'We build too many walls and not enough bridges.'
Isaac Newton

WALLS AND BRIDGES

TRANS ATLANTIC INSIGHTS

SEASON 4 – IDEAS & PERFORMANCES
NYC / October 11th – 21st, 2012

www.villagillet.net
“We build too many walls and not enough bridges.”
Isaac Newton

Walls and Bridges, the Franco-American arts and ideas series which brought over 50 cultural events to New York in 2011, returns to the city in October 2012!

Curated by Villa Gillet (Director : Guy Walter), and supported by the French Ministry of Culture and Communication, Walls and Bridges is a 10-day series of performances and critical explorations uniting French and American thinkers and artists from social sciences, philosophy, literature and live arts.

This season’s wide selection of events spans more than 15 talks, concerts, dance and theatre performances, storytelling shows and even includes the exploration of a mysterious and hidden literary and arts salon.

In addition, “I Contain Multitudes,” a special series, co-curated with Time Out New York, and Les Subsitations will bring many of France’s innovative and young artistic talents to New York. They will perform for American audiences for the first time together with their American counterparts. This series will explore the intricacies of “identity.”

Villa Gillet is a non-profit cultural institute based in Lyon, France, which brings together artists, writers, performers and thinkers from all over the world for conferences, debates, performances, round tables, and book readings.

Les Subsitations (www.lessubs.com) is a creative research laboratory based in Lyon, France.

Find out more on www.villagillet.net
For two decades, “Salon de Fleurus” has quietly kept its doors open in New York, defying definitions while fascinating its visitors. Oscillating between the museum and the domestic space, Salon de Fleurus functions as an intimate cabinet of wonder for modern art.

As part of this tribute to Salon for its 20th anniversary, a number of prominent artists and writers report on their first encounter with the space, sharing their obsessive and ambiguous approach to reality, and teasing out the relationships between science, history and memory.

Participants include novelist Laurent Binet, who tries to reconstruct the assassination of Nazi Reinhard Heydrich with the help of archives and personal true stories in his novel *HHhH*; essayist and writer Laurence Weschler, who depicts Mr. Wilson's Museum of Jurassic Technology, where history, scientific research and fiction blend; Jean-Marc Lévy-Leblond, physicist, editor, and eloquent advocate of the dialogue between science and art; as well as artist Andrea Geyer who rethinks the past in the present, re-enacting historical facts and characters in her projects.

Featuring: Laurent Binet (France / writer), Andrea Geyer (USA / artist), Kim Levin (USA / art critic) Jean-Marc Lévy-Leblond (France / physicist and editor), Lawrence Weschler (USA / writer)
SPLENDORS AND MISERIES
OF (UN)CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS

A STORY OF PSYCHOLOGY AND
NEUROSCIENCE

What is there in our minds beyond the scope of our familiar conscious thoughts? How do the conscious and subconscious poles of our mind interact with each other? In the past, philosophers, psychologists and theologists debated these questions. Of late, a new character has appeared in this colorful cast: a cognitive neuroscientist. In conversation with an American journalist, Lionel Naccache, a neuroscientist, will enunciate the splendors and miseries of conscious and subconscious cognition, which both play a major role in our daily life.

SONGS FOR MY BRAIN

Featuring: Oh! Oui with Alexandra Fleischer (France / actor and singer), Alexandre Gavras (France / video director), Joachim Latarjet (France / musician and theater director), Alexandre Théry (France / dancer)

The Parisian company Oh! Oui will perform their short experimental musical Songs for my Brain, composed specifically for this exploration of our brain and the multiple, enigmatic mechanisms.
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 13TH
6PM

The Guardian
New York
Discussion
Co-presented with:

RECLAIMING THE STREETS
PUBLIC SPACE AND QUALITY
OF LIFE IN NEW YORK

Hosted by
Oliver Burkeman,
columnist for the Guardian

Free
Reservation Required:
reclaiming@villagillet.net

Featuring: Michel Lussault (France / geographer),
Janette Sadik-Khan (USA / commissioner of the NYC
Department of Transportation), Tom Vanderbilt (USA /
writer)

