Memorial Church on Tuesday, November 27, about an hour and a half. He focused the

event on sponsored by the Breek Forum. Finkelstein was recently denied tenure by his former employer, the University of Chicago, after Alan Dershowitz, Harvard Law Professor and author of the best-selling book, the

university's deans concluded

approved for

and the West Bank. In re-

response to rocket attacks by Pal-主体。以色列和巴勒斯坦之间存在分歧，巴勒斯坦激进组织哈马斯于2007年暴力夺取加沙地带，迫使多人流离失所。人权组织对以色列对加沙的回应进行了强烈批评，认为以色列对加沙的回应对巴勒斯坦人民造成了极大的痛苦。

the university with more space. The

building will provide the univer-

ity's graduate programs.

that Lang is "undersized." Murtha said that students need more revenue

to fund academic programs, and that Lang "should be as high as 2,500

students.

Lee listens as a graduate student gives his comments on


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improved costs of college. Some of the

members to use pay sites instead, like

Napster and Rhapsody. Students could lose all federal funding, the

bills, they fail to abide by these rules.

Representatives George Milli-

ey (D-MA) and Richard Hieronimo

(D-TX) co-sponsored the bill, which

would amend the "Higher Education Act of 1965" under the name of the College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007 (COAA).

The COAA was created to help college students pay for the rising costs of college. Some of the

projected plans within the bill in-

clude extending Pell Grants to re-

ceive funding year-round, helping

students manage textbook costs and strengthening college prepa-

ration programs.

Under the legislation, colleges would be forced to inform stud-ents about copyright infringe-

ments while filling out their online academic information forms. The bill was approved for

vote, but the dates for Senate and House voting have yet to be deter-

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Colleges are also encouraged to introduce strong policies that

offer music downloads for a fee. If a college fails to police their net-

work, it could lose all of their financial aid for all students. This policing will be monitored by government checks.

According to the bill, if one student illegally downloads

music or movies, then the college could potentially lose all federal financial aid.

Schools have already publicly op-posed the legislation. Administrators from several universities, in-

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"What is very much support the language in the bill," said Angela Martinez, a spokesperson for the Motion Picture Association of America, in an interview with CNET News. She added that it "requires universities to provide evidence that they have a plan for implementing technology to ad-

dress illegal file sharing."

Ivan Raykoff, a music professor at Lang, opposes the bill. "It’s a really transparent bow to the en-

tertainment industry," he said. "It forces a move-ment to share and trade outside of the economic structures that have been established by the entertain-

ment industry over the past cou-

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"This is a hypothetical law," said Amanda Ruzza, a freshman at The Jazz School. "Because if you look at the situation in a larger pic-

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By EILEEN DELAUNAY

The House of Representatives’ Education and Labor Committee unanimously approved a bill on November 15 that would withhold financial aid from college students for illegally downloading music. The bill also imposes new rules on universities to require students to use pay sites instead, like Napster and Rhapsody. Students could lose all federal funding, the bills, they fail to abide by these rules. Representatives George Millery (D-MA) and Richard Redonimo (D-TX) co-sponsored the bill, which would amend the “Higher Education Act of 1965” under the name of the College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007 (COAA).

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Behind the Design: A Look at Parsons

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By DAIVA MARCHENKOVA

Uptown

Downtown. That’s how fashion design students, instructors, and administrators refer to the rest of The New School campus. Their home is a train ride away on Sev- enth Ave. and W 40th St in the Garment District. A peek inside classrooms here at the David M. Schiff Fashion Design Center reveals clusters of pale taupe dress forms, the headless man- nequins designers use to fit garments, huddled in their nakedness among X-Acro scattered tables. In his SE 107 studio, instructor Martin Price saunters among his students, who work against the clock—huddled in the hushed atmosphere of this small classroom. Col- orful images of different cultures from National Geographic are pinned to the walls. One stu- dent, wearing a pin- cushion bracelet, meditatively circles her dress form. “This student is working in a very untraditional way,” Price says and gestures to Melissa Lüning, who drapes and pins a design. “She was bust in front of her.” “I just do it,” Lüning turns and says. The independent nature of Price’s classroom encourages students to work, evolve, throw everything away and start all over again. “They spend the previous years learning the rules, this is the course to break the rules,” he said.

Like all instructors in the De- partment of Fashion Design, Price worked in the fashion industry for years before turning to teaching. Tim Gunn, the celebrated for- mer Chair of the Department of Fashion Design, felt he should be teaching at Parsons, and recruited Price in 2004. “It’s more exciting to be with 17 visionaries,” Price said, referring to the students around him. The senior Studio Methods course culminates in the annual Parsons Fashion Show. Students spend the bulk of their senior year preparing for the show, a New School fundraiser which at- racts industry bigwigs and speak- ers like Aeropostale’s Derek and Bill Clinton.

With 168 students enrolled this year, the Department of Fashion Design is Parsons’ largest—and most profitable—department. The work and life of Parsons— including Donna Karan and Marc Jacobs—more than suffices to elicit admiration. After Tim Gunn left Parsons last spring to join L’wren Scott as their Chief Creative Officer, Steven Faer, an instruc- tor, was named department direc- tor. The department is currently searching for a new chair.

In Gunn’s twenty-five years at the school, first as Parsons Associate Dean and then Chair of the Depart- ment, he revitalized the curriculum and quadrupled the number of full-time faculty, among other achieve- ments.

After a year of general art and design practice in the Foundations program, students declare a major in fashion design. Students spend their sophomore years in Gunn’s studio methods, challenging fundamentals of fash- ion design: from draping fabric to using sewing machines and irons. The sopho- more year has the lowest retention rate in the department, as many students leave the major for others, such as Design & Man- agement or the School of Art, Media & Technology.

The students who make it to junior year look forward to two years of non-stop work, accord- ing to Holcomb, who was eager to dispel stereotypes she feels students “downtown” hold of fashion design students being frazzled or, worse, airborne. “It’s remarkable to me how our fashion stu- dents are and how much they’re dis- essed,” Holcomb said.

That year is spent entirely in preparation for the students’ fi- nal collections. By now, most stu- dents have developed a distinctive style, and many juggle internships at local fashion houses with their school work.

Throughout their years at Par- sons, fashion design students take a number of liberal arts classes with an emphasis on art and de- sign. According to Holcomb, the fashion department is moving to produce more critical thinkers “trying to solve design problems as they exist in the real world, within the political, social and environmental issues we’re facing today.”

Following in the design world’s direction, Parsons is introduc- ing sustainability on its agenda. The recent “Rethinking Fashion” series featured discussions on corporate responsibil- ity, a critical topic to an industry whose ethical scorecard has long been marred by the issue of sweatshop labor in the developing world. The series put sustainabil- ity on the radar at the fashion pro- gram. At least three seniors will present eco-friendly collections this spring, according to Dieffen- bacher. “I don’t think it’s a fad. It’s something that’s going to become a part of our daily lives,” Dieffen- bacher said.

As the fashion industry looks ahead, the future of fashion at Parsons is no longer in the Gar- ment District. Bob Kerrey’s new development plan will relocate the department to Greenwich Village. “Seventh Avenue is the old way of doing things,” said Martin Price. “There is a much more exciting energy downtown.”

The Benefit & Fashion Show is a massive production where se- lect seniors show off the culmination of the class, send five or six models down the runway.

The show is used to raise funds for the de- part- ment, ensuring that future gen- erations of students will be able to study at Parsons, according to Parsons Dean Tim Marshall. At last spring’s Benefit & Fashion Show, Marshall announced that the show had raised $3.4 million, a record for the event. Past pro- ductions were not as fruitful: tax returns from 2005 indicate that the show lost $87,261.

Everything came together for seniors last year as those who showed in the Benefit & Fashion Show made their celebratory jaunt down the runway, each with a svelte model at their side. Three of them were Named Designers of the Year by a department panel, and many won awards that would reward their work with internships, jobs and even trips abroad. Competi- tion for these awards, as well as the valued Designer of the Year award, is intense.

