

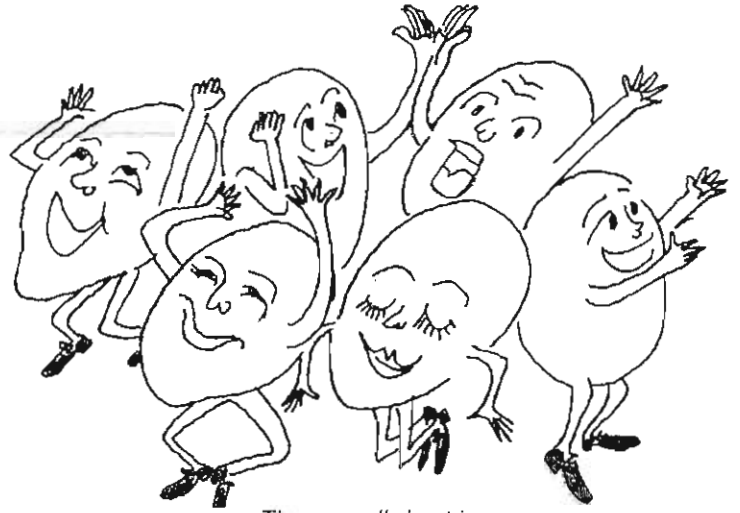
Merchant's House Museum

Newsletter

Fall 2001

5th Annual New York City Oyster Festival

Saturday, October 6



The merry mollusks rejoice.

When we heard the news, we were shell-shocked! The Mayor had banned the sale of beer at all street festivals?? You mean, *no Guinness??* But oysters and Guinness go together like ham and eggs, strawberries and cream, corned beef and cabbage. What's a Museum to do?? Divide and conquer, said the bivalves.

~ Free ~

On East Fourth Street ... 2 to 8 p.m. ... between Lafayette and Bowery

In the open air of East Fourth Street, we'll be selling freshly shucked blue point oysters (half-dozen, \$8) and, off-street, our good friends and neighbors Swift Hibernian Lounge and BBar will be serving perfect pints of Guinness (\$5). The festivities include a parade of pipers in full regalia through the streets of NoHo ... live traditional Irish music ... a DJ ... and the 5th annual NYC Oyster Shucking Competition with participants from New York's hottest restaurants battling it out on the Festival stage ("Survivor" meets "The Iron Chef").

~ By ticket ~

In our Guinness Garden ... 4 to 8 p.m. ... 29 East Fourth Street

Join us in the Museum's Garden for a private Oyster Fest-ivity — endless perfect pints of Guinness and bottomless bushels of oysters, live music, champagne and wines, and other tasty foods. All *on the House!*

YES, the world is mine oyster! Enclosed is a check made payable to the Merchant's House Museum in the amount of \$ _____.

Guinness Garden Half Shells \$85 each \$ _____
(All the oysters you can eat and Guinness you can drink, plus Champagne, wine, other tasty foods, live music, and more.)

Guinness Garden Oysters Rockefeller \$125 each \$ _____
(Plus a limited-edition 2001 Oyster Festival t-shirt and 5 complimentary chances in our Grand Prize Raffle.)

Please make checks payable to the Merchant's House Museum or charge your contribution to American Express Visa Master Card

Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____ Signature _____

Name(s) _____
(If paying by credit card, please write your name exactly as it appears on the card.)

Address _____

Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____ Email _____

SHUCKS! I can't make it, but I want to show my support with a tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

Please mail form with your check to the Merchant's House Museum, 29 East Fourth Street, New York NY 10003. Credit card information can be mailed, or faxed to 212-777-1104. The Museum is not-for-profit and tax-exempt. All but \$25 of each ticket is tax-deductible; contributions are fully deductible. Information: 212-777-1089. Proceeds benefit the Museum's education programs and restoration fund.

And none of this could happen without bushels of help from our friends. We are very grateful to our Title Sponsor, Guinness Bass Import Company, and Lead Sponsors Fleet Bank, Gotham Seafood, Wines of Rias Baixas, Spain, Wines of New Zealand, Cava Sparkling Wine from Spain, New York Press, Beehive Beer and Distributing Company, City Guide magazine, the Historic House Trust of New York City and the City of New York/Parks & Recreation. Thanks also to our NoHo neighbors Swift Hibernian Lounge and Puck Fair, Time Out New York, BBar, and Phebe's. And special thanks to Herbert Knapp for drawing such merry mollusks.

The Merchant's House Museum is New York City's only family home preserved intact—inside and out—from the 19th century. A National Historic and New York City landmark, the house was built in 1832 and was home to a prosperous merchant family for 100 years. Visit Thursday through Monday, 1 to 5 p.m. or at www.merchantshouse.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For reservations and information, call 212-777-1089 or e-mail nyc1832@merchantshouse.com

Sundays, September, October, and November, 1 p.m.

Themed Walking Tours

- *At Home Above Bleeker: The Neighborhood of Wealthy Merchants*
- *From Stuyvesants to Immigrants: Social Upheaval in the East Village*
- *Riots, Fires, and Gang Wars: The East Village in the 19th Century*
- *Federalism to Modernism: Architectural Revolutions in the East Village*

Each tour will conclude with a tour of the Merchant's House. \$10 includes House tour. Call for dates of specific tours (212) 777-1089.