As a global and cosmopolitan city, New York has long been
a place of many urban policy struggles.
How can we transform cities to make them more sustainable
and comfortable for everyone? And how do we measure the
impact of efforts like those of Robert Moses? How much
can we truly improve the citizens’ quality of life with design
and urban planning?
French geographer Michel Lussault, Commissioner of the
NYC Department of Transportation Janette Sadik-Khan, and
American author of Traffic: Why We Drive the Way We Do Tom
Vanderbilt will help us answer these challenging questions.

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 14TH
5PM

The PowerHouse
Arena
Discussion /
Issue launch
Co-presented with:

BEYOND
THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH

Hosted by Patrick Ryan,
associate editor of Granta

Free

Featuring: Chris Adrian (USA / writer), Cécile Guilbert
(France / writer), Terrence Holt (USA / writer), Pierre Zaoui
(France / philosopher)

How do writers approach healing, and depict these ordinary
extraordinary everyday practices? In Réanimation, Cécile
Guilbert examines the traumatic moment when a loved one’s
life hangs in the balance. Chris Adrian writes surprisingly
of the sadomasochistic pleasures that can come with an
illness. Terrence Holt explores the ironies that arise in the
conflict between the doctor’s struggle for perfection and
the darker complexities of human bodies. Pierre Zaoui, who
defends in his work a philosophy of joy, questions the healing
power of literature.

Find out more on www.villagillet.net
**THE NAKED TRUTH**

*Monday, October 15th*  
6:30 PM  
The New School, Theresa Lang Center  
Discussion  
Co-presented with:  
BOOKFORUM

Hosted by Sheila Heti,  
author of  
*How Should a Person Be*  
Free

Featuring: **Wendy Delorme** (France / writer and performer), **Chris Krause** (USA / writer), **Emilie Notéri** (France / writer), **Lynne Tillman** (USA / writer)

What is particular about women’s depiction of sex and sexuality? Why are these portrayals held to different social and aesthetic standards than those by men? Fiction writer Lynne Tillman, performer and writer Wendy Delorme, writer and translator Emilie Notéri and fiction writer Chris Krause will consider the nature and precise limits of the double standard. They will chart how it informs both the creation and reception of their art.

**TUESDAY**  
**October 16th**  
6:30 PM

Deutsches Haus  
Discussion  
Co-presented with:  
DEUTSCHES HAUS  
Passagen Verlag

Hosted by Peter Engelmann,  
Director of Passagen Verlag  
Free  
Reservation advised:  
deutscheshaus.rsvp@nyu.edu  
212398 8660

Featuring: **Caroline Heinrich** (Germany / philosopher), **Mathieu Potte-Bonneville** (France / philosopher)

The secret of power is that there is no power. Power is neither a truth nor a substance, but rather reversible at any time, and always threatened by its own death, thought Jean Baudrillard. On the other hand, how can we explain the reality of domination, and the stability of social order, without using the concept of power—without recognizing, at the same time, its inexistence and its efficiency? Philosopher Caroline Heinrich, author of *What Does a New Yorker Think When He Bites into a Hamburger?*, will meet with Foucault expert Mathieu Potte-Bonneville to discuss Baudrillard’s concepts of power, reality in the simulation, and paradoxical communication. In conversation with philosopher Peter Engelmann, they will debate Baudrillard’s intellectual heritage.
I CONTAIN MULTITUDES

“Do I contradict myself? Very well then I contradict myself, (I am large, I contain multitudes.)”
Walt Whitman

Identity is often represented by a huge and fixed tree, deeply rooted in a family, a country, or a legacy from the past generations. But is it perhaps better regarded as a moveable fiction constantly rewritten with the help of others and our environment, all the more pliable with the increasing interconnectivity of a faster-paced world?

