

Source Letter

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A monthly publication with news about the East Village community at large ©2004

Free in The Village

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Priceless Everywhere Else

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FIRST OFF... With this issue we begin our 4th year of publishing The SourceLetter. Our goal was to provide a sense of community to a rapidly changing Village from our spot in the middle of 9th Street. We hear a lot from long time residents bemoaning the changes happening and see new comers forcing the issue. But like a championship ball club, in order for the Village to survive & thrive, we need that blend of veterans who have been around & know the ropes as well as the youngbloods who infuse new energy & ideas, but still listen to and learn from the elders. Change is good, but not at the cost of destroying old ideas & values. As we head into a new year, The SourceLetter sends out an invitation to all comers to contribute their thoughts & ideas to bring this Village together. Let's make it happen. Support your local vendors when you can, keep the community strong, vital, and real.

SOURCE STUFF FOR MAY

**RECYCLED
PRINTER PAPER**

\$4.95 pr. ream

INFORMATION

Attn. Parkers: Alternate Parking is suspended:

- May 17th Thurs. Solemnity of Ascension
- May 23-24 Wed., Thurs. Shavuot: 1st/2nd Day



• The Ninth Precinct Community Council Meeting will be held on Tues., May 15th, 7:00 pm @ 200 East 5th St., Cor. Cooper Sq./3rd Ave. WWW.THENEWNINGTHPRECINCT.ORG



• People are needed to provide information, directions & more at the American Heart Association Wall Street Run and Heart Walk, May 22. Contact Person: Steve Boland, Manager of Volunteer Services, (212) 423-2205.



• **CANS IN THE BOX ...** People are in need. Help them out by contributing to our ongoing food drive to benefit Middle Collegiate Church Food Program. Bring your canned goods to our store.

COMMUNITY NEWS

GET LISTED! UPCOMING EVENTS, GIGS, ITEMS OF SPECIAL INTEREST...

To submit, Stop by our store @ 331 E. 9th Street OR e-mail us at santo@sourceunltd.com

Submissions must be received by May 28th. Inclusion subject to space availability.

- **LOVE AND MUSIC...** Classical American and Modern Songs that express all aspects of Love performed by Tatyana Spivak, Saturday, May 19th, 2:00pm, @ Tompkins Square Library, 331 East 10th Street, (212) 228-4747

- **NEW YORK IS OUR HOME...AFFORDABLE RENT CAMPAIGN RALLY**-Saturday May 5th, 11am-1pm @ Middle Collegiate Church, 50 E 7th St. AND Wed. May 23rd, 5-7pm @ Stuy-Town/Peter Cooper Village, 1st Ave. btw. 14th & 23 St.

Street Fairs

- Sat., May 12 Middle Collegiate Church Festival Second Avenue bet 6th Street. and 14th Street
- Sat., May 12 Gramercy Visiting Neighbors Fest. Third Avenue from 14th to 23rd Streets
- Sunday, May 13 Bikes Now Motor Promotion East 2nd & East 3rd St. btw. 2nd Ave. & Ave A
- Friday, May 18 Community Board # 1 Festival Maiden Lane from South Street to Water Street
- Friday, May 18 St. George Ukrainian Church East 7th Street btw. Second and Third Avenues
- Sat., May 19 Christopher Street Block Festival Christopher St. from 7th Ave South to Hudson St.
- Sat., May 19 Village Crosstown Trolley Festival Astor Place btw. Broadway and Lafayette Streets
- Sun., May 20 Greenwich Village Youth Festival Bleecker Street bet. Bank and Christopher Streets
- Sat., May 26, Theater For The New City Fest. 10th Street Between First Ave. and 2nd Avenue
- Sun., May 27 Loisaída Street Fair Loisaída Avenue (Ave C) from 5th - 12th Streets

- **KINDA LIKE GODZILLA MEETS MOTHRA...**A bill featuring Two Sisters Inc., w/Dave Sewelson and Claire Daly on Bari sax, David Hofstra on Bass AND The Daves, Dave Sewelson-Bari Sax, David Hofstra-Tuba, Stephen Moses-Drums/Trombone, Thurs. May 10th, 6-7:30pm @ The Bowery Poetry Club, 308 Bowery, 212-614-0505.

