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— POST —

June 2024

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THE MAGICAL WORLD OF
LÉANNE ANSAR

Photo by @KseniaParisPhoto

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Léanne Ansar

Beauty and magic in everyday moments

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro



If you look around, beauty and magic are present in everyday moments. Content creator Léanne Ansar captures this sentiment with stunning imagery and the moving words she shares with the world.

Tell us about your background as a French-American. You split your time between New York City and Paris?

My grandfather was an American soldier based in France after the Second World War. He met my grandmother, who happened to be a French nurse working in the area at that time. They fell in love, had babies (my mother and aunt), and eventually got divorced. (Sorry to bring in the reality!) My mother moved back to France and eventually found my father, who was a French man from Tours. Then, eventually, I was born, a true French-American!

I love New York for the hustle and bustle and was living there full time for seven years. I was really starting to miss my family a lot, who are now all in France. So I decided to take the leap and get my dream place in Paris. I now travel a lot back to the USA because that is my biggest market on my social media platforms.

Can you tell us about your journey to becoming a content creator and what inspired you to start?

I have to give the shout out to my wonderful *maman* (mother)! I was in between my bachelor's and my master's and had six months off. Like other people, I believe, you feel a little lost... You don't know your place yet. You don't know where you belong. She had a blog for single women who traveled alone. One day, she told me, why don't you start a blog? She gave me some of her tips, had made me a website in the past, and showed me her ways. She inspired me and made me believe in my-

self. She was the only one that did for the longest time. This was before social media was ever seen as a successful platform. She saw what it could become!

How would you describe your personal style?

I grew up always being very feminine. I loved princess movies and classic tales. I always wore dresses, my mother got my nails done with her, starting wearing the mini sandal heels pretty young. Honestly, my mother was a huge style inspiration for me! After 25 is really where my personal style came in. I realized I wasn't all that into trends and more into vintage styles with a romantic touch. In New York, there were so many vintage stores. It was a mini heaven.

Your posts portray beauty and a bit of magic. What inspires your aesthetic?

Thank you for saying that! Honestly, I think what inspired me the most is everyday life. If you just walk through Paris or New York or the countryside, anywhere... Magic is truly all around us. I think it's about opening your eyes and seeing it. I always keep my eyes open and then write down some magic I saw that day. Magic is real. It's all about changing your mindset and maybe taking life a little slower than what we usually do.

Can you talk a bit about your love of vintage and art?

Every summer, I would stay at my French grandparents' house, and they filled me with love, culture, and history. They brought my brother and I to castles, museums, walks around small villages... I fell in a deep trance whenever I would hear my grandfather tell me stories of the places he would bring us to. I love vintage and art, but even more than that, I love history, and it all grew from there. To this day I still get lost reading Wikipedia

pages and realize after a bit it's been two hours. (Laughs.)

Who are your personal style icons?

Monica Bellucci, Iman, Audrey Hepburn, Bianca Jagger, Sophia Loren to name a few! It took me a while to figure it out. But realizing who your personal style icons are can really help you make purchasing decisions. I like to say my personal style is classic, romantic, and a touch of something iconic — this is usually red lipstick. I realized this is when I feel the most confident and comfortable.

What are a few of your favorite films?

Gigi, I feel like I have a personal connection to her character. I love any French new wave films: *Lola*, *Breathless*, *Belle du Jour*. Sophia Loren: *Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow*. Audrey Hepburn: *Sabrina*, *Love in the Afternoon*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. Historical period dramas: *Pride & Prejudice*, *Girl with a Pearl Earring*, *Becoming Jane*, *A Dangerous Beauty*, *Bel Ami*, *Anna Karenina*. Musicals: *Moulin Rouge*, *Les Misérables*, *Mamma Mia*, *Chicago*, *Funny Face*, *LaLa Land*.

Do you visit the Hamptons/East End often, and if so, what are a few of your favorite places?

I used to when I was more in New York! I stayed in some really beautiful boutique hotels and wrote about them when I did more travel blogging. Baker House 1650 was lovely. There was Topping Rose House, which was incredible. I always ended up in Sag Harbor, walking and strolling around... I felt a sense of peace there.

Your posts often focus on travel. Can you share a few of your favorite places to visit in

the South of France?

Travel is another form of magic! Of course, I love Provence... Being surrounded by nature, its flowers, its butterflies, and its ruins, has always soothed me. I love the small villages over there like Saint Paul-de-Vence, Èze, Menton. And on the other south side, that is less

commonly gone too. I love Arcachon. It's a more relaxed and less hyped-up town by the water. Right next to it are the tallest sand dunes in all of Europe... The Dune of Pilat. I love to go there early in the mornings and watch the sunrise. Then, when you head down south from there, you start getting close to Basque Country. I love it there.



Photos by @KseniaParisPhoto

Aerin Lauder

A style icon's elegant, effortless aesthetic

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Aerin Lauder is a designer, tastemaker, mother of two, and style icon. With a commitment to creating beauty that is reflected in her elegant, effortless aesthetic, she established the luxury lifestyle brand AERIN in 2012. Her love for interiors and her ability to create inviting spaces are rooted in her unique upbringing — she is the granddaughter of Estée Lauder, the founder of the eponymous cosmetics company. Aerin's philanthropic endeavors have touched and transformed the lives of many.

We had the opportunity to catch up with Aerin and delve into her recent collaborations with Williams Sonoma and Gracie brands. These collaborations not only showcase her creative prowess but also provide a glimpse into how she enjoys life on the East End.

Tell us about your collaboration with Williams Sonoma and Williams Sonoma Home. How is the collection inspired by your garden in East Hampton?

Summertime entertaining is my favorite, and the new AERIN for Williams Sonoma collection reflects the best of those moments. While the collection is inspired by my garden in Long Island, the furniture was created based on the details of a wicker basket that belonged to my mother. Each piece that we designed is infused with my own memories and entertaining essentials, as well as the ethos of the AERIN brand.

How would you describe your signature style?

I have a very feminine, timeless sense of style with a modern twist.

Can you tell us about your collaboration with Gracie and how your love of flowers and nature inspires it?

AERIN x Gracie is a very special collaboration from two brands infused with a strong heritage, storytelling, and craftsmanship. The collection offers an assortment of beautiful home decor and accessories inspired by my love of flowers and nature. I love the touch of whimsy mixed with AERIN's signature style.

The collection also pays homage to your grandmother, Estée. Can you discuss how her legacy has influenced you and the collection?

My earliest memories of my grandmother's love of home always included Gracie. She used the magical wallpapers in her dining rooms, offices, and throughout her homes around the world. Estée's love of birds and flowers is something that she passed down to me and is an element that inspires me every day. The pattern that we chose was uncovered from the Gracie archives and originally hand-painted in the 1960s, which highlights Gracie as a true heritage brand. Their work has inspired me and my family for generations.

Could you tell us about life

in East Hampton? What does your perfect day on the East End look like? What are a few of your favorite places to visit when you have time off?

To me, East Hampton is all about spending time with family and making special memories. Especially in the summertime, my favorite things to do are go for a walk on the beach, sit by the pool, entertain outdoors, and cut flowers in my garden. I love the sense of tradition and heritage in East Hampton. I think you see it in the homes, the food, the fashion, and the iconic institutions. A few of my favorite restaurants are Duryea's, The Lobster Roll, Loaves and Fishes, Sant Ambroeus, and Le Bilboquet. I also like to walk around the different towns and discover the many shops, museums, and hotels. Each town is so unique and has something special to offer.

Talk about the "Aerin's Loves" selections on the website. What are a few of your favorite items as we head into the summer season on the East End?

Similarly to my personal style, the "Aerin's Loves" collection is classic with a contemporary twist. It includes the pieces that I am loving most and currently using in my home or my daily routine. One of the elements that I love most about this edit is that it is constantly changing. As the seasons change, I always update my fragrances, my accessories, and my home



decor to reflect the time of year — "Aerin's Loves" is curated to reflect exactly that.

Your first AERIN concept store has been a staple in the heart of Southampton for the past decade. What made you choose Southampton as a location?

I have been visiting Southampton every

summer since I was a young girl. The ease of the town, the fresh air, the bike rides... To me, it has always defined the ultimate summer paradise. The sensibility of the destination, along with the ethos of the AERIN brand, seemed like a perfect match.

