

# Your perfect weekend

## Friday, July 10

Since closing off streets to traffic is all the rage for 2009, we're not surprised Ad Hoc Art planned its own block party. During the **"Willoughby Windows" project** (Willoughby St between Bridge and Duffield Sts, Downtown Brooklyn; 718-366-2466, [adhocart.org](http://adhocart.org); 2-7pm, free) installations by more than 15 artists (including Lady Pink and Nathan Lee Pickett) will fill a dozen storefronts, and there will be music from Lady Circus and others throughout the afternoon.



Brazil invades Bushwick tonight with the opening of the **"Lichen" exhibit** at Factory Fresh (1053 Flushing Ave between Knickerbocker and Morgan Aves, Bushwick, Brooklyn; 917-682-6753, [factoryfresh.net](http://factoryfresh.net); through July 26, reception 7-10pm; free). São Paulo artists Loro Verz, Mundano and Apolo Torres will show a collection of pieces that reinterpret the lichen, a lacelike, photosynthetic organism found all over their home city. Step outside to take in their collaborative mural, painted on the courtyard walls.

## Saturday, July 11



Instead of griping about the MTA fare hike, escape the bubble on one of the adventures-as-performance-art tours scheduled for Flux Factory's **"Going Places (Doing Stuff) Part II"** (locations vary, R.S.V.P. at [fluxfactory.org](http://fluxfactory.org); through Sept 5; suggested donation \$20). The destinations are kept top secret, but you and a vegetable-oil-fueled bus full of like-minded cohorts will be led on an odyssey around New York that's guaranteed to surprise you. Last year's trips included a visit to upstate swimming holes and an imaginary character chase; today, filmmaker Yoni Brook and video artist Liz Barry will lead your journey. "I can tell you their tour is a matter of life or death, but that's saying too much already," hints FF's artistic director Jean Barberis.

When we heard that online events guide Brooklyn Based was cohosting a **Pretty in Pink '80s prom** at the Bell House (149 7th St between Third and Fourth Aves, Gowanus, Brooklyn; 718-643-6510, [thebellhouse.com](http://thebellhouse.com); 8pm, free cocktails 8-9pm, \$15-\$20), the first thing we thought was: What would Annie Potts wear to a shindig like this? Our second thought: We truly hope that, between cover band The Engagements and a variety of '80s DJs, the evening will evolve into a full-on **Michael Jackson tribute dance party**. There will also be free snacks like steak-and-Gorgonzola crostini, plus themed gourmet cupcakes by Robicelli's (we recommend "the Duckie," \$3—profits will be donated to UNICEF in memory of MJ), \$3 champagne all night and bathrooms stocked with Aqua Net hairspray for primping. And what would a faux prom be without a passive-aggressive battle for the titles of king and queen? Do your worst.

## Sunday, July 12

See for yourself if the High Line is worth all the hype during **The Target High Line Street Festival**

(Gansevoort St between Ninth Ave and Washington St; [thehighline.org](http://thehighline.org); noon-5pm, free). After exploring the elevated green space

and grabbing a free beverage from the World's Largest Lemonade Stand (1,300 gallons, built inside a custom-designed Rosenwach water tank), watch as balloon artist Jason Hackenwerth constructs an enormous public balloon sculpture comprising flowers and insects.

Meanwhile, the Hungry March Band will serenade you from various performance areas—there's a scissor lift at the western end of Gansevoort, and the rooftop of Ports 1961.

We began the weekend in pseudo-Brazil, and we'll end it in the quasi-United Kingdom. Feast on clam chowder (\$5.95) at the **Grand Central Oyster Bar & Restaurant** (89 E 42nd St at Vanderbilt Ave; 212-490-6650, [oysterbar.com](http://oysterbar.com)), but be sure to leave a half hour early to catch the beginning of **Manhattanhenge** (8:25pm) of two days per year when the sun sets in exact alignment with Manhattan's grid. Position yourself as far east as you can, then stroll west on 14th, 23rd, 34th, 42nd or 57th Street for a clear view. The druids might not find our urban phenomenon all that magical, but we still think it's pretty damn special. —Sharon Steel

## Best of the fests

### July 8–July 19

#### The Giglio Feast at Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Long before hipsters descended upon Williamsburg, Southern Italian immigrants from the city of Nola settled in the northern Brooklyn nabe. Each year, the Nolani community commemorates the homecoming of San Paolino (Saint Paulinus) with a century-old, 12-day festival outside the church of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Don't miss Giglio Sunday on **Sunday 12**, when 150 men carry the **four-ton giglio**—an 75-foot-tall aluminum tower—on their shoulders and dance it up and down Havemeyer Street. "We actually do dance with it," says feast chairman Richard Burg. "We bounce it up and down, we march with it, we might spin it. Some capos [heads] cha-cha

with it." Also on **Sunday 12** at around 1pm, men lift a boat containing children dressed as sailors and a Turk, who will **throw confetti onto the crowd**. Check out the Children's Giglio on **Thursday 9**, where 75 kids hoist a smaller giglio made of wood, or the Night Lift (Wednesday 15), when the giglio is illuminated. Other highlights include the **Saturday 11** La Questa, during which lieutenants, lifters and capos pass out bread from a local bakery, and an oldies concert with Johnny Maestro and Lou Christie (**Monday 13**, \$40) in the school gym. Throughout the fest, expect

**STREET FAIRS!**

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