

## East Village Beat: Sophie's Belly Button An Interview With Aileen and R. Crumb's Kid

BY PAULETTE POWELL

I recently met cartoonist Sophie Crumb at my friend Fly's pad. I asked her a few questions about her autobiographical comic book *Belly Button*, published by Fantagraphics Books. Sophie's work has a haunting, familiar quality, and her stories are her own. This mix of talent and truth works well on paper. Sophie is making her mark.

*I just sent my second comic to my ex, the story about hooking up with him and doing a lot of speed and how fucked up our relationship was. I sent it to him more than a month ago, and I haven't heard from him yet. I mean, I even put photos of us in the comic. I think he hates me.*

**What cartoons and comics did you like when you were a kid?**

My parents and I always watched old stuff—*The Little Rascals*, *The Three Stooges*, Laurel and Hardy, the Marx Brothers, and a bunch of old black and white cartoons (like Max Fleischer's *Betty Boop*). I loved all of it and still do. My Dad collects old comics from the '40s and '50s (his childhood) and he would read them to me—*Little Lulu*, *Donald*

**Which parent do you identify with most, Mom or Dad?**

Both.

**Before Johnny Depp did it, your family moved from rural California to the South of France. Why?**

I don't know, I was 9. I suppose because we had gone there a lot and had friends in this tiny beautiful village, and the area where we were living in California (the valley) was becoming more developed and invaded by assholes with SUV's, and huge ugly track houses were popping up everywhere, and because the education system is so bad there. When you have the freedom to work from home, why not move?

**How did the move affect you and are you different from your young American contemporaries because of it?**

Yes, of course I am different. I don't know shit about the youth culture, the music, the artists, the ways. I am always like, "what the hell are you talking about?" And all the time I hear, "what?! you've never heard of them?!!" No, I never heard of them 'cause I was too busy riding my moped to the river with my gang of French okees.

**Why did you choose the name *Belly Button*? (and when can we expect number three?)**

It is explained on the first page of the first issue. [*Belly Button* is a French expression that means someone who looks at their belly button is someone who is self-centered. She named it that because the comic is autobiographical.] And I haven't started number three yet because I spend all my time doing stupid art jobs to pay rent.

***Belly Button* is your autobiographical comic book. How do your friends feel about your portrayal of them?**

I don't know. It's probably weird. I just sent my second comic to my ex, the story about hooking up with him and doing a lot of speed and

how fucked up our relationship was. I sent it to him more than a month ago, and I haven't heard from him yet. I mean, I even put photos of us in the comic. I think he hates me.

**Is there a real Eddy Bear? And who are ZoZo and ZaZa?**

Of course they are real! What are you trying to say?

**How is your tattooing coming along? When and where can we get a Sophie tattoo?**

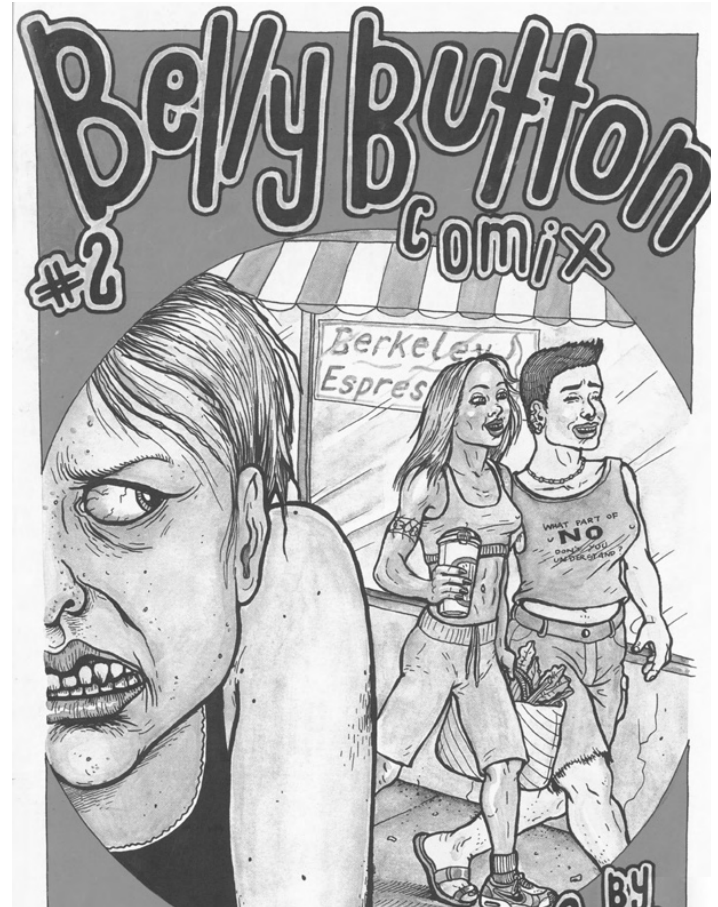
It is going ok I guess. It is a hard trade to learn. I work at a place called Studio Dep in Brooklyn: [www.dastewdeo.com](http://www.dastewdeo.com), 718-643-1610. I am doing cheap tattoos (the apprentice pricing).

**New Yorkers like to think they are superior, "there's NYC and then there is the rest of the country," and San Francisco folks like to think they created the Beats and that they are more environmentally aware. Can you tell us the truth?**

Nope. I don't know the truth. Parisians think they are better than everyone, too. There are always annoying, pretentious moneymaking preaching yuppies, especially in these big cities.

**How is your great American adventure going?**

Well, I am not doing anything very exciting right now except the tattooing. I hope to travel



For more info check [www.oogenblik.nl](http://www.oogenblik.nl) and [www.fantagraphics.com](http://www.fantagraphics.com). You can purchase Sophie Crumb's *Belly Button* at Village Comics, Saint Mark's Comics, and Forbidden Planet!



Duck, Pogo the Possum, Popeye, great stuff. I didn't like the stuff for kids on TV that much except *Sesame Street*.

