

October 9, 2005

## The Week Ahead: Oct. 9 - Oct. 15

### Correction Appended

### THEATER

Charles Isherwood

This week's notable theater openings have a polyglot flavor. White-bread Broadway gets a rare splash of salsa with the arrival of "LATINOLOGUES," Brooklyn plays host to a troupe from Berlin, and in the East Village, LaMaMa presents a Polish meditation on the Oedipus complex. Bring your Berlitz guides.

Actually, fluency in Spanish is not required to enjoy "Latinologues," a series of monologues about Latino life in America performed in English by a roster of established comics. [CHEECH MARIN](#), who toked his way to fame with his partner Tommy Chong in the subversive comedy classic "Up in Smoke," directs the Broadway premiere of this production. Opens Thursday at the [Helen Hayes Theater](#), 240 West 44th Street, (212) 239-6200.

The DEUTSCHES THEATER BERLIN, which hasn't been seen in New York City in nearly a century - the last visit was in 1916 - returns with MICHAEL THALHEIMER's radical distillation of "EMILIA GALOTTI," a 1772 tragedy by the German playwright Gotthold Ephraim Lessing. Mr. Thalheimer shrinks classics to their essence: this production takes 75 minutes. Opens Wednesday at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, Harvey Theater, 651 Fulton Street, Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100.

In "SAINT OEDIPUS," the director PIOTR TOMASZUK explores the famous Greek myth and its meanings in Western culture. A collection of medieval legends and the novels of Thomas Mann are among the sources of this inquiry into the mysteries of sexuality. The production from Poland's THEATER WIERSZALIN is being presented in association with the Polish Cultural Institute. Begins performances Thursday at LaMaMa, 74A East Fourth Street, East Village, (212) 475-7710.

### FILM

Sharon Waxman

"LOGGERHEADS" is a poignant patchwork of stories about relationships, gay and otherwise, set in a North Carolina town where loggerhead turtles emerge from the sea once a year to bury their eggs. Written and directed by TIM KIRKMAN, the movie is apparently based on a true story about a young man (KIP PARDUE) who is rejected by his adoptive parents, a minister and his wife because of his homosexuality. Meanwhile, his birth mother ([BONNIE HUNT](#)) is tormented by her inability to find him. The film takes a nondogmatic view of the delicate tissue of family relations and treats each perspective with compassion. It opens on Friday at Landmark's Sunshine Cinema, 139-143 East Houston Street, Lower East Side, (212) 330-8182 and several theaters in the Los Angeles area. For some 30 years, [Jack Nicholson](#) kept the rights to "THE PASSENGER," a 1975 political thriller made by the Italian director [MICHELANGELO ANTONIONI](#). Mr. Nicholson plays a reporter sent to North Africa to cover an insurrection; he changes identities with an Englishman who has died in his hotel room. He recently decided the time was right to show the film publicly again and sold the rights to Sony Pictures Classics, which is releasing the director's version (six minutes longer than the one initially released in America) on Oct. 28 in New York and on Nov. 11 in Los Angeles. It's something like "The Constant Gardener" meets "Blow-Up," and is not to be missed by Antonioni fans.

### TELEVISION

Anita Gates

For country music fans, the only thing better than hearing [JOHNNY CASH](#) or WILLIE NELSON or [KRIS KRISTOFFERSON](#) or WAYLON JENNINGS would be hearing them all together. For a while, in the late 1980's and early 1990's, that was possible. "AMERICAN REVOLUTIONS: THE HIGHWAYMEN," Friday night at 8 on CMT, is a one-hour special about the four-man supergroup, including previously unseen film clips from their last recording session, in 1994.

Shakespeare and Company, the English-language bookstore on Rue de la Bûcherie in Paris, has almost nothing to do with the shop of the same name that SYLVIA BEACH ran in the 1920's and 30's on Rue de l'Odéon, except that Beach left the rights to the name to its American expatriate owner, GEORGE WHITMAN. But the "new" place (1951 to the present) has its own mystique. Anyway, the SUNDANCE CHANNEL's "PORTRAIT OF A BOOKSTORE AS AN OLD MAN" (Monday, 9 p.m.) is really about Mr. Whitman, in

his 90's now and apparently as irascible as ever.

