

EYES TO THE SKY

March 17

Vernal Equinox, Sap Moon, Golden Mars

What a marvel that the "blue marble" is tilted on its axis, the phenomenon to which we owe the seasons. Planet Earth is approaching Vernal Equinox, a moment when neither pole will be tilted toward or away from the sun. The sun will shine equally on both sides of the equator. Vernal Equinox, and first day of spring, occurs Thursday the 20th at 12:57pm.

Various factors account for the fact that today and tomorrow are the closest there will be to equal day and night. Today, the sun rises at 7:05am, sets 7:04pm. Tomorrow, sunrise 7:04, sunset 7:05. All week, pause to mark the nearly due east position of the sun on the horizon at sunrise and due west position at sunset. The sun will soon cross the equator from south to north, rising north of east, setting north of west and ushering in longer nights than days.

In response to the return of the sun to the northern hemisphere, maple trees are yielding their sap, the first harvest of the season in the northeast. Handy for sap gatherers and syrup makers, a large gibbous moon, extra bright where there's snow, is lighting the night. Full Sap Moon was yesterday. Moonrise tonight will be at 8:20 and Luna will rise an hour later each day this week.

Tomorrow, Tuesday, bright, tawny Mars and dimmer, bluish Spica rise practically side by side in the east-southeast just after 9pm, preceding moonrise which will be at 9:22pm. By 10:30-11 the winsome threesome should be high enough to be visible from most locations. Mars continues to brighten and rise earlier in the weeks ahead and is a beautiful sight as it travels the sky all night, visible in the southwest at dawn.



On March 20th, a moment when neither pole will be tilted toward or away from the sun. The sun will shine equally on both sides of the equator.

—Judy Isacoff
NaturesTurn.org

ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES
CRUISE SHIPS IN THE HARBOR

MANY SHIPS PASS BATTERY PARK CITY ON THEIR WAY TO AND FROM THE MIDTOWN PASSENGER SHIP TERMINAL. OTHERS MAY BE SEEN ON THEIR WAY TO OR FROM DOCKS IN BROOKLYN AND BAYONNE. STATED TIMES, WHEN APPROPRIATE, ARE FOR PASSING THE COLGATE CLOCK AND ARE BASED ON SIGHTING HISTORIES, PUBLISHED SCHEDULES AND INTUITION. THEY ARE ALSO SUBJECT TO TIDES, FOG, WINDS, FREAK WAVES, HURRICANES AND THE WHIMS OF UPPER MANAGEMENT.

	INBOUND	OUTBOUND
Sunday, Mar 16	Norwegian Breakaway 7:15a	3:30p Nassau, Bahamas
Monday, Mar 17	Carnival Splendor 7:15a	4:30p Freeport, Bahamas
	Norwegian Gem 9:15a	4:30p Eastern Caribbean
Friday, Mar 21	Explorer of the Seas 7:30a(Bayonne)	4:00p Coco Cay, Bahamas
Sunday, Mar 23	Norwegian Breakaway 7:15a	3:30p Nassau, Bahamas
Tuesday, Mar 25	Carnival Splendor 7:15a	4:30p Freeport, Bahamas
Wednesday, Mar 26	Norwegian Gem 9:15a	4:30p Eastern Caribbean
Saturday, Mar 29	Explorer of the Seas 7:30a(Bayonne)	4:00p Coco Cay, Bahamas
Sunday, Mar 30	Norwegian Breakaway 7:15a	3:30p Nassau, Bahamas
Wednesday, April 2	Carnival Splendor 7:15a	4:30p Freeport, Bahamas
Friday, April 4	Norwegian Gem 9:15a	4:30p Cruise to nowhere
Saturday, April 5	Explorer of the Seas 7:30a(Bayonne)	4:00p King's Wharf, Bermuda
	Norwegian Gem 9:15a	4:30p Eastern Caribbean

WHY THE FLEA
CHOSE NOT
TO FLEE

TRIBECA'S
INDIGENEOUS THEATER
COMPANY STAYS
CLOSE TO HOME

By Sarah Smalley

The Flea Theater, which has been headquartered in Tribeca since its 1996 founding, has decided to remain Downtown. "We do transgressive theater that is close to the line," said Carol Ostrow, producing director of The Flea, "but it's practicality that drives a lot of our decisions. We are an Off-Off Broadway theater and we need to think of our artists. We looked outside of this Downtown area, but the Bats [the Flea's resident acting company] need to get to the theater and home safely, in a well-lit, populated area. And 47 percent of our audience is under the age of 35. They are young people who don't have a lot of money, so can't spend a lot on restaurants. It's also easy for audiences to get to the Flea: Manhattan narrows as you go Downtown, so east and west are not wide swaths of terrain."

But while she is emphatic about the practical nature of the decision to stay south, she inevitably pinpoints the character of Lower Manhattan as a perfect match for the Flea's artistic philosophy. The theater's "Why and What" webpage describes an edge that has historically distinguished Downtown from its northern neighbors: "Non-institutional and resolutely noncommercial, The Flea embodies the spirit of adventure and experiment that has defined Off-Off-Broadway since its inception."

But since the Flea's inception, the company has outgrown its original space at 41 White Street, between Broadway & Church Street. This led the group to break ground, on December 5, on a new facility, at 20 Thomas Street (also between Broadway and Church). The new theater will provide more opportunities to explore and push limits. The Flea bought the building for \$5.3 million in 2010 and has been using it for rehearsal space ever since. But the December groundbreaking marked the start of an \$18.5-million renovation. Building permits have been approved, contractors hired, and dem-

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CALENDAR

PLEASE CONFIRM DETAILS BY
VISITING EBROADSHEET.COM.