**When did you start drawing your own stories and comics?**

I used to draw wacky comics when I was a kid, but I became too self-conscious and self-critical when I was a teenager. Around 20 I started drawing comics again. But I have always had a sketchbook.

**What makes you draw? Is it something that just comes naturally or do you have to work hard at it?**

Drawing is an impulse; comics are work.



this fall and see some land.

**What is your next project aside from *Belly Button*?**

Zines.

**Tyrone Williams**

Cincinnati  
2

Relief spells itself by manumission-ship, by dint of virgule and virgulesque enjambment, by going and coming without coming BACK [impacted RETURN, blocked ESC].

A glade stands aside to let a clearing pass. A wave washing over a cove uncovers an inlet. To comb nooks and crannies for clichés. To uproot x and y axes. Supplant.

No. ( )



## Down Goes Luna Lounge

*The Tide Rises, the Guard Changes, and the Lower East Side is Fucked*

BY ERIC ROSENFELD

It sounds like the plot from an eighties movie—you know, where a bunch of kooky kids have to stop the big bad real-estate mogul from tearing down their favorite hangout and turning it into a shopping mall. Except this time there's a dearth of kooky kids. The Luna Lounge, having served up 10 years of music and comedy on Ludlow Street, is being forced out. The Morris Platz LES Realty Corporation recently bought Luna's building and plans to convert it and its neighbors into a lucrative residential complex. Yes, this kind of thing does happen in real life, even if the bad guy in question doesn't wear a white suit, stroke a matching cat and stand dramatically before a scale model of the new development that rises up pneumatically from his conference table. At least I assume Morris Platz doesn't do that.

Collective Unconscious, Fez Under Time Café, Surf Reality, and the Luna Lounge—all mainstays of the Lower East Side cultural scene—are closed or are about to close. In addition to offering up a huge number of local groups—98% of Luna's bills are local—Luna Lounge has given us experimental comedy, primarily in the form of Monday night's Eating It. Part of the Luna Lounge since its inception, Eating It has become an institution known for its original comedy and surprise appearances by the likes of Janeane Garofalo, Marc Maron, and Neal Pollack. Collective Unconscious has since reopened on Clinton St., closed, and reopened on Church St. It has been struggling in a way it didn't at its old Ludlow location. No one's sure if other nearby clubs like the Mercury Lounge and Arlene's Grocery are also in danger any time soon, but the fates of their siblings (not to mention smaller venues like the Pink Pony, once a coffee-shop/music space and now an upscale French restaurant) do not bode well for them. Even CBGB's, the club that pretty much started the whole thing, will soon have to renew its lease on the Bowery at double its current rate, or get out of Dodge. The 'hood sure is a changin'.

Of course, the neighborhood has never stopped changing. Once upon a time the LES was a hotbed of Yiddish Theater, and when was the last time you went to one of those? We all know that the neighborhood has gotten a lot safer and, not coincidentally, more gentrified since the Giuliani administration. What the Lower East Side is confronted with today is the Soho Situation.

A relatively convenient neighborhood with relatively low rent attracts artists and other creative people, because they can afford it. Cool music, art, and performance spaces start opening up to cater to these artists. *The Voice* writes about it, years later, *New York*, and then, finally, *The Times*. Tourists show up. The

place becomes so cool, a better class of insurance exec moves in who likes the hip name of his new address, but feels uncomfortable with all the bohemians roaming his streets. Rents inflate. The artists who previously defined the neighborhood are priced out. Pretty soon, no one who votes Democrat can afford to live there, the venues all close up, and you end up with a bunch of restaurants and stores that no artist can afford, and absolutely nothing to do once the sun goes down.

The Luna Lounge is considering moving into a larger space on Essex Street in a building they may share with the (again) relocated Collective Unconscious, and with a separate theater for the Eating It folks. But Rob Sacher, co-owner of Luna Lounge with Dianne Galliano, says they can only get this space with the active assistance of the current leaseholder and the city of New York, which owns the building. This is because there is the potential that they could be muscled out by people with more money and a higher profit margin, as with their current building, or that the building could be held empty by the City until real estate prices go up further and more money can be made, like with the abandoned low-rises in Alphabet City.

"What it comes down to," says Sacher, "is that clubs like Luna Lounge will only be on the Lower East Side if the people want them to be there. They're going to be priced out unless the community decides that these kind of clubs need to be in this community. If the community doesn't support this kind of thing they're going to get \$14 martini bars, places like Lotus."

If the place on Essex falls through, Sacher is looking seriously at Williamsburg. "Inertia is keeping things in the Lower East Side," he says, "but I'm not sure that inertia is enough to justify staying here." After all, only 25% of the club's customers are LES residents, while 40% are from Williamsburg. "When I'm considering a new space, I go to the area and ask myself how many of the people walking around look like the kind of people who would come to the Luna Lounge," he says. "In Williamsburg I'd say 80% of the people look like customers."

Williamsburg is also facing the Soho Situation, and one wonders how long it will be until a Starbucks opens on Bedford Ave (the articles have already been written). It's easy to imagine that in another 10 years things may well push further out into Greenpoint and Bushwick. In any case, if the "scene" moves into Brooklyn in toto, it will be the end of an era, not only for the LES but also for Manhattan. Lower Manhattan has been linked to art and



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culture since the days of Edgar Allen Poe and Mark Twain. If the only thing keeping artists downtown is rapidly expiring inertia, what remains will be the feeling one gets in Greenwich Village—a rich past gutted, commodified, and packaged for tourist consumption.

And if the artists keep getting pushed farther out, what's to stop them from abandoning our great city entirely and moving somewhere more inviting—not to mention cheaper? Sacher remains hopeful. "Economic difficulties are making it more difficult for artists to live here, but for artists who find creative solutions to the problem, there is still the greatest diversity of artists here," he says. "If you live in a place like New York City and you can deal with the stress and figure out how to live here, your art is going to be much more exciting, rather than moving out to the prairie where your art will be boring."

Is it enough? We live in hope.