As new technology changes of how we present ourselves both physically and virtually—one’s name, appearance, even gender—we are becoming the authors of our own lives: “I” is the hero of a real science-fiction. How much can the better understanding of our body and its possibilities renew and contradict the traditional perceptions of human identity?

The series of events “I Contain Multitudes” is a celebration of the metamorphosis of identity. An exploration into the boundaries of the self.

This special series is co-curated with Time Out New York and Les Subsistances.

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 18TH
7PM

The Austrian Cultural Forum
New York
Discussion / concert

Co-presented with:

Featuring: Peter Abling (Austria / composer), Renaud Machart (France / music editor for Le Monde, radio producer and writer), Nico Muhly (USA / composer)

Composers have long combined personal inspiration and the influence of other artists' works to create their own art. As technology provides the power to duplicate endlessly, how has this altered the creative process, opening the doors to new aesthetics? Or has the creative impulse been stunted in favor of the easy remix?

Composers and musicians Nico Muhly and Peter Abling, and music critic and writer Renaud Machard will discuss borrowing and re-shaping in today’s music. Muhly and Abling will perform a selection of works relevant to this question of heterogeneous identity.

Find out more on www.villagillet.net

SAMPLING
STEALING, BORROWING
AND RE-SHAPING
IN CONTEMPORARY MUSIC
I CONTAIN MULTITUDES

FRIDAY
OCTOBER 19TH
7:30PM

The Invisible Dog
Art Center
Series of performances
Co-presented with:

Hosted by Matthew Love,
Books and Comedy
Editor for Time Out New York

Free Reservation Required:
multitudes@villagillet.net

Featuring: Claude Arnaud (France / writer and essayist), Poor Baby Bree (USA / actress and vaudeville singer), Jamie Block (USA / musician), Chassol (France / pianist and composer), Wendy Delorme (France / writer and performer), Joanna Groarke from the New York Botanical Garden (USA / curator), Thierry Hoquet (France / philosopher), Christophe Laudamiel (France / perfumer), Loge 22 (France / choreographers and dancers), ensemble mise-en (USA / musicians and music director), Oh! Oui (France / musician, actor and theater directors)

“i is Another,” said Rimbaud.
“i am large, i contain multitudes,” claimed Walt Whitman.
“Each one of us believes himself to be a single person. But it’s not true... Each one of us is many persons,” wrote Luigi Pirandello in his Six Characters in Search of an Author. A menagerie of French and America writers, artists, thinkers and performers will share stories, screen clips, stage protests, play musical selections and perform dramatic pieces to mine the multiple and contradictory facets of their identities.
This series of five-minute performances will be preceded by Unisson, a twenty-minute collaborative piece by the dance collective Loge 22 (Marie Goudot, Julien Monty and Michaël Pomero) and the music collective ensemble mise-en.

Preceded by
PRE-MIX: A MIXOLOGIST SHARES HIS PERFECT POURS

Featuring: Eben Freeman (USA / mixologist)

Eben Freeman will create a series of cocktails inspired by classic beverages, to certify that influence can be ecstatic.

6:30PM
Cocktail Party
Free Reservation Required:
premix@villagillet.net

Find out more on www.villagillet.net
FAR FROM THE TREE
WHEN FAMILIES ARE DYSFUNCTIONAL

SUNDAY
OCTOBER 20TH
4PM

McNally Jackson Bookstore Discussion
Co-presented with:

Featuring: Claude Arnaud (France / writer), Gwenaëlle Aubry (France / writer), Mira Bartók (USA / writer), Marco Roth (USA / writer)

We know families exert an overwhelming effect on us, but what happens when a family member is seriously ill? What kind of inheritance does a missing or sick parent or sibling leave? How does this presence/absence affect our identity?