Sagafur’s, a joint organization of Scandinavian fur breeders, is one of many firms that sponsors sen- iors, ending a select few with high-priced goods for their collec- tions and awarding the best. The Sagafur winner is sent to Den- mark to see how fur is commer- cially produced. To accommodate students with alternative political views, PETA is invited to visit the department.

Women’s wear collections have grown increasingly expensive over the years. “Women’s Wear Daily” reported that Michelle Ochs, one of last spring’s three Designers of the Year, spent approximately $25,000 on her collection. Ochs fellow winner Roa Eli trailed behind with a tally of about $10,000 and this year’s winner, Alyssa Rich, said she lost truck after $10,000. The largest price tags have caused some to question what ef- fect different budgets might have on the competition. “If you have the money, does that set you apart automatically?” asked Dieffenbacher, adding that the speculation has caused administrators to actively widen the pool of sponsors so students can buy wholesale or outsource certain fabrics gratis. “You’ll have the talented, gifted students that can make anything look spectacular, or the rich kids that get free fab- ric,” said Sammaritano.

Back in Price’s class, the seniors are developing their collections. Student Jane Lee spoke optimisti- cally of the work process, admiring the differences in style between her peers and saying, “We have a lot to learn from each other.”

When asked what the designers planned to do after graduation, beyond the imminent future of the April 28 runway show, Spen- cer Phillips said, “I don’t want to talk about that. I just want to get through this week.”

The show lost $87,261.

At the close of the Benefit & Fashion Show, students take their celebratory walk down the runway last spring

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Major renovations in Lang building

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

bathrooms up to city code, helping to alleviate space concerns with the inflating student population while the 65th Avenue building is demolished. It will also strengthen the infrastructure of the building, which administrators have been worrying about for years. Each classroom will be roughly 420 square feet, about the size of room 009 in the Lang building. There will also be a renovated mezzanine and elevator bank, although those specific plans have not yet been approved.

"66 West 12th is an old and neglected building," said Assistant Dean Amos Himelstein. "It needs a face lift." Despite rumors throughout the student body, the courtyard will not be closed. However, parts of it will need to be cordoned off for safety and construction reasons. There will be a skylight added to increase the amount of natural light in the basement area.

"Projected plans are not intended to disrupt the Lang environment, especially in the courtyard, but it is unavoidable due to the noise construction makes," said Himelstein. Most of the construction is intended to take place during the winter and summer breaks, allowing for time for disruption, he added.

Vinokur said that the current construction plan was not the best way for the school to create space. "Quite frankly, they should kick us out of the food service company at The New School," he said. "They take up all this space and make our offices smell like meat."

Vinokur also alluded to "mice infestations" because of the food service, and complained about the piles of garbage and food that are left near the faculty offices.

The reconstruction will cost an estimated $15 million, according to Gartner. The funding will come from a combination of tuition, loans and gifts from rich people who like what we're doing," said New School President Bob Kerrey.

"I think it's going to be a good thing," said Himelstein. "In the end, we'll have fewer restrictions and the construction will connect two communities."

Ex-Spies Speak at New School

By Peter Horslin

Two former CIA agents joined New School President Bob Kerrey in a panel discussion at 55 West 13th Street last Tuesday. They were there to say that the Bush Administration disregarded tried-and-true spying techniques to justify the invasion of Iraq, that Congressional oversight is good to justify the invasion of Iraq, that the United States has never had a reliable intelligence agency— in part, because Congressional oversight limits the work of intelligence agencies. Regardless, Drumheller said, answering to Kerrey "makes you sharper."

During the question and answer session, asked if he thought the new "enhanced interrogation" technique was a success, Drumheller said that he did not believe such techniques—which include waterboarding, and putting detainees in rooms that are brightly lit or extremely cold for long periods of time—constitute acts of torture.

Using torture during civil and international conflicts violates the Common Article 3 of the Geneva Conventions, which states: "Violenve to life and person, in particuular murder of all kinds, mutilation, criminal ravishment and torture," as well as, "Outrages upon personal dignity, in particular, humiliating and degrading treatment."

Drumheller said "enhanced interrogation" techniques are ineffective, since they usually yield unreliable information. He added that holding prisoners is not the "province of the CIA—and Himelstein nodded emphatically in agreement—since the FBI and the military are trained to interrogate prisoners and maintain prisons.

"Who should be held responsible? The intelligence agencies? I can give you a list of people. But that would just be my personal prejudice."

Drumheller continued speaking, seeming unfazed. Eventually, the subject turned to the CIA's reputation in America. Margaret Heacock, who worked as a CIA agent in Washington D.C. and across the world for twenty years until retiring in early 2007, said that ever since the days of George Washington, Americans have felt a sense of "ambivalence, dislike, distrust" for their spy agencies. Kerrey said that, in some ways, the United States has never had a reliable intelligence agency— in part, because Congressional oversight limits the work of intelligence agencies. Regardless, Drumheller said, answering to Kerrey "makes you sharper."

Around the Courtyard

"Liberal is a dangerous word. I think Lang is certainly more liberal than other schools—I've attended but Lang also wants to be more liberal than it really is."

"To an extent, yes. We have some administrative limits but as a student body, we complain but don't really do much about those complaints. We can't blame the administration entirely."

"I disagree. At the canned food donation box inside of the 20th St. dorm, there were only about 8 cans. Lang's about being a hipster and the ironic culture that comes with that. It's not about caring."

"It seems likely that Lang's the second most liberal college. Definitely not in terms of financial aid from what I hear, but I'd say so in terms of the curriculum and the student body."
New York City food pantries are facing one of the toughest holiday seasons in decades. Due to cutbacks in Federal food aid programs, The Food Bank, which distributes food and aid to shelters throughout the city, has only 3 million pounds of food now, down from a seasonal average of 7-8 million pounds. As the city’s economy loses steam, more people find themselves relying on free food just to survive. According to the Bank, nearly 250,000 free meals are served in New York every day.

There are many soup kitchens and food pantries throughout the city and most, if not all, are understaffed. Local churches, synagogues and other religious organizations tend to have the most frequent food drives. If you would like to volunteer, drop off food or donate some money, go to www.foodbanknyc.org for information on the closest place in your area.

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**Central Harlem Alcohol Crisis Center**
419 West 126th Street, Manhattan 10027
Hours: Mon-Sun 8:45-9:35 a.m., 12:45-1:15 p.m., 4:00-6:30 p.m.
Contact: Norberto Gonzalez
Tel: 212-885-6333

**Cornerstone Baptist Church**
562-74 Madison Street, Brooklyn 11233
Hours: Tuesdays 12 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Tel: 718-878-8803

**Park Slope Christian Help Inc. (CHIPS)**
300 4th Avenue, Brooklyn 11217
Hours: Mon-Sat 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tel: 718-237-2962

**Queens:**
- **Elmooor Youth & Adult Act. Inc.**
  107-20 Northern Blvd., Queens
  Tel: 718-631-0096
- **Elmooor Youth & Adult Act. Inc.**
  11691
- **Rockaway Kosher Food Jewish Service Coalition/Far Rockaway Kosher Food**
  728 Empire Avenue, Queens 11691
  Hours: Mon-Thur 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Fri 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
  Tel: 718-237-6660

**The Bronx:**
- **Abundant Life Tuberculosis Inc.**
  2692 3rd Avenue, Bronx 10454
  Hours: Tues, Wed & Thu 10:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
  Tel: 718-292-8734
- **Holy Cross Church**
  600 Soundview Avenue, Bronx 10473
  Hours: Thurs 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.
  Tel: 718-893-5550

**Brooklyn:**
- **Crown Heights Jewish Community Council**
  877 Montgomery Street, Brooklyn 11213
  Hours: Mon, Tues and Thurs. 8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
  Tel: 718-789-0946

**Queens:**
- **BRC Project Rescue**
  139 Avenue D, Manhattan 10009
  Hours: Mon-Sun 7:30-8:30 a.m., 12-3 a.m. & 5-9 p.m.
  Tel: 646-602-0706

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**Bible Belt Mission **
36-30 103rd Street, Queens 11368
Hours: Tuesdays 12:00-2 p.m.; Sat 2:30 p.m. & 6 p.m.
Tel: 877-789-0946

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www.foodbanknyc.org
If you don’t have the time to buy groceries for food shelters, you can donate money online. Washington Mutual will also match your donation, doubling the amount going to feed the hungry this season. Call 1-866-886-8777, the NYC hunger hotline.