You're involved in many charitable organizations. Can you tell us about some of the

causes close to your heart?

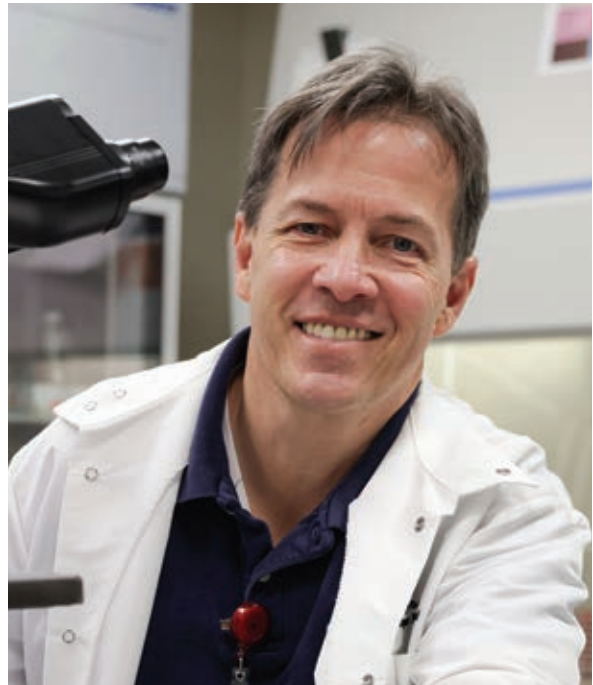
My family has been very involved with BCRF and The Alzheimer Drug Discovery Foundation for many years, which are two organizations that are close to my heart. I am also on the board of God's Love We Deliver, where they cook and deliver meals to those who are too sick to shop or cook for themselves. I am so inspired by the incredible work that they do.

Photos courtesy William Sonoma





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Zibby Owens

The many hats of ‘Moms Don’t Have Time to Read Books’ host and author

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Zibby Owens wears many hats. She hosts the podcast “Moms Don’t Have Time to Read Books” and is the founder and CEO of Zibby Media, which includes the publishing house Zibby Books, a book club, retreats, classes, and events. She also owns Zibby’s Bookshop, an independent bookstore in Santa Monica. Her latest novel, “Blank,” is out now. We caught up with Owens to learn more.

Tell us about your novel, “Blank.”

“Blank” is my USA Today bestselling debut novel about a woman named Pippa Jones that takes place over six days in L.A. Pippa is a former bestselling author who can’t come up with an idea for a follow-up and decides, at the advice of her son, to hand it in blank as a commentary on the publishing industry! That decision turns her life upside down. The book is also about Pippa’s everyday hilarious struggles as a mom, a best friend, a daughter, and someone trying to hold it all together. My hope is that readers will get a behind-the-scenes peek at the publishing industry, think more critically about how they find the books they love, and remind everyone that it’s never too late to start your next chapter. Also, it’s a quick read! Most people down it in a couple days. Perfect for the summer!

What inspired you to start the “Moms Don’t Have Time to Read Books” podcast?

To be honest, I was trying to “build a platform” in order to sell a book of parenting essays. I wasn’t on social media. The fact that I’d been freelancing since I was 14 years old meant nothing! When I consulted a few agents, they mentioned that I had to build my own brand more before being able to sell a book. A girlfriend, author Sarah Mlynowski, suggested I

start a podcast. So I did! I’ve always been interested in talking to authors who I consider true rock stars. My first pen-pal relationship with an author started when I was ten years old! And as a lifelong reader, nothing made me happier than the idea of getting to know the authors behind the pages that changed my life. Now, six years later, I’ve interviewed 1,800 authors, and the show has not only led to five books of my own, but a publishing house, a bookstore, and a whole media company designed to uplift authors and connect readers.

Tell us about Zibby’s Bookshop. Are there any plans to open in New York?

Oh, this is my true happy place! Zibby’s Bookshop on 11th and Montana in Santa Monica, CA, is my independent bookstore that focuses on creative curation and community. We have intimate author events three to five times a week with today’s most interesting authors, celebrities, and more. Each shelf has its own theme: books that make you laugh, books that make you cry, reeling from divorce, motherhood malaise. It’s designed to promote the discoverability of new authors who might change your life. Santa Monica didn’t have a bookstore, so the community is extremely happy and thankful to have a meeting spot, cultural hub, and book outlet in their midst. In New York, there are already so many bookstores! But never say never.

You started a publishing house called Zibby Books. Can you talk about some of the exciting titles you have coming out?

Sure! I started Zibby Books after speaking to more than 1,000 authors, many of whom lamented the state of the publishing industry. It broke my heart that these talented authors didn’t always feel



Photo courtesy Zibby Owens

appreciated, invested in, or set up for success. I decided to try doing things a bit differently. For us, with one book released per month, every book is a lead title. We regularly partner with brands to expand the reach of our authors. We have fun launch events, book tours for everyone, ambassadors all over the country, a true collaborative relationship, and knowledge sharing among all the authors on our team.

May/June: Swan Huntley’s novel “I Want You More” about a ghostwriter who comes to East Hampton to live with a celebrity chef for the summer whose memoir she’s writing. It quickly turns into a “Single White Female” meets “War of the Roses” situation. What’s particularly fun for East End readers is all the local spots the characters visit. Think: Citarella, Main Street shopping, and more! (We’re doing a free tote with purchase at BookHampton while supplies last!)

July: Joselyn Takacs’s “Pearce

Oysters” is next. It’s an eco-fiction literary work about a family of oyster farmers in the Louisiana Bayou affected by the BP Oil Spill. It’s so good!

August: For short story lovers, we have Mary Jones’s “The Goodbye Process,” a dark, beautiful collection of stories designed to make you think and feel.

Another title that’s perfect for the beach is “The Last Love Note” by Emma Grey, about a mom who has to start her second act in life and just might end up on a beautiful Australian beach with a certain gentleman. Think: “Bridget Jones’s Diary” vibes.

We loved the retreat you held at Canoe Place last year. Do you have any plans for upcoming retreats on the East End?

Thank you! I loved it, too! We’re partnering with Canoe Place for custom experiences this summer, so

stay tuned. We don’t have another full-on retreat planned yet for Out East, but we do have lots of fun events. Our next retreat is in Palm Springs in September. Join us!

Are there any signings or events coming up on the East End?

Yes! Here are our authors’ schedules. I’m also excited to be a part of Authors Night at the East Hampton Library with “Blank!” You can get signed copies of “Blank” at all local bookstores. Hope to see it on many beach towels this summer!

Joselyn Takacs’s “Pearce Oysters”: July 19 at 5 PM: Finley’s Fiction Event at The Ram’s Head Inn; July 20 at 3 PM: Canoe Place Event; July 20 at 5 PM: BookHampton Event in conversation with Zibby Owens; July 21 at 12 PM: Barnes & Noble Bridgehampton Signing.

Swan Huntley’s “I Want You More”: August 8 at 12 PM: Barnes & Noble Bridgehampton

Event; August 8 at 6:30 PM: Canoe Place Event; August 9 at 9:30 AM: Elements Barre Class Event with Zibby Owens; August 9 at 12 PM: Finley’s Fiction Event at Shelter Island Yacht Club, in conversation with Zibby Owens; August 9 at 6 PM: Southampton Arts Center Author Panel with Zibby Owens, Audrey Bellezza, and Emily Hardin.

What are a few of your favorite places on the East End?

I love all the area bookstores: BookHampton, Sag Harbor Bookstore, the new Barnes & Noble in Bridgehampton, and Finley’s Fiction in Shelter Island. I also love breakfast at the Candy Kitchen with my kids, a late afternoon treat at Sundae’s on Main in Bridgehampton, Round Swamp, Harry’s Farm Stand, the Monogram Shop in East Hampton, Dylan’s Candy Bar, Buddhaherry in Sag Harbor, the restaurant at Canoe Place, Sag Pizza, and the Bridgehampton Tennis & Surf Club.