In their memoirs, the four writers Gwenaëlle Aubry, author of *No One* (Tin House, 2012), Mira Bartók, author of *The Memory Palace* (Free Press, 2011), Marco Roth, author of *The Scientists: A Family Romance* (FSG, 2012), and Claude Arnaud, author of *Qu’as-tu fait de tes frères ?* [What have you done to your brothers?] (Grasset, 2010) try to reconnect with lost relatives by reconstructing their parents’ lives and their relationship to them. These portraits, full of love, defiance and guilt, are also detective stories about what (or who) made the narrators, an attempt to find one’s voice through those who are now gone, an unusual self-portrait.

AUTHORS ON TOUR

Meet Laurent Binet (France / writer) at the Maison Française at Columbia University on October 11th at 12pm. He will be talking about his novel *HHhH* (FSG, 2012) in a panel entitled “Literature and History: Writing World War 2 in France.”

Meet Gwenaëlle Aubry (France / writer) at 192 Books on October 18th at 7pm. She will be discussing her book *No One* (Tin House, 2012) with Rick Moody.

Find out more on www.villagillet.net
SUNDAY OCTOBER 20TH
7:30PM

The Invisible Dog
Art Center
2 performances
Co-presented with:
THE INVISIBLE DOG
St. Danger St. - Brooklyn - New York - 1/2013

Free Reservation Required:
match@villagillet.net

FRANCE-USA MATCH
FROM STEREOTYPES TO REALITY

The NTUSA presents
FRENCH ME!

Featuring: National Theater of the United States of America. A collective work directed by Jonathan Jacobs, produced and designed by Normandy Raven Sherwood and co-created by Jacobs, Sherwood, Jesse Hawley and James Stanley.

Join the National Theater of the United States of America for its educational, stimulating and perhaps shocking exposé of French culture, behavior and morals.

AN OSTRICH CAN DIE FROM STROKE IF IT HEARS A LAWN MOWER ENGINE START UP


Around a banquet table, Les Chiens de Navarre will draw up a very French inventory of all the clichés for which the French say they love the Americans... and sometimes hate them.

Find out more on www.villagillet.net
NOLA CHÉRIE

Featuring: Chassol (France / pianist and composer), Lawrence Clais (France / drummer)

Nola Chérie is a live multimedia performance featuring footage of the ReBirth Brass Band and the Troupe Brass Band of New Orleans. For this piece, commissioned by the Center of Contemporary Arts in New Orleans in 2008, Chassol uses his signature editing technique based on the harmonization of melodic motifs. The various sounds recorded by Chassol, from performances by brass bands, to the night song of crickets, to the melody of Mississippi riverboat calliopes, are matched with images such as the bright green wall of an abandoned warehouse, the Lower 9th Ward levee and passing trains. Nola Chérie is an ode to a city, an imaginative re-appropriation of the real through image and sound sampling.

WHAT MAKES US HUMAN?

Featuring: Thierry Hoquet (France / philosopher)

Machines surpassing man is one of science fiction’s major concerns. But what if humans become the robots? With the major push for robotics, bionic and nano-technology research, engineers and doctors cannot only restore our lost functions or limbs but can also enhance our body capabilities. How do these powerful practices challenge our collective identity? Are cyborgs less or more human than us? Philosopher Thierry Hoquet will discuss with an American scientist these technical and ethical questions, and try to rethink the fundamental dualisms such as natural/artificial, normal/pathological, human/non-human.
A PORTRAIT OF THE MAN AS AN ANIMAL

Are, we, humans, so special? Four artists and two scientists will probe the very nature of humanity, presenting, discussing and embodying the wild instincts and behaviors that reside in us.

ZOOMORPHIC WILD MAN

Featuring: La Compagnie du Singe Debout with Cyril Casmeze (France / actor and zoomorph), Jade Duquiquet (France / actress and theater director)

Since his childhood, Cyril Casmeze has been obsessed with the idea of perfectly imitating many animals, and perhaps even becoming an animal. Jade Duquiquet interviews Casmeze, using questions posed by the performer’s relatives. How does his animality effect his relationships with humans? And with animals? Cyril Casmeze responds with words, movements, cries and transformations.