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**News & Features**

Remember the Needy: Where to Volunteer in NY
If you’ve read Bob Dylan’s *Chronicles*, you know who Greil Marcus is. If you’ve seen *Brokeback Mountain*, you may have noticed his name among the credits. If you’re a part of the New School, you won’t forget who he is. Marcus, who teaches “The Old, Weird America: Music as Democratic Speech—from the Composers’ Place to Song by Bob Dylan,” was recently described as “a noted Zeitgeist surfer” because of his trademark round glasses and cross-cultural acumen. He is a treasure for The New School to have for he’s one of the country’s leading music historians and writers.

“I was invited by [Director of the Writing Program] Robert Polito,” said Marcus about coming to The New School. “I go where I’m asked, and it’s pretty much that. It was something to do that I hadn’t done before,” referring to teaching a lecture course.

Marcus was born January 1, 1945, in San Francisco, and attended the University of California-Berkeley during the Freedom Speech Movement in the early nineteen-sixties. In Berkeley, he said, “increased the depth and dimension of education” and “what you studied in class was played out every day.”

After earning his B.A. in American Studies and while earning a Ph.D. in political theory, also from Berkeley, he started writing reviews for a fledgling music magazine based in San Francisco: *Rolling Stone*. He started with the magazine, founded by Jann Wenner and Ralph J. Gleason, because “You could write about anything for *Rolling Stone*,” Marcus said, “and because I was just so bored.”

His first publication was a review of a book on which he judged “a complete con.” “I was pissed off,” Marcus says, “so I wrote a review, sent it in, bought the next issue and there it was.”

Marcus became the magazine’s first reviews editor, earning $35 a week for “about seven, eight months.” But in 1970, Wenner fired him: “I went into Jann’s office to talk about my role at the magazine; and after leaving the meeting, I felt great. When I told what had happened to my wife, she told me, ‘Goddamn you, you never even knew you were fired.’”

“To this day,” he added, “Jann lays it on too thick when he judged a ‘complete con.’”

After his departure from *Rolling Stone*, Marcus started writing for another music magazine, *Michigan-based Creem*, where he reunited with the legendary music journalist Lester Bangs.

“I had read Lester’s pieces in *Rolling Stone* in the spring of ’69,” Marcus said, “and when I was Reviews editor, I noticed there was tons of stuff coming in from this guy. Lester was just fantastic and in my first issue, I choose two of his reviews: one for Captain Beefheart’s *Trout Mask Replica* and one by a band named *It’s a Beautiful Day*.”


Marcus says, “and I found myself playing the big brother role to Lester.” In 1972, Marcus edited his first book, *Rock and Roll Will Stand*, which included several of his own pieces. Three years later, he published *Mystery Train*, which the New York Times said, “Should be read by anyone who cares about America or its music.” Marcus places rock ‘n roll—specifically Elvis Presley, John Johnson, Harmonica Frank, Randy Newman, Sly Stone and the Band—in the context of American history and such quintessentially Ameri- can characters as Captain Ahab and Iggy Pop.

“Lester was just fantastic and my hero. Lester was just fantastic and my hero. Lester was just fantastic and my hero.”

Marcus has given students some insight into America.

“Lester was just fantastic and my hero. Lester was just fantastic and my hero. Lester was just fantastic and my hero. Lester was just fantastic and my hero. Lester was just fantastic and my hero.”

Marcus says on Dylan, “He’s not a museumkeeper, he’s someone who plays with the tradition. Dylan sees it as the most interesting thing about the country.”

Although Marcus will return to Berkeley to teach a course in Culture Criticism in the spring, in one semester at The New School, Marcus has given students some insight into America.
**Kerouac’s Artismack**

*Beatific: Beatific and Rather Boring*

By ALEXANDRA SOURIS

The exhibit, Beatific Soul: Jack Kerouac on the Road, at the New York Public Library on 42nd and 5th Ave., showcases never-before-seen material that allows the viewer to journey alongside Kerouac, and almost discover with him what the beatific soul really is.

The drawings and typescripts allow you to look inside Kerouac’s mind and accompany him on the spiritual journey that he took. You’re able to watch his thought process change, as he scratched through the layers of his consciousness, like crayons, jumping from his own portraits of Buddha to his original fantasy baseball team cards.

Within a few steps of entering the exhibition, you come across his first draft of On the Road. Only the biography, Memory, Babe, written on a small flip notebook. This selected reading is where Kerouac explores the idea of the journey as spiritual in the wake of life. This at first, seemed rather engaging, but upon diving deeper into Kerouac’s mind, it doesn’t seem to say exactly the same thing.

**He may have been a writer, but visual art was not his forte.**

The expanding inner-workings of Kerouac’s mind are explored in a redundant fashion, but it is definitely uphill to the viewer to formulate his or her own opinion. Kerouac’s art is simple, and far from impressive for a person who either has not read, or does not care about his work and life. It could be considered comical to some to look at his childlike images placed in a serious galley setting. Kerouac may have been a writer, but visual art was not his forte. It seems as if the curators were handled objects of very little importance and forced to make something monumental out of them, turning this pair of Kerouac’s old crutches into a historical artifact sealed within a glass case, making an old photo of Kerouac’s father seem out of this world. If these simple objects were supposed to be engaging, they should have been accompanied by riveting stories.

The “songs of Kerouac are entertaining, for you can stand with massive headphones listening to Kerouac rant and ramble for as long as need be. It also takes a considerable amount of time to fully grasp the uniqueness, Arab peculiar, conditional of an orison scroll of On the Road that spans the entire length of the exhibit. Beatific Soul is open until March 16, with hours on Tuesday and Wednesday, 11 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Thursday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sundays, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. If your think for knowledge surpasses the bounds of a museum exhibit, attend the lectures on January 15 and February 12, at 6 p.m.

**‘You’re able to watch his thought process change.’**

**Foreman Dumbs It Down**

By ERIC HOLLERBACH

On November 19, avant-garde theater guru Richard Foreman gave a talk in Eugene Lang College’s Wollman Hall. He spoke through the piercing sound of elevators beeping and repeatedly sliding closed for 45 gluelosing minutes. Luckily for the audience, he kept the line of topics within an up-to-date mental capacity of the dull crowd who had gathered to see him. “The thing that I hate most is hard to talk about, erudite issues,” Foreman said. “But I’ll try to curb that tonight.”

Nonetheless, his speech was baffling, rambling and delivered with a patronizing pronouncement that he had hated the theater. The true role of Foreman’s career seems to be that, “The art is less important now.”

And what really interests him is, “The mental activity of explaining what I do.” To put it another way, he isn’t too interested in the art he makes, but in the act of defending it.

Foreman explained how story and characters hit the tree, and that the potential energy of an idea

is the only pure truth. This notion made more sense after he explained his artistic method. He collects pieces from overheard dialogues, and things that come solely to him. “I’ve always been interested in the potential of things,” Foreman said. “The touch of light before something is turned into a system.” For this reason, he transcribes the raw material from the world, “I no longer have much preparation,” Foreman admitted.
**Reality TV Stars**

**5 Favorite Albums of 2007**

**Boxer, The National**

The cover of *Boxer* couldn’t be more fitting: the black and white photograph of the National performing at a wedding fits the record’s cinematic arrangements and the band’s professionalism. The guitars beautifully complement one another, the drumming is precise and Matt Berninger’s slightly drunken slur makes his words into liquidy lyrics. The National aren’t doing anything new, but they have made one of 2007’s tightest records.

-Kyle McGovern

**Dandellion Gum, Black Moth Super Rainbow**

If Boards of Canada stopped sampling, purchased real instruments and dropped Prozac like jellybeans, they’d sound a bit like Black Moth Super Rainbow. BMSR found an unexpected niche between electronic and psychedelic rock somewhere in the boondocks of western Pennsylvania. Compared to other records released this year, *Dandellion Gum* sounds thrillingly different.