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Anthony DeLuca & Bella DeNapoli

Montauk, 'The Voice,' real estate, and a baby on the way

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro



Anthony DeLuca and Bella DeNapoli share a love for the East End passed down through their families. Anthony works in real estate in the Hamptons as part of the Oversouth Team, and his uncle used to own Johnny Marlin's on Gosman's Dock, which introduced him to Montauk at a very young age. Bella is a singer and influencer who you may recognize from NBC's "The Voice" on team Ariana Grande. She has also performed on the East End at various venues, such as Dune Deck in Westhampton Beach, The Chequit on Shelter Island, and Montauk Beach House. The couple is expecting a baby in July, and we had the chance to catch up with them and learn more about their story.

Tell us about your background and connection to the East End.

Anthony: The East End has been an integral part of our lives for as long as we can remember. My summers in Montauk date back to my infancy. It wasn't merely a vacation; it was a lifestyle and a second home with strong family connections.

Bella: My family's connection with the East End began even before I was born, with my mother spending summers working in Montauk throughout her twenties. Her influence inspired me to follow in her footsteps.

Anthony, can you share your



Photos by Rachel Valentine Rogers

family's history in Montauk?

Anthony: My family has been deeply woven into Montauk's lifestyle and culture since the late '80s when my great-uncle started the renowned fisherman's restaurant, Johnny Marlin's. Our family's restaurant has kept us rooted to the area, making Montauk feel like home. With a new family member on the way, I eagerly anticipate sharing the Montauk experience with the next generation.

Bella, Can you talk about your experience on "The Voice"?

Bella: NBC's "The Voice" marked a significant turning point in my life. Initially planning to work as a beach hostess at Gurney's in Montauk, I was instead chosen to participate in the show, and I relocated to California. Making it to the top 13 on the show led to valuable connections, lifelong friendships, and personal growth. I had the opportunity to choose a coach on the show. Having my choice, I went with my lifelong role model, Ariana Grande. Having Ariana Grande as my coach on the show was an unbelievable experience. She was not only my coach;

she was an industry mentor and older sister to me. The experience was a dream, and it truly did pave the way for me to pursue my passion for music.

Where can audiences watch you perform on the East End?

Bella: Each summer, I entertain audiences with live music across the Hamptons. Starting in May at the Montauk Music Festival, I perform with my band, setting the tone for the season. Venues where you may find me include Montauk Beach House, Dune Deck in Westhampton Beach, The Chequit in Shelter Island, and more. Additionally, I now offer live music for weddings during cocktail hours. Despite upcoming family plans, I remain committed to sharing my music on the East End all summer long.

Anthony, tell us about your real estate business and how you entered the East End market.

Anthony: I had the opportunity to work in the Hamptons two and a half years ago thanks to my friend Sean Manning from

the Oversouth Team. He mentored me, proving that with dedication and discipline, anything is achievable. Transitioning from admiring East End homes to listing properties from Dune Road in Westhampton Beach to East Hampton has been a fulfilling career journey.

Share a few of your favorite spots on the East End.

Anthony & Bella: We have a strong affinity for Montauk's dining scene, particularly Harvest on Fort Pond, Inlet Seafood, and the laid-back ambiance of The Point. The American Hotel in Sag Harbor is another top choice for its upscale dining experience. As we await our July arrival, we look forward to introducing our little one to Ditch Plains Beach and indulging in delicious poke bowls from the Ditch Witch truck. Mako's Vintage is a treasured gem for unique finds in Montauk. Ice cream memories at Shock Ice Cream in Westhampton Beach and mornings with the best egg sandwich at Sterlington Deli in Greenport have also left lasting impressions on us. These local establishments have become cherished memories that we will forever hold dear.



Kiss & Tell

By Heather Buchanan

So What's So Great About Sliced Bread?

The phrase, "The best thing since sliced bread," is known as a metaphor meaning a most useful innovation. It supposedly originated in 1928 when the Chillicothe Baking Company became the first company to sell sliced bread. While it may not seem that important to those who have a Wusthof serrated knife from Williams Sonoma to lop off a piece of a gluten-free seven-grain loaf to be adorned with almond butter, to the housewife

with five children who considered it a morale issue, it was all about the math: 10 slices for toast then 20 slices for lunch sandwiches then finally one piece of toast for herself. You can imagine this as an early source of carpal tunnel syndrome. Unfortunately, sliced bread led to the rise (pun intended) of soft loaves like Wonder Bread, which were nutritional nightmares best used to be balled up and catapulted across lunch rooms at class bullies.

If we really want to think about the most useful innovations, how about penicillin, the printing press, or tampons? It's fascinating to look back over the history of new inventions and their level of importance. In terms of housewife morale, cellophane was apparently a useful invention when it could be used not only for said sliced bread but for advice for a happy marriage to wrap her naked body in it and lay under the dining room table waiting for her husband

to come home (true story).

These inventions date back to 7000 BC when the first alcohol was fermented from rice, honey, and hawthorn fruit in China all the way up to 2023 and airbag jeans to protect you in motorcycle accidents. While I can appreciate the importance of some innovations such as refrigeration, birth control, and Braille, others are in my "meh" reaction, like the safety pin, pressure cooker, or Rubik's Cube. And don't even get me started on the evils of self-driving cars. Yet think of all the advances in dentistry which don't involve tying a string around a bad tooth to the donkey's harness and yelling, "Giddy up," or cataract surgery which saves people's ability to see clearly as they age (although it may thwart God's plan to not notice the state of your crow's feet or ass). Or simply, the curling iron.

So, as we look to the future, using our imagination, what really would be the greatest thing since sliced bread?

Like the patches that constantly read

glucose levels, one which would indicate the toxicity of any person near you. Or a zapper on your cell phone when you are in a fight and about to say the one thing you can never take back. Perhaps a pair of jeans that morphs stylistically to fit you at your skinniest to post-breakup binge biggest (a clue may be in that airbag jean technology).

Desperately needed in an anxiety-filled world, a non-pharmaceutical on/off switch you could use to go peacefully to sleep and arise well-rested. Or an alert when your loved one is sick and you need to know the last moment they will consciously be able to hear you and understand when you say, "I love you."

It seems that what is so great about sliced bread is saving time, or controlling time, or stopping time. So maybe the most useful innovation is not new at all but about being present, in the present moment, and taking in what is wonderful about right now. Perfect in its imperfection. But at least with a working toilet.

Billy Porter. Photo: Franz Szony

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Beyond The Streets

Roger Gastman Talks Post Graffiti At Southampton Arts Center

“Beyond the Streets” has returned to Southampton Arts Center with its latest exhibition, titled “Post Graffiti.” The exhibition theme revolves around the journey of rebellious subway artists from the ’70s and ’80s in New York City to the global movement they have inspired. The term “Post Graffiti” signifies a shift from traditional graffiti’s illicit nature to a more accepted, legitimate art form in gallery settings.

As the movement has progressed, artists associated with Post Graffiti continue to draw inspiration from the rich history of graffiti writing and the streets. They form a loose coalition that blurs and elevates their source of inspiration through drawing, painting, sculpture, and installation. The exhibition is on view from May 11 through July 20. We spoke with Roger Gastman, the founder of Beyond the Streets, to learn more

about the exhibition.

Can you tell us about your journey and how you started Beyond the Streets?

I have been involved in the graffiti and street art worlds since the early ’90s, starting as a graffiti writer and transitioning into a curator, historian, and champion of the culture. Through the years, we have put together over 100 books, several documentaries, and countless shows, small and large. I started Beyond The Streets in 2018, with the goal to entertain yet educate on the history of the art and where it has taken people. Through the last several years I am happy to say we have had well over a half of million people through our doors globally.

Can you talk a bit about the concept of Post Graffiti and

how the art form has evolved?

The term Post Graffiti came about in New York in the early 1980s — it’s based off of the artists coming off the subway trains and going into the galleries. They were mostly doing work like the work they had been doing on the trains with spray paint but now on canvas. It quickly expanded, and the artist’s work continued to mature. Today, graffiti is larger than it ever has been, and artists continue to hone their skills on the streets. Many go on to have incredible studio careers of works that are inspired by the streets but not the work they were doing on the streets. Post Graffiti celebrates this.

Tell us about the “Beyond The Streets” show at the Southampton Arts Center and what visitors can expect.

The show starts with an installation painted by John Matos, aka CRASH, who was in the first Post Graffiti show in the early ’80s in New York City and has been nonstop in the culture for 50 years. It’s bright, bold, and pop art. Throughout the show, you will find some cases filled with ephemeral pieces dating back to the late ’70s. Plus, so many great paintings — come! You won’t be disappointed!

