



*For New York City's Enthusiasts,
We want to keep you informed
with the Newest and Latest...*



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Polar Bear Plunge

New Yorkers unafraid of braving the freezing waters of Coney Island will return to the ocean for the Coney Island Polar Bear Plunge on New Year's Day. Every New Year's Day for 120 years, swimmers sporting their skivvies or wild costumes dive into the freezing Atlantic to symbolically wash away the year before. Those who would like to attend the New Year's Day Plunge can participate as an individual alongside other supporters, join a team or create their own teams to help raise funds. With the safety of plunge participants as a priority, those not wanting to brave the cold can also choose to donate virtually at polarbearclub.org.

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Sleep No More

The McKittrick Hotel looms above West 27th Street between Tenth and Eleventh Avenues. To a passerby, there is nothing about the building's façade that hints at the haunting world that lies within—except, perhaps, for the line of shifting individuals that nervously snakes along the curb. The McKittrick Hotel is home to the world-famous production of *Sleep No More*, a “site-specific, immersive experience” that blurs the line between audience and actor, stage and seating. It began previews in March 2011 and has been continuously extended over the past decade. The show was created by the British theatre company Punchdrunk and produced by Emersive Productions in association with Rebecca Gold Productions.

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Scandinavian-style outdoor spas

Two New York City hotels are offering outdoor spa experiences this winter—The William Vale in Brooklyn and The Rockaway Hotel + Spa in Queens, so grab your swimwear and make a reservation. At The William Vale, enjoy the views while indulging in some much-needed stress relief. Bask in the heat of a barrel sauna with panoramic skyline views or soak in a cedar hot tub under the stars—or both! The experience makes for a special solo trip or a romantic date night. At The Rockaway Hotel, enjoy a resort-style escape not too far from Manhattan. For the winter, the hotel has transformed its patio area into a winter pool house with cedar saunas and cozy decor. Plus, the outdoor pool is open for a refreshing plunge. After your dip, you can slip into a buttery robe and relax with tabletop games.

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"Women Dressing Women" at The MET

A refreshing new fashion exhibit at The Met hands the mic to pioneering women designers who dress women of all shapes and sizes. The exhibition shows how female designers have reclaimed the body—and are reclaiming the message in fashion. "Women Dressing Women" showcases 80 garments by 70 makers, from couture gowns by well-known designers like Donna Karan to political garments by Katharine

Ice Skating

Ice skating in NYC is one of the city's most beloved seasonal traditions. While some skating rinks are open year-round, ice skating in the winter is a special treat that will warm your soul with the spirit of the season. The iconic rink at Rockefeller Center and the Bank of America Winter Village at Bryant Park are bursting with holiday cheer (and fab food and drinks), while low-key rinks offer a more chill experience.

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American Museum of Natural History's major elephant exhibit

When I think of an elephant, the adorable Dumbo or Horton Hears a Who—usually fictional representations—come to mind first. These characters have colored our collective understanding of the massive mammal for decades because, for most people, they're the only "elephant" they'll ever see up close. Actual elephants in Western culture are usually restricted to zoos, but during the ice ages—

Hamnett to plus-size outfits by Ester Manas. The exhibition, curated by The Costume Institute, is on view at the Upper East Side museum from December 7 through March 3, 2024, included with museum admission. It highlights rare pieces from the collection, many of which are on view at The Met for the first time.

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Picasso show explores the artist's lesser-known classical and cubist works

For three months in the summer of 1921, Pablo Picasso worked out of a makeshift garage studio in Fontainebleau, France, where he created both cubist and classical masterpieces. Now, for the first time since then, the works are reunited in a sprawling new exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art. MoMA's "Picasso in Fontainebleau," on view through February 17, is the latest show in NYC presented as part of the international Picasso celebration marking 50 years since his death. It joins The Met's "Picasso: A Cubist Commission in Brooklyn" and will soon be joined by "Picasso and The Spanish Classics" at the Hispanic Museum.

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between 2.6 million and 11,700 years ago—more than 50 different elephant relatives (mammoths and mastodon) roamed the entire globe. Now? Only three species remain.

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'Chocolate Room' at MoMA

Many museum-goers simply breeze through this brown room, barely giving a second thought to the unusual-looking walls around them. But if you go, take a moment to pause, to look more closely—and to even smell. Because this room is tiled entirely in chocolate. Ed Ruscha, an artist known for his Pop and conceptual works, first created "Chocolate Room" in 1970 as part of the Venice Biennale. He found local chocolate paste and screen printed it onto hundreds of sheets of paper. Then he hung each one like tiles or shingles from floor to ceiling. Ruscha was doing "immersive art" before that was even a buzzword. In addition to Chocolate Room, don't miss the rest of Ruscha's work presented as part of MoMA's retrospective titled "ED RUSCHA / NOW THEN." The exhibition is the most comprehensive retrospective of the artist's work ever shown. It's on view through January 13, 2024.

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'Chagall, Paris-New York' at Hall des Lumières

Painter Marc Chagall's lusciously vibrant works of art come to life in a new immersive experience at Hall des Lumières. Titled "Chagall, Paris-New York," the exhibition explores the prolific painter who defied labels. His works are projected in a larger-than-life scale, taking over walls, ceilings and even the floor of the ornate bank-turned-exhibition hall located at 49 Chambers Street in Lower Manhattan. "Chagall, Paris-New York" is now on view through 2024 with adult tickets starting at \$30. In addition to the Chagall works, Hall des Lumières is also displaying works by Wassily Kandinsky.

