

THE NEW YORKER

GOINGS ON ABOUT TOWN

ABOVE AND BEYOND

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SUMMER SOLSTICE

The blisteringly hot weather of late may give the impression that summer (or the apocalypse, for that matter) started weeks ago. Though that's not the case, the season is, in fact, arriving early this year, on June 20, at 7:59 P.M. local time, and a number of events hail the change. That evening, the urban shaman Mama Donna celebrates in Battery Park, starting at 7:30. (The Korean War Memorial, south of Castle Clinton.) On the 21st, Paul Winter and his consort begin their annual performance at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine at 4:30 A.M. and play through the sunrise. (Amsterdam Ave. at 112th St. 866-811-4111.) Later that day, the theatrical collective My Barbarian and Mama Donna (whose real name is Donna Henes) lead the charge at the Socrates Sculpture Park, in Long Island City, starting at 5. (www.socrates-sculpturepark.org.)



“Circus Sundays,” at the Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge, in Red Hook.

”CIRCUS SUNDAYS”

The Waterfront Museum and Showboat Barge, a refurbished 1914 Lehigh Valley Railroad barge at the foot of Conover Street, in Red Hook, Brooklyn, presents jugglers, magicians, and other refugees from the big top. (Sundays in June at 1 and 4. For more information, visit www.waterfrontmuseum.org.)

AUCTIONS AND ANTIQUES

As temperatures rise, New York's auction houses like to cool off. **Sotheby's** holds a single auction this week, a sale of books and manuscripts (June 19), which is its last of the 2007-08 season. The highlights include a first edition of Isaac Newton's “*Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*,” in which the seventeenth-century mathematician and physicist laid out his laws of motion and universal gravitation, and fourteen pages from Arthur Conan Doyle's working manuscript for “His Last Bow,” the final chapter of the Sherlock Holmes saga. (York Ave. at 72nd St. 212-606-7000.) |

Diverse delights grace **Swann's** sale of maps, atlases, natural history, historical prints, and ephemera (June 19). Among the star lots are a handsome map of Iceland printed in Antwerp in 1585; a nineteenth-century ornithological treatise on the hummingbirds of Mexico (with colorful lithograph plates); and a set of hilarious caricatures of members of the Imperial Russian Ballet from the early twentieth century, drawn by the famous dancers and teachers—and brothers—Nikolai and Sergei Legat. (104 E. 25th St. 212-254-4710.)

ILLUSTRATION: MARCELLUS HALL