-Joe Veix

**Sky Blue Sky, Wilee**

Upon first listen, I was a little disappoint-ed with this album but as time went by, I realized how good it actually is—why is it’s my pick for one of the year’s top albums. There’s a restraint throughout, which only occurs when a band has a total-less presentation in a better year for music (2006, for instance). Sky will have placed lower, but with songs like the charming “On and On” and the deceptively solemn “You Are My Face,” it’s something for these days from Chicago to be proud of.

-Josh Kup

**We All Belong, Dr. Dog**

With their third record, Dr. Dog have finally established their sound, proving that a classic rock framework doesn’t have to sound overly derivative. *We All Belong* has a subtle, tight production that glues together each harmonious, hook-laden track into a beautiful, cohesive whole.

-Joe Veix

**Reality TV Stars**

**By Charlie Leveridge**

1) *New York I Love You But I’m Leaving* (Lifetime & 2)

New York (born Tiffany Pollard) is by far the top reality star of 2007. She might just be the top reality star of all time. This year’s *I Love New York*, a 39-year-old single mother from New York, is now in the second season of her hit VH1 show, and she continues to be the self-appointed “Head Bitch In Charge”.

2) *Rodeo— Rock of Love*

The lovely ladies of VH1’s *Rock of Love* spent the year competing for the affection of former Poison frontman Bret Michaels. These young women redefine the term “White Trash” because for them, life is a drinking game. And they’re just about the most exciting characters TV has seen in a long while. My personal favorite is Rodeo, a 39-year-old single mother from Georgia who always wears a cowboy hat and tells her all the time with *Rock of Love*.

3) *Tailor Made—I Love New York 2*

He really is “Tailor Made” for New York. He buys his nice things and tells her he loves her all the time with the earningness of a creepy puppy-dog; he also spit in fellow contestant Mr. Wise’s face, and got punched by garrulous contestant Budapest for being a snitch. Hey, he’s just trying to let his girl know where the other guys in the house stand.

Paula Abdul-American Idol and Hey Paula

Paula continued her intoxicated streak of fabulosity on this year’s *American Idol* and then outdid herself by being even more loony on her own Bravo reality show. Her show documented her seemingly stored appearance at a televised Idol press junket, and gave us the amazing quote, “I’m tired of people not treating me like the gift that I am.”

These walking disasters are the reason my social life is so pathetic and I always seem to be doing my schoolwork at the last minute. And for anyone who, after reading this, thinks that I have absolutely no taste in entertainment, I leave you with this: I still refuse to watch *The Hills*.

**Best Celeb Blogs**

**By Jake Weinberger**

The ever-increasing amount of pop culture blogs saturating the internet is mind-blowing. Our population’s desire for celebrity gossip and personal strife is gluttonous, so our population’s desire for celebrity gossip and personal strife is gluttonous. Instead of picking and choosing “model celebrities” to cover, this year’s *DListed*, *Birthday Sluts, Drunks, and Dumbasses* is nothing but a whole host of zingers. Categories on this website include: Birthday Sluts, Drunks, and Dumbasses just to name a few. Ouch! There you have it, the best gossip blogs of 2007. What are you waiting for? Put down that newspaper and actually learn something.

**Bob Dylan Performances**

**By Courtney Nichols**

1. Catie Blanchett as Bob Dylan/Aude Quinn in *I’m Not There.*
2. Bob Dylan as Bob Dylan performing “Meet Me In The Morning” for the first time ever with Jack White at Nashville’s Ryman Auditorium in September.
3. Marcus Carl Franklin as Bob Dylan/Woody Guthrie in *I’m Not There.*
4. Bob Dylan as Bob Dylan in his recent Cadilac commercial.
5. The general population as Bob Dylan (dlisted.com): While wholly negative and crass, dlisted portrays EVERY celebrity this way. Instead of picking and choosing “model celebrities” to glorify and “framewrecks and sluts” to chide, this website paints every celebrity cut as sad, pathetic, minute-grabbing “whores.” Categories on this website include: Birthday Sluts, Drunks, and Dumbasses just to name a few. Ouch! There you have it, the best gossip blogs of 2007. What are you waiting for? Put down that newspaper and actually learn something.
The Year That Brought Us Amy Winehouse, TMZ.com and I Love New York!

Sing 5 les

By JULIA SCHWEIZER

Turns out, French and American tastes do converge on one thing: electro music. Off their only full-length album, 1, this energetic Justice track just makes you want to forget everything else and do that dance.

2. “Rehab” Amy Winehouse

Who can resist a Jewish Brit with pipes that give Aretha a run for her money? Her attitude’s bad but her voice is so good.

3. The infectious breathy voice of this Canadian-born singer can make even a Verizon Wireless ad sexy.

4. “Come Around” MIA Feat. Timbaland

MIA’s second single off her latest album, Aula, is like a tumor that grows on you each time you hear it. MIA’s nearly unintelligible mix of singing and rapping makes this a certified banger.

5. “Forever Young” The Black Eyed Peas

One of the only songs that actually makes me want to work out.

Best Britney Breakdowns of ‘07

By CAMERON PAINE-THALER

After we all got to see Miss Britney Spears up-close and far too personal in 2006 (such as showing off her vagina to the press), we didn’t think she could top herself. But Britney managed to out-do itself just about everybody in 2007. Here are the top-five freak outs:

1. February

Apparently Britney was really jealous of Natalie Portman’s shaved head, and decided to jump on the bandwagon. Don’t forget the bright tacky wigs that followed.

2. February

Every gossip-worthy celebrity needs a stint in rehab, and Britney did her first one-nighter the same week she went bald, going back multiple times in the months to follow.

3. September

Her VMA performance. If a shaved head can’t get the single to go platinum, try Britney’s method: bad lip-synching and sabotaging around the stage looking confused.

4. October

Her plan to get custody of the two cutest mistakes? Sleeping through the court date. The plan didn’t work, and main custody was granted to our favorite rapper/dead-beat dad, K-Fed.

5. October/November

As if hitting cars and swearing at people wasn’t enough, Britney decided to finalize her driving probation by running over people’s feet too.
Glitter and Glamour at Galapagos
By Emily Jane Nelson

Two young burlesque dancers cross the newly repainted-pavement path adorned with flowers in Williamsburg, their large feathery breasts hanging loosely as they giggle and cross the otherwise deserted North 6th Street. Fragments of their conversation are audible. "It's very relaxing to do this, you know. It's a great job."

Tonight the space is home to World Famous Bob's Alumnae Show, as they're known. The Bob, a self-described female-se-xual male impersonator, hosts a show-case in which several of her favorite dancers from the New York School of Burlesque perform, as well as other performers who have caught her eye.

The dancers are all young; for many, the opportunity is a chance to perform for an audience. Their pieces are alternately bawdy and beautiful, feminist and hilari- ous. One girl out dresses in a sailor’s dress. Her friend is a go-go dancer. She gyrates to Jefferson Airplane’s “White Rabbit” while her friend in a bunny costume feeds her car- riet. At the end, they have a little money, a purple turkey headdress and eats their ticket. The next number is to a rend- ing of a song called “Turkey’s Done.” Several of the dancers take the stage in traditional approach and embrace the flowing dresses and large fans of nineteenth-century burlesque.

The crowd is supportive of every dancer, but they’re particularly appreciative of one Maloney, who has performed in venues throughout Brooklyn and Manhattan. Beginning later in the evening, she performs a strip tease using a box of doughnuts as a prop, while a recording of Mar- in Gaye’s “Let’s Get It On” plays. Her gymnastic beauty and over-the- top theatrics make her the hit of the night. Together, they went home on the N4, the last stop.

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State of the Arts
By Charlie Levinger

Michael Brenson at Tishman Auditorium:
On Monday night, the renowned art critic Michael Brenson spoke at The New School as part of the Vera List Center’s annual International Association of Art Critics Distinguished Critic Lecture series. He spoke at The New School as part of the Vera List Center’s annual International Association of Art Critics Distinguished Critic Lecture series. He spoke about the proliferation of international biennials, the growing importance of curators and the change in the way art criticism is viewed.

