

Winter 2013–14 at the Cathedral

Phoenix Rising: Xu Bing at the Cathedral

The largest gothic Cathedral in the world will soon be visited by what, it can safely be assumed, are the largest phoenixes in the world: two 6-ton, 100-foot sculptures made by Xu Bing, one of the most prominent artists in China, former Brooklyn resident, and a MacArthur Fellow. These are massive, scary-beautiful pieces of art. Sinuous and elegant, sharp-edged and scrappy; the phoenixes are myth made flesh for our times, with the flesh being metals, chemicals, industrial tools and parts, and the dream/nightmare of explosive growth. They are birds of modern China—powerful, resurgent, rough, magnificent. They are also a reminder of ancient, medieval and early modern China, of the many great dynasties that have come and gone.

The envy, admiration and concern many in the West have felt towards China's elevator-to-the-top rise is experienced much more personally by Xu Bing, who was born in 1955, grew up in Beijing, lived through the Cultural Revolution (as a young adult, he was relocated to the country side for two years) and Tiananmen Square. After the latter event, his art received harsh criticism from government, and he emigrated to the United States.

The artist went back to China in 2007 and was profoundly affected by the huge and fast-paced changes—the most rapid industrialization the world has ever seen, with concomitant social upheaval. In the last ten years, China has gone from having industrial production less than half that of the United States to surpassing it by a comfortable margin. The effects on the society, people, and land have been profound.

In Western mythology, the phoenix is associated with the sun and symbolizes rebirth and resurrection. The divinely beautiful bird lives for a thousand years, then builds a great fire, throws itself within and is consumed; from the ashes rises a new, young phoenix. In Chinese mythology the legendary bird is the Feng-Huang, which is said to have first appeared to Emperor Hung Ti, in approximately 2600 BCE, and is one of four celestial beings connected to creation. Feng is a male name, and Huang is female: the bird is two-in-one, yin and yang. Other attributes of the phoenix echo this iconography of completion: its body is made up of the parts of other animals—which parts and which animals vary according to source. One such list is: a snake's neck, a crane's forehead, a dragon's stripes, a fish's tail, a tortoise's

shell, a swallow's throat and a fowl's bill. The Feng-Huang's feathers are the five essential colors (the primary colors plus black and white) and its song is composed of the five notes of the Chinese harmonic scale. The bird does not die and rise from its ashes, but is rather immortal and secludes itself in the mountains most of the time. Some legends say the Feng-Huang only appears in times of peace and prosperity, others that it arrives to mark the beginning of a new era.

Xu Bing's phoenixes tend more to the latter interpretation, showing us the dark side of the myth: the mystery, elegance and power of the eternal bird are still present, but the raw force needed for resurrection, and the violence of radical change are clearly represented in this sculpture. Two years in the creation, the phoenixes are made entirely from what can be found at construction sites in China: steel beams, hoses, shovels, hardhats, fans, wheels and gears. The artist has used charged cultural debris before, including a bicycle flattened by a tank in Tiananmen Square and dust from the 9/11 World Trade Center destruction. These birds get to the heart of the matter, using the stuff of the global economic expansion to bring attention to humanity's brazen assertion of immortality.

Xu Bing's early work was deeply involved with language as communication, miscommunication, obfuscation and mystery, as a medium of exchange that is sneaky, transformative and often pitiless. In *A Book from the Sky* (1988), he invented characters that look Chinese but correspond to no alphabet; for *Square Word Calligraphy* (1994) he created a "Chinese" text for English speakers: one-block words made of English letters written in the style of Chinese characters. In 2012, he wrote a novella, *Book from the Ground: From Point-to-Point*, in pictograms that can be read by anyone—though one critic confessed her children found it far easier to follow the story than she did.

His work during his U.S. residence also includes live installation art with animals (the *Silkworm Series*, a *Case Study of Transference* and *The Net*, using, respectively, silkworms, pigs, and sheep) as well as installations, like this one, that draw on the symbolic meanings of real and mythological beasts. He currently resides in Beijing, where he serves as the vice president of the Central Academy of Fine Arts.

The Cathedral exhibition also includes preliminary models for the phoenixes, made of polyamide, and *Background Story*, a large lightbox presenting an illusion of a traditional Chinese landscape painting. Go around the back, though, and the three-dimensional artwork has a very different appearance and effect.

These phoenixes will hang from a sturdy scaffolding; Cathedral engineers were still working out the details of installation and placement when this issue went to press. Their effect on the daily life of the Cathedral—services, celebrations, and the solitary walk-throughs of visitors—will be profound, and can as yet only be imagined. What will these great birds tell us of the future, the past, the present, of human hubris and the mystery of resurrection?

