



5 Things to Do in NYC This Weekend

October 21, 2015

by Cristina Schreil

Looking for things to do in New York City this weekend? Here's a short list. Expect artist talks, a Día de los Muertos celebration, a multimedia chamber opera and new music taking place through October 25, 2015.

1. NYU Visiting Artist Lecture

Brooklyn artist [Sam Messer](#), a former Associate Dean at the Yale School of Art, speaks on his drawing, painting and sculpture on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at New York University. The talk is sponsored by the NYU Steinhardt Department of Art and Arts Professions and is part of its Visiting Artists Lecture Series.

Admission is free and open on a first-come, first-served basis. The talk takes place at the Einstein Auditorium in NYU Steinhardt's Barney Building, located at 34 Stuyvesant Street, New York, NY 10003. www.steinhardt.nyu.edu.

Click [here](#) for event details.

2. Archibald Motley Talk

Painter and photographer [Barkley Hendricks](#), known for his monumental realistic portraits of people of color from urban areas, explores painter Archibald Motley's "sympathetic portraits, daring visual language, and lasting influence on contemporary artists" on Friday, October 23, 2015 at 5 p.m. at the Whitney Museum of American Art. The talk is in support of the exhibition "[Archibald Motley: Jazz Age Modernist](#)", which remains on view through January 17, 2016. Additional programming is also planned.

The talk is free with museum admission and takes place on Floor Eight of the New York City art museum, located at 99 Gansevoort Street, New York NY 10014. www.whitney.org.

Click [here](#) for event details.

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"Self-Portrait (Myself at Work)" by Archibald J. Motley Jr., 1933. Oil on canvas, 57.125 x 45.25 inches. Collection of Mara Motley, MD, and Valerie Gerrard Browne. Image

courtesy of the Chicago History Museum, Chicago, Illinois.
© Valerie Gerrard Browne.

RELATED: "[Archibald Motley Paintings Revel and Reveal in Jazz Age Modernist](#)" by Charles A. Riley II. Published October 16, 2015.

3. "Refuse the Hour" Performances and Talk

"Refuse the Hour," a multimedia chamber opera with music composed by Philip Miller and conception and libretto by South African artist William Kentridge, is presented at the Brooklyn Academy of Music as part of its Next Wave Festival. The opera, which meditates on time and space, is a companion to Kentridge's five-channel video installation, [The Refusal of Time](#) (2012) which was presented at [Documenta 13](#) and exhibited at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2013 and is now part of its art collection.

"Refuse the Hour", which sees its U.S. premier at BAM, features Kentridge delivering a lecture-performance amid a "delirious Dadaist cuckoo clock" comprised of choreography by Dada Masilo, video design by Catherine Meyburgh, and dramaturgy by physicist Peter Galison. Performances take place at the BAM Harvey Theater at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 22, Friday October 23 and Saturday, October 24, with a 3 p.m. showing on Sunday, October 25, 2015. Tickets start at \$30. The BAM Harvey Theater is located at 651 Fulton Street, Brooklyn NY 11217.

In an accompanying talk on Saturday, October 24 at 5 p.m., Kentridge and Galison discuss the conception of time in the opera with Dennis Overbye, a science writer specializing in physics and cosmology. The talk occurs in the BAM Rose Cinemas in the Peter Jay Sharp Building at 30 Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11217. Admission is \$15 and \$7.50 for BAM members. www.bam.org.

For details, click [here](#) for the talk and [here](#) for the opera.



South African artist William Kentridge offers a phantasmagoric investigation of time in this multimedia chamber opera, "Refuse the Hour." Photo by John Hodgkiss courtesy Brooklyn Academy of Music.



A scene from the multimedia chamber opera "Refuse the Hour." Photo by John Hodgkiss courtesy Brooklyn Academy of Music

4. Día de los Muertos Weekends

In anticipation of the closing of the New York Botanical Garden's exhibition, "[FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden, Life](#)," on November 1, 2015, NYBG presents the first of two weekend-long celebrations of Mexico's traditional Día de los Muertos festivities. Expect to find a procession of stilt-walkers and monarch butterflies with Bronx artist [Lucrecia Novoa](#)'s giant skeletons and La Catrina puppets. There will also be an altar honoring Kahlo made by visual artist [Andrea Arroyo](#), pumpkin-carving with artist [Ray Villafane](#), and fiesta mask-making.

This weekend, there will be a traditional dance performance by Calpulli Danza Mexicana on the Conservatory Steps at noon, 2 p.m. and 4 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday. At 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. on both days, world music band Jarana Beat performs on the Conservatory Lawn. Free with admission. The New York Botanical Garden is located at 2900 Southern Boulevard, Bronx NY 10458. www.nybg.org.

Click [here](#) for event details.



Artist Andrea Arroyo will create the "Ofrenda" altar to Frida Kahlo on the scale version of the pyramid designed by Diego Rivera that still stands in the garden at the Casa Azul. Photo by Ivo M. Vermeulen. Courtesy New York Botanical Garden.



"FRIDA KAHLO: Art, Garden Life" concludes with a celebration of the Mexican tradition of Día de los Muertos at the New York Botanical Garden. Photo courtesy New York Botanical Garden

5. 21st Century Music

The fifth SONiC: Sounds of a New Century festival, taking place in 10 city venues since October 15, 2015, wraps up this weekend. Devoted to 21st century orchestral music by composers age 40 and under, this year's festival featured curator-selected works by more than [80 composers](#).

On Thursday, October 22, 2015 at 8 p.m., Alan Pierson conducts a concert by 20-member chamber music ensemble [Alarm Will Sound](#), which will play a program that includes three New York premiers. The performance of London-based composer [Charlie Piper](#)'s "[Zoetrope](#)," includes the world premiere screening of the film "Zoetrope", inspired by surrealist photographer and writer Claude Cahun. Admission is \$25. The concert is at the Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Music

Center, located at 129 West 67 Street, New York NY 10023.

SONiC concludes with an all-world premiers concert by festival presenter [American Composers Orchestra](#) on Friday, October 23, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. "[ACO: Orchestra Underground 21 Firsts](#)" presents works by five composers at Carnegie Hall's Zankel Hall. ACO Music Director George Manahan conducts. Admission is \$50. Carnegie Hall is located at 881 Seventh Avenue, New York NY 10019. www.sonicfestival.org.

Click [here](#) for event details.



American Composers Orchestra Music Director George Manahan conducts.
Courtesy Christina Jensen PR

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