



The
New York
Times

Skip to Bronx Music Heritage
Center (BMHC) mention

Spare Times for March 18-24

By ZACH WICHTER and JOSHUA BARONE MARCH 17, 2016

Information on events for possible inclusion in Spare Times should be sent to weekend@nytimes.com by Friday at 5 p.m. for publication the following week. Longer versions of Around Town and For Children listings are in a searchable guide at nytimes.com/events.

Museums and Sites

American Museum of Natural History: ‘Countdown to Zero’(through early 2017) Smallpox is the only human disease to have been eradicated, but what about Guinea worm, polio, malaria and others? This exhibition, presented in collaboration with the Carter Center, examines international efforts to control and wipe out infection. Daily from 10 a.m. to 5:45 p.m., Central Park West and 79th Street, 212-769-5200, amnh.org.

American Museum of Natural History: ‘Dark Universe’(continuing) With the return of the Hayden Planetarium, which closed in August for renovations, comes the latest space show, “Dark Universe.” Narrated by Neil deGrasse Tyson, the film explores mysterious dark matter and dark energy, and how scientists are working to improve their understanding of these phenomena. Every half-hour from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on weekdays; to 5 p.m. on weekends, Central Park West and 79th Street, 212-769-5200, amnh.org.

American Museum of Natural History: ‘The Secret World Inside You’ (through Aug. 14) In recent years, the microbiome — the roughly 100 trillion bacteria living inside and on human bodies — has been a popular talking point for science journalism. With ever-evolving research into this mysterious area of study, there’s still plenty left to explore. Now, it’s getting the exhibition treatment in this look at what scientists are learning about the role bacteria plays in health. Central Park West and 79th Street, 212-769-5200, amnh.org.

Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum: ‘Gilded Age Glamour: Fashions From the Bartow-Pell

Collection’ (through April 30) On a superficial level, this exhibition’s display of clothing and fashion illustrations is about the decadence of the Gilded Age. But it is also a glimpse into how fashion related to the public and private lives of New York families in the late 1800s. And what better site for that than the lavish 19th-century Bartow-Pell Mansion? 895 Shore Road North, Pelham Bay Park, the Bronx, 718-885-1461, bartowpellmansionmuseum.org.

Brooklyn Historical Society: ‘Brooklyn Americans: Hockey’s Forgotten Promise’ (through March 27) The New York Islanders may be new to Brooklyn, but the borough isn’t new to hockey. This exhibition tells the story of its first National Hockey League team, the Brooklyn Americans. The team wore red, white and blue jerseys and represented Kings County at the height of World War II and in the early days of the N.H.L. Still, as the exhibition shows, the team was unsuccessful and ultimately financially doomed. 128 Pierrepont Street, near Clinton Street, Brooklyn Heights, 718-222-4111, brooklynhistory.org.

‘The Discovery of King Tut’ (through May 1) The king himself doesn’t make an appearance at this exhibition; the focus is the wealth of treasures from his tomb, along with the history of what happened when the British archaeologist Howard Carter discovered it in 1922. Reproductions of the artifacts are on display, with explanations about how excavation and preservation work were carried out. Premier Exhibitions 5th Avenue, 417 Fifth Avenue, at 38th Street, 646-979-4120, tutnyc.com.

Discovery Times Square: ‘Vikings’ (through Sept. 5) This exhibition, which features more than 500 artifacts, explores why Vikings have held onto the popular imagination for more than 1,000 years — and why they are often misunderstood. Neil Genzlinger, in his New York Times review of the show, wrote: “What’s most interesting about the exhibition, though, is the way it places Vikings within the evolving world. It includes, for instance, a shell found on Gotland, the Swedish island, that came from the waters off distant Cyprus, because one thing Vikings were good at was getting around.” 226 West 44th Street, Manhattan, 866-987-9692, discoverytsx.com.

Intrepid Sea, Air & Space Museum: ‘On the Line: Intrepid and the Vietnam War’ (through Sept. 1) Visitors familiar with this museum are likely to be well aware of its flight deck, perhaps even some of its wartime history. During the Vietnam War, the Intrepid served three tours overseas between 1966 and 1969. Now, in an exhibition set in the space where the crew members lived and worked, the museum tells their stories with artifacts, film clips and photographs. Pier 86, 46th Street and 12th Avenue, Clinton, 877-957-7447, intrepidmuseum.org.

Jamaica Center for Arts & Learning: ‘Black Royals’ (through March 31) This exhibition to celebrate Black History Month brings in works lent by the African American Museum of Nassau County, including portraits of the dark-skinned British queens Sophia Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1744-1818) and Philippa of Hainault (1314-1369) — who both, some argue, had African ancestry. 161-04 Jamaica Avenue, Queens, 718-658-7400, jcal.org.