Sunday, September 23 and 30
seatings at 1:30 and 3 p.m.

Tea and Tour for Two

Traditional high tea served in our charming walled garden. Includes a selection of finger sandwiches, scones with jam and Devonshire cream, and a choice of desserts. Guided tour of the House at 2:30 and 4:00 p.m. \$35 per couple (additional guests \$10 each, up to two)

Tuesday, October 2, and Wednesday, October 3
6 to 8 p.m.

Reading: Tennessee Williams at the Actors Studio

The third in our *Great New York Writers in Great New York Places* reading series, which celebrates the literary history of New York City in significant architectural and historical sites. A collaboration with the Historic House Trust of New York City, The Library of America, and the City of New York/Parks & Recreation. \$25. For reservations, call 212-360-1378.

Saturday, October 6
2 to 8 p.m.

Fifth Annual New York City Oyster Festival
Freshly shucked blue point oysters, NYC Oyster Shucking Championship, music, and other entertainments. On East Fourth Street. Private Oyster Festival in the Museum's Garden, reservations required.

Thursday, October 11, through
Saturday, October 13, 7 p.m.

An Evening with Charles Dickens

An award-winning one-man show from London where it is performed at the Dickens House Museum. The show features actor Geoffrey Harris assuming the role of Dickens's immortal characters as well as the author himself. House opens at 6 p.m. for viewing. \$25.

Tuesday, October 23, 6:30 p.m.

Lecture: The Architecture of the Classical Interior
Illustrated slide lecture by Steven W. Semes, architect and author. Mr Semes discusses his soon-to-be-published book, *The Architecture of the Classical Interior*, a comprehensive thematic study of the principles and elements of interior architecture in the classical tradition. Using examples from past and present, the author considers such classical ideas as proportion and ornament, space and articulation; and elements such as wall treatments, ceilings, floors, doors, windows, fireplaces, and stairs. The

Merchant's House is featured in Mr. Semes book. Reception follows. A collaboration with Classical America. \$12. Members \$10.

Wednesday, November 14, 6 to 8 p.m.

Reading: Dawn Powell at the Empire State Building

The last in our *Great New York Writers in Great New York Places* reading series, which celebrates the literary history of New York City in significant architectural and historical sites. A collaboration with the Historic House Trust of New York City, The Library of America, and the City of New York/Parks & Recreation. \$25. For reservations, call 212-360-1378.

Saturday, November 17, 10 a.m. to 12 Noon

Workshop: Harvest Baskets & Centerpieces

Mayapple trees, floral and fruit decoration for your Holiday table. Woven baskets and dried and other materials provided for hands-on workshop. Refreshments. \$20 donation benefits the Garden Fund.

GHOSTLY AND OTHER SPIRITED EVENTS AT THE MERCHANT'S HOUSE

Thursday, October 4, through Monday, November 19
Exhibit: "Truly, We Live in a Dying World":
Death and Bereavement in the 19th Century

Thursday, October 25, 6:30 p.m.

Lecture: Memento Mori: 19th-Century Mourning and Sentimental Jewelry

Illustrated slide lecture by Melissa O. Cohn, Master's degree candidate at the Bard Graduate Center for Studies in the Decorative Arts, New York. The central themes of love and remembrance are what unify 19th-century mourning and sentimental jewelry. Ms. Cohn discusses the materials used to create this jewelry such as jet and human hair, the common artistic motifs of hearts, clasped hands, and weeping willows; and the widespread wearing of such jewelry by all classes of society. \$10. Members \$8.

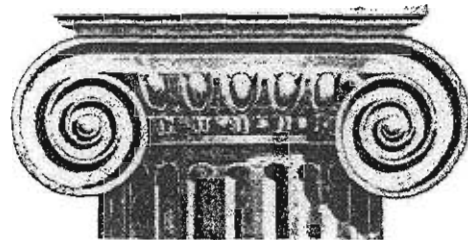
Sunday evening, October 28

On TV: America's Most Haunted Places: New York
On The Travel Channel. Check your local listings for exact time. The Merchant's House and our own Gertrude Tredwell are featured along with the Statue of Liberty, the Algonquin Hotel, and other famous New York haunts.

Thursday, November 8, 6:30 p.m.

Lecture: Ghosts & Apparitions

Illustrated slide lecture by Dr. Carlos S. Alvarado, Chairman of Domestic and International Programs at the Parapsychology Foundation (www.parapsychology.org) and a well-known expert on the history of parapsychology and psychical research. Dr. Alvarado will discuss ghosts and apparitions in the context of scientific parapsychological research, including experience reports and filed investigations. \$20. Members \$15.

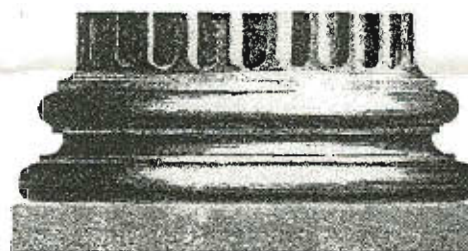


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The Museum's public education programs are sponsored in part through the generous support of the Public Service Award program of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.



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