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BAM Next Wave Festival

Brooklyn Academy of Music's perennial festival of theater, dance, and opera is back through January 13. As any local culture vulture will tell you, when temperatures cool down, culture heats up in Brooklyn thanks to Next Wave. This is the 40th iteration of the fall arts festival brings cutting-edge sound, movement and drama to Kings County Shows will empower and elevate a diverse group of voices speaking to some of today's crucial issues, including immigration, assimilation, race, and food security. Performances include Corps extrêmes from the jaw-dropping French aerialist and choreographer Rachid Ouramdane; Broken Chord—a stunning choral piece with dance from South Africa's Gregory Maqoma and Thuthuka Sibisi; Trajal Harrell's dazzling The Köln Concert, and many more.

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SEE IT NOW

Curated List by Sharon Hoge

It's a new year, but several important exhibits are nearing expiration. Launch 2024 by exploring some of these last-minute opportunities.



Spike Lee: Creative Sources

Brooklyn Museum

Gallery rooms full of movie posters, family pictures, fashions, musical instruments, sports memorabilia and other items and art collected by influential film maker Spike Lee reveal myriad sources of inspiration that have shaped his creative output.

Closes February 4

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Ed Ruscha/Now Then

Museum of Modern Art

Roadside gas stations, iconic logos, one-word exclamations are among familiar subjects Ed Ruscha has transformed into a body of work that has influenced generations of artists, architects, designers, writers. Covering over six-decades, this retrospective underscores the continuous reinvention that has defined his work.

Closes January 13

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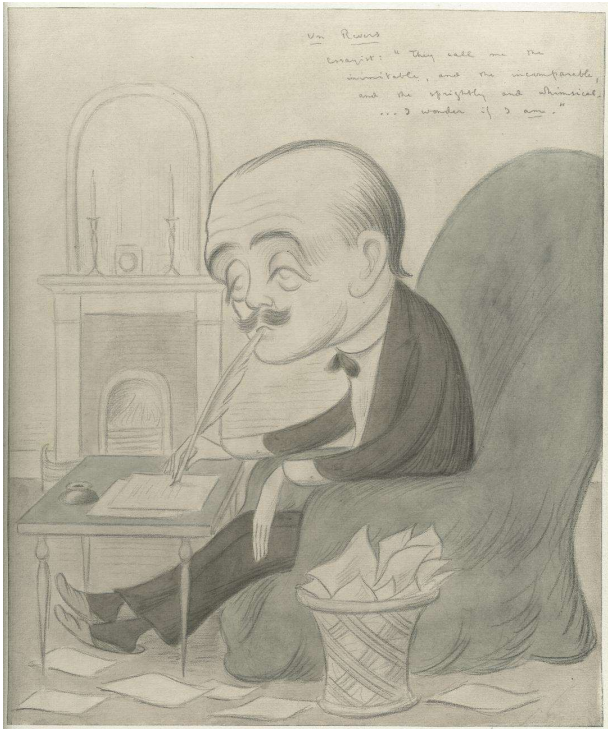
Holiday Train Show

New York Botanical Garden

There's still time to see this season's annual holiday show at the Botanical Garden. Added this year is an outdoor train display in addition to the annual set up of miniature trains zipping past over 200 iconic New York landmarks. Some evenings, curated cocktails are served at Bar Car events.

Closes January 15

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Max Beerbohm: The Price of Celebrity

New York Public Library

At the same time as seeking notoriety for himself, the sophisticated London dandy Max Beerbohm was uneasy about the power of celebrity. Mocking essays, caricature, and parodies of his contemporaries illustrate how art can address the world around us, yet also stand apart.

Closes January 28

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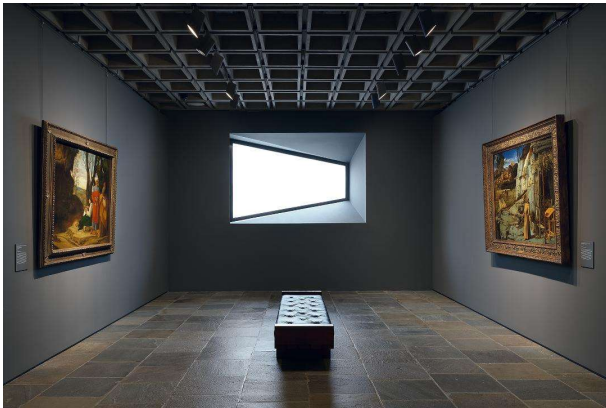
Muriel Hasbun: Tracing Terruno

International Center of Photography

The first New York survey of multi-national artist/educator Muriel Hasbun, includes 80 works exploring memory and identity; reflections on ideas of home, geography, and borders examine the effects of war and genocide across generations.

Closes January 8

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Bellini and Giorgione in the House of Taddeo Contarini

The Frick Collection

Four centuries after two notable paintings from the collection of Taddeo Contarini were separated, the Frick's Bellini panel of St. Francis in the Desert and Three Philosophers by Giorgione, on loan from Vienna's Kunsthistorisches Museum, are reunited, once again offering viewers the opportunity to study the dialogue between them.

Closes February 4

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Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons: Behold

Brooklyn Museum

Drawing from her family story, the visionary artist explores migration, diaspora, and memory, examining the global histories of enslavement, indentured labor, motherhood. The first multimedia survey of her work highlights her dedication to creating new modes of understanding and her engagement with interconnected historical and present-day challenges.

Closes January 14

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PHOTO CREDITS

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