Like all Beyond the Streets shows, there is honestly something for everyone. When bringing together artists for Post Graffiti — the grouping is people who have all sorts of styles in their studio practices that might not normally show together if not under this banner. You are going to leave the show, I hope, with a new favorite artist.

Introducing The Unlocked Foundation

Empowering women to take steps to close the wealth gap

The Unlocked Foundation, a women-founded nonprofit established in December 2022, is on a mission to empower women to take the brave steps to close the wealth gaps in their own lives. The foundation is holding a Summer Summit in the Hamptons in June.

Through a series of honest conversations and curated experiences, Unlocked aims to improve women’s appreciation of their worth and foster meaningful connections within a vibrant community of 1,200-plus members from 12 countries.

Those seeking to strengthen their social and professional networks are encouraged to join Unlocked, whose membership is free and comprised of a diverse community of women at senior, management, and entry levels for Fortune 500 companies and some of the world’s most recognizable brands, including Google, Goldman Sachs, Disney, Gucci, Netflix, L’Oreal, and more.

Last year, Unlocked members had the opportunity to engage in transformative conversations on topics critical to wealth building including: self-worth with Dr. Robin Smith; entrepreneurship with the President of the Tory Burch Foundation; and financial investment strategies with experts from UBS. These events took

place in elevated and festive environments, including the Virgin Hotel New York, the Tory Burch flagship store in Soho, as well as the Oolite Arts gallery in Miami during Art Basel.

On December 5, 2023, the Foundation partnered with UBS to successfully launch its inaugural Women’s Wealth Summit — a conference for women and male allies consisting of educational workshops, panel discussions, and networking opportunities centered on addressing pertinent issues within the wealth equity discourse. The event took place in Miami during Art Basel.

Based on the success of the 2023 Summit, Unlocked intends to continue the Women’s Wealth Summit in 2024 by expanding the dialogue with a Summer Summit in the Hamptons with a focus on the wealth gap for women in the sports, music, and entertainment industries. Featured speakers will include Michele Roberts, former Executive Director of the NBA Players Association; Courtney Oliver, VP of Human Resources at Paramount; Erin Van Arsdale, VP of Finance Operations at Sony Music Operations; Alize Garcia, Director of Social Community Impact at Nike; Grace Chung, Senior Editor of Wealth at Forbes, and more.

Visit experienceunlocked.com.

Matthew Raynor

Art Exhibit Open At LTV

Photographic works and mixed media by Hampton Bays artist Matthew Raynor is currently being exhibited at LTV Studios in Wainscott through June 8.

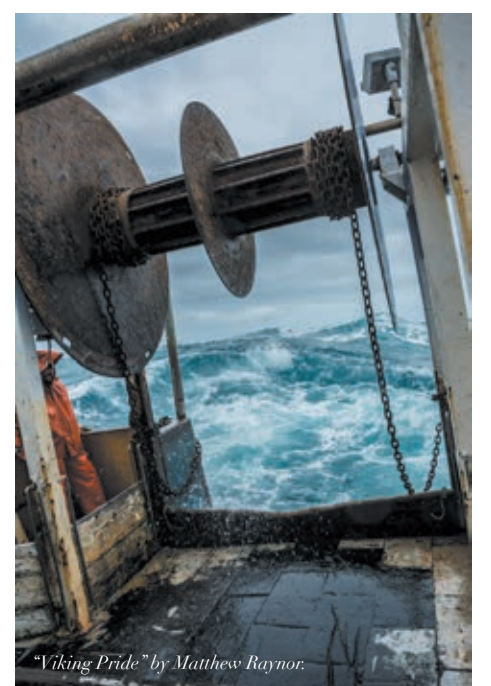
Curated by artist and the host of LTV’s “Hello, Hello,” Haim Mizrahi, the show features works by Raynor taken both before and after the accident which left the former commercial fisherman paralyzed from the collarbone down.

Growing up on the East End, Raynor became a deep-sea fisherman and bayman, chronicling his offshore adventures with a Nikon. When not at sea, Raynor developed a deep love for travel, spending time in the Far East, South America, Europe, and the Caribbean.

After three back-to-back seven-day fishing expeditions, Raynor’s chronic tendonitis flared up. He found relief in daily polar plunges in early spring. On one such day in April 2019, he suffered a horrid and unexpected injury. While diving with his close friend and fellow artist Jerome Lucani in the waters off Towd Point, he broke five vertebrae in his neck. Raynor passed out, face down, in the frigid emerald waters and drifted out to sea, only to be saved and revived by Lucani.

Raynor lost feeling and movement in 85 percent of his body, including his hands and forearms. Unable to perform the simplest tasks, such as feeding himself or using the toilet, he found himself starting a new and extraordinarily challenging life. As time went on, the list of things he could do grew, from just being able to watch TV to flying a photography drone and operating a computer. He picked up his old passion for photography and began experimenting with mixed media. It seems healing was to be found in creating, and art would be Raynor’s saving grace.

Currently, Raynor is unhoused and living at the Hamptons Center for Rehabilitation and Nursing in Southampton. A complete catalog of his work can be found at matthewraynor.com.



“Viking Pride” by Matthew Raynor.

James Lane[®]

POST

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Editor’s Note

Welcome to the pages of our Memorial Day weekend issue. We hope you enjoy the features included in this edition. We would also like to wish you a wonderful start of the summer season on the East End. In this issue, we celebrate the arts, culture, and beauty our region offers.

Enjoy the read!

Jessica Mackin-Cipro
Editor-in-Chief,
James Lane Post

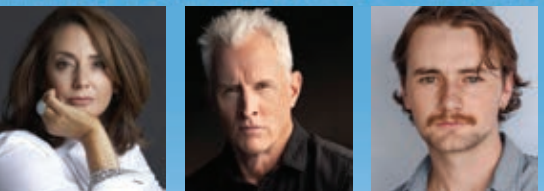


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THE 2024 MAINSTAGE SEASON

EVERY FAMILY HAS ITS THORNS



TALIA BALSAM JOHN SLATTERY HARRY SLATTERY

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by FRANK D. GILROY



May 28 – June 16

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MASTER CLASS
A COMEDY WITH MUSIC BY TERRENCE McNALLY



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WHAT I KNOW, NOW.

A ONE-PERSON PLAY BY AND STARRING JULIA MOTYKA

July 15-20



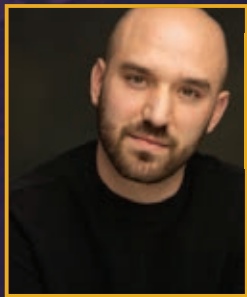
MUSIC MONDAYS



August 5 @ 8 PM
Harlem Gospel Choir
A gospel concert with a special tribute to Aretha Franklin



AUGUST 12 @ 8 PM
Erich Bergen
Star of Madam Secretary and Jersey Boys - Live in Concert!



AUGUST 19 @ 8PM
Ari Axelrod
A Place For Us: A Celebration of Jewish Broadway.