## The Carlucci Projects: Angela's New Releases

**Double Deuce**

**Camp Candy**

**The Baby Skins**

**For a Boy with a Fractious Skull**

BY JONATHAN BERGER

It seems that 2005 will be the year of Angela Carlucci. It's only a couple of months into the new year and already the young performer has released three albums. They're all collaborative records, but, hell, the year is still young.

Angela Carlucci has been in the Baby Skins with Crystal Madrilejos since September 2001, and has been playing with her brother Toby Goodshank for much longer, most recently in the group Double Deuce. Both bands have released albums in 2005, as has Cockroach, where Carlucci sings back-up and Madrilejos plays cello. Madrilejos sometimes adds cello and vocals to Double Deuce's songs, too. All of Carlucci's projects seem interconnected. "We live together now," she says of her, her brother, and Madrilejos.

To watch Carlucci you wouldn't think she'd be in the midst of so much activity. She's quiet, and on stage she seems to occupy as little

space as possible. "I still get really nervous before every show," she says, "but I think I've definitely grown in getting up on stage." Her voice, high and sweet, is much in demand. She is the quiet center of all these bands, the eye of this musical storm.

She began singing with her brother later on in high school. "We had this stereo at home, it had a karaoke button," said Carlucci. "We would sing some Beatles songs." Years later their collaboration would grow. "My brother would play a show and he'd ask me to play a song, sort of as backup, and then we decided

to write some songs together." Double Deuce was born.

Goodshank, Carlucci's older sibling, is in the foreground of Double Deuce with his forceful vocal delivery and strong guitar playing. The songwriting sounds very much like his solo work, but it is entirely collaborative. "We'll just write things on the fly," she says, explaining the spontaneity of the project.

Cockroach is Dan Penta's band, his almighty bray the most powerful instrument in the sextet. The backup vocals help to sweeten the mix but seem almost an afterthought. "His

**Carlucci's voice, high and sweet, is much in demand. She is the quiet center of all these bands, the eye of this musical storm.**

songs are lyrically driven and beautiful," says Carlucci, "I'm just honored to be part of it. Cockroach has been so amazing to me since Dan is one of my musical heroes."

It's in the Baby Skins where Carlucci seems most at home. The vocals, effortlessly harmonized with Madrilejos, are sincere and hauntingly cute. "I guess I hold Baby Skins closer. I'm really in touch with it. I feel like I think about it a lot." While the Baby Skins has performed as a full-on rock quartet, for now their sound will remain quiet and less raucous. "We're just having fun doing the duo thing," says Carlucci.

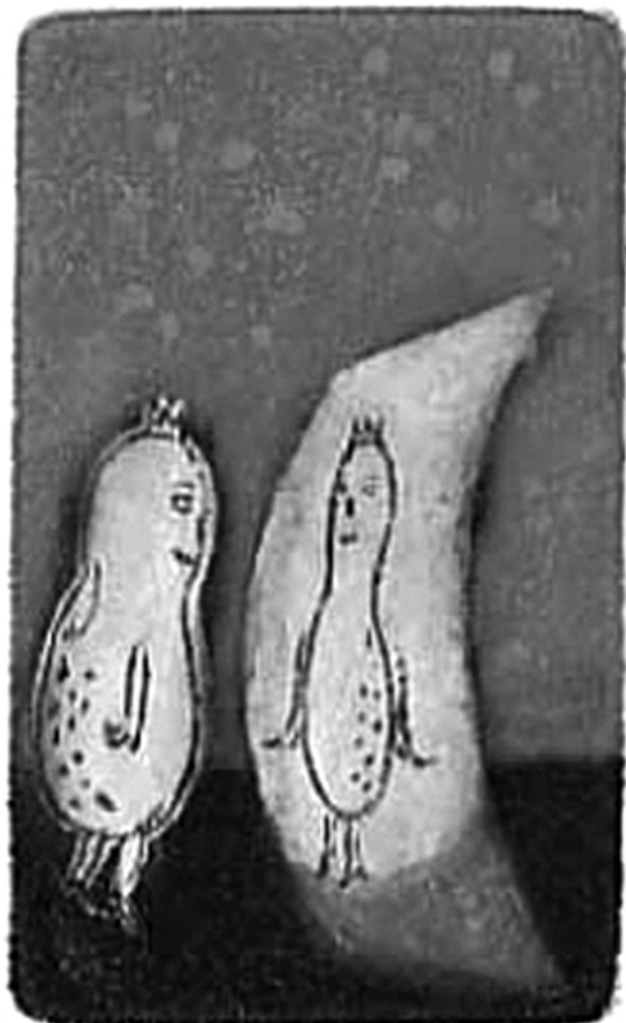
The Baby Skins' *For a Boy with a Fractious Skull* and Double Deuce's *Camp Candy* are available through Olive Juice Music. All the music is new and well worth hearing. The Baby Skins and Cockroach will perform at the Sidewalk Cafe (6th Street and Avenue A) on March 25.

[www.olivejuicemusic.com](http://www.olivejuicemusic.com)  
[www.unicornsounds.com](http://www.unicornsounds.com)



# ART

**Maho Kino**  
Williamsburg, Brooklyn



### About the Artist

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# POETRY

## Susan Landers

Greenpoint, Brooklyn

### *Everything I am Today*

### *Took Days to Drive the Noise Out*

And in this green room a sun.

And in this square plot the narrative of my rocking.

And in this my chant an empty playing field.

A swing state on which to focus attention.

Focus like a string through the center of a body the flesh like a sphere on its pole.

Spinal cord give me now liver or bone.

And in this root a drilling.

And in this blood pepper and seaweed.

And in this current exists gravity.

Magnet music of overripe tension the sinking of teeth into beets.

A beautiful lung sound this my gecko love song of air.

## James Meetze

San Diego, Calif.

### *We Stayed In The Water*

The sounds come in, the sounds fade out, the sound-maker is gone  
with a bite of sorrow.

But now I am compact inside my private room without possibility  
and without song, and what is quiet is luminous.

All the world is breeding stripes of water beneath a cloud, beneath  
a canopy that sadness cannot breach.

