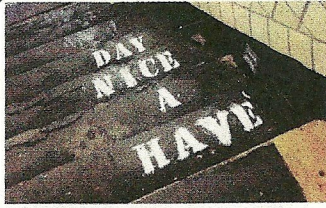


Your perfect weekend

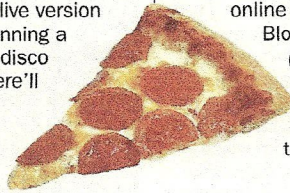
This Week

FRIDAY, APR 1



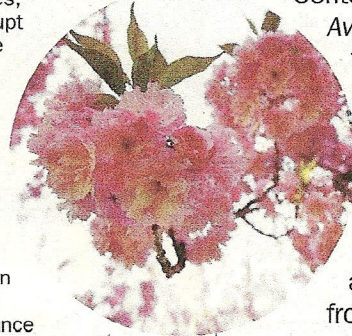
Start off the weekend with a celebration of Manhattan's thoroughfares at the **Urban Festival** on 14th Street (W 14th St between Fifth and Seventh Aves; artinoddplaces.org; 5-7pm; free). In 1811, the City Council adopted a plan to turn the undeveloped part of the island above 14th Street into a numbered grid, making Manhattan one of the most easily navigable areas in the world. Art in Odd Places and the New School host this fete for the design's 200th anniversary, with art installations along the first arterial built under the plan.

The eclectic musical tastes of East Village Radio's Max Wowch and Kevin Pedersen will be on display at **Pizza Party with Max and Kevin** (Veronica Peoples Club, 105 Franklin St at Greenpoint Ave, Greenpoint, Brooklyn; veronicapeoplesclub.com; 10pm; free). The DJ duo serves up a live version of its EVR show, spinning a mix of British punk, disco and oldies; plus, there'll be free slices from Franklin Pizza after midnight.



SATURDAY, APR 2

Hanami means "flower viewing" in Japanese, but the definition at the Brooklyn Botanic Garden (900 Washington Ave at Eastern Pkwy, Prospect Heights, Brooklyn; 718-623-7200; bbg.org; Tue-Fri 8am-6pm; Sat, Sun 10am-6pm; \$10, seniors and students \$5, children under 12 free; Sat 2-May this year) is a little more specific: The garden's annual cherry-blossom season showcases more than 40 varieties of cherry trees, which will erupt into cloudlike pink and white blooms. Take a tour of the collection, featuring more than 200 trees (1pm), or plan out your own route in advance using the garden's



online CherryWatch Blossom Status Map (bbg.org/discover/cherries), which shows when flowers are starting to appear.

SUNDAY, APR 3



A new exhibit, **"Pantheon: A History of Art from the Streets of New York City,"** occupies the storefront space at the former Donnell Library Center (20 W 53rd St between Fifth and Sixth Aves, pantheonnyc.com; daily 24hrs), across the street from the Museum of Modern Art. The show features ephemeral works from more than 35 street artists, including John Ahearn and Stikman; images of the participants' work (taken by such graffiti experts as Luna Park of the Street Spot, and Streetsy's Jake Dobkin) are arranged in a timeline, showing the city's graffiti history from the 1970s to present day.

Rather than slurping up your standard bowl of Cheerios for breakfast, amble over to the **Brooklyn Flea's** newest location on the Williamsburg waterfront (27 North 6th St between Kent Ave and the East River, Williamsburg, Brooklyn; brooklynflea.com; 10am-5pm; free), where you can nibble on a slice of cereal-milk pie (\$5.25) or other treats from Momofuku Milk Bar. The cult dessert shop is one of more than 15 new vendors that will be at the fair, which overlooks the city's iconic skyline.

Best of the fests

¡Si! Cuban Festival Thursday 31-June 16

Cuban pride overtakes New York for the next 11 weeks, as cultural organizations throughout the city—including the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Carnegie Hall and Symphony Space—collaborate on a celebration of Cuba's vibrant artistic history. Check out performances by the current incarnation of the Septeto Nacional Ignacio Piñero, a seven-piece band founded in 1927 that specializes in classic *son* music (which preceded modern salsa), and Havana-born Xiomara Laugart, the former singer of Grammy-nominated Latin-fusion band Yerba Buena. Meanwhile, Manhattan art space the 8th Floor will draw attention to artwork from the tiny country with "Queloides: Race and Racism in Cuban Contemporary Art," which builds on two previous exhibits that originated in Havana addressing Cuba's racial



New York Tartan Week

tensions. Location, time and price vary; visit sicuba.org for details.

New York Tartan Week Sunday 3-April 10

The streets will be filled with kilt-wearing, Scotch-

drinking revelers during this annual hoopla devoted to Scottish heritage. The festival has come a long way from its humble beginnings more than a decade ago, when the first major Tartan Day Parade journeyed past the statues of writers Robert Burns and Sir Walter Scott in Central Park. Now, that march is the centerpiece of a week of Scots activities, including an exhibit about tartan on Ellis Island (opens Friday 1); Dressed to Kilt, a fashion show in which celebs don the plaid garb (Tuesday 5); and a 10K race (April 10). For the parade itself (April 9), an audience exceeding 5,000 will watch 3,000

participants—including more than 30 pipe bands, members of the Scottish Board of National Dancers and even some Scottie pups—as they promenade up Sixth Avenue. Location, time and price vary; visit tartanweek.com for details.—Sarah Rammos

PHOTOGRAPHS: URBAN FESTIVAL: LAURA O'CONNOR; PANTHEON: KATHERINE LORIMER; HANAMI: JOSEPH C. HOLMES; NEW YORK TARTAN WEEK: DUTTY MCGILL