JULY 8 @ 8 pm
Patti LuPone:
A Life in Notes

Conceived and directed by Scott Wittman
Music direction and arrangements by Joseph Thalken
Written by Jeffrey Richman

ALL-NEW HOUR

Mike Birbiglia

PLEASE STOP THE RIDE



JULY 25-28

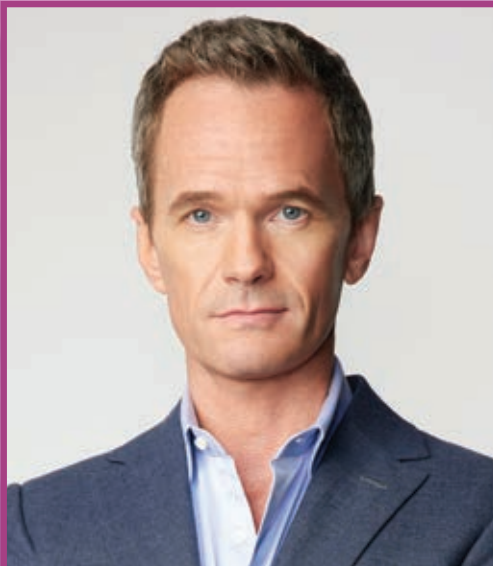
SUMMER GALA SATURDAY, JULY 6

HONORING

PLUS
A LIVE AUCTION
WITH
AUCTIONEER



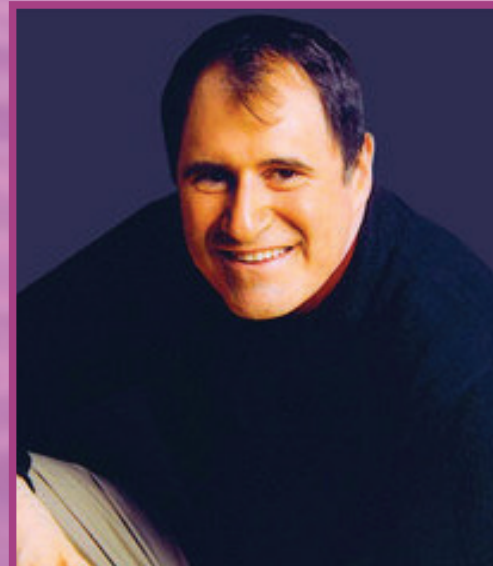
DAVID BURTKA



NEIL PATRICK HARRIS



DR. GEORGETTE GRIER-KEY



RICHARD KIND



Bay Street Gala

A talk with Tracy Mitchell & Dr. Georgette Grier-Key

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Bay Street Theater in Sag Harbor will hold its annual Summer Gala, scheduled for Saturday, July 6. The aim of the evening is to raise funds to support Bay Street's various educational programs. This year's honorees include actor Neil Patrick Harris, actor and chef David Burtka, and community leader Dr. Georgette Grier-Key. The event will feature a variety of activities, including a live auction hosted by celebrity auctioneer Richard Kind, delicious food, creative cocktails, and a star-studded performance.

We had the opportunity to chat with Tracy Mitchell, the executive director of Bay Street, and Dr. Georgette Grier-Key, the executive director of Eastville Community Historical Society. The Eastville Community Historical Society of Sag Harbor was founded in 1981, and its mission is to preserve the history of the community of Eastville, with a focus on art, education, and humanities. Eastville is one of the earliest known working-class communities comprised of African Americans, Native Americans, and European immigrants. Built in 1839, the St. David AME Zion Church is believed to have served as a stop along the Underground Railroad.

Tell us about the Gala.

Tracy: We were really thrilled that Georgette accepted to be one of our honorees this year. She was selected because it was so clear to me how much she does for our community... so much that people don't see. She fights the battle, not just for Eastville, but for all the arts in general. She always says, "It's the unity and community," and she walks

the walk, and she talks the talk.

Dr. Georgette: Every time Tracy says that, I get teary... It makes me feel like I'm being seen, and not in a vain way, but seen in that I am working for a greater goal here.

Tell us about some of the work Eastville and Bay Street have done together in the past.

Tracy: Well, most recently we did an art exhibition. We partnered with Georgette and her artists, and we did a show called "Afrofuturism." We had a launch party, and then it ran for almost two months here.

Dr. Georgette: Whenever they're having shows, they want to make sure that the community is involved, so they extend special discounts or special promotions with us. Just being a community center has been so important to us.

Tracy, can you talk about the fundraising goals for this year's event?

Tracy: It's the one time during the year when we really try to make all the money to cover these programs. We have 35 other nonprofits that use our space throughout the year, and we try and keep it either free or very low cost because they're using it to raise money as well. And they need the support. We believe that art is for everyone. It's a necessity. It is like the air we breathe, and it should not be treated as a privilege for the rich. I will never turn someone away who wants to come see a

show because they can't afford it. So we either find a price, or they come to "Pay What You Can" night, or we have free student Sundays, or we have free theater in the fall for all. We've served over 43,000 students now for free every year. We do it with "Literature Live." For the kids, we have camp scholarships.

Dr. Georgette, tell us more about your goals for Eastville.

Dr. Georgette: Our building is showing its age. It's a 1920 Sears and Roebuck catalog house — we need a new roof. It's a historic building in a historic district, so there are certain ways that we have to do things. It's a small jewel box, but that jewel box is expensive.

Earlier on in the '70s, Sag Harbor Village used preservation to create this historic district. But it stopped a block before Eastville Avenue. And so that's when the ladies of the communities organized. We've been able to make it so long... but we need to go further now. We've been fortunate to be on Apple TV, which was a great experience. And so people get to know who we are. We need to bring ourselves into the 21st century. We'd like to share more with the community. So we have collections that we now want to make sure that the public has access to.

Historically, we exist because there are a lot of artists in the community, and they needed a place to show their work. So we've done that over the years. So we kind of serve the purpose of inclusion of all people as well. It was the Indigenous, the African American, and the Jewish population that settled in what we call the Eastville area. So being a voice for those people, which at the time was really a forward-thinking and a very diverse community, which remains diverse. We all have lived there together. Even the church was built by all three of those populations. We talk about how they live there, work together, and are interred together in our cemetery. The cemetery, which we are stewards of, is the first integrated cemetery in the area, so we have this rich history.

History without arts, without preservation, it doesn't work. We need it. It tells the story of happiness, of joy. But it also tells the story of sometimes things that are painful. Whether it's slavery, whether



Photo by Jessica Mackin-Cipro

it's segregation in Jim Crow. If you think about the developments, that's how they started. Because in the city, African Americans couldn't go to just any pool or anything like that. So they came out here because they wanted to have a life of respite and rest and of leisure and recreation. So those are the many stories that we tell. And through that little house, we want to continue to be able to tell those stories because it's an intricate history of Sag Harbor.

What are you each most looking forward to at the gala?

Tracy: I personally always love the talent and enjoying the show. Because no matter what, even though I get to hear some of the rehearsal, I'm always surprised by something. And then the auctioneer, last

year we had Isaac Mizrahi. And this year, we're having Richard Kind again, who's hysterical. It's just so much fun because people are laughing, they're having a good time, they know they're giving to a good cause, and they get caught up in it. And it's just fun.

Dr. Georgette: This will be the first time that I've ever come to the gala. I'm looking forward to my outfit. I love fashion. And I like having fun and being around great people. I just know it's going to be a lifetime experience for me.

Tracy: One of the auction items is this package for two, first class to Paris. Fly to Paris for five nights in a fancy hotel, and be treated as one of the VIPs for Balmain. You go to the fashion show, and it comes with a \$10,000 gift.

LongHouse Reserve

Director Carrie Reborá Barratt Talks Season Highlights

LongHouse Reserve, East Hampton's 16-acre sculpture garden and nature sanctuary, has opened for its 2024 season. The season started with the annual Rites of Spring celebration, where millions of daffodils surrounded guests on the grounds — and, of course, mesmerizing displays of art.

"This season will be our liveliest ever! We have art, performances, conversations, craft workshops, and well-being activities for the whole family," said LongHouse director Carrie Reborá Barratt. "LongHouse Founder Jack Lenor Larsen left us with the instruction to be relevant, not reverent, and we follow his lead with an exciting season of art and events, carrying out our mission of inspiring living with art in all forms."

Textile designer Jack Lenor Larsen founded LongHouse Reserve. Following his passing in 2020, the space has transitioned from a founder-led to a board-led institution.

"It really feels like 2024 is the year where we're clearly moving forward," said Barratt. "It was hard... There's a lot of grief. There's loss."

Visitors are drawn to LongHouse's permanent installations, including pieces by Buckminster Fuller, Sol Lewitt, and Yoko Ono and renowned loans by Daniel Arsham and Ai Weiwei.

"There's a version of it at her great retrospective at Tate Modern right now in London," said Barratt of Ono's "Play It By Trust" chess set. "She's just turned 90, and so it's a very exciting year for her, and we're thrilled to be able to activate our chess set a little bit this year."

The season opened with "Full Circle: Toshiko Takaazu and Friends," in conjunction with the Noguchi Museum's retrospective of the artist's work, both curated by Glenn Adamson. At LongHouse, the core of the exhibition are the pieces Larsen acquired from his friend, Toshiko, and gifts from her to him,

including the iconic Gateway Bell.

"You can ring the bell, which is so beautiful. People like to hug it. The vibrational piece of it makes you feel something. It's just magical. So by the time you turn the corner and you're entering our green space, most people say they already feel like their shoulders have dropped," said Barratt.