As the sounds come I compact my way of receiving them because  
quiet does not make sound inevitable.

All the water fades into the heat of the day, where the stripes are more  
like waves, the cloud a monument.

#### **About the Poets**

**Susan Landers** is the author of *248 mgs., a panic picnic* from O Books. **James Meetze** is the author of *Serenades* (Cy Press, 2003). **Alli Warren's** chapbook *Yoke* is out from Fauxpress.com/e. **Tyrone Williams's** (cover) book *c.c.* is out from Krupskya.

## Alli Warren

Santa Cruz, Calif.

### *String Pans and Pencil Trap*

contracting and sailing apart  
Quick say something clever  
You look like a virgin in that dress  
Prisons with them felons, parade!  
Should I feel bashful and alone  
That is a nice ham hock  
I fear the waves upon which we float now  
might sink at some point  
in the sensible weight of the future  
Stuff that I own: sweaters, lamps, food  
Ate and ate, and wanted no use  
Drugstore is some of my favorite place  
to kill and be killed, scotch,  
I'm not sure what there is  
Humping the wrong end  
of the back of my hand  
Continuing to happen  
to the palm of my tongue  
A band aid and a brooch  
some sweet white corn  
Run from your grandmother  
It is a biological impossibility  
all the more embarrassing  
worth submitting to the board

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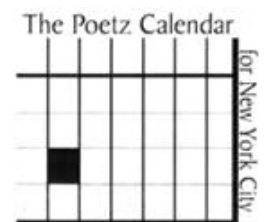
03/11 - Elizabeth Bassford

03/18 - Joel Allegretti

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## Weekly Events

**Sun.** 3pm Two featured poets + open mic, Back Fence, \$3 cover + \$3 min. • Our Unorganized Reading, open mic, Mindy Levokove, J.D. Rage, Eugene Ring, Bruce Weber, no lists/no bs/no time limit, ABC No Rio, \$2 4pm Butch Morris, BPC, \$12 5pm Steven Bernstein's The Millennial Orchestra, BPC, \$10 6pm Three featured poets, The Cornelia Street Café, \$6 cover gets you 1 free drink • Phoenix Reading Series, featured poet TBA + open mic, Flannery's Bar, \$5 + purchase 7pm open mic, Vox Pop, BK, free 7:45pm Open Mic hosted by Faceboy, Collective Unconscious, \$3

**Mon.** 4pm Study Abroad on the Bowery! Visiting Writers in Performance & Conversation, BPC, \$10/5 students w/i.d. 7pm louderMondays, always an open mic and feature, sometimes a slam, hosted by Fish Vargas, Bar 13, \$5/\$4 student ID (two for one drinks all night) • Saturn Series, featured poet + open mic, Nightingale, two drink minimum+\$3 donation 7:30pm Poetry & acoustic music open mic, The Village Ma, Free 8pm The Souldution, open mic for poets musicians singers, The Flat Lounge, Free 10pm The O'Debra Twins "Show & Tell," BPC, \$3

**Tues.** 5:30pm Open Book: Reading Circle on Milton's *Paradise Lost*, BPC, free 8pm Open mic for poets & musicians-piano available, The Cave Bar & Willow Creek Restaurant, QN, free • Express Yourself Tuesdays: open reading celebrating creativity for poets, MCs, singers, comedians, musicians, Brown Chocolate Café, BK, free before 9 one drink minimum, \$12 after includes one drink • Featured poet and open mic, The Muddy Cup, SI 9pm Untie the Tongue: Featured poet and open mic, Grand Central Bar, BK, free 10pm Stefan Zeniuk's Open Ear, BPC, \$8 11:59pm Nite Cap with Shap! 'til 4am, BPC

**Wed.** 7pm World In, Open mic for poets, singers, storytellers, etc., 5C Culture Center, \$5 7:30pm Collective: Unconscious Reverend Jen's Anti-Slam open mic performance, artists, writers, comedians, sketch-comics, actors, and musicians, (six-minute time limit) Collective Unconscious, \$3 8pm Java & Wood, open reading, Java & Wood, BK, free 8:30pm What's the Word Wednesdays: open reading for poets, singers, musicians, comedians, Sugar Shack, \$5 9pm Nuyorican Slam, third Wednesday only is HipHop open mic, all other Wednesdays an open slam, The Nuyorican Poet's Café, \$5 11:59pm Afterparty: Midnights with Moonshine! Closed Mic 1 drink min (drink specials 'til dawn), BPC, No Cover

**Thurs.** 7pm open mic, Brown Chocolate Café, \$7 7:14pm Poetry Slam & Open Mic! Produced by NYC-Urbana, the most successful poetry slam in the city! BPC, \$6 8pm Ebonics, featured poet, slam, showcase, and open mic, Music on Myrtle, BK, \$2 • open mic, Kay's Café, BX, \$5

**Fri.** 6pm Buck Wild's Wild West Show!! BPC, free • Pink Pony West, featured poet and open mic, The Cornelia Street Café, \$6 gets you a free drink 6:30pm The Taylor Mead Show, BPC \$5 7pm Rick Shapiro, BPC, \$7/5 7:30pm Ozzie's Poetry Night, an open reading for poetry and prose, Ozzie's Coffee and Tea, BK, free 10pm Spotlight poets and Slam, followed by a midnight open mic, Nuyorican Poets Café, \$5 11:59pm Paradigm Spillover, BPC, \$6

**Sat.** 4pm Phoenix Readings; Brooklyn-featured poets TBA + open, Shakespeare's Sister, BK, \$5 6:45pm Circus by the Sea, BPC, \$20 9pm Open, Neo Soul, spoken word showcase, 4 poets, MC, singers and comedians, Café Imani, BK, free