Art criticism, he said, has lost its ability to affect the way people see art or the way an art show is perceived, and art critics have given in to the over-hyped contemporary art world, the growing importance of curators and the change in the way art criticism is viewed.

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Approaching New Years: Celebrations Around the World

By YUKI-JENNIFER KURUMI

While some of us intend to participate in an annual drunken New Year’s Day with friends, the rest of the world awaits the midnight in culturally traditional fashion. One may wonder—how does the rest of the world ring in the new year? Before 1752, January 1st was not the agreed upon day for celebration, even in the western world. Throughout Europe, numerous countries, religions and traditions welcome the New Year on another date. For example, the large Islamic and the Chinese communities follow the Lunar calendar, which causes the first day of the year to change annually. But for most of the western world “1/1” is the day they celebrate New Year’s. In 1752, the western world universally scrapped the Julian calendar for the present Gregorian one, which meant that its calculations were closer to the solar cycle.

So what are some countries that officially celebrate New Year’s Day on January First?

1. Spain: New Year’s Eve is celebrated with fireworks, and children go door to door singing traditional songs. It is said that actions conducted at the exact advent of New Year’s is what one will be doing throughout the rest of the year. Hence, most of the Japanese sit with their friends or family at the time (in order to stay surrounded by loved ones throughout the next 365 days), stay in a bathtub to stay clean or drink (to remain merry and healthy) for the rest of the year—a method many Americans are a fan of.

2. Greece: Families congregate at dining tables preparing feasts (and ouzo, a Greek liqueur with a high alcohol content) and await Saint Basil’s Vissilopitutto bread. Saint Basil was an early Orthodox Christian leader who left gifts for children in their shoes during New Year’s Eve, which is why children leave their shoes by the fireplace that night. A coin is dropped into the Vissilopitutto before it is fired. Once baked, a portion of the bread is left for the saint, and family members shard portions of it in their paternal procession; whoever discovers the coin in their bread is guaranteed to have the health of the family the following year.

3. Brazil: New Year’s Day defines a day at the beach for locals, dressing in white. In the southern hemisphere, warm waters invite beach visitors to swim in its waves. Millions of people flock to sandy beaches, spending New Year’s Eve with family or friends in order to witness another world-famous fireworks display at midnight.

4. Australia: Situated in the southern hemisphere, the occasion happens in the middle of scorching summer. Once Christmas ornaments of Santa in board shorts come down, Aussies congregate together at a barbecue and drink. The traditional beverage of choice is a true blue Aussie beer, and none of those bloody foreign ones.

5. The absence of the American Thanksgiving holiday, this is a substitute for an annual family feast alongside family gossip and catchups. A staple New Year’s dessert is the Pavlova cake, filled with fruit and a puffy tufa-like meringue at the top, created in honor of the ballerina Anna Pavlova when she toured Australia in the 1920s.

6. Some Australians travel to Sydney, where the highly populated unoffici- cal capital (Canberra is the capital city—no outsider has heard of it) for beautiful fireworks offered on world-famous Opera House area.

7. Spain: It is customary to wear red underwear when the last day of the year enters the new one, in hope of bringing “passion” from New Year. Alongside this gesture, the Spanish eat 12 grapes, starting at the first chime of the New Year’s 12 a.m. bell toll at all local churches. The Spanish smile and laugh as they consume each grape as each of the 12 bells rings, reflecting upon the moments they encountered together during the year. No one truly finish their fruit before the last bell, since their mouths are full of grapes, good anecodes and happy giggles before the 12 a.m. rings.

8. A folk tale explains that the centuries-old cultural practice began one year when the Spanish king had an abundant year of harvest, and gave 12 grapes of grape to every resident in his kingdom.

As we watch television broad- casts of the upcoming New Year celebrations from around the world, we will once again witness crowds along the coasts in merriment. But this New Year’s Day, why not pick up some new multitudinal fun along with the traditional American party? Happy Holidays!

The MTV Woodie Awards

By MATTHEW KENNEPE

The Woodie Awards were surprisingly entertaining. Travis McCoy of Gym Class Heroes wore his pants well south of his knees, and—believe it or not—pulled them even lower as he climbed the stage to accept the award for Best Band. The most entertaining part of the night was when Spank Rock took the stage; their lead singer had a dumpling moment with the audience. The opening act left everyone looking like a tired aunt delivering her Christmas present. The night ended abruptly when the glaring overhead lights were turned on, and the crowd were directed to get their coats and leave.

New School Division Rankings: Who’s On Top?

By ERIKA ALLEN

1. Parsons hosts three of its very own alumni on the new season of Project Runway the show that season after season continues to make the art of fashioning a tele- vision game look easy, tricking freshman that season after season makes the fash- ion game look easy, tricking freshman to find creative ways to succeed in the business of fashion. The popular show is back for another season, and Parsons is no exception.

2. Parsons’ famous designers are a form of inspiration for people in the fashion industry. The designers of Parsons have produced some of the most well-known designers in the world. Parsons is one of the top fashion schools in the country.

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Lang Theater: One Acts Festival

By JESSIE HEYMAN

Covering diverse topics such as Cabin’s rights and saving hone- ybees, the Theater Collective’s “One Act Festival” proved that an enjoyable show doesn’t require formal theatrical training.

“Just a bunch of kids wanting to do theater and having a place to do it,” said a founding mem- ber of the festival, Phoebe Tyers. Whether through acting, writing, or directing, the Theater Collective provides students with the chance to realize their creativity.

The Theater Collective is an in- dependent organization, making audiences and funding difficult to come by initially. However, now in its fourth year, filling seats is not an issue. “People have really responded to the collective,” Tyers said. At their semi-annual “One Act Festival,” empty seats were scarce. The show has taken place in various locations—even in Lang’s Cafeteria—but this year it was set in a black box theater.

During the performance, there was one noticeable problem—unable to rehearse in their new space before opening night, the blocking was awkward. The actors’ backs often faced the audi- ence, and it was difficult to see the action on stage.

The show consisted of four one acts, all unique and spirited. And while there was nothing pol- ished about the performances, the collective believed it was most impor- tant goal—producing a show. “It may not be Macbeth,” said Tyers, “but it’s what we have to of- fer.”
Ten Years of Pop Stars

Where Are They Now?

By CHARLIE LEVERIDGE

Ten years ago, the world was introduced to The Spice Girls and the Backstreet Boys. Their sugar-sweet melodies and tight harmonies were the perfect antidote to the ailments of the world. Soon, in 1999, a new pop savior entered the mix. Dressed like a Catholic schoolgirl, nymphet Britney Spears took her place as the Commander of the bubblegum army. She conquered the charts, the airwaves, and the hearts of the world’s youth.

As the turn of the millennium came and went, the bubblegum army lost relevance and began to fall apart. First the Spice Girls split up. Then the Backstreet Boys became full grown men and lost much of their allure. Finally, Britney Spears got married, gave birth, got divorced, juggled herself up, and shed her head. In the past few months, however, the bubblegum army has returned. Here are the highlights of their recent comebacks:

Spice Girls: Have released a new greatest hits CD, along with a new single. ‘Headlines (Friendship Never Ends)’, ‘Headlines’ isn’t as catchy as old hits like ‘Say You’ll Be There’ or ‘Wannabe’, but it does have the classic Spice Girls theme of ‘Friendship’ and a sultry chorus reminiscent of ‘2 Become 1.’

Backstreet Boys: Are having the least successful comeback. They are now a foursome after Kevin Richardson left the group.

The cloves should easily slip out. The cloves in a downward motion. Hand and use the other to push on.

“Hands on top of the head,” Bob shared.

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**Film**

**The Savages**

Dir. Tamara Jenkins. Starring Phillip Seymour Hoffman, Laura Linney

By COURTNEY NICHOLS

The highly anticipated second movie by Shuns Of Beverly Hills director Tamara Jenkins, The Savages, highlights the awkward feeling of a family needing to take care of a loved one who never showed any love.