Morgan Library & Museum: ‘Wagner’s “Ring”: Forging an Epic’ (through April 17) Using a mix of manuscripts, costumes and other artifacts, this exhibition tells the story of how Wagner created his epic masterpiece — the four-opera cycle “Der Ring des Nibelungen” — including its first staging in Bayreuth,

Germany, in 1876, and its American premiere in 1889 at the Metropolitan Opera House. Zachary Woolfe, in his review of the exhibition for The New York Times, wrote: "Audio and video clips of the cycle, distributed generously through the installation, open up the memorabilia and scores like air in a balloon, endowing mere paper with reminders of the boldness and loftiness that so astonished Wagner's early audiences." 225 Madison Avenue, at 36th Street, 212-685-0008, themorgan.org.

Museum of Chinese in America: 'Sub Urbanisms: Casino Urbanization, Chinatowns and the Contested American Landscape' (through March 27) Stephen Fan, an architecture professor and curator, examines the trend of Chinese casino workers' converting suburban homes in Connecticut into multifamily communities. This exhibition is both creative and historical; it examines the present to imagine the future of housing design, while looking back on the events that created the trend of suburban migration. 215 Centre Street, between Howard and Grand Streets, Lower Manhattan, 212-619-4785, mocanyc.org.

Museum of the Moving Image: 'The World of "Anomalisa"' (through March 27) Two sets, as well as puppets of the film's main characters, make up an installation of materials from "Anomalisa," directed by Charlie Kaufman and Duke Johnson. Written by Mr. Kaufman, the movie uses meticulous stop-motion animation to explore themes of love and alienation with his usual mind-boggling touch. 35th Avenue at 37th Street, Astoria, Queens, 718-784-0077, movingimage.us.

New York Botanical Garden: 'The Orchid Show: Orchidelirium' (through April 17) Thousands of orchids are on view in the 14th edition of the Orchid Show, which follows the history of orchid collecting and 19th-century "orchidelirium" — the word used to describe the dangerous, seemingly insane risks explorers took to get this flower from jungles around the world. A variety of events, such as dance performances and readings, accompany this exhibition; more information is at nybg.org/exhibitions/2016/orchid-show. Bronx River Parkway (Exit 7W) and Fordham Road, Bedford Park, the Bronx, 718-817-8700.

New York Public Library: '100 Years of the Picture Collection: From Abacus to Zoology' (through May 15) The library celebrates the centennial of its Picture Collection with a sort of greatest-hits exhibition chosen from nearly 1.5 million images. (Lined up, the length of the photos surpasses even the height of the Empire State Building, which is, of course, included in the archive.) Subjects in the collection are organized alphabetically and number about 12,000. Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, 917-275-6975, nypl.org/locations/schwarzman; free.

New York Public Library: 'Shakespeare's Star Turn in America' (through May 27) In the 400 years since Shakespeare's death, his works have taken on lives of their own. This exhibition looks at his plays as they rose and fell in popularity through North American history. The library displays its own store of artifacts, including scripts, photos, programs and letters, allowing visitors to learn how Shakespearean productions reflected cultural standards and concerns, from Colonial times to the present day. New York Public Library for the Performing Arts, 111 Amsterdam Avenue, at 65th Street, Lincoln Center, 917-275-6975, nypl.org/lpa; free.

New York Transit Museum: 'Bringing Back the City' (continuing) This new exhibition comes three years after Hurricane Sandy took a swipe at the city's infrastructure. But what of the people who put the

pieces back together? “Bringing Back the City” tells the stories of everyday services — like electricity and mass transit — that become extraordinary in times of crisis. Boerum Place, at Schermerhorn Street, Brooklyn Heights, 718-694-1600, bringingbackthecity.com.

New York Transit Museum Gallery Annex: ‘Transit Etiquette, or: How I Learned to Stop Spitting and Step Aside in 25 Languages’(through July 10) “Dude ... stop the spread” posters are ubiquitous in the New York City subway these days, but what other transit faux pas have drawn attention through the years? This new exhibition displays posters from various periods and parts of the world that try to promote better commuting behavior through art and humor. Grand Central Terminal, 212-878-0106, mta.info/mta/museum; free.

[Continue reading the main story](#)

New York’s Yiddish Theater: From the Bowery to Broadway(through July 31) Yiddish theater was once a thriving part of Jewish life on the Lower East Side. Auditoriums that seated thousands of visitors would draw audiences every week, and tropes that started there eventually influenced Broadway houses, Hollywood studios and quintessential New York City humor. This exhibition looks at the history of Yiddish theater and its continuing impact on today’s entertainment. It is organized by Edna Nahshon, who wrote a book that shares its title. Museum of the City of New York, Fifth Avenue at 103rd Street, 212-534-1672, mcny.org.

