



Allen Ginsberg Poetry Festival, outdoor flicks and concert-round-up

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FIFTY YEARS OF MOLUCH, SOLITUDE, FILTH AND UGLINESS

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He saw the best minds of his generation destroyed by madness, not to mention those of the five generations after that.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of Ginsberg's eternally powerful poem "Howl." To honor the man and his masterpiece, an entire evening dedicated to this one great piece takes place tonight.

At 7 p.m., "Howl Hour!" begins with "Howl in Many Languages." "Howl" will be read in various languages (Turkish, Spanish, Finnish, Danish, Russian, Chinese).

At 8 p.m., audience participation is encouraged for "Group Howl," and the evening ends with a "Reading of Howl" by Ed Sanders, Andy Clausen, Anne Waldman, John S. Hall, Edwin Torres, Antler and Celena Glenn. The Gay Men's Choir gives a choral performance of "Footnote to Howl."

From 8-9 p.m., the Lower East Side All-Stars feature John Giorno, Taylor Meade, Steve Ben Israel, Steve Cannon, the Last Poets and a guest appearance by Steve Van Zandt.

Hip-hop poets read at 6 tonight at the South Stage in Tompkins Square Park, between East Seventh and East 10th streets and avenues A and B.

The festival continues through the weekend and includes such other events as Beat Evolution Poetry, a round-robin poetry reading hosted by Mike McHugh and honoring the Beat poets and new work by poets that were influenced by them. This event is at the C-Note, 157 Ave. C at 10th Street from 7-9 p.m. tomorrow. Admission is free.

For information on these and other HOWL! affiliated events, call 212-505-2225 or visit howlfestival.com.

Robin A. Rothman

OUTDOOR FLICKS

Outsiders trying to make it in the big city seems to be the theme of the weekend in Central Park as Kermit and the gang try to get a musical made and Jack Lemmon goes on a job interview.

In Central Park tonight is "The Muppets Take Manhattan" at 8 p.m. in the Rumsey Playfield, Central Park, at 72nd Street and Fifth Avenue. Tomorrow night, Jack Lemmon stars in "The Out of Towners," same time, same location.

Admission is free. Call 212-310-6600 or visit centralparknyc.org.

Also tonight, join Harry, Ron and Hermione as they attend their third year at Hogwarts in "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban" at dusk at Hudson River Park's Pier 25 at North Moore Street in NYC. Harry's a bit worried when he hears that an escaped prisoner named Sirius Black is out to kill him. There are sure to be plenty of wizards and muggles enjoying the film on the Waterfront. Admission is free; call 212-627-2020.

Germain Lussier

CONCERT ROUND-UP

We prescribe a healthy dose of indie rock from Ted Leo & the Pharmacists, who perform at the Seaport Music Festival, 12-14 Fulton St. in NYC, at 7 tonight. Admission is free.

Punk proves it's not dead, as old-school punk acts continue to resurface to save legendary club C.B.G.B. 315 Bowery in NYC. The Dead Boys (whose "Sonic Reducer" you may remember from Pearl Jam's homage) perform at 7 tonight (with Flipper, Peter and the Test Tube Babies, Adrenalin O.D. and Furious George opening) and 7 p.m. tomorrow (with Anti Nowhere League, Nihilistics, and SFA opening).

Tickets for both shows are \$35 at TicketWeb. Sham 69 holds down the fort at 7 p.m. Sunday (with Cheetah Chrome opening) and 7 p.m. Monday (with the Radicts and Youth Brigade opening). Tickets are \$25 at TicketWeb.

Bob Weir & Ratdog and latter-year Grateful Dead keyboardist Bruce Hornsby take on Central Park SummerStage, Rumsey Playfield in Central Park in NYC, at 4:30 p.m. Thursday. Tickets are \$39.50 at Ticketmaster.

Robin A. Rothman