In tandem with the concurrent retrospective "Toshiko Takaazu: Within Worlds" at The Noguchi Museum, LongHouse will display the full complement of its Takaazu works for the first time, supplemented by key loans, with the work of other artists whose lives and careers were deeply touched by Takaazu, including Lenore Tawney, Anna Kang Burgess, Fitzhugh Karol, and Martha Russo.

"Martha Russo, who lives in Colorado but was a student of Toshiko when she was in college, has taken over a whole room with these amazing domestic-scale ceramics," said Barratt.

"Starting in June, we are welcoming Paola Lenti, the Italian furniture designer who will be refurbishing our pavilion, our pool area, and the areas over by the pond where people like to sit. It's their 40th anniversary, and it's the first time ever that Paola Lenti will be showing in the Hamptons," Barratt continued.

The annual gala is also a highlight of summer. "We are honoring Kenny Scharf and the painter Tony Bechara, which is really exciting," said Barratt.

Also on view this summer, Monica Banks has created a series of ceramic miniature dining vignettes for birds to experience eating seeds and sipping water from a scaled-down version of the patio dining they see on summer days, titled "Bird Happenings."



Buckminster Fuller, "Fly's Eye Dome." Photo courtesy LongHouse

Banks shared, "I'm trying to imagine the birds' point of view. I'm experimenting with what they might be curious about and how I might inspire in them the delight they create in me while observing them." The pieces will be placed throughout the garden as the season continues.

Guests will also have a chance to experience art by Agathe Snow, Bill King, Robert Lobe, Maryam Eisler, Maren Hassinger, Oscar Molina, Mark Mennin, Isamu Noguchi, and Kenny Scharf.

There will be performances by Llewellyn Sanchez-Werner, The Iris Trio, Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company, Neo-Po-

litical Cowgirls, and Young Concert Artists, as well as talks with Jonathan Adler, Liz Collins, Lynne Cooke, Machine Dazzle, Alastair Gordon, LongHouse curator Glenn Adamson, and more.

Beyond the programming, it's the tranquility of LongHouse that draws visitors from far and near.

"Earth FM did analysis and research and [found that] LongHouse is the 13th most peaceful place in the state of New York," said Barratt. "I really do feel like LongHouse is a place where you can find your peace, if only for an hour. If you've lost it. If somebody took it from you. Come for a walk."



The Formula X Meredith

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Kristin Gray Photography

Meredith Shumway is a professional ballerina who started her studies under Ballet Master Maggie Black and later continued her training with The Kirov Academy of Ballet and The American Ballet Theater. She was born and raised in Southampton and has made a significant impact on the fitness communities of the Hamptons and New York City. With over 16 years of experience in training clients privately and in the group fitness industry, Shumway has created her own high-intensity, full-body workout method called The Formula X Meredith. Her method emphasizes injury prevention and is driven by beats. We recently spoke with Shumway to learn more about her approach.

Could you tell us about your background as a ballerina and how you started in the fitness and wellness industry?

I started dancing at the age of 3, and I always knew it was my passion from the get-go. I was trained by the legendary teacher to the stars, Maggie Black. She was a force. She was nicknamed by Balanchine “Black Magic” because she took injured dancers and completely transformed them and trained their bodies to avoid the so-called inevitable with a professional ballet career. This was my first-hand experience of learning how to train the body to avoid injury and to even heal it. While training with her, I received a full scholarship to attend the American Ballet Theater Summer Intensives for all four summers while in High School. As with every ballerina, they reach a crossroads of college or no college to pursue a professional career. I opted for college. Upon graduation in 2008, I was left at another crossroads — a crashed economy and no jobs

available. So my mother, who had a dance studio in the Hamptons, offered me a teaching job, and I also got offered a fitness job with a Barre-based company in NYC and the Hamptons. I immediately took it, and from there, my fitness career started blossoming. I had the knowledge of the body and the work ethic of a professional athlete. All I needed was the experience.

You became the studio manager and top trainer for the Tracy Anderson Method for eight years. Can you tell us about this experience?

Getting the job at Tracy back in 2014 in my 20s was my dream job! She was on fire, and I was so hungry. The fast-paced, high-end luxury boutique fitness world was where I thrived. She was such an innovator and knew exactly what she wanted which was something other fitness brands or leaders struggled with. Learning from and watching Tracy for so many years had a profound impact on me. She is truly one of a kind, and it was an experience that taught me so much that I will forever be grateful for.

Could you describe The Formula X Meredith and what those who sign up can expect from the workout?

The Formula X Meredith is a combination of everything I love in a workout. I wanted to create something where you can take one class and feel that your entire body and every muscle has been targeted and, at the same time, have so much fun doing it. The Formula is a 60-minute, high-intensity interval training class with elements of Pilates core, functional training glutes, and barre-based

thighs and legs. The class is beats-driven, meaning the music is the motivator, and you will feel it to your core. The class is challenging, but my main focus and priority is form, relating back to my ballet training.

As a Southampton native, what summer traditions on the East End do you hold dear? Can you paint a picture of your ideal summer day?

Family is the most important thing to me in this world. It was mandatory that growing up, we always had dinner together, especially Sunday nights. We would pack the dogs in the car, go to the drive on beach, have a bonfire and BBQ some food, and just spend time together until the sun went down. My parents really did a great job keeping my brother and I close and always staying involved in our lives (whether we liked it or not). My ideal summer day would be to wake up at 6 AM, take my kids and my dog down to the ocean for breakfast, teach a sold-out Formula class, spend the remainder of the morning/afternoon back at the beach, and finish the night with oysters and rosé at either Dopo Argento, Beacon, or Sunset Beach.

What are your goals for summer 2024?

I am all about setting goals! If we don't have anything in sight, how can we achieve our dreams? My personal goals are to be more present for my kids, i.e., less phone checking. My business goals are to inspire as many people as possible. To set the bar higher for myself in my content delivery, and to truly transform as many bodies as possible to feel better about themselves and more confident in their skin.

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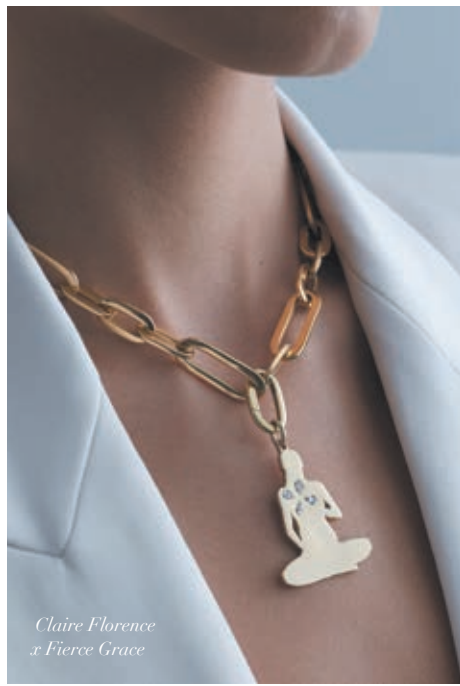


Events & Openings

What's coming up and what's new on the East End



Courtesy 180 the Store Amagansett



Claire Florence & Fierce Grace

There's so much to look forward to this summer season, including charity benefits, shopping events, and restaurant openings. Along with what's been highlighted throughout this issue, here are a few on our radar. Visit jameslanepost.com for more.

Events

Collette, located at 1 Hampton Road in Southampton, will host a sip & shop top event on Friday, May 24, through Sunday, May 26. From 12 to 2 PM on Saturday, there will be conversations with Collette, light bites, and goodie bags. Visit colletteconsignment.com.

Join **Eleanor Whitmore Early Childhood Center** at Main Beach in East Hampton on Saturday, May 25, from 2 to 5 PM, for the second annual Kites for Kids Day, a fun-filled community event to benefit the center. Last year's inaugural Kites for Kids welcomed over 1200 attendees, and this year, they are anticipating an even larger turnout.

Le Closet in Southampton will host a Memorial Day Weekend Kick-Off Party with James Lane Post and Sunboy on Saturday, May 25, from 1 to 4 PM. Shoppers can enjoy beverages from Sunboy, along with light bites provided by Le Closet, while browsing the consignment store and shopping a James Lane Post edit.