Phillip Seymour Hoffman and Laura Linney star as two opposing siblings who find their estranged father, played by the theatrical genius Philip Bosco, becoming overly ill. Unable to decide whether to place him in a nursing home close to home or across the country, the movie transforms from a dark comedy to an analysis of the state of elderly care in the United States.

Based on elements of Jenkins personal biography, The Savages succeeds in helping to mold the disturbing nature of dementia into a honest description of humilitation and the awkward wit that surrounds family turbulence. Linney's character is a part-time playwright trapped in a relation-ship with her married neighbor. Though self-destructive, the character, as Linney noted, "attempts to set up situations so she could see people behave well." Hoff- man, on the other hand, is an aca-demic writer who is seemingly uncertain about his personal problems. Phillip Bosco compliments Linney and Hoff- man and says a script that "show and not tells," according to Jenkins. Bosco, never before viewing himself on screen, acknowledged that for the first time in his acting career, he liked "what he saw of himself" in The Savages.

It is certain that many will im- mediately discount the movie not wanting to suffer through paren-tal loss with the characters on screen, but the ease of the script and of the acting make it almost too enjoyable to watch. As Linney exclaimed, "This is the most act- able script I have ever received, and that is apparent in its execu-tion. Undoubtedly one of the fin- est movies this year. The, acting breathes life into the often-soul-less nature of estranged children and their abrasive father.

Deeply personal yet affectively universal, The Savages is a the-atrical experience for a mere ten dollar movie ticket.

**Theater**

**Dzieci. Performed at Theresia Lang Center Nov.28**

By ASHLEY BEERY ASTER

Dzieci, an international ex- perimental theatre ensemble, invited New School students and faculty to participate in a workshop held in the Theresia Lang Center on Wednesday, November 28th. Without prior knowledge of Dzieci and its methods, one might have thought it was a cultish cer-eemony. With the lights off and chairs pushed aside, the room seemed to transform into a blank canvas for physical and emo-tional play.

The night began with a creep-ing, circular walk. The frus-tratingly slow exercise soon evolved into a wailing tribal dance. Chants, thuds, cries of terror, and eruptions of laughter con-verging on one another, emanating from the room as people threw their bodies at one another, embraced, and twirled one another around.

At one point, everyone be-gan to walk in a straight line and to lapse to the ground and turn- over one another. Some even folded themselves into a ball, their shoul-ders to fall into a line of extended arms. No one verbal-ly instructed the group, yet ev-eryone appeared to know what to do based on emotional im-pulse. This is when the work-shop really began to feel like a cult gathering.

In the next seven years, Cooke was an aca-demic writer who is seemingly uncertain about his personal problems. Phillip Bosco compliments Linney and Hoff- man and says a script that "show and not tells," according to Jenkins. Bosco, never before viewing himself on screen, acknowledged that for the first time in his acting career, he liked "what he saw of himself" in The Savages.

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**Food**

**Unaccustomed Earth. Jhumpa Lahiri.**

By CHRISTINE CALVO

Pulitzer-Prize winning author Jhumpa Lahiri has captured the essence of what it means to be the interpreter of Maladies and "Cupid." His public pop- image was clean-cut, but in private he lived like a rock star, and his record-albums had warned against Cooke's music was cooler to R&B than almost anything else on popular radio.

That's why Harlen (from the name of the character in Cooke's great album: It's not over-pro-duced. All you hear are drums, guitar, bass and Cooke and the screaming crowd. The opener says it all: "Feel It." Although Cooke is the "rap-idly" and "Cupid" are fantastic, "Bring It on Home to Me" might be the high point of the album. It starts with Cooke singing like a preacher, the band waiting for his cue. Once they kick in and Cooke sings, "If you ever change your mind/About leaving, leaving me behind," the holy/secular line is blurred forever.

I go back to my previous state- ment of, to quote Lou Reed, I wanna be black when listening to "Twistin' The Night Away." It's sexy and catchy on this perfor-mance, Cooke teases the audience to "wave the handkerchief 'round." The album ends with "Having A Party," and Cooke's voice has grown hoarse, which he exploits. He implores "Men! To keep those records playing/cause I'm having such a good time/dancing with my baby."

The following year, at the Hacienda Motel in Los Angeles, Cooke was shot to death by the manager. The details are sorried. It was a sad ending to the life of one of the great soul/soul-pop singers. In 1968, he was in the inaugural class of musicians inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, and Live at the Harlem Square Club was reason enough.
I shook my head in mock shame and we both shared a laugh. I told him, “That one’s on you buddy” and walked away, praying that this political difference didn’t keep Jeff from getting some. He needed all the help he could get.

Soon after, a police officer stopped me. I instantly felt guilty any time a patrol car driven past me, so I was already nervous when this one slowed into the parking lot next to me, asking me to come over to the car.

“What are you wearing a ski-mask for?”

“We got a call that someone has been approaching houses with a weapon wearing a ski-mask. Where you doing out here?”

“I’m canvassing for Barack Obama.”

“You sure?”

“I’m canvassing for Barack Obama.”

“Let me see that.” He pointed at my clipboard and I handed it over to him. He talked over the static on his walkie talkie and all heard this, “Suspect is up to 160 pounds and wearing a ski-mask.”

The cop looked up from the clipboard, “Yeah, this is the address that called in the report, our apologies, you know people sit in their house all day, they start seeing things.”

Man, they were off base with the ski-mask, but they nailed the weight. That caller should work in one of those booths at the fair. “No worries, officer.”

“OK, you have a nice day now.” He drove away.

I encountered a watershed of support. First I happened to knock on the local priest’s door who gladly signed a supporter card. Across the street, Yonnie had an Edwards sign in her yard but she was starting to lean towards Obama. Better yet, her boy friend was eighteen and signed a supporter card. This one block had tripled my supporter count and I was feeling over the moon. In the distance, the stadium erupted in applause.

That night, Tim and I sat in his kitchen, drinking Tecate and talking about girls, Buddhism and Barack Obama. He told me, “The day before Barack announced his candidacy, he said, ‘If I’m going to do this, I need you.’ And I don’t care if I sound crazy, but I swear he was talking to me. Like sometimes when I see him down here in Iowa I look at him, and I’m expecting that wink, yeah, I was talking to you.”

In his prison cell diary, Irish hunger striker Bobby Sands wrote that the freedom fighters must “do their part to play.” Whether or not you think Barak Obama is the revolution for America, he is the revolution for Tim. And, unlike many of us, Tim is playing his part.

There are plenty of people to kill in Iraq: a kaleidoscope of terror organizations, armies, bands, drug cartels, criminal networks and Islamic militias. It is becoming increasingly impossible to separate the innocent, impromptu and killing more bad guys will not resolve deep-seated tensions that have haunted Iraq for 35 years under Saddam Hussein.

What should the occupier do? Pulling out entirely would lead to genocidal civil war. Training new forces to fight in Iraq was probably the entire useless and would lead to genocidal civil war. Leaving only handfuls of American forces there, to train security forces or to hunt Al Qaeda in Mesopotamia, would no doubt only remove the military of the restraints to stave off genocidal civil war, but, given the violent and unrelenting occupation of Iraq.

One thing is certain: sooner or later, we will leave Iraq. In October, U.S. military leaders considered declaring victory on Al-Qaeda in Mesopotamia, since many of those militaries have been forced from Baghdad. Starting in late November, the United States began withdrawing a first batch of 5,000 troops from Diyala Province, which will bring the American troop count down to 157,000. The Iraq Study Group recommended that the United States deploy its troops by March 2008.

Whatever we do, it appears that genocide is coming one way or another. Why not leave now, and resign ourselves to the fate that our nation is apparently in, in part, responsible for Iraq’s fate.

At the moment, that is a question of whether we are going to defend ourselves. I am not going to defend myself. I do not want to be complicit in my own country’s genocide. But I am counting on you to help feel that, being an American, I already am a war criminal.
Are You There, Norman? It’s Me, God

By LAUREN CASCADA

Dear Norman,

On God, Norman? Are you fucking kidding me? You gave me no choice but to kill you after you took all your most recent book, On God, a self-righteous profession of your opinion on Me. Besides, acute kidney failure was so irresistibly appropriate.