TUE 18

The Music and Magic of
Cole Porter

Cole Porter was arguably one of the world's most prolific and influential composers and songwriters, with masterpieces such as "Night and Day," "I Get a Kick Out of You," "You're the Top," and so many others. Join us for live music and singing as we explore Porter's life, works and major contributions to musical theater. \$22, \$18. 12pm. Asphalt Green. 212 North End Avenue. 212-298-2930 asphaltgreenbpc.org

THU 20

Tiny Poets Time

Poetry reading for toddlers. Free. 10am. Poets House, 10 River Terrace. 212-431-7920 www.poetshouse.org

The Pig, or Václav Havel's
Hunt for a Pig

A theatrical-musical-technological-gastronomic extravaganza. Václav Havel needs a pig to slaughter and cook for a party with his dissident friends. Food, drink, song, video, politics and celebration collide in this adaptation by experimental Czech director Vladimír Morávek of Havel's text and Smetana's music - plus a traditional Czechoslovakian zabijacka feast. Tickets are \$20 or \$45 with dinner. 8pm. Through March 23;

note Sunday performance begins at 7pm. \$20. 3LD Art & Technology Center, 80 Greenwich St. www.untitledtheater.com

Bikeman

Thomas F. Flynn is an award-winning CBS reporter who nearly lost his life when the Twin Towers fell. He lived to write about his odyssey in an epic narrative poem. Now, this critically acclaimed book has been adapted for the stage. \$39-\$79; \$25 student rush. 7pm. Check website for other performances this month. Tribeca Performing Arts Center. 212-220-1460. 199 Chambers St. bike-man911.com

RubberbandDance Group

Montréal-based RubberbandDance Group, is recognized internationally for its unique ability to fuse breakdancing, ballet and modern dance into a spectacular showcase. Founder, Victor Quijada reconciles his opposing dance worlds and their aesthetics: the spontaneity, fearlessness and risk-taking of his younger years in hip-hop culture and the refinement and choreographic maturity of the ballet and contemporary works he immersed himself in as a professional dancer. \$40, \$35, \$25. 7:30pm. Pace University, 3 Spruce Street. Through March

22. schimmel.pace.edu/

Kips Bay & Harlem Heights:
The War for Independence
on Manhattan, 1776

Following its narrow escape across the East River from Brooklyn in the fall of 1776, America's fledgling armed forces hoped to maintain its position on Manhattan. However, it soon met the enemy in two new engagements as the War for Independence continued. This lecture, presented by Dr. Philip Briggs, explores those events and their results on the continuing struggle. \$10. 6:30pm. Fraunces Tavern Museum, 54 Pearl Street. www.frauncesavernmuseum.org

SAT 22

Guess Who Zoo with
Howard Eisenberg

Learn lots of facts about animals through fun rhymes and songs by author and poet Howard Eisenberg, write riddle poems, and make puzzle pictures. \$5. 11am. Poets House 10 River Terrace. www.poetshouse.org

So You Want to Be

an Engineer

Using the engineering marvels in the museum's gallery as examples, kids will learn what it takes to be a future engineer while working together to explore the excitement of vertical construction. Engineering concepts

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Emalyn Bravo, R.N., M.A. CSCM
Battery Park City Resident
thecaring1homehealthcare.com

of shape, strength and "slenderness" will be explored in this program as participants test the heights of their architectural imaginations! Ages 6 - 14. \$5. 10:30am-11:45am. Skyscraper Museum, 39 Battery Place. www.skyscraper.org

Manhattan's Civic Center
Walking Tour

Join guide Linda Fisher, a 30-year city court insider, on a tour of Manhattan's Civic Center. Fisher's work as an official court reporter provides her a unique view into the workings of the judiciary and the democratic process.

At the northern end of City Hall park, the site of the city's first penal institutions, we'll hear the story of the Civic Center's development, and deconstruct the web of City, State and Federal halls

of justice and governance. Municipal Art Society Find out meeting location upon ticket purchase. \$20, \$15. 11am. www.mas.org/tours

PUBLIC MEETING
NOTICE

Subject:
225 Liberty Street,
New York, NY 10281
Application for Wine & Beer
Only - Liquor License
Restaurant Fast Fish LLC
dba Blue Ribbon Sushi Bar
There will be an opportunity for
public comment at the
following Community Board
Meeting:
DATE: Tuesday, April 1, 2014
TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION:
Battery Park City Committee
Battery Park City Library
175 North End Avenue

Any member of the public
interested in learning more
about these applications
or in expressing their opinion
about it is urged
to attend this meeting.
Please contact
Community Board #1 at
(212)-442-5050
or via email at
man01@cb.nyc.gov with any
questions or comments.

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TUESDAY, APRIL 22 *TIME: 9:45-10:45 AM

Secrets of an Organized Mom
BARBARA REICH

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

Cary Grant: "Hollywood's Debonair Leading Man"
MARC COURTADE

TUESDAY, MAY 6

A Renaissance Genius: Michelangelo in Rome
SETH GOPIN

TUESDAY, MAY 13

Photographing Your Family
KAREN HABERBERG

TUESDAY, MAY 27 *TIME: 9:45-10:45 AM

How Toddlers Thrive
TOVAH KLEIN, PhD

REGISTER NOW!

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EXPLORE

Darkness

AND

Light

WITH

Lamentatio



Philip Glass

Shostakovich

Ginastera Tallis

Dufay Ockeghem

Nathan Shields

SUNDAYS

March 9–April 13, 5pm

Trinity Church | Broadway at Wall Street

The Choir of Trinity Wall Street

NOVUS NY

Julian Wachner, Music Director

Tickets: \$25

trinitywallstreet.org/lamentatio

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