The Southampton Inn starts the summer season with a Memorial Day BBQ on Sunday, May 26, at 2 PM. There will be live music to bring guests, summer visitors, and the community together on the idyllic grounds of this well-loved hotel.

South Beach Group Hotels **Alan Lieberman** and real estate guru **Diane Lieberman** will host a Memorial Day weekend brunch at their home in Water Mill on Sunday, May 26, to kick off the summer.

The Retreat presents its annual All Against Abuse Benefit on Saturday, June 8, from 6:30 to 8:30 PM at the Southampton Arts Center. This year, the organization honors Julie Hatfield,

President, and Kenneth Wright, Founding Partner, of Wright & Company Construction. The benefit supports vital services, including a 24-hour hotline, counseling, legal advocacy, prevention education, and emergency shelter for individuals, parents, and children.

The second annual **Guild Hall Teen Arts Council Fashion Show** will be held on Saturday, June 8, at 6 PM. The Guild Hall Teen Arts Council has designed and curated a line of repurposed fashion that brings the ancient to the modern day. The evening will begin with a runway show hosted by members of the Teen Arts Council, where each GHTAC member will walk the runway in their very own design. It will conclude with a reception in Guild Hall's Furman Garden.

On Saturday, June 15, **The Neo-Political Cowgirls** present an early evening of theater, thought-provoking conversation, and delectable bites at the Longhouse Reserve in East Hampton. The theme for this year's event, "Gardening a Civil Society," will draw inspiration from the stunning natural beauty of the grounds as well as the provocative nature of the power of art to ignite how we engage in hard conversations. The panel discussion will be moderated by the author A.M. Homes. She will be joined by Lucy Sexton, Minerva Perez, and a growing list of women leaders and artists.

Long Island Aquarium presents **Taste the East End** on June 15, from 7 to 10:30 PM. It will be a flavor-filled night of food pairings with local craft beer, wine, and cider. Enjoy the Aquarium after hours while live music is played.

The Anchor Society is hosting a Summer Social event on Saturday, June 15 from 5 to 7 PM at Hoie Hall of St. Luke's Church in East Hampton. The event aims to foster community spirit and support local businesses. Attendees can enjoy wine, nibbles, and friendly conversations. The Anchor Society will also spotlight its Winter Shops Program, which brings locally run businesses to empty storefronts on Main Street and Newtown Lane between the months of October and May. RSVP is available on TheAnchorSociety.org.

The American Heart Association presents **The Heart of The Hamptons Summer Celebration** on June 19, from 6 to 9 PM at The Wine Stand at Wölffer Estate in Sagaponack. Join for an elevated sunset social reception overlooking the vineyards in support of AHA's life-saving mission.

Unlimited Earth Care presents the event "The Balance of Colors." Guests are invited to enjoy cocktails, music, and shopping on June 22, at 2249 Scuttle Hole Road, Bridgehampton, from 4 to 7 PM. RSVP by June 9 to info@unlimitedearthcare.com.

Palm Tree Festival returns to Westhampton on Saturday, June 22, with performances by Swedish House Mafia, Kygo,



Wayan & Ma'dé

Sofi Tukker, and others.

Sports talk show host and author **Ann Liguori** will host a book party for "Life on the Green: Lessons and Wisdom from Legends of Golf," published by Hatherleigh Press, on Thursday, June 27, at 6 PM at Canoe Place Inn. Her 26th Annual Ann Liguori Foundation Charity Golf Classic will take place on Wednesday, May 29, at Friar's Head golf course.

The **Southampton Arts Center** presents Whimsy Motown Magic on Saturday, June 29, at 6 PM. Join for cocktails and dancing to Motown music to support programming at Southampton Arts Center.

The Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation will hold its annual **Hamptons Happening** event at the Fishel estate in Bridgehampton on Saturday, July 6, at 7 PM. The event features tastings, live music, and a thrilling auction. This year's honorees include Arthur F. Backal, Fern Mallis, Cheri Kaufman, Stephen Kliegerman, and Chef Francois Payard. The Step Up to Turn Cancer Off event runs from June 17 to June 23, with an in-person walk at Metlife Stadium on June 22.

The fourth annual **Lecture & Luncheon**, benefitting the East Hampton Emergency Department, returns on Thursday, July 11, at 11 AM. Presented by the Southampton Hospital Foundation, this year will include a talk with beauty industry titan Bobbi Brown. Brown is a legendary makeup artist, best-selling author, sought-after speaker, and the founder and chief creative officer of Jones Road Beauty. BookHampton owner Carolyn Brody will moderate the conversation. Jill Davis, Kate Davis, Hollis Forbes, Liz Lange, and Mary Margaret Trousdale will co-chair the annual fundraiser at Maidstone Club in East Hampton to support the new Stony Brook Medicine East Hampton Emergency Department.

Openings

Village Bistro has opened the location formerly occupied by Rowdy Hall in East Hampton Village. The cozy bistro aims to be a year-round hangout for locals and visitors alike. The menu will celebrate bistro classics. Diners can enjoy items like French onion soup, the Village Burger, steak frites, and daily specials.

Matriark, a multimedia and retail brand dedicated to showcasing women's and LGBTQ+-owned brands, will launch its summer pop-up in Sag Harbor, which will be open from May 20 to September 20. Matriark will feature a collection of luxury fashion, accessory, and design brands — all hand-selected by founder Patricia Assui Reed. This summer, Matriark will be joined by Another Tomorrow, Marfa Stance, The Seven, and Rebecca Taylor.

180 The Store Amagansett will open in an airy gallery space that will offer an unfussy edit of the Tribeca location's most-loved brands and makers including Sophie D'Hoore, Album Di Famiglia, Chez Vidalenc, and Chimala. For the home, 180 The Store will offer R+D Lab Glassware, Frama Furniture & Apothecary, hand-made Japanese lanterns, and Vogel Vases. The Amagansett location will open at 303 Main Street on May 23.

Get hooked at **N'AMO Seafood & Raw Bar**, opening in Montauk on West Lake Drive. The restaurant is inspired by the allure of the sea and the hook that draws in the freshest catch, symbolizing its

commitment to the ocean's bounty and sustainable culinary practices.

Wayan & Ma'dé will host a takeover in East Hampton this summer at Dopo Buttero, from May 24 until September 1. Cedric and Ochi Vongerichten, the couple behind the two New York City restaurants, will serve their unique Indonesian cuisine in the Hamptons for a second summer in a row, following their successful two-week takeover at Rosie's last year in Amagansett. The summer-long pop-up is in partnership with full-time Hamptons resident Erik Stern, the founder and operator of Tiny Seed.

Artist **Claire Florence** will display her collaboration with **Fierce Grace** at their East Hampton studio at 3 Railroad Avenue from Friday, May 24, until June 15. Claire is at the cutting edge of developing AI-based art expressed physically using precious metals, inspired by the true inner spirit animals of the human soul. Claire depicts the energy of balancing yin and yang amidst chaos. Visit claireflorence.com.

Billy Durney, the owner of Red Hook Tavern in Brooklyn, will open **Sag Harbor Tavern** at 26 Bay Street. "I've dreamt of having an opportunity to create another Tavern and could not be more thrilled that it will be in Sag," Durney wrote on Instagram.

The Wine Room in Hampton Bays is entering its first summer season. The cozy wine bar and bistro offers continental cuisine, wines, and craft beer in a relaxed setting reminiscent of a European cafe.

The Maidstone Hotel in East Hampton reopens this season on June 17 under the vision of John Meadow and the team from LDV Hospitality. They plan to bring "La Dolce Vita" and a taste of Italian luxury to the space.

The owners of Reform Club in Amagansett are bringing back **Meeting House Restaurant**, reopening after its closure in 2017 following a 12-year run. A beloved culinary icon, Meeting House will return to Amagansett Square, its original home.

Motorino Pizzeria Napoletana is expanding to the Hamptons with a new custom-built wood-fired pizza trailer that is available for on-demand pizza parties. Motorino was founded in 2008 by Chef Mathieu Palombino and has since expanded to 15 locations worldwide.

Chef Joe Isidori opens **Arthur & Sons** in the Hamptons. The restaurant pays homage in both menu and design to Chef Isidori's experience growing up in New York's restaurant industry. It features a rustic vibe with a '90s hip-hop edge and a menu that transports guests back in time with "old school" Italian American red sauce classics.

