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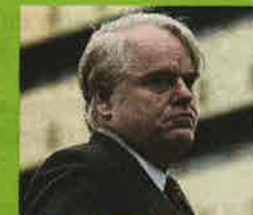
AUGUST 7-13, 2014



Da Nico de-lovely
in Tottenville
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Down to the sea in
'Bikinis' at Music Hall
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Catch Hoffman's
somber swan song
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ADVANCE WEEKLY ENTERTAINMENT | STATEN ISLAND ADVANCE

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Going global

2 events at S.I Museum
celebrate the rich
diversity of our
borough **PAGE 8**

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The Musical



New Date:
October 10th

GOING GLOBAL, LOCALLY

Combined events at the S.I. Museum celebrate the borough's amazingly diverse communities

By Rob Bailey | bailey@siadvance.com

We are the world. Hold up: I'm not quoting Michael Jackson's all-star charity anthem that sold 20 million copies circa 1985. I'm just singing the praises of Staten Island's richly diverse — and too often underrated — cultural offerings.

Once a month since 2010, the Second Saturday Art Walk Series has showcased and connected a wealth of talent on the borough's North Shore.

This weekend, however, it's going global — or "local/global" as event co-curators Melissa West and Natalia Linares like to put it.

"One of the important aspects of this event is the idea of local/global: How do we explore the depths of our identity as Staten Islanders while also looking at our heritage and global roots?" says West. "We have such an amazingly diverse borough and it prompted us to ask questions about what makes our 'island' culture? We hope the food and art demonstrations we are preparing will help us share that with the island."

"A big part of Second Saturday's mission is to encourage a vibrantly engaged community through the arts," West says. "We've invited [representatives] from the Conference House, Protectors of Pine Oak Woods, S.I. Arts Folklife program, Greenbelt Conservancy, S.I. OutLOUD, as well as other groups."

This weekend's installment of the Second Saturday Summer Series — presented in partnership with the Staten Island Museum thanks to a neighborhood grant from the Citizens Committee for NYC — features two intriguing, free events at the Museum, located at 75 Stuyvesant Pl. in St. George.

Phoebe Blue and
the Make Baleaves
(COURTESY OF THE BAND)



Melissa West, co-curator of the
Second Saturday Summer Series





WORLD FUN PARTY

From 1–4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 9

1 p.m. World Party Mixer: Featuring local/global music, eats (including a Sri Lankan food demo by Monica Thenuwara), and information on the latest community events planned by a vast group of social, environmental and cultural groups. Meet your neighbors, share ideas and learn about the diverse cultural communities of S.I.

1:30 p.m. Staten Island Dance Jam: Local cultural advocate and "ISLA" programmer Natalia Linares invites you to "come get your freak on in the S.I. Museum courtyard and get your body moving with this local mobile dance crew."

2–3 p.m. Perfume Making Workshop with Mustache Mermaid: Join Lys Merlo and Nani Ferreira-Mathews, the founders of Mustache Mermaid, a local fragrance and accessory line "for all peoples and mythical creatures," as they teach us how to use natural scents to make homemade, "genderless" perfume.

3–3:45 p.m. Music by Phoebe Blue & the Make Baleaves: Local anti-folk group (yeah, that's really how it's spelled) takes us through a musical odyssey of poetic imagery, animal totems and childlike reverie.

FIVE BORO STORY PROJECT PRESENTS 'SUMMER ON STATEN ISLAND'

4–6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 9.

This annual storytelling tour offers an outlet for gaining fresh perspectives on the outer boroughs, while preserving local history and boosting pride in New York City neighborhoods.

"Spend just one day in the Big Apple and you'll come away with a great story," says Bridget Bartolini, founder of the Five Boro Story Project, "so imagine what tales the locals have to tell."

Bartolini grew up hearing her grandparents' stories of living in the bustling tenements of the Upper East Side, where people raised pigs in their apartments and lit bonfires in the street until rising rents drove them to one of the furthest corners of the city: South Richmond Hill, Queens — the boonies, where the quiet kept them up at night.

Inspired by family stories of the old neighborhoods and her love of New York City, frustrated by negative stereotypes about the outer boroughs and the inequitable distribution of resources in the city, and motivated by her belief in the power of storytelling to connect people, she founded the Five Boro Story Project to create a platform for unheard stories of the city.

Bartolini says "Summers on Staten Island" will celebrate the "forgotten borough" and the many reasons to take pride in being an Islander.

Enjoy true stories about S.I. summers from five-time Emmy-winning producer Dolores Morris, writer-comic-educator Nanci Richards and actress-activist Dedunu Suraweera, as well as poetry from Eric Alter. Then the audience is invited to share tales, memories and anecdotes in the Story Circle. Free with regular museum admission.

This Five Boro Story Project production is the third installment in the Neighborhood Portrait Series, commissioned by The Laundromat Project's Create Change Program.



Second Saturday: A brief history

The monthly art walk, centered on S.I.'s North Shore, was founded in 2010 by Brendan Coyle and Amanda Curtis. From its inception, Second Saturday has featured a mixture of galleries and studios, and art of all sorts, including performance art, painting, live music, and even tattoos.

Its mission: To facilitate a working partnership between artists, curators, galleries, audiences and local businesses to promote a more engaged community.

Over the past few years, other gallery spaces, pop-up art shows and performance venues have opened their doors to the community on the second Saturday of each month, offering free and low-cost art events. Leadership has changed as well; as of August 2013, the organizing director of Second Saturday Staten Island is Melissa West.

What began as a small, do-it-yourself movement has grown into a fixture of the Island's North Shore.



Bridget Bartolini



Dolores Morris