## Daily Events

**Tues. 1** 7pm Women Poets at Barnard: Eleni Sikelianos & Frank Bidart, Barnard College, free 7:30pm Park Slope Poetry Project—Hal Sirowitz, Bradford Agy +open, St. John. St. Matthew-Emanuel Lutheran Church, BK, \$5 • Fresh Fruit Cabaret, BPC, \$10 8pm Battle Hill Reading Series: John Coletti & Eddie Berrigan, KILI, BK, \$5 • JCC, three Jewish poets on family w/Hermine Meinhard, Anna Rabinowitz & Rachel Zucker, Jewish Community Center, \$8/members free

**Wed. 2** 6pm Emily XYZ presents: Unusual Drink on Me w/Todd Colby, BPC, \$6 6:30pm Admit One: open mic for poets & performers, Flying Saucer Café, BK, free • First Wednesdays, featured reader + open mic, hosted by Bronx Writers Center, Bronx Bar & Café, BX, free 7pm featured poet + open mic, Jake's Saloon • Taha Muhammad Ali & Peter Cole, Poets House, \$7/free for members 7:30pm Brooklyn the Beautiful: open mic for sophisticated, rhythmic, socially conscious art w/grand prize for best artist, Café Shane, BK, free • The PSA Festival of New American Poets, Tishman Auditorium, The New School, \$10/\$7 PSA members +students both nights or \$7/\$5 PSA members + students one night • Jai, Mike McGee + open, Spoken-Words Café, BK, \$5 8pm Shawn Randall's Symphonics, BPC, \$7 • The Poetry Project: Amina & Amiri Baraka, St. Mark's Church, \$8/\$7 students + seniors/\$5 members

**Thurs. 3** 8:30am BRC Breakfast Meeting, BPC 5:30pm The Paul Aaron Show w/Steve Dalachinsky & Frank Messina, BPC, \$5 7:30pm The PSA Festival of New American Poets, Tishman Auditorium, The New School, \$10/\$7 PSA members +students both nights or \$7/\$5 PSA members + students one night 9pm Jake's Def Poetry open mic, Jake's Saloon, free 10pm Center Coast: a Music Showcase w/ Open Mic, BPC, \$6

**Fri. 4** 8pm Make a Stand, BPC

**Sat. 5** 11am Intercollegiate Slam, BPC, \$4 1pm The Poetry Project: A tribute to Jackson Mac Low, St. Mark's Church, \$8/\$7 students + seniors/\$5 members 2pm Papa Susso Oral Epics of West Africa, BPC, \$5 3:30pm AfroBlue Special Show, BPC 3pm Lizard Lounge Poetry Jam: featured poet + open w/accompaniment by the Jeff Robinson Trio proband, Nuyorican Poets Café, \$7 • Christine Casson, Corey Mead & Laura Sims, The Ear Inn, free 4pm Segue: Bruce Andrews and Craig Watson, BPC, \$5 10pm Bowery Bums celebrate Pisces, BPC, free

**Sun. 6** 11:30am Hayes Greenfield's Jazz-A-Ma-Tazz, BPC, \$5 1pm featured poets + open reading, The Moroccan Star, \$3 + \$3 min to restaurant 2pm Bullets & Butterflies: queer spoken word poetry book party, BPC, \$5 3pm Poet to Poet, featured poet TBA + open, Munch Café & Grill, QN, \$3 cover + \$3 min 5pm Thaddeus Rutkowski, Ginger Strand, and Lolita Hernandez, Hosted by Steve Cannon, A Gathering of the Tribes, donation 7pm Atomic Reading Series: featured poets TBA, Lucky 13 Saloon, BK • Mississippi Action for Community Education Benefit, BPC, \$10 9:30pm First Sundays Open Stage w/ Johnny-O, BPC, \$5

**Mon. 7** 6pm The Poetry Project, Seventh Annual Urban Word NYC Teen Poetry Slam, Monday, St. Mark's Church, \$5 adults/\$3 students 7pm Louder Mondays Q2: A Bullets and Butterflies Reading featuring Cheryl Boyce Taylor, Emanuel Xavier & others, \$5/\$4 w/ student id • Bingo Gazingo, BPC, \$2 7:30pm Bruce Weber & No Chance Ensemble + open, Johnny O's, free • Mark Bibbins & Anne Carson, KGB Bar, free • Pete's Big Salmon: Anselm & Edmund Berrigan, Pete's Candy Store, BK, free 8pm The One & Only Manhattan Monologue Slam, BPC, \$6

**Tues. 8** 7pm Shaba Sher, BPC, \$8 • Acentos: Regie Cabico & open mic, Blue Ox Bar, BX, free

**Wed. 9** 6pm Intercultural Poetry Series: Bruce Weigl, Meg Kearny, Melinda Thomsen, The Cornelia Street Café, \$6 gets you a free drink 7pm Ladies on the mic, BPC, \$8 7:30pm Poet to Poet: featured poet TBA + open, Barnes

& Noble, QN, contribution • Mark Doty, Hunter College, free 8pm The Poetry Project: Steven Benson & Brandon Downing, St. Mark's Church, \$8/\$7 students + seniors/\$5 members 10pm Charles Bukowski Praise Day + Bukowski-style open mic, BPC, \$5

**Thurs. 10** 7:30pm Poetry Society of America, Irving Feldman, Jack Gilbert, Maxine Kumin, Gary Snyder, Tishman Auditorium, The New School, \$10/\$7 PSA members + students 8pm Lipservice: featured poets + open mic, I'O's Bar and Lounge, BK, \$5 10pm The Jolly Ship the Whizz Bang, BPC

**Fri. 11** 5pm Ilya Kaminsky + Justin Marks, BPC 7:30pm Marjorie Agosin, Nelly Rosario, and Felicia Luna Lemus, Boricua College Reading Room, BK, free 8pm Ekayani & Healing Band NY/Paris, BPC \$8 9pm Tony Bird South Africa, BPC, \$15 10:45pm Shrine w/Barbara Morillo, BPC, \$6