Kyky Conille is opening **Il Pelli-cano and Bijoux** in Southampton. The restaurant and nightclub combination opened in New York City this past fall, and its outpost will open this Memorial Day weekend, taking over the former Blu Mar/Nello's space.

Montauk Beach House will transform its food and beverage experience for the 2024 season. **The Montauk Beach House Bar & Grill** will open as a Greek restaurant this summer.

Amanda Duckstein, the founder of **ShadowBox Pilates**, has taught fully comprehensive Pilates for over 13 years across various locations, including Baltimore, Manhattan, Nashville, Westchester, and the Hamptons. She recently opened a studio in Water Mill.

Elements Barre Fit has opened a new flagship location in Sag Harbor, bringing high-energy workout classes to the area. The new 2,000-square-foot studio at 11 Bridge Street in Sag Harbor features Elements' custom design, a sprawling lobby and retail area, two studio rooms, a dedicated private training studio, and an outdoor space.

Pilates teacher and accountability coach **Keven Zeller** is opening an East Hampton studio. Keven is a provider of personalized Pilates instruction focused on holistic well-being and transformative experiences.

Sage & Madison in Sag Harbor offers a unique setting for designers to display their latest creations. The space will host fashion partnerships, including Libertine, Morpheus, and others to be announced.

Fashion designer Diego Binetti has opened his **LoveBinetti** shop at 17 Washington Street in Sag Harbor. The chic concept shop is a curated haven where luxury finds are handpicked to resonate with Hamptons shoppers, infusing the store with endless inspiration.



Ann Liguori. Photo by Neil Tamby



The Samuel Waxman Cancer Research Foundation's Hamptons Happening. Photo by Lisa Tamburini

James Katsipis Photography

Gallery opens in Montauk

Renowned fine art photographer James Katsipis will open his namesake gallery, James Katsipis Photography, in Montauk on Thursday, May 23, at 742 Montauk Highway, attached to the Montauk Chamber of Commerce. Born and raised in Montauk, Katsipis is celebrated for his exceptional ocean photography and stunning visual art.

“Opening a gallery in my hometown of Montauk has always been my lifelong dream; this is 20 years in the making. I’m thrilled to invite everyone to experience

the culmination of my life’s work in my new gallery,” said Katsipis.

James Katsipis Photography will serve as a captivating space where visitors can immerse themselves in Katsipis’ masterful works. Highlights include his acclaimed fine art photography, customizable commissioned large-scale acrylic pieces, and a curated print shop. Katsipis will be hosting photo seminars and private photography explorations of Montauk.

The gallery will showcase a new series of featured works that Katsipis curates,



Photo by James Katsipis

launched every other month. He will present a unique collection of custom surfboards and skate decks as well as his best-selling merchandise embodying his distinct artistic vision.

To commemorate the opening, Katsipis is launching a limited-edition Zine crafted from his “GrainTalk” analog film series. The first 50 people to purchase this Zine (in gallery only) will also receive a signed

and numbered limited-edition print. This exclusive publication offers an intimate glimpse into Katsipis’ world, capturing the essence of Montauk through the lens of a true local.

Lost At Sea | Found

Solo Show By Cindy Pease Roe Opens At North Fork Art Collective

“Lost at Sea | Found,” an exhibit by artist Cindy Pease Roe, is open at the North Fork Art Collective in Greenport.

Cindy Pease Roe, an artist, educator, and marine advocate, draws inspiration from her lifelong connection with the sea to create captivating paintings and sculptures. She combines various mediums to depict the serenity, history, function, and vulnerability of the ocean.

“Lost at Sea | Found” is more than an exhibition; it is a call to action. Roe seeks

to inspire conversations, provoke thought, and ignite change. This collection serves as a beacon of hope, guiding us toward a future where the treasures of the sea are cherished and preserved for generations to come.

The exhibit is a testament to the intertwined transformative power of art and nature. Sculptures crafted from marine debris, unmistakably gathered from beaches, stand as poignant reminders of our ocean’s plight. Each piece speaks to the resilience of the materials and the environment they once polluted.

In parallel, a series of 2D sculptural works, resembling the rhythmic ebb and flow of the ocean, blur the line between painting and sculpture. Composed of marine plastics, they echo the haunting beauty of the sea while urging contemplation on humanity’s impact.

Mono prints, silkscreens, and paintings adorned with crosses symbolize both loss and hope, despair and redemption. These crosses, alongside playful creations such as vibrant baitballs and whimsical yoga bunnies, challenge the viewer to confront the consequences of our actions.

Kara Hoblin, the director and owner of The North Fork Art Collective, curated the show with precision and passion. “Lost at Sea | Found” celebrates Cindy’s diverse palette, showcasing her new body of work and prolific career as an artist.

While Cindy Pease Roe’s work fills the upstairs galleries, the downstairs gallery showcases local artists from the North and South Fork in the same theme. Artists featured in the downstairs gallery include Scott Bluedorn, Carol Young, Charles Wildbank, Adam Straus, Paton Miller, Amy Worth, Jeremy Garretson, Dalton Portella, Serge Hamad, Candace Ceslow, Sutton Lynch, Kerry Sharkey Miller, Renee Brown, Mary Twomey, Nancy Wissmann, and Chris Hamilton.

The exhibit runs through June 20.



Photo courtesy North Fork Art Collective

Hamptons Interactive Brunch

Vanessa Gordon hosts fifth annual event

By Jessica Mackin-Cipro

Vanessa Gordon is set to host the fifth Annual Hamptons Interactive Brunch at a private estate in Water Mill on Saturday, June 22. The event will raise funds for Francesco’s Foundation, a charity that works to promote hope and prevent teen suicide. Guests can look forward to enjoying gourmet tasting and beverage stations, shopping at designer trunk shows, receiving complimentary beauty and spa treatments, and exploring a curated gift-

ing suite. We chatted with Gordon to get more insights about this year’s event.

This year marks the fifth annual Hamptons Interactive Brunch. Can you tell us about how it all started?

What started as a simple idea in the spring of 2018 for a networking brunch to fill the void of Saturday afternoon events in the Hamptons has turned into

the mainstay event it is today. And to see how far we have come since then is quite incredible! I have met so many terrific people from putting this event on over the years, formulated many new friendships, and solidified numerous ongoing business partnerships. It is a true delight to know that so many people look forward to this event year after year. I love nothing more than bringing joy to others and celebrating together in one of the most beautiful destinations in the world. I could not be any more grateful!

What can guests expect at this year’s event?

We will have some amazing wellness treatments, including the Endospheres body treatment by Pietro Simone, which I personally swear by. We will have a celebrity tarot card reader, plenty of photo ops, The Vintage Gatherings curating beautiful lounge areas to sip and mingle at, shopping opportunities, and onsite beauty treatments. P.S. You must come hungry!

Can you tell us about Francesco’s Foundation and how the event will raise awareness for this vital cause?

Francesco’s Foundation is a locally-based and newly formed 501(c)(3) founded by my dear friends Diana Cochran and Jennifer Allsop. Francesco’s Foundation’s mission is “to provide a bridge for parents and educators to know what children are



Amy Holmswood, Vanessa Gordon, Lee Anne Locklin. Photo by Getty Images / JT Santini

James Lane

experiencing online in order to prevent cyberbullying and harassment leading to the deterioration of mental health, self-harm, or, in extreme cases, suicide.” In addition to our digital marketing initiatives and Francesco Foundation’s fundraising partnerships with local shops, including Veronica Beard, the Hamptons Interactive Brunch is setting the framework for a silent auction and live auction, with all proceeds going directly to the foundation. Examples of items people may bid on include beauty and wellness treatments, shopping experiences, hotel stays, and more. We are extraordinarily appreciative of so many local businesses who have stepped up to the plate to support and donate to the silent auction.

What are you most looking forward to at this year’s brunch?

I am looking forward to kicking off the summer season Out East at the beginning of the summer! As always, I love to surprise my guests all throughout the event (last year, I surprised everyone with the arrival of the Buddhberry frozen yogurt truck and the largest gift bags we ever curated). This year, I am delighted to welcome Cuban-American rising pop star Sasha Prendes as the headlining performer.

A select number of tickets will be available for purchase.

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