All the World War II 60th anniversaries recently passed, and the HISTORY CHANNEL still had a five-part documentary mini-series lying around. Maybe that's why it decided to run all of "HITLER'S MANAGERS" at once (Saturday, 7 p.m. to midnight). These are the men who ran things in the Third Reich - Alfred Krupp (arms), Albert Speer (architecture), Ferdinand Porsche (vehicles) and Wernher von Braun (rockets) - along with Alfred Jodl, the general who signed the surrender.

MTV could be credited with (and blamed for) the reality epidemic, thanks to "THE REAL WORLD," which started back in 1992. The newest series, beginning Thursday (10:00 p.m.), is "RUN'S HOUSE," an "Osbournes"-like look at the home life of Joey Simmons, aka a REVEREND RUN of RUN DMC. He has five children, and a new CD to promote (related article, Page 4).

## DANCE

John Rockwell

This is China week in New York. Not to be confused with the monthlong Festival of China taking place now at the Kennedy Center in Washington, which includes some of the artists who will also be here.

Leading the pack is the NATIONAL BALLET OF CHINA's presentation of the dance version of the film "Raise the Red Lantern" - directed by [ZHANG YIMOU](#), who also directed the film - at the BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC ([related article](#)).

Starting on Thursday at the KAYE PLAYHOUSE, the CITY CONTEMPORARY DANCE COMPANY of Hong Kong will offer a different work than it did last week in Washington, where it was part of a triple bill of Chinese modern-dance companies. This one is an evening-long piece with the puckish title "365 Ways of Doing and Undoing Orientalism." Edward Said would have been amused. Thursday through Saturday, 8 p.m., Kaye Playhouse, Hunter College, 68th Street between Park and Lexington Avenues, (212) 772-4448 or [kayeplayhouse.hunter.cuny.edu](http://kayeplayhouse.hunter.cuny.edu); \$10 to \$35.

On Friday at SYMPHONY SPACE, a program titled "YUNNAN REVEALED: MUSIC AND DANCE FROM CHINA'S LAND OF CLOUDS" will begin, courtesy of the World Music Institute. Yunnan Province in southwest China borders Tibet, Burma, Laos and Vietnam. The 15 dancers and musicians represent four ethnic minorities and will be touring the United States for the first time. 8 p.m., Peter Norton Symphony Space, Broadway at 95th Street, (212) 864-5400, (212) 545-7536 or [www.worldmusicinstitute.org](http://www.worldmusicinstitute.org); \$32 (students with ID, \$15).

And on Saturday at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark, and even further afield from the Han majority in mainland China, we have the FORMOSA ABORIGINAL SONG & DANCE TROUPE. This 30-member ensemble is devoted to the preservation of the culture of the indigenous peoples of Taiwan. The company is sharing the all-indigenous bill with Ulali, an American Indian female a cappella vocal group. 7:30 p.m., Victoria Theater, New Jersey Performing Arts Center, 1 Center Street, Newark, (888) 466-5722 or [njpac.org](http://njpac.org); \$32.

## CLASSICAL MUSIC

Anthony Tommasini

Richard Strauss's one-act opera "DAPHNE" is a problematic work to stage. At 100 minutes, it's too long to share an evening with another one-act opera, yet too short on its own to send ticket-buyers home feeling that they have gotten their money's worth. Bringing off the title role dramatically has also proved to be a thankless task. A nature-loving innocent who is fearful of adulthood and human sexuality, Daphne rebuffs Apollo when, disguised as a shepherd, he courts her. A soprano singing Daphne must sound ethereal and serene during long stretches of high-lying and quick-moving lyrical lines. Moreover, at the end of the opera a stage director must somehow turn Daphne into a one of her beloved laurel trees, her fate as decreed by Zeus.

So "Daphne" is well suited to concert performances and recordings. This week Strauss lovers can experience both as RENÉE FLEMING sings the role in concert at CARNEGIE HALL on Saturday night, with SEMYON BYCHKOV conducting the WDR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA COLOGNE, and the tenor JOHAN BOTHA as Apollo. (This performance coincides with the release of a new Decca recording of "Daphne" with Ms. Fleming, the Cologne orchestra and most of the same artists who will appear at Carnegie Hall.) It is one of the most anticipated concerts of the New York season. 8 p.m., (212) 247-7800; \$27 to \$95.

