

# CUTE

A WEEKLY GUIDE TO CULTURE AND UPCOMING EVENTS • Edited by Christopher Bonanos



CAT SHOW: An 1897 poster, at the New York Library for the Performing Arts.

#### FOR KIDS

##### Children's Books in Performance

The New York Library for the Performing Arts devotes an exhibit to kids' stories that have gone from print to public performance, from "Cinderella" to *Alice in Wonderland*. Posters, photos, books, artifacts, and much more. (Through October 31; see listing, page 99.)

#### MOVIES

##### Road to Perdition

Director Sam Mendes tries to beat the sophomore jinx, following up *American Beauty* (which won Best Picture and Best Director) with this Depression drama starring Tom Hanks. (Opens July 12; see Peter Rainer's review, page 44.)

#### THEATER

##### The Lincoln Center Festival

The Kitchen gets hot, Stephen Sondheim travels, and the Kirov comes to

town. See our Top Five picks at right. (Starts July 9; see "Theater" and "Classical & Dance" listings for more events.)

#### NIGHTLIFE

##### Longwave

Now that you're tired of the Strokes . . . a bill of hot New York bands comes to Bowery Ballroom, headlined by Longwave, a big, crunching guitar band that's just been signed by RCA. (July 11; see listing, page 95.)

#### DANCE

##### Urban Tap NYC

Not quite tap, not quite club dancing, urban tap mixes modern dance and hip-hop into a new form. Guggenheim fellow Gabri Christa—a pioneer of the genre—and her DanzAsia troupe show off their steps at SummerStage. (July 12; see listing, page 94.)

#### BOOKS

##### The Ringer

The first novel from *Letterman* writer Bill Scheft—a talented stand-up comic in his own right—wraps a tale around a cranky old New

York sportswriter and his nephew, a hired gun for corporate softball teams. Dave's blurb: "If you don't enjoy this book, there is something wrong with you." (HarperCollins, \$23.95; in bookstores now.)

#### RESTAURANTS

##### Bastille Day Pétanque Tournament

Veuve Clicquot sponsors a day of pétanque—the French version of bocce—to mark France's national holiday and benefit the Children's Museum of the Arts. MacDougal Street will be covered with sand to make the courts; 50 top restaurants send teams to compete, and there's a dinner afterward at Restaurant Provence. (July 14; to reserve, call 212-475-7500.)

#### ART

##### Target Art in the Park

The Public Art Fund's edgy installations—edgy for a show sponsored by a discount retailer, anyway, even the design-savvy Target—come to Madison Square Park for the event's third and final installment. (Opens July 12.)



## TOP FIVE

### All the World's Onstage

Lincoln Center is doing its best to prop up the airline industry, flying in a veritable world congress of talent for this summer's Lincoln Center Festival. (For a full list, visit [lincolncenter.org](http://lincolncenter.org); for tickets, call 212-362-6000.)

#### 1. Ta'ziyeh

This three-play cycle is the festival's sprawling centerpiece. A cast of 29 Iranian actors and musicians will perform a sprawling ta'ziyeh epic (the only form of musical theater condoned in Islam) that recounts the martyrdom of Muhammad's grandson Imam Hussein. (Damrosch Park, July 12-21; \$55 per show, \$126 for the entire three-play cycle.)

#### 2. Logic of the Birds

A Persian fable recast as fanciful multimedia myth, this piece—a hit in a workshop preview at the Kitchen in 2001—refines the striking visual style that artist Shorin Neshat has honed in her video work and adds Sussan Deyhim's otherworldly vocals. (La Guardia Concert Hall, July 12-13; \$40.)

#### 3. Kirov Ballet

St. Petersburg's premier company brings *Swan Lake*, *Don Quixote*, Balanchine's *Jewels*, and the North American premiere of the restored Petipa ballet *La Bayadère*. (Metropolitan Opera House, July 8-20; \$20-\$130.)

#### 4. Pacific Overtures

Preeminent Tokyo director Armon Miyamoto deploys Noh, Kabuki, Bunraku, and Rokyoku techniques to stage an inventive revival of Stephen Sondheim's musical. (Avery Fisher Hall, July 9 to July 13; \$60-\$75; see interview, page 77.)

#### 5. The Silver River

David Henry Hwang (*M. Butterfly*) collaborates with composer Bright Sheng and Singaporean director Ong Keng Sen to reinvent a 5,000-year-old Chinese love story. (John Jay College Theater, July 16-21; \$45.)

LOGAN HILL