- **THE GARDEN'S OPEN!** African music with Adame Dembele featuring traditional and international music on his handmade instruments. Sat., May 26 at 7:30pm (Rain date: Sun. May 27) @ The 6b Garden (6th St. & Ave B). Check their website, www.6bgarden.org for full May events.

- **SHAKE THAT BELLY ..** Reyna Alcalá gives belly dancing classes on Thurs & Fri evenings, 6:30 pm @ The Rod Rodger's Dance Studios located @ 62 E 4th Street. For more info: 212 533 5665

- **SANTO GIGS...** With Erik Hendin, Tuesday, May 22, 8:00pm, @ Parkside Lounge, 317 E. Houston (bet. Aves B & C) www.parksidelounge.com

GUEST COLUMN OF THE MONTH

This Month... "Hearts and Voices" by Ben Goodwin



“Hearts and Voices” by Ben Goodwin

I am a recent transplant to New York, and like all who come here, I got the opportunity to completely reinvent my life when I arrived in the city- not the kind of chance that comes along often. As a musician, I'd been through more day jobs than I cared to remember. There was a pattern, start the job, make friends, get desperately bored, leave the job, go broke, swallow my pride, start another job. I figured doing something worthwhile might break the cycle, so I started trawling Craig's List for non-profit jobs. I had a pipe dream that it would be nice to find something where my musical skills made a difference.

Pretty much the first listing I turned up blew me away. Program Assistant for Hearts & Voices? What's that? It's an ongoing concert series for people living with HIV/AIDS in residential and day care centers around Manhattan. Eagerly, I submitted my resume and crossed my fingers. Two weeks later I was on my way to the Upper East Side, to play for a roomful of HIV+ hospital residents as part of my interview.

'Hearts and Voices! It's a good night!' said one of the hospital staff as we passed in the corridor. I followed Aly, the coordinator, into the performance space and tuned up as the audience filed in. It looked like a tough room. Some of these guys looked pretty checked out. Some of them looked pretty rough. The room filled up, Aly introduced me and I fired into my first tune.

I wasn't prepared for what happened next. As I played, those tough faces melted into wide smiles and suddenly I wasn't playing to a room full of sick people any more, but the warmest, most generous audience I could imagine. They inspired me to perform way beyond my limits. I sang my heart out, lit up with the bliss of a really good show. The rest is a blur. My audience left in great spirits. And, I got the job.

There's no cure for HIV. Treatment costs tens of thousands of dollars yearly, and the drugs don't work for everyone. The virus does the most damage to the most vulnerable, the most marginalized. Hearts & Voices isn't going to stop the epidemic. But every time we put on a show we tap the power that music has to heal, to connect, and to bring joy. Every show is a celebration of life and a victory over the virus.

There's over 100,000 people living with HIV in New York, many in residential facilities. We need all the help we can get- from musicians and non-musicians alike. Drop me a line at bgodwin@lifebeat.org. I'd love to hear from you. -Ben Godwin

Ben Godwin is a songwriter and performer from London, UK, living and playing in NYC. When not performing, he can be found organizing shows for LIFEbeat's Hearts & Voices program, or hosting nights at the Sidewalk Café. For more information, check out BenGodwin.com or LIFEbeat.org.

Satch's Corner Where you can read about some good cd's, books & videos which can be purchased at www.sourceunltd.com through our affiliate program with amazon.com



"Satch" drawing by Sara Hauser

MAVIS STAPLES -- WE'LL NEVER TURN BACK

Mavis pulls no punches on this disc. Produced by Ry Cooder, this disc consists of songs associated with the Civil Rights Movement. Music that, in the words of Rev. John Lewis, "lifted us and pushed us to a higher place.". It begins with a swampy, funky version of 'Down In Mississippi' from the Crossroads soundtrack that Cooder was also a part of & takes off from there with Mavis going after "the lying politicians" and calling them on their words. This disc jumps out of the player and pulls you in. Funky, inspirational & truthful.

I give it 4 bones out of 5 (with 5 being *Songs In The Key Of Life*)

"See you next time on the corner...."