Rubin Museum of Art: ‘Sacred Spaces’ (through Oct. 17) This exhibition’s premise is a question: What is a sacred space? It could be the museum’s Tibetan Buddhist Shrine Room, an immersive look at a traditional space for prayer and meditation. Or it could be a panoramic vista among the Himalayas. It could even be a video installation about Jain devotional rituals. All are on view in this exploration of veneration and its venues. 150 West 17th Street, Chelsea, 212-620-5000, rubinmuseum.org.

Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian: ‘Unbound: Narrative Art of the Plains’ (through Dec. 4) This exhibition takes a long view of Native American ledger art, tracing the form from its 18th-century roots through its contemporary revival, which began in the 1970s. A type of narrative drawing, ledger art can illustrate anything from the artist’s identity to important cultural events. 1 Bowling Green, Lower Manhattan, 212-514-3700, nmai.si.edu; free.

Events

Bronx Griot: The African Jali Tradition in NYC (Saturday) This celebration of jali — a West African tradition of telling history that incorporates singing, storytelling and poetry — begins at 7 p.m. with a performance by Kankaba Kanuteh accompanied by Salieu Suso. At 7:30 p.m. there will be a screening of clips from the documentary “In Search of Finah Misah Kule,” followed by a Q. and A. with the director and poet Kewulay Kamara. The jali ensemble group Badenya will close out the evening with a concert. Bronx Music Heritage Center Lab, 1303 Louis Niné Boulevard, Fairmont-Clairemont Village, 917-557-2354, whedco.org; free.

Fawkner Fireside Series: 'Political Tale: A Storytelling Show about Politics' (Monday) This is a funny show about politics, but not a political stand-up routine. A part of this Brooklyn bar's weekly Fireside series, the show features comedians, journalist, writers and actors poking fun at public officials and the election process through personal stories. Telling their tales are Frank Conniff, Jeff Kreisler, Harmon Leon, Jenice Matias and Joey Novick. At 8 p.m., Fawkner, 191 Smith Street, Cobble Hill, 718-369-3310, [facebook.com/FawknerNY](https://www.facebook.com/FawknerNY); free.

Full Bunny Contact (Tuesday through March 27) Think of this annual carnival-like event as an Easter nightmare come true. In the main event, three people are put in a caged field, armed only with Easter baskets, and are given 60 seconds to collect as many eggs as possible. The catch: Three deranged bunnies (or, at least, people in bunny suits) do everything they can to block the contestants without actually touching them. (Contestants aren't allowed to touch the bunnies either.) Eggs can be cashed in for prizes that range from petty (candy) to valuable (Broadway tickets). At various times; LATEA Theater at the Clemente, 107 Suffolk Street, between Rivington and Delancey Streets, Lower East Side; fullbunnycontact.com.

Met Breuer Opening Weekend (Friday through Sunday) The Metropolitan Museum of Art's newest location officially opens to the public this weekend with a number of events and ceremonies. Among the offerings are an interactive "drawing space" inspired by the museum's inaugural Nasreen Mohamedi exhibit; performances by David Dorfman Dance and musicians; and discussions at all three of the Met's sites on the topic of "the unfinished" to reflect another inaugural Breuer exhibit, "Unfinished: Thoughts Left Visible." Other highlights of the program include the opening of Vijay Iyer's performance residency at the new location, and Family Day events on Sunday. At various times, 945 Madison Avenue, at 75th Street, Manhattan, 212-535-0177, metmuseum.org.

Queens World Film Festival (through Sunday) Approximately 100 movies from 23 countries will be shown at four locations for the sixth edition of this festival. The films are broken up into thematic blocks, so communal dialogues can continue between the various related showings. Themes include "deconstructing family," "the race card," "a good laugh at love" and more. Highlights include David Sigal's locally focused documentary "Saving Jamaica Bay"; a screening of "Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song" (1971), followed by a Q. and A. with Melvin Van Peebles, who wrote, directed and starred in the film; and the closing night feature, Susan Seidelman's "Smithereens" (1982). Locations, schedules and more information about the films and special events are at queensworldfilmfestival.com.

Spoken Word

'De Materie' Conversations (Thursday through March 26) Louis Andriessen's masterpiece "De Materie" — opening next week at the Park Avenue Armory — is a meditation on matter and spirit that can easily boggle the mind. Three coming talks may help to make sense of the work. On Thursday, John Schaefer of WNYC moderates a panel discussion with Heiner Goebbels, the production's director; the music professor George Lewis; and the composer Miss Mazzoli. Next Friday, Mr. Schaefer speaks with the the Bang on a Can co-founder Julia Wolfe and the composers Nathan Michel and Donnacha Dennehy about Mr. Andriessen's influences on new music. And on March 26, Mr. Andriessen joins Mr. Goebbels, the

conductor Peter Rundel and Pierre Audi, artistic director of the Armory, for a talk with the dramaturge Cori Ellison. At 6 p.m., 643 Park Avenue, at 67th Street, 212-933-5812, armoryonpark.org.