FIVE BEASTS

Featuring: Rinde Eckert (USA / vocalist, playwright and theater director) Ned Rothenberg (USA / musician and composer)

Five Beasts is a set of five portraits as seen through the eyes and heard through the utterances of an animal. Noises become an elemental language without words. The guises are various, combining characteristics of predator, prey, ruminant, and scavenger. Each portrait, then, is a kind of totem: man as wolf, mouse, ox, vulture, dog. These animals put our pretensions in relief and challenge our grand anthropocentrism. We are absurd and amazed and sometimes beautiful in our utter ignorance.

A SCIENTIFIC DISCUSSION

Featuring: Pascal Picq (France / paleoanthropologist), Ian Tattersall (USA / paleoanthropologist)

After these performances-investigations, two distinguished paleoanthropologists, Ian Tattersall and Pascal Picq, will join the artists for a talk about the resemblances and differences between the species.
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11TH</td>
<td>The Museum of Modern Art, T 3</td>
<td>A SALON OF FLEURUS SALON</td>
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<td>Laurent Binet (Fr), Andrea Geyer (US), Kim Levin (US),</td>
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<td>Jean-Marc Lévy-Leblond (Fr), Lawrence Weschler (US)</td>
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<td>SPLENDORS AND MISERIES OF (UN)CONSCIOUS THOUGHTS</td>
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<td>Lionel Naccache (Fr), Oh ! Oui (Fr)</td>
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<td>SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13TH</td>
<td>The Guardian offices, New York</td>
<td>RECLAIMING THE STREETS</td>
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<td>Michel Lussault (Fr), Janette Sadik-Khan (US), Tom Vanderbilt (US)</td>
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<td>SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH</td>
<td>The powerHouse Arena</td>
<td>BEYOND THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH</td>
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<td>Chris Adrian (US), Cécile Guilbert (Fr), Terrence Holt (US),</td>
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<td>Pierre Zaoui (Fr)</td>
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<td>MONDAY, OCTOBER 15TH</td>
<td>The New School, Theresa Lang Center</td>
<td>THE NAKED TRUTH</td>
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<td>Wendy Delorme (Fr), Chris Kraus (US), Emilie Notéris (Fr), Lynne</td>
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<td>Tillman (US)</td>
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<td>TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16TH</td>
<td>Deutsches Haus</td>
<td>WHAT DOES A NEW YORKER THINK...?</td>
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<td>Caroline Heinrich (De), Mathieu Potte-Bonneville (Fr)</td>
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<td>THURSDAY OCTOBER 18TH</td>
<td>The Austrian Cultural Forum New York</td>
<td>SAMPLING</td>
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<td>Peter Ablinger (Au), Renaud Machart (Fr), Nico Muhly (US)</td>
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<td>Oh ! Oui (Fr)</td>
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<td>McNally Jackson Bookstore</td>
<td>FAR FROM THE TREE</td>
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<td>Claude Arnaud (Fr), Gwenaëlle Aubry (Fr), Mira Bartók (US), Marco</td>
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<td>Roth (US)</td>
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<td>FRANCE–USA MATCH – FROM STEREOTYPES TO REALITY</td>
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<td>NOLA CHÉRIE</td>
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<td>Thierry Hoquet (Fr)</td>
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<td>SUNDAY OCTOBER 21ST</td>
<td>Roulette</td>
<td>A PORTRAIT OF THE MAN AS AN ANIMAL</td>
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<td>Cyril Casmeze (Fr), Jade Duviquet (Fr), Rinde Eckert (US), Pascal</td>
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<td>Picq (Fr), Ned Rothenberg (US), Ian Tattersall (US)</td>
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### LOCATIONS AND TICKETING

