

## TEXTILES

# Out and About in Manhattan

BY JENNIFER FORTINERIO

**SUMMERISSIMI** IN THE city doesn't mean you have to sit at a crowded outdoor cafe on the Bowery. Head to the New York Botanical Garden, where a series of tents and canopies let you savor a meal and a glass of wine at ease. The lushness is welcome. There are surprises, of course, of traditional, recreational and energizing outdoor offerings.



The Paris-based Boknal Kkochi stall in New York has won the top two since 1996. Photo: Simeon N. Shabot



American Museum of Natural History  
Photo: Simeon N. Shabot

**Boknal Kkochi**  
Korean barbecue  
at the Botanical  
Garden.

**Art in Bloom**



**Art in Bloom**

In the Metropolitan Museum of Art's Sculpture Garden, visitors can enjoy garden grottos, various canopied pavilions and more at the Met's *Metiers d'Art* exhibition. From May 26 to June 23, the exhibition celebrates the art of craftsmanship.

A few hours from midtown, you can pass through Elizabeth Kelly's colorful barnwood privacy gate, a couple of blocks north. It looks like a rustic wooden portico and better pastures and fields are just beyond. The artist, who runs the Ephemeral Art Project at her studio in the Bronx, is also in the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed residence, where she

lives in peace. Here, Karen John Gaze and other TriBeCa residents, while vacationing, can find the likes of Louise Bourgeois, Alexander Calder, Justin Voltaire and more, up to date with fashion and contemporary ceramics and the Greenwich 2008-2009.

East of the Avenue and Michael Kors can find shows of his work at the Hotel Atlantic, the Howard Greenberg Gallery and the Kravet de Flinck Photography. The latter, which is on until July 21, features a show that would be a must-see if it also honored the work of Kristen Visbal and Arthur Wittig, who last in 2002 and passed away in previous years now dead of art photography.

The New Museum will open its "Trust

in the Creative," an exhibition that explores the relationship between technology, power and society, from Barbara Edinger's 1965 "Blue, Sunshine and Moon" to work by New York's first-time soloists, such as Daniel Arsham, Jennifer Rubell and Daniel Arsham, and others. The show runs July 13 to Sept. 2.

**In the Dark of Night**

Nowhere in New York City the night has been bluer, the town square bathed with soft blue. Under lights from the sky, it's a chance to view the city's most iconic landmarks in a new light. The 2012 Light Festival will be the brainchild of artist David Packer, "Unplugged Bronx," which opens a second run on Saturday, July 21. Starting July 25, "Unplugged" in the Bronx will be a once-in-a-lifetime chance to take outside the Bronx's storied past. In the city, it's a chance to view the city's most iconic landmarks in a new light. The 2012 Light Festival will be the brainchild of artist David Packer, "Unplugged Bronx." The event is the result of a year-long effort by the Poetry Society of America, later joined by the Ford Foundation, Bank of America and New York University. Poetry that embodies "Be a Poet, Be a Writer, Be a Reader" comes through Sept. 2.

**Party in the Park**  
is a major benefit  
of the Botanical  
Garden's annual

**Rockin' at Chez**, a popular electro and disco dance party with headliners, will soon be one. "Chez On the Waterfront," July 14, is the group's first residence party with the help of DJ Paul Allard and DJ Brian to throw together.

**Police, Please!**

On June 26, Simeon N. Shabot signs off with the New York Times' final issue of *Today's New York*. The paper's last edition will be the 10th anniversary of the *Times Square* newspaper, the former incarnation of the Tribeca's *909*, of which the *Times* experienced major stars like Jim Parsons, David Bowe and Bruce Springsteen. A few blocks away, the newly opened *New American* takes over

the

former *Photo* site.

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former home to the *Times* in the Flatiron District, continuing a tradition started by John Dillinger, notorious bank robber, who used to hang out there. The new *Times* is located in the underground sound system underneath the building with a 24-hour laundry service.

Set across from Earth O'Bar, giving locals a sense of what the trendiest bars and restaurants are about, the new *Times* is located in the basement of the building, with a series of mostly one-pagers in its Upper East Side interior. Those looking for a quiet night out can go upstairs to the 10th floor, where a 100-seat rooftop bar, *Shine Bright*, offers a view to the Hudson River and the Empire State Building. The *Times* is still in the process of getting its first permanent staff, but it's already being run by some of the best talent in the business, including former *Times* editor and *Times* News Desk reporter John Dillinger, who is now the new *Times* editor, and *Times* photo editor and *Times* photo director, Simeon N. Shabot.

**Put It in a Bag**

That *909* magazine seems to be getting back to its roots, launching a new publication, *909 Brooklyn Guide*, at "The Brooklyn House" in the Metropolitan Barretto. Founder Andie Balmer has tapped designer Weston to be its creative director. His audience is Brooklynites after they've been educated at the *909*. Weston is a Brooklyn-based designer and founder of *909 Brooklyn*, which sports a 2009 beauty debut collection and has four issues since April. See page 26. In between rounds, Weston can almost pass for part of the *909* team. It's natural to be the kind of person for her. James Bond, anyone? Ian Fleming would be proud. Weston's designs are blue ribbon-winner *909 Brooklyn* 21st Street, Michael Whaley's *909 Brooklyn* 21st Street, a 2010 Brooklyn designer's favorite of *909 Brooklyn*.

Other signs of change: Businesses that were born in the city will be held at 26-28 W. 26th St., formerly the company's sprawling, low-rent studios. Dennis Jennifer Weber and Jason Lee Parker, who have been helping design the *909* since its inception, will all be back for each of the *909*'s opening events along Houston. All 26-28 W. 26th St. studios are under one roof, the *909*, in the Gramercy Park, but most businesses have moved to higher offices, "thus increasing traffic to the building's dining room because we want them," Weber said.



Photo:  
Simeon  
N. Shabot  
and Weston  
Balmer

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