Walking Tours

Long Island City Tours: Queens Cool Uncovered (Sunday) The idea behind this tour is that Queens is due for more attention, starting with Long Island City. The tour includes highlights of the neighborhood's history and arts scene, with stops at galleries and crafts and food vendors. The meeting location is given at registration. At 2:30 p.m., 212-209-3370, bgetours.com.

Broadway Close Up: 'Act I' (daily) Broadway Close Up's flagship tour takes participants through the history of Manhattan's theater district, from its origins in the 1880s to this season's hits. Highlights include the busy 42nd Street, ghost stories and theaters where history was made — including the Nederlander Theater, where the tour begins and where the musical "Rent" introduced changes (like ticket lotteries) that are popular today. At 11 a.m., beginning at 208 West 41st Street, Manhattan, 917-841-0187, broadwayupclose.com.

'Chelsea and the High Line' (Saturday) The route of this Big Onion walking tour explores the neighborhood's development from an agricultural center in the 18th century to the industrial heart of Manhattan in the early 20th. The walk includes a visit to the High Line, as well as possible stops at the General Theological Seminary, the birthplace of the Oreo cookie and the Chelsea Hotel — in front of which the tour begins. At 11 a.m., 222 West 23rd Street, 888-606-9255, bigonion.com.

Flatiron District Walking Tour (Sunday) This free tour meets at 11 a.m. on the southwest corner of Madison Square Park, at 23rd Street and Broadway, in front of the William Seward statue. Sponsored by the Flatiron/23rd Street Partnership; discoverflatiron.org.

'Ghosts of Grand Central' (Saturday) Now that winter has arrived, how about a tour that stays indoors? This haunted walk through Grand Central doubles as a history lesson about the notable commuters of the past, such as August Belmont, Franklin D. Roosevelt and, of course, his Scottish terrier, Fala. The tour meets in front of the New York Transit Museum Gallery Annex, in the hallway west of the train station's famous four-sided clock. Saturdays through March 26 at 7:30 p.m., 646-493-7092, ghostsofny.com.

History of Wall Street Tour (weekdays) Stops on this tour, led by Wall Street Walks, include the New York Stock Exchange, Trinity Church, the Wall Street Bull, ground zero and the Sept. 11 memorial. The tours last 90 minutes and begin at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. (Also at 3 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays.) More details: wallstreetwalks.com.

'The Lower East Side: The "Creative Destruction" of an Ethnic Neighborhood' (Friday) This portion of Manhattan has, in the past, been far less trendy — and expensive — than it is today. Its history as home to multiple ethnic groups is highlighted in this tour, whose stops include an African burial ground, University Settlement House and the theater that was once known as the "Jewish Carnegie Hall." At 1 p.m., beginning at Houston Street and First Avenue, Lower East Side, 888-606-9255, bigonion.com.

St. Patrick's Weekend Irish New York (Saturday) This tour explores the Little Ireland district of the Lower East Side while uncovering the big role played by Irish immigrants in the history of New York City. In addition to explaining why St. Patrick's Day is more popular here than in Ireland, the route will include key locations in Irish-American history, including the first Catholic church in the city, the founding site of the Ancient Order of Hibernians and sites associated with Tammany Hall. At 11 a.m., St. Paul's Chapel, Broadway at Fulton Street, Lower Manhattan, 888-606-9255, bigonion.com.

A Taste of Jewish New York: Borough Park Tour (Sunday) Participants in this tour will get an insider's look at the customs of the Hasidic residents of Borough Park, Brooklyn. Highlights include a stop at a lively shopping area and the chance to try a variety of traditional foods. Modest attire is requested. The tour meets at 10:45 a.m. at Fort Hamilton Parkway and 44th Street; 718-339-2302, timelinetouring.com.

Weird Tales of the West Village (Saturday) This tour winds its way through the West Village as participants learn about the place where H.P. Lovecraft found inspiration and where Edgar Allan Poe wrote some of his darkest stories. Along the route participants will hear urban folklore, little-known historical facts and find out how the area relates to the unknown and the occult. (Also on April 2.) The group meets on the northeast corner of Sullivan and West Third Streets at 7 p.m., boroughsofthedead.com; space is limited.

Correction: March 18, 2016

An earlier version of these listings included an entry for the opening day events at Luna Park and Deno's Wonderwheel Amusement Park on Coney Island. Because of Sunday's forecast for snow, the events have been rescheduled for March 26.

[Original story published on nytimes.com](http://nytimes.com)