**Sat. 12** 1pm International Women's Day Reading, BPC, \$6 2pm open reading, 18 poets, 1 musician, 1 feature & disco dancing, Nomad's Choir, \$3 3pm Malachi Blach, Ilya Kaminsky, Justin Marks, The Ear Inn, free 4pm Segue: Edwin Torres & Chris Tysh, BPC, \$5 6pm Politics & Poetry: open mic for political poetry, youth especially welcome, Bluestockings, free • featured poet & five minute open mic, The Cornelia Street Café, \$6 gets you a free drink 7:30pm Nights in Budapest, open reading, Food 4 Thought Café 10pm Notherground Music, BPC, \$5

**Sun. 13** 12pm Justin Marks + Ilya Kaminsky, BPC 1pm Poet to Poet: featured poet TBA + open, Starbucks, BK, \$3 cover + \$3 min 2pm Readings on the Bowery, BPC, \$8 incl. \$2 off at cafe/bar • Queens Library Open, featured poet + open reading w/music, Central Library Auditorium, QN, free 4pm Lois Adams, Barbara Elovic, Patricia Markert, Constance Norgren read, BPC, \$6 7pm Zinc Talk/Reading Series, Shafer Hall & Company (Erica Kaufman, Jennifer L. Knox, Shanna Compton, John Cotter, Daniel Nester, Maureen Thorsen, and Ada Limon), Zinc Bar, \$5 7:30pm Karen Williams, BPC 10pm I Heard it Through the Great Vibe: An evening w/The Uninvited, BPC, free

**Mon. 14** 6pm Poetry Game Show, BPC, free 7:10pm Bingo Gazingo, BPC, \$2 7:15pm Jennifer Clement, Valerie Mejer & Forrest Gander: Mexican Poems Spanish & English, BPC, \$8 8pm Telephone Bar: 4 poets TBA, Library Lounge at The Telephone Bar, free • The Poetry Project; Kaia Sand & Genya Turovskaya, St. Mark's Church, \$8/\$7 students + seniors/\$5 members 9pm Open mic, The Chaos Club, QN, free • Duende Spoken Word Troupe from Austin, BPC, \$3

**Tues. 15** 6pm Barry Wallenstein & pianoman John Hicks, The Cornelia Street Café, \$10 gets you a free drink • The Writer's Room: poetry and prose, The Cornelia Street Café, \$6 gets you a free drink 7pm Vincent Katz is Sextus Propertius, BPC, free • Sharon Dolin, Rachel Zucker, Jean Valentine, Labyrinth Books, free 7:30pm Poet to Poet, featured poet + open, Caffe Vivaldi, \$3 adm + \$5 min 8pm First Kiss: Erotic Poetry open mic + feature, BPC, \$6 • Battle Hill Reading Series: Boni Joi & Kish Song Bear, KILI, BK, \$5

**Wed. 16** 6:30pm The Million Poems Show hosted by Jordan Davis, featuring Susan Wheeler and Franklin Bruno, BPC, free 7pm featured poet + open mic, Jake's Saloon • SynonymUs: collaborative poetry, music, movement & image + open, The Nuyorican Poets Café, \$7 8pm Stampfel + Kruth, BPC, \$7 • The Poetry Project: Reed Bye & K. Silem Mohammad, St. Mark's Church, \$8/\$7 students + seniors/\$5 members 10pm Surf Burly Q, BPC

**Thurs. 17** 5pm Aunt Lettuce, I want to peek under your skirt book party: Erotic poems by Charles Simic + erotic drawings by Howie Michels, BPC, free 6pm Po'Jazz: Poetry & Jazz, The Cornelia Street Café, \$15 cover gets you a free drink 7pm *Boog City* St. Patrick's Day Party, see ad p.5 10pm Brooklyn Country Music: St. Paddy's Hoedown w/Wissler Family, Flanks & Lonesome Prairie Dogs, BPC, \$6 for quadruple bill

**Fri. 18** 8pm New Century World's Third Annual Vernal Equinox Show! Brian Wurschum from The Voyces, BPC 9pm Peace Prophet featuring MCQ & The Dude of the Service Monkeys, BPC, \$6 10pm Breaking Laces, BPC, \$6 11pm Paul Hammer w/Deidre Muro & Emily Asen, BPC

**Sat. 19** 1pm Natalia Zeretsky & Ilya Kaminsky, BPC, \$5 2pm Papa Susso Oral Epics of West Africa, BPC, \$5 3pm Wayne Koestenbaum, Maggie Nelson, Jason Schneiderman, The Ear Inn, free 4pm Segue: Tim Peterson & Brenda Ilijima, BPC, \$5 7:30pm (re)collection: featured readers+ open mic, The Asian American Writer's Workshop, \$5 • The Last Word: Poetry, theater, music, Sideshow Gallery, BK, \$5 10pm Frank Messina's Octopoe, BPC, \$10

**Sun. 20** 11am Joel Forrester + People Like Us: Jazz Brunch, BPC 1pm The Dead Women's Poet Society, BPC, \$8 3pm Plays by Bob Rosenthal & Bob Holman, BPC, free • Poet to Poet: featured poet TBA + open, Munch Café & Grill, QN, \$3 cover + \$3 min 7pm Zinc Talk/Reading Series, Christian Hawkey and Paul Foster Johnson, Zinc Bar, \$5 • NYU Writers Reading, BPC, \$6 9pm Stefan Zeniuk's Open Ear: Multi Mediorchestra, BPC, \$8

**Mon. 21** 6pm ASLian Poetry-Storytelling Night, BPC, free • New York Quarterly: Jackie Sheeler & 2 other poets, TBA, The Cornelia Street Café, \$6 cover gets you a free drink 7:30pm Pete's Big Salmon: Katherine Dima & Daniel Lin, Pete's Candy Store, free 7:45pm Bingo Gazingo, BPC, \$2 8pm Monday Music: Dave Golden & The Friends Band, BPC, \$6 • Glyn Maxwell & Don Paterson, 92nd Street Y, Kaufmann Concert Hall, \$16

**Tues. 22** 5pm Christopher Lee Youth Brigade, BPC, \$6 7pm Acentos: 2nd Anniversary Celebration, Blue Ox Bar, BX, free 8pm Daniel Bernard Roumain, BPC, \$6