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<th>Ticketing</th>
<th>Subway</th>
<th>Website/Contact Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>THE AUSTRIAN CULTURAL FORUM</strong></td>
<td>11 East 52nd Street (between 5th &amp; Madison Avenues), NY 10022</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free, reservation required: <a href="http://www.acfny.org">www.acfny.org</a> / 212 319 5300 x 46</td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> E, M to 5th Avenue – 53rd Street / 4, 6 to 51st Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DEUTSCHES HAUS AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY</strong></td>
<td>42 Washington Mews (between Waverly Place and 8th Street), NY 10003</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free, reservation required: <a href="mailto:deutscheshaus.rsvp@nyu.edu">deutscheshaus.rsvp@nyu.edu</a> / 212 998 8660</td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> A, B, C, D, E, F, Q to 6th Avenue / N, R, 6 to Astor Place &amp; Broadway / W to 4th and 8th Street – NYU</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE GUARDIAN NEW YORK OFFICES</strong></td>
<td>536 Broadway (at Spring Street), NY 10012, 6th Floor</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free, reservation required: <a href="mailto:reclaiming@villagillet.net">reclaiming@villagillet.net</a></td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> 6, N, R to Spring St</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE INVISIBLE DOG ART CENTER</strong></td>
<td>51 Bergen Street (between Smith &amp; Court Streets), Brooklyn, NY 11201</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free, reservation required: <a href="mailto:premix@villagillet.net">premix@villagillet.net</a>, <a href="mailto:multitudes@villagillet.net">multitudes@villagillet.net</a>, <a href="mailto:match@villagillet.net">match@villagillet.net</a>, <a href="mailto:nolacherie@villagillet.net">nolacherie@villagillet.net</a></td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> F, G to Bergen Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MCNALLY JACKSON BOOKSTORE</strong></td>
<td>52 Prince Street (between Lafayette &amp; Mulberry Streets), NY 10012</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free</td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> B, D, F, M to Broadway – Lafayette Street</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART</strong></td>
<td>11 West 53rd Street (between 5th Avenue and Avenue of the Americas), NY 10019</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> $10, $8 members, $5 students, seniors, and staff of other museums <a href="http://www.moma.org">www.moma.org</a></td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> E, M train to 53rd Street and Fifth Avenue / B, D, F to 47-50 Street Rockefeller Center</td>
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<td><strong>THE NEW SCHOOL THERESA LANG CENTER</strong></td>
<td>55 West 13th Street (at 6th Avenue), 2nd floor</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free</td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> F, M, N, Q, R, 4, 5, 6, to 14th Street – Union Square / L to 6th Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>NEW YORK LIVE ARTS</strong></td>
<td>219 W 19th Street (between 7th and 8th Avenues), NY 10011</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free, reservation required: <a href="http://www.newyorklivearts.org">www.newyorklivearts.org</a> or 212 924 0077</td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> 1, 2 to 18th Street / 3, F, M, L, A, C, E to 14th Street – Union Square</td>
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<td><strong>THE POWERHOUSE ARENA</strong></td>
<td>37 Main Street (at Water Street), Brooklyn, NY 11201</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free</td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> F to York Street / A, C to High Street / 2, 3 to Clark Street / 2, 3, 4, 5 to Borough Hall</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ROULETTE</strong></td>
<td>509 Atlantic Avenue (at 3rd Avenue), Brooklyn, NY 11217</td>
<td><strong>Ticketing:</strong> free, reservation required: <a href="http://www.roulette.org">www.roulette.org</a> 917 267 0363</td>
<td><strong>Subway:</strong> D, N, R to Atlantic Avenue – Pacific Street / 2, 3, 4, 5 to Atlantic Avenue / LIRR</td>
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Find out more on [www.villagillet.net](http://www.villagillet.net)
“[Walls and Bridges] brings together American and French academics, writers, and artists for an assortment of highbrow networking and deep-thinker-friendly public events in New York.”

*The New Yorker*

“The French have never lacked confidence in their cultural creations or intellectual abilities, but Americans may be missing out on what Gallic artists and researchers have produced, which explains a new yearlong initiative aimed at strengthening collaborations between scholars and artists from the two nations.”

*The New York Times*