You think heaven is only a means to further My own glorification? I guess you’ll never find out. You claim to know Me? That’s blasphemy. Never degrade My power over you, “for the wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23). You can sin and I cannot. You can die and I cannot. I guess you’ll remember that.

The worst transgression is your comparison between Me and you. You’re not Me. Norman I am God and I killed you. We may both be egotistical and heroically inclined, but you are not as great as Me. Up here, Norman, we call this pride.

Remember the last time you wanted power? You were celebrating your 1961 New York City mayoral campaign, drunk and stoned as usual. Then you stabbed your then-wife, Adie, twice with a penknife after she called you a “faggot.” You spent the next few weeks at Bellevue.

Your 1969 mayoral bid was non-violent, but nonetheless crude. Did it occur to you that the other candidates, “is that I’m not good and I can prove it.” And he probably forgot about that student that Queen when he asked what you’d do about the snow in his neighborhood that’s rarely cleared. You said you’d melt the snow by urinating on it. And you told your unpaid aids to go fuck themselves—“nothing but a bunch of spoiled pigs” you take. Your vulgarity is awfully endearing at times.

I did enjoy your life, particularly, on the Dick Cavett Show when you told Gore Vidal he ruined Kerouac when he slept with him.

Don’t forget the time you were arrested for disorderly conduct at Birdland after refusing to pay the $76.30 tab. I don’t know if it’s the ego or the liquor, but you never ceased to entertain.

You’ve always had a talent for enlivening historical fiction. Unfortunately, your talents as a novelist crossed over into journalism. Despite the Pulitzer Prize, I certainly like to embellish. You pissed off everyone you encountered—brutalized victims will be burned and all three had.

Your best friend David Jackoby. The supposed knife wounds that prosecutors used to “prove” the ritualistic nature of the murder, and matched to a knife found in a lake behind Jason’s house, were proven by analyses to be animal bites. Byers, who recently finished serving a long prison sentence for drug and burglary, has publicly apologized to Damien while wearing a “free the WMY” T-shirt, and claims to have recorded a phone conversation with his ex-buddy Hobbs that proves that Hobbs is the killer. Hobbs’ novel has publicly listed the murders as going around killing kids if it is to be believed that Satanists are going around killing kids.

Mark Byers was Christopher’s stepfather. A drug informant for the local police and jeweler by trade, he is one of the men and turbing characters in the film. He rants about the ways he was told to torture Damien Echols. He shoots pumpkins with a pistol in part because of the names Jes- sie, Jason, and Damien, and sets the crime scene on fire. He gives a knife to the filmmakers that he says is brand new, which turns out to have his murdered son’s blood on it. His wife is terrorized. He is never considered a suspect. Meanwhile, another stepfather, Jason’s father, Terry Hobbs, is never considered a suspect because of his record of attending church—even though he’d once been convicted of sexual assault.

A big break in the West Mem- phis 3 case was announced on No- vember 1. Eddie Vedder and a few other celebrities, appalled by the complete miscarriage of justice they saw in the films, raised money for the DNA testing of hairs found at the crime scene. It was shown that they belonged to Hobbs and his best friend David Jackoby. The supposed knife wounds that prosecutors used to “prove” the ritualistic nature of the murder, and matched to a knife found in a lake behind Jason’s house, were proven by analyses to be animal bites. Byers, who recently finished serving a long prison sentence for drug and burglary, has publicly apologized to Damien while wearing a “free the WMY” T-shirt, and claims to have recorded a phone conversation with his ex-buddy Hobbs that proves that Hobbs is the killer. Hobbs’ novel has publicly listed the murders as going around killing kids if it is to be believed that Satanists are going around killing kids.

Sincerely,

God

A Modern Day Witch Trial

Three Boys Falsely Imprisoned

By JON REISS

What if you woke up one morn- ing and no one could hear you screaming? The other day, I finished a book leaning against a pole in the L train, and felt like I wanted to scream and then throw up right there. I’ve spent two semes- ters writing for this paper, and nothing, not even my most recent book, a self- queen’s case was announced on No- vember 1. Eddie Vedder and a few other celebrities, appalled by the complete miscarriage of justice they saw in the films, raised money for the DNA testing of hairs found at the crime scene. It was shown that they belonged to Hobbs and his best friend David Jackoby. The supposed knife wounds that prosecutors used to “prove” the ritualistic nature of the murder, and matched to a knife found in a lake behind Jason’s house, were proven by analyses to be animal bites. Byers, who recently finished serving a long prison sentence for drug and burglary, has publicly apologized to Damien while wearing a “free the WMY” T-shirt, and claims to have recorded a phone conversation with his ex-buddy Hobbs that proves that Hobbs is the killer. Hobbs’ novel has publicly listed the murders as going around killing kids if it is to be believed that Satanists are going around killing kids.

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Opinion

The Millennial Militia

Boomers Shocked by Generation Gap

By Elizabeth Garber-Paul

Mr. Rogers tucked us up. We “Millennials”—those 80 million people born between 1980 and 1995—are doomed. According to a recent 60 Minutes segment, we are ill-prepared for adulthood because of the nurturing environment we were exposed to during childhood. “They were raised by doting parents who told them they were special,” reported the elderly Morley Schafer in a November 6 segment. “[They] played in little leagues with no winners or losers—or,” he paused in disgust, “all winners.”

But it didn’t end at childhood. The “coddling virus” continues to run rampant, he says, until the mid-twenties, even thirty. Half of new college graduates move home, supported by a “safety net of new college graduates move home, supported by a “safety net or safety diaper,” which enables them to opt-out of jobs they hate. They want to spend their twenties pursuing their big dreams instead of settling into the monotony of daily office life and giving up on a better, or at least more interesting, futures.

Part of the problem is that our generation has no shame living at home in their mid-twenties. “Not only is there no shame in it,” says Mary Crane, a White House Chef, “the generation has no shame living at home, supported by a “safety net of new college graduates move home, supported by a “safety net or safety diaper,” which enables them to opt-out of jobs they hate. They want to spend their twenties pursuing their big dreams instead of settling into the monotony of daily office life and giving up on a better, or at least more interesting, futures. “It’s true that we Millennials possess different values than many of our parents’ generation. We prioritize our family and friends over work, and ourselves over our companies. Where’s the fault in that? We’ve seen an entire generation laid off from jobs, expendable after thirty years of dedicated service. We’ve seen our parents split up—no doubt some fights over work being more important than family.”

What they fail to mention in the brief segment is the failures of their own generation. Thanks to them we have an American dollar weaker than the Canadian, a disastrous war costing us trillions, crumbling Social Security and a failing health care system, outsourced entry-level jobs and upper-management salaries four times those of the workers. We no longer have the option of a one-income family, and will probably never be able to afford the comfort level to which our parents were accustomed.

So tell me, Mr. Schafer, why the fuck should we follow in your footsteps?

Holiday Horoscopes

By Eric Hollerbach Design by Cossette Brunns

Aquarius 1/20–2/18:
Stay away from your weird uncle this holiday season. He’ll want to lick pies inside of your fingers.

Pieces 2/19–3/20:
You aren’t going to get the gift you wanted—mainly because you didn’t let anyone know what it was. It’s called Amazon Wish List.

Aries 3/21–4/19:
Try to stay healthy this holiday season. Treat yourself to something low-fat, like a bucket of razorblades.

Taurus 4/20–5/20:
When you go home, someone in your family is going to die. Yes, die. And 20 years from now, you’ll realize that you are next.

Gemini 5/21–6/21:
The less bonding with your mother, the better! She’s gonna bring up that old shit again about when you’re gonna get your life on track, and you’ll devour to locking yourself into your room and dry humping your bedpost. It will be sixth grade all over again.

Cancer 6/22–7/22:
While passing dishes, your mother will get a boiling gravy boat to the face. She’ll forever look like a fisherman.

Leo 7/23–8/23:
A game of Balderdash would be a hit. Learn the rules and start playing. You won’t win, but it will be a great holiday experience.