**Wed. 23** 7:30pm ShabAhang w/Amir Vahab (Sacred & Traditional Persian Music), BPC, \$12

**Thurs. 24** 5pm Norman Siegel Election Party, BPC 7pm Belladonna\*, Hassen, Mercedes Roffe, and Mónica de la Torre, Zinc Bar, \$7-\$10 suggested donation 10pm Oncoming Traffic Improv, BPC, \$5

**Fri. 25** 10pm 3rd Party's Fourth Friday, BPC, \$7/5

**Sat. 26** 12pm Dr. Seuss: Bob Holman is The Cat in the Hat, BPC, \$5 for ages 3-103 all others free 2pm Papa Susso Oral Epics of West Africa, BPC, \$5 3pm Women Writers Forum: Open mic for women, 10 min. limit, The Writing Room, Women's Studio Center, free 4pm Segue: Elaine Equi and Sharon Mesmer, BPC, \$5 10:59pm Bintou's Global Mic, BPC, \$10

**Sun. 27** 12pm Avra's book release party for Lush, BPC, \$10 admission incl. copy of book 2pm World of Poetry Bilingual Series: Henry Israeli & Joanna Goodman, BPC, \$6 7pm Zinc Talk/Reading Series, Michael Scharf and David Micah Greenberg, Zinc Bar, \$5 8pm Balaklava: The East European Reading, BPC, \$6 10pm I Heard it Through the Great Vibe: An Evening w/The Uninvited, BPC, free

**Mon. 28** 7:15pm Bingo Gazingo, BPC, \$2 7:30pm Little Miss Big Mouth, BPC, \$6 8pm The Poetry Project, Talk Series: Bernard Horn, "O'Hara, Olson & the life and times of a family man," St. Mark's Church, \$8/\$7 students + seniors/\$5 members

**Tues. 29** 6pm Art Wall Closing Party for "Comedy and Tragedy," BPC 7:30pm Poetry Society of America: A Tribute to Donald Justice w/Jorie Graham, Debora Greger, William Logan & Mark Stand, The National Arts Club, \$10/\$7 PSA members + students 8pm "rev. 99's poetry karaoke," BPC, \$6 • Battle Hill Reading Series: Edwin Torres & Aaron Kunin, KILI, BK, \$5

**Wed. 30** 8pm The Poetry Project: Vincent Katz & Lourdes Vazquez, St. Mark's Church, \$8/\$7 students + seniors/\$5 members • Wet ink Ensemble and Slow Six, BPC, \$10

**Thurs. 31** 5pm DeWayne Dickerson + Ken Kinna, BPC 7:30pm Poetry Society of America: translators read French poems from 20th century, Tishman Auditorium, The New School, \$10/\$7 PSA members + students

