

Source Letter

PUBLISHED BY THE SOURCE UNLTD

COPIES & MORE SINCE 1982

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

Free in The Village

Volume 4, Issue 11 May 2008

Priceless Everywhere Else

The Source Unltd • 331 East 9th Street • NYC 10003 • 212-473-7833 • www.sourceunltd.com

FIRST OFF... May comes around and brings with it ... flowers, Memorial Day as the beginning of the summer...and the annual rent guidelines board meeting which will decide what one million New Yorkers will pay for rent in the coming few years. Let's hope that sane heads prevail and that the hike is not out of control. You can voice your opinions at upcoming meetings before the final vote on June 19 at Cooper Union. For the schedule and agenda go to housingnyc.com. In the meantime, enjoy springtime in New York. Support your local vendors when you can, and keep the community strong, vital and real.

SOURCE STUFF FOR MAY

HP & EPSON PRINTER CARTRIDGES

You need 'em, we got 'em

Miss an issue?
Visit us online at
www.sourceunltd.com

INFORMATION

Attn. Parkers: Alternate Parking is suspended:

- May 1st Thurs. Solemnity of Ascension
- May 26th Monday Memorial Day



- The Ninth Precinct Community Council Meeting will be held on Tues., May 20th, 7:00 pm @ 200 E. 5th Street (Cooper Sq. & 3rd Ave.) WWW.THE.NEWNINTHPRICINCT.ORG



- Volunteers needed to help get NYC recycling again. Learn about recycling, then help spread the word. For info, or to RSVP and receive meeting location details call 212-676-2081.



- **BRING IN YOUR CANS...** Help out by contributing to our ongoing food drive to benefit The Middle Collegiate Church Food Program. Bring your canned goods to our store. Thanks

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 25th. Inclusion subject to space availability.

- **SOHO DANCE STUDIO...** now offering their new students a 1/2 hour private lesson AND a one hour orientation class for \$20! Learn how to Salsa, Rumba, Cha Cha, Tango, Hustle, Swing dance and much more! Call to schedule your lesson, 212-226-6767, or stop by the studio @ 598 Broadway, 6th Floor.
- **ACTIVE INGREDIENTS...** R. Nemo Hill presents a new series of readings at The Stone on the last Monday of every month. Upcoming : **ACTIVE O** (program two), An evening of original 'semi-automatic' writings by six or seven participants which will emerge from a series of surrealist game-playing sessions. Mon., May 26, 8pm @ The Stone, Avenue C and 2nd Street, Info: www.thestonenyc.com
- **DIAL-A-TEACHER...** Free help with Math, Reading, Writing and Science homework from a New York City teacher. Live on the web at www.homeworknyc.org, OR by phone at 212-777-3380. FREE!
- **PUNK ROPE...** Punk Rope is a fun, rock & roll inspired fitness class for people of all ages & fitness levels. Rock out every Monday night at 7pm @ the 14th Street Y (344 E. 14th St. bet 1st & 2nd Aves). Each class features a new, themed playlist, new exercises, drills, and games. Ropes are provided. Class \$12 for the public, FREE for 14th Y members. For more info, visit www.punkrope.com. For a free 1 time trial pass, email: tim@punkrope.com.
- **THE BLESSED UNREST GALA, 2008...** A Dionysian celebration to support Blessed Unrest's unprecedented international collaboration with Teatri Oda of the newly independent Kosova. Come party with Blessed Unrest and their company of artists, enjoy mouthwatering food and drink, acquire fabulous auction items, and dance the night away. Sat., May 31, 7:30 - 10:30pm @ The Interart Theatre 500 W. 52nd St. (just west of 10th Ave), To purchase tickets online, visit blessedunrest.org, or call 212-631-8789.
- **"SO NOT MOTHERS DAY"**...Poetry in the garden, a multi-media celebration of mothers. Coordinator, Mindy Levokove, on Sunday, May 18th at 1pm @ The 6th & B Garden, 6th Street and Avenue B.
- **BIKE MONTH NYC...** It's the 17th anniversary of Bike Month NYC, sponsored by Transportation Alternatives and various NYC government agencies devoted to getting people onto two-wheelers. Events are planned, including the Bike to Shea Day. Visit bikemonthnyc.org for events.

GUEST COLUMN OF THE MONTH

Be Part of the Guest Column...Submit your stories, photos, drawings to: santo@sourceunltd.com

THIS MONTH...Artist, Joseph Solman

Joseph Solman

by Santo & Margaret

One of the perks of running a store is that you come in contact with all sorts of people doing all sorts of things, from the mundane to the out - there, to the run of the mill, to the characters. Joe Solman was one of those characters. He started coming around in the early 90's and we would do reprints of his work and bind them into limited edition books which he would sell to collectors and galleries.

The work that particularly intrigued us was a series of sketches of various people on the subway which he drew on *The Racing Form* newspaper. He told us how he would do these quick portraits in pencil as he rode out to the racetrack and would later fill in the color and whatever other details he could remember. We really enjoyed these pieces as well as talking to someone who obviously was a great talent but didn't use it to separate himself from everyone else. He was funny, sometimes curt, and didn't stand for any bull. Through his art he found the beauty in the everyday things that life gives us. In this way his spirit lives on. Below is some very brief info of Joe's life and a couple samples of his work.

In the 1930s and 1940s, Joseph Solman worked for the Workers Progress Administration, where he met and worked with many established artists, including Jackson Pollock and Milton Avery. He founded the art group "The Ten," with Rothko and Adolph Gottlieb in the 1930's as a protest against the mainstream art of American scenic painters. At about the same time, Solman became editor-in-chief of *Art Front* magazine, introducing photography to its pages. In the 1950s, with the art scene dominated by abstract expressionism, Solman joined with Edward Hopper and Jack Levine to found *Reality*, an art publication opposed to any one theory about how an artist should paint.

Greatly inspired and influenced by the European moderns at the Second Armory Show in New York, Solman incorporated the achievements of the Europeans into his own style: a fusion of representationalism, Cubism, and abstraction. Unlike the members of "The Ten" who became Abstract Expressionists, Solman never abandoned subject matter and insisted on remaining a modern figurative painter. Solman attended the Art Students League in NYC and the National Academy of Design, but said he learned more by sketching while riding the city's subways and buses. Among his best-known works are the "Subway Gouaches," images of people in different poses on the New York subways.

"I have long discovered for myself that what we call the subject," he has written, "yields more pattern, more poetry, more drama, greater abstract design and tension than any shapes we may invent."

Joseph Solman died in his sleep Wednesday, April 16th in his Manhattan apartment on 2nd Avenue where he lived and worked. His career spanned 70 years.



Field Flowers and Regatta, 1956



Avenue B, 1937



Yuppie On Subway, 1971



"Satch" drawing by Sara Hauser

Satch's Corner Where you can read about some good cd's, books and videos

that can be purchased at www.thesourceunltd.com through our affiliation with amazon.com (just click on the amazon logo)

STEVE WINWOOD NINE LIVES If there's anyone in rock and roll that has more lives than a cat, it's Steve Winwood. Beginning back in the sixties with "I'm a Man" thru Traffic and Blind Faith and into the eighties with "Higher Love", this guy's voice and trademark organ work have been all over the pop landscape. This latest release continues in the vein of his previous disc, *About Time*, with a blend of latin & african grooves set under some nice organ and guitar work, with a guest appearance by Eric Clapton which is the best he's sounded in years. A real nice listen, I give it "3 bones."
See you next time on the corner...."

Closing Statement: "You never see a U-haul following a hearse." - Denzel Washington