Virgo 8/23–9/22:
You’re going to have a drunken holiday. But remember, candies are still family even after eight eggnogs.

Libra 9/23–10/22:
You’re going to walk in on your father masturbating into a mirror, making for awkward holiday meals.

Scorpio 10/23–11/21:
Someone is going to ask you to give money for cancer, but don’t give in because cancer is evil.

Sagittarius 11/22–12/21:
When you’re back in your hometown, you’ll get a booty call from an old crush. And let me tell you, their ass is now huge.

Capricorn 12/22–1/19:
Happy birthday, loser. You’re going to get a gift bound to make this holiday season one to remember: anal warts.

Fruit Fly Life

By Courtney Nichols

My life is a revolving door of online celebrities. From DList Leather daddies to MySpace hipsters, once a week I encounter a new androgynous man and a new nineteen-pub-idol-inspired screen name.

In years past, gay men mingled among treadmill and weights, flexing muscles as a mating signal. Times have changed and so has technology, thus contributing to the influx in online dating within the homosexual circuit. Sadly, I have become overly accustomed to these hookups. Constantly I have to walk home after the man I’ve met out with recognizes another fellow from a profile pic. And many nights I push away my desire to introduce men in the area with my friends on such online dating websites. In high school I used to make my own costume—a bear at a local dance club and announced that I knew him from DList. He stared at me in disgust.

In high school I went through my online friends phase. No, I was not one of those girls having cyber sex with strangers twice my age. Instead, I was the girl who went on blind dates via AIM conversations. Surprisingly, I was introduced to my current best friend on a MySpace Vivienne Westwood fan club, and I learned all about the grown-up party games from college age on up. Gradually, common sense sadly kicked in and I prioritized face-to-face mingling above typed declarations of adoration. College came and my stories paled in comparison to those of my gay men.

At first I saw these incidents as no more than manhunt hookups, but when I realized you became relati

ships, it was obvious that online dating was legitimate means to finding a man...yet only for gay men, of course. A straight woman who finds a man online is defined within two clear-cut categories: an eHarmony commercial of Middle America virgin or a loose girl who wants sex, period. There is no in-between. When we do manage to find someone who is genuine through the World Wide Web, we are forced to lie. God forbid anyone should ever know through what terms such a relationship came to life.

I am neither appalled nor dis

mary through this trend. However, I am shocked by the amount of reasonable dates my gay friends have managed to go on through the Internet. DList hosts skinny-jean-wearing photographers to business-suit-clad Wall Street executives. As a straight woman, I cannot help but be jealous. Why must all our online dating options specifically cater to middle aged computer geeks desperate for any sex, or DList candidates forced into marriage by guilt-tripping mothers? All I want is an indie lets-just-meet-for-a-drink-and-see-what-happens-from-there website to call my own.
Cutting the Digital Cake

By CHRISTINE CALVO

In a special reunion episode that hasn’t aired since 1988, the head executives of the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP) and members of the Writers Guild of America (WGA) are starring with a big disagreement over how their talent is being handled. The writers ask for changes. The executives claim their demands are outrageous. A strike—and very little hilarity—ensues.

What exactly do these writers demand? An article in Variety states that the main proposals the WGA is asking for include doubling the residuals from DVD sales, giving writers the jurisdiction over internet materials, and mandating the conditions for how digital material is distributed. The AMPTP found these demands unreasonable. But it doesn’t sound like the WGA wants to take too much power away from the AMPTP, right?

With episodes available online, why shouldn’t the WGA have a piece of that digital cake, too? The last time these groups negotiated contracts, they argued about the hot technology of the time—VCRs and reruns. People were fired and millions of dollars were lost in the five months that the strike lasted. Nobody benefited. They lost nine percent of viewers who abandoned their televisions—most of whom have not returned. Writers were laid off. People who served the industry like caterers and shippers lost their jobs as well, because there were no more shoots to work.

Now, the internet has turned into a virtual goldmine, and writers never see a cent of these profits. The industry understands how valuable the internet is today—why else would Viacom have sued YouTube for streaming their content? It was only a matter of time before the writers took action.

“Renewable energy cannot be supported”

By JULIA SCHWEIZER

Imagine what could be done with $6 billion. Well, that’s about how much money was lost due to the Northeastern blackout of 2003. Subway lines, the Stock Exchange, hospitals—everybody came to a halt on that fateful day in August. While one could interpret massive power outages as mere inconveniences which at worst cause their meat to spoil, they are simply unacceptable. And the reason they persist is because of failing infrastructure.

Worldwatch Institute, an environmental research group, recently compared the electrical system to “computer technology circa 1980.” Basically, it is dominated by mainframes with only a “rudimentary network in place.” When this framework is put to the test by having to support a more populous and technological (read: power-consuming) world, its failures become apparent in the form of outages, for example.

On a given day, about 13.5 terawatts of energy will be consumed across the world. On the same day, the sun will deliver about 274,000 terawatts of energy to Earth. It is clear, then, that the problem we face is not a shortage of energy, but how to employ rational yet sustainable methods for harvesting energy.

In America, our current electricity grid is comprised of centralized generating facilities (think Monty Burns’ nuclear power plant), and the same substations that existed when Eisenhower announced the launch of the first satellite. Renewable energy, including wind, solar and geothermal, requires many lines of power in order to be cost-effective and efficient. Unfortunately, these new systems of harvesting our power cannot be supported by our archaic grid.

The next World Wide Web will be a Global Energy Grid—and it will transform everything. Now the only problem is how to go about this switch-over. According to the Electric Power Research Institute, the United States would have to shell out about $100 billion to update their grid with smart technology. Like the cost of war, taxpayers would have to bear the brunt of the cost of upgrading the electrical grid to make it renewable energy-friendly. It is generally agreed upon that to date, we’ve spent about $2 trillion on the Iraq war. The question is that renewable energy saves lives by cutting down on natural disaster deaths, as mere inconveniences which at worst cause their meat to spoil, they are simply unacceptable. And the reason they persist is because of failing infrastructure.

Support the Sustainability Committee

Sign the Renewable Energy Bill

Before Thanksgiving break we, the Sustainability Committee, delivered a letter to President Bob Kerrey proposing a number of first-steps that could be taken by the administration towards purchasing renewable energy. Copies of the letter were also delivered to Provost Ben Lee, and Vice-Presidents James Murtha, Frank Barletta, Lia Gartner and Nancy Stier. The letter contained a number of ideas detailing different ways the university could easily offset the marginal cost increase in-

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(Cherub Levendusky)
While caught up in my daily routines sometimes I find myself forgetting that I live and work on an island. Just considering Manhattan alone, there are 32 miles of waterfront access that has been developed in stages for a variety of new industrial and recreational functions. In the past it supported rich trading and ship building industries; once managing 52% of the nation’s imports and exports, New York’s deep harbor allowed the city to become the economic power it is today. However, since most of the maritime trade shifted to New Jersey in the 1950’s, the old piers are gone and the only remnants of this history are the jutting, broken-off wood pilings that line the shore.

I was drawn to photograph the land between the Williamsburg and Brooklyn bridges because, other than the sports fields that make up most of the East River Park, this area seems relatively dormant; an escape from the grid and a place that glows at sunset. Because this waterfront was once used for maritime and industrial purposes it appears underdeveloped compared to the rest of the surrounding neighborhoods. Currently it looks like a quilt; each patch fashioned by a different designer and implemented by variety of government and community-based organizations. Even though our water’s edge will never again be the thriving shipyard it once was, I think that we must consider the waterfront’s past while planning for its future.

Top: The elevated FDR drive sweeps along the East River, forming an obstruction between the streets and water’s edge. Left: Just below the Manhattan Bridge, the East River is caged off to public access. Below: A fisherman lingers at sunset, waiting for the catch of the day.

Above: A low tide exposes the Brooklyn Bridge beach. Bottom left: An old vacant pier, just south of the Brooklyn Bridge, awaits to be torn down. Bottom right: Corlear’s Hook Amphitheater, in the summer, opens for outdoor theater with a waterfront view.