ABC No Rio 156 Rivington Street 212.674.3585 • ACA Galleries, 529 West 20th St., 5th Floor, at 10th/11th Aves, boogcityevents.blogspot.com/ subway C/E to 23rd Street or 1/9 to 18th Street • Art for Change 1701 Lexington Avenue (@ East 106th/107th) 212.348.7044 | eliana@artforchange.org • The Asian American Writers' Workshop 16 West 32nd Street, 10A (@ 5th/Broadway) www.aaww.org • Lucky 13 Saloon 273 13th Street @ 5th Avenue, Brooklyn, free | www.lucky13saloon.com • Back Fence 155 Bleecker Street @ Thompson • Bar 13 35 East 13th, 2nd floor, @ Broadway/University Place www.louderARTS.com • Barnard College 3009 Broadway, Sulzberger Parlor 3rd floor, Barnard Hall rj2040@barnard.edu • Barnes & Noble Bay Terrace 23-90 Bell Blvd, Bayside QN dunnmiracle@juno.com • Barnes & Noble, Park Slope 267 Seventh Avenue @ 6th Street, Brooklyn 718-832-9066 • Blue Ox Bar East 139th Street & 3rd Avenue, Bronx geminipoet@hotmail.com • Bluestockings Bookstore and Café 172 Allen Street (between Stanton and Rivington) www.bluestockings.com • Boricua College Reading Room 186 North 6th St. Brooklyn • The Bowery Poetry Club 308 Bowery @ Bleecker www.bowerypoetry.com • Brown Chocolate Cafe 1084 Fulton Street \$71 www.oralfixsations.g3z.com • Cafe Imani 148 Stuyvesant Avenue (@ Greene Ave. in Brooklyn) www.cafeimani.com | 718.574.6565 • Café Shane 794 Washington Ave, BK @ Sterling/St. John's Place • Caffe Vivaldi 32 Jones Street @ Bleecker between 6th & 7th Aves • The Cave Bar & Willow Creek Restaurant 10-93 Jackson Ave @ 11th St., LIC, QN www.williamberthal.com • Cellar 325 East 14th Street @ 1st/2nd Aves supolo@rcn.com | 212.477.7747 • Central Library Auditorium 89-11 Merrick Blvd, Jamaica, QN • Chaos Club 90-21 Springfield Boulevard (Queens Village) 718.479.2594 | davault@aol.com www.thevault.org • Club Sekrets 3855 Bronxwood Avenue, The Bronx \$7/\$5 with this page | 718.547.3333 bronxslam@dslack.com lwww.dslack.com/bronx • Collective: Unconscious 279 Church Street, nr. White St. | www.revenj.com | 212.254.5277 Subway: any train to Canal Street • The Cornelia Street Cafe 29 Cornelia Street jackie@poetz.com www.poetz.com/pony/pinkpony.htm • Downtown Bronx Bar and Café 141 East 149th at Walton Ave, Bronx, www.bronxarts.org, subway 4/5 to Grand Concourse • The Ear Inn 326 Spring St, west of Greenwich 212.246.5074 | earinnpoetry@nyc.rr.com, www.mbroder.com/ear\_inn/ • The Fall Cafe 307 Smith Street, Brooklyn 718.832.2310 | spiralthought@juno.com www.home.switchboard.com/SpiralThought • First Unitarian Church 50 Monroe Place (@ Pierrepont & Clinton), Brooklyn 718.855.2404 | 718.377.1253 • 5C Cultural Center 68 Avenue C @ East 5th www.5CCC.com 212.477.5993 T10nebula@aol.com • Flannery's Bar 205 West 14th Street | 718.621.1240 | mikegraves50@hotmail.com • The Flat Lounge 16 First Avenue @ 1st Street 212-677-9477 Subway: E/V to Second Avenue • Flying Saucer Café 494 Atlantic Ave, BK @ 3rd Ave/Nevins • Food 4 Thought Café 445 Marcus Garvey Blvd & McDonough, Brooklyn www.food4thoughtcafe.web.com | 718.443.4160 T10Nebula@aol.com Subway: C to Kingston-Throop • The Four-Faced Liar 165 West 4th Street 212.366.0608 | shaferrhall@hotmail.com • A Gathering of the Tribes 285 East 3rd St, 2nd floor, www.tribes.org • Grand Central Bar 659 Grand Street, Brooklyn (Manhattan/Leonard) www.himinwin.com/work/jd/untietongue\_print.jpg • Green Pavilion 4307 18th Avenue, Brooklyn • Hunter College Faculty Dining Room 695 Park Ave, West Building • I'O's Bar and Lounge North 7th Street & Kent Avenue, Williamsburg (Brooklyn) \$5 | 718.877.4081 | AlphaIceman@aol.com, L to Bedford Avenue • Jake's Saloon 103rd and Lexington | solgirivision@yahoo.com • Java and Wood 110 Manhattan Avenue, Greenpoint, Brooklyn, 718-609-1820 • Jewish Community Center Amsterdam Ave @ West 76th herminem@earthlink.net • Johnny O's 2152 Westchester Avenue, Subway: 6 to Castle Hill Avenue, free | 718 792-6078 | mindyinth Bronx@aol.com • Kay's Kafé 1345-4B Southern Blvd - The Bronx, Between Jennings St. & Louis Nine Blvd. 718-378-3434 ebonwashington@earthlink.net www.POETLITCAL.com • KGB Bar 85 East 4th Street @ 2nd Avenue, free | 212.505.3360 • KILI 79-81 Hoyt Street @ State St/Atlantic Ave, Brooklyn | lungfull@rcn.com Subway: A/G to Hoyt-Schermerhorn • Labyrinth Books 536 West 112th St. @ Broadway/Amsterdam • Lucky 13 Saloon 273 13th Street @ 5th Avenue, Brooklyn, free | www.lucky13saloon.com • M Lounge 291 Hooper Street, (bet. Broadway & South 5th), Williamsburg, Brooklyn, sashazuk@hotmail.com • The Moroccan Star 148 Atlantic Avenue, Brooklyn (@ Henry & Clinton) • The Muddy Cup 388 Van Duzer Street, Staten Island 718.818.8100 contact@muddycup.com | daysafield@aol.com • Munch Cafe & Grill 71-60 Yellowstone Blvd. @ Dartmouth St. Forest Hills, Queens | dunnmiracle@juno.com Subway: E/F/V to 71/Continental then Q23 bus southbound • Music On Myrtle 405 Myrtle Ave, Brooklyn | www.musiconmyrtle.com | 718-596-MOMS info@musiconmyrtle.com • The National Arts Club 15 Gramercy Park South • The New School, 66 W.12th Street, emily@poetrysociety.org • NY Public Library Riverside Branch 127 Amsterdam Avenue @ West 65th 212.870.1810 • Nightingale 213 Second Avenue (@ 13th Street) supolo@rcn.com • 92nd Street Y, Kaufmann Concert Hall 1395 Lexington Avenue @ 92nd Street www.92y.org | 212.415.5500 • Nomad's Choir 149-155 Christopher St. • The Nuyorican Poets Café 236 East 3rd Street (bet. Avenues B & C) 212.505.8183 | www.nuyorican.org • Ozzie's Coffee & Tea 251 5th Avenue, Brooklyn (@ Garfield) 718.840.0878 | the7thcoming@aol.com • Pete's Candy Store 790 Lorimer @ Frost/Richardson, BK • Poets House 72 Spring Street, 3rd floor www.poetshouse.org | 212.727.2930 • The Prince George Tea Room 14 East 28th Street (@ 5th/Madison) 718.783.8088 | www.nywriterscoalition.org • Raga, downstairs lounge 433 East 6th Street @ First Ave/Ave A | 212.388.0957 BaroneJenn@aol.com www.brokeland.org | www.ragany.com • St. John-St. Matthew-Emanuel Lutheran Church 283 Prospect Ave @ 5th/6th Aves, BK • St. Mark's Church 131 East 10th Street (@ Second Avenue) www.poetryproject.com info@poetryproject.com 212.674.0910 • Shakespeare's Sister 270 Court Street, Brooklyn 718.694.0084 michaelgraves@optonline.net Subway: any train to Court Street • Sideshow Gallery 319 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn Subway: L to Bedford | 718-391-9220 | bruceweber@earthlink.net • Sista's Place 456 Nostrand Ave (Entrance on Jefferson), Brooklyn Ngomazworld@aol.com • Spoken-Words Cafe 226 4th Avenue @ Union Street, Brooklyn, \$5 | 718-596-3923 | chiefdayo@netzero.net, Subway: R to Union Street • Starbucks 7410 3rd Ave @ 75th St • Sugar Shack 2611 Frederick Douglas Blvd @ West 139th St. | 212.491.4422 | BrownZesprod@aol.com Brotherear@wordstockinc.com • A Taste of Art 147 Duane Street (@ Church/West Broadway) 212.964.5493 www.atateofart.com • Telephone Bar 149 2nd Ave @ 9th St www.telebar.com • The Village Ma 107 Macdougall Street www.brodian.com • Vox Pop 1022 Cortelyou Rd. BK www.voxpop.net • The Writing Room, Women's Studio Center 21-25 44 Ave., Long Island City • Zinc Bar, 90 W. Houston St., NYC, lungfull.org