Carnegie Hall seems the place to be this week. On Monday night JAMES LEVINE, in his second season as its music director, brings the BOSTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA to town for a fascinating all-American program with a new work by ELLIOTT CARTER ("Three Illusions for Orchestra"); LUKAS FOSS's mesmerizing "Time Cycle," with the soprano DAWN UPSHAW; IVES's "Three Places in New England"; and ending with, of all things, Gershwin's Piano Concerto, featuring the stylishly brilliant French pianist JEAN-YVES THIBAUDET as soloist. 8; \$30 to \$105.

## POP/JAZZ

Kelefa Sanneh

On Wednesday and Thursday, the Canadian indie-rockers THE NEW PORNOGRAPHERS are to headline a pair of concerts at Webster Hall. True fans of the band will probably cheer loudest for A. C. NEWMAN, the leader and main songwriter. Others will be cheering loudest for NEKO CASE, who has the best voice, not to mention a solo career that may eclipse the band's. And a small contingent of die-hards (suffice it to say, it takes one to know one) will be cheering for Dan Bejar, the off-kilter singer-songwriter behind the most intriguing New Pornographers songs. Mr. Bejar also leads his own band, DESTROYER. And for those die-hards, the New Pornographers concert may feel more like an after-party for the brief Destroyer concert scheduled to precede it.

Mr. Bejar has a knack for singing mysterious songs as if they were blindingly obvious, combining half-told stories with cryptic jokes until you can't tell plot from punch line. Newcomers could start with "Streethawk: A Seduction" (Misra), a delirious and scathing Destroyer album from 2001, peopled by fugitive lovers and washed-up or washed-out rock stars.

The latest album is "Your Blues" (Merge), a rich and sometimes frustrating disc released last year. An acoustic guitar and lots of synthesizers are just about the only instruments; this CD is a loving send-up of artistic folly (one song pokes coy fun at both Robert Smithson and the Smiths, without naming either) and also, inevitably, a glorious example of it. Near the beginning comes "It's Gonna Take an Airplane," one of the most graceful songs Mr. Bejar has written so far. Gently accompanied by a fake flute and fake handclaps, he murmurs, "It's gonna take an airplane to get me off the ground/ I don't blame anyone who isn't sticking around/ 'Cause when you stick around, people like to put things in the ground." It's not until near the end that you realize this is his idea of a love song. 7:30 p.m., Webster Hall, 125 East 11th Street, East Village, (212) 353-1600; \$20 in advance, \$25 at the door.

## ART/ARCHITECTURE

Robin Pogrebin

You've followed the controversy. Now, check out the source. A preview of the redesign of EDWARD DURELL STONE's building at 2 Columbus Circle has opened at the CENTER FOR ARCHITECTURE in Greenwich Village. For years, preservationists fought plans to re clad the Venetian-inspired, porthole-studded facade of the 1965 building, which is to become the new home of the MUSEUM OF ARTS AND DESIGN. The design, by ALLIED WORKS ARCHITECTURE, calls for replacing Stone's marble facade with a terra cotta scrim. Now that preservationists have lost the battle to have the building declared a landmark, the museum hopes to complete the \$60 million reconstruction by early 2008. 536 La Guardia Place, (212) 683-0023.

Suburban houses, ladders, weeds and sprinklers are among the everyday subjects made fantastical by the photographer Amir Zaki, whose recent work is included in "THE NEW CITY: SUB/URBIA IN RECENT PHOTOGRAPHY" at the WHITNEY MUSEUM OF AMERICAN ART. The show explores the changing face of parking lots, storefronts and residences through street photography, digital manipulation and photo narratives. Other artists featured include Walead Beshty, Gregory Crewdson, Tim Davis, Corin Hewitt, Zoe Leonard, Karin Apollonia Müller, Catherine Opie and Michael Vahrenwald. 945 Madison Avenue, at 75th Street, (212) 570-3600.

More comprehensive listings of cultural events can be found each Friday in the [Weekend](#) section.

**Correction:** Oct. 23, 2005, Sunday:

Because of an editing error, a film report on the Week Ahead page on Oct. 9 about the rerelease of Michelangelo Antonioni's 1975 film "The Passenger" misstated the date of its Los Angeles opening. It is Nov. 4, not Nov. 11.