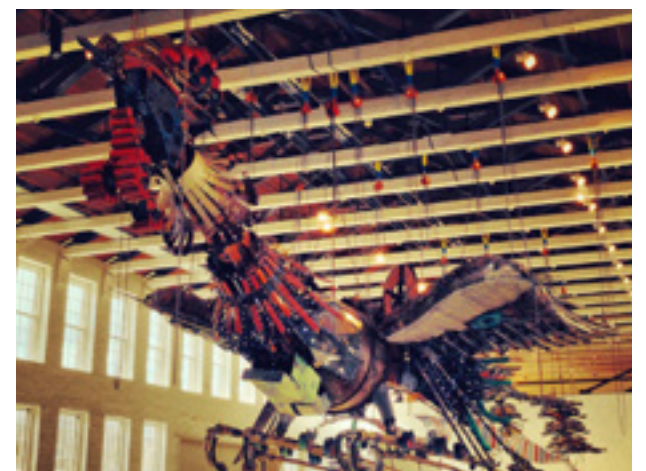


Photo by Marion Kahan

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The Cathedral Church of Saint John the Divine

The Right Reverend
Andrew M. L. Dietsche
Bishop of New York

The Very Reverend
Dr. James A. Kowalski
Dean of the Cathedral

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of Saint John the Divine

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Schedule of Daily Liturgical Services

Sunday 8 am

Morning Prayer & Holy
Eucharist

9 am

Holy Eucharist

11 am

Choral Eucharist

4 pm

Choral Evensong

Monday through Saturday 8 am

Morning Prayer

8:30 am

Holy Eucharist
(Tuesday & Thursday)

12:15 pm

Holy Eucharist

5 pm

Evening Prayer

Cathedral Information

The Cathedral is open daily
from 7:30 am–6 pm
For information:
(212) 316-7540
stjohndivine.org

Reaching the Cathedral

The Cathedral is located at
1047 Amsterdam Avenue,
at 112th Street.

By Subway:
#1 Train to 110th Street

By Bus:
#M4 to Amsterdam
& 110th Street
#M11 to Amsterdam
& 112th Street
#M104 to Broadway
& 112th Street

Cathedral Christmas

Christmas at the Cathedral means familiar pleasures—the Cathedral Crafts Fair, the Christmas Concert, the Christmas Eve Festival Eucharist and New Year's Eve Concert for Peace—that are made new every year by the hard work and imagination of many people. The Crafts Fair, held on the first weekend in December, features beautiful handmade jewelry, textiles, wood and glasswork, as well as other surprises that make unique gifts and honor the tradition of handcrafts, which is an integral part of the Cathedral. For those who prefer to give a special experience, a Vertical Tour of the Cathedral is an unforgettable gift, as is Nightwatch's sleepover at the Cathedral—Knightwatch Medieval—for children ages 6–12 and their adult companions. Holiday concerts are a time of community and spiritual openness: rousing, solemn, exhilarating and joyous. The Cathedral is always crowded with happy faces and glad hearts at these events. Consider a ticket to the New Year's Eve Concert for Peace—or one of our many winter and spring concerts—as a stocking stuffer. Or browse the Pop-Up Shop for a tee shirt, handsome black tote bag, or environmentally-friendly water bottle.

Autumn in New York

SPRING FEVER

A sunny September with just the right mix of warm and cool weather got us all in the mood for new art, new music, new theater and ideas. Artist in Residence **Ralph Lee's** superb *Taliesin* set the tone, encouraging all to see beyond the everyday world. The opening of **Mary Bloom's** *Dog Bless You*, which featured the former Cathedral photographer's portraits of dogs—dogs alone, dogs with dogs, dogs with people—was full of enthusiastic attendees, both human and canine. Most of the animals photographed showed up, behaving extremely well, while still very much in a partying mood. The Dean spoke of Mary's years at the Cathedral and Paul Winter played his saxophone.

Great Music in a Great Space presented a dazzling array of concerts. The season opened on September 25, with **Prayers of the Animals: All Creatures Great and Small**, an *a cappella* concert against the backdrop of the Cathedral's stunning Rose Windows. Audience members commented on how much they liked this experimental placement and approach, and how marvelous the acoustics were in this fascinating location.

Mary Bloom, as noted in the last newsletter, was a big contributor to the creation of the **St. Francis Day Blessing of the Animals**, and her portraits were admired by many more animals on that occasion (October 6) which was marked, as usual, with high spirits, wonderful music and dance, and the deep appreciation of what animals contribute to the earth and to our own sustenance and joy.

On October 15, **The Right Reverend Andrew ML Dietsche, Bishop of New York**, installed The Reverend Julia E. Whitworth as Cathedral Canon for Liturgy and the Arts. Canon Whitworth has now been at the Cathedral for almost a year; her enthusiasm and vitality have made an enormous difference. The next three days were all about music and dance:

A brief Google search will turn up many people who have written about the Cathedral's effect on their Christmases. New York novelist Emma Straub wrote an essay in 2011 for *The New York Times'* "Townies" series, an essay which she describes in her blog this way: "It's all about Christmas, and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and my 6th grade boyfriend, and where I'm going to be buried." *The Daily News*, also in 2011, quoted Cathedral staff member Wildenson DeJesus as saying that Christmas Eve is the workday he looks forward to all year. A blogger, escapingartist.com, noted in 2009, "It might have been Philippe Petit who sold me on this particular church, or the doorman who told me not to be afraid, that cathedrals are for everyone, but I thought it might be enlightening, interesting, or entertaining to attend midnight mass on Christmas Eve. The two hour, forty-five minute service was definitely every one of those things."

Looking a little further back, in January of 1977, Pamela (P.L.) Travers, Jungian scholar and writer of the six *Mary Poppins* books, visited the Cathedral. At a special service attended by 200,

she read her story *The Fox at the Manger* surrounded by a circle of the youngest children. It was her second reading at the Cathedral. "The Dean wants to start a tradition," she said, according to *The New York Times*, "but I told him none of us lasts forever."

Indeed. But as long as we're here, let's celebrate the gifts of the Christmas spirit: love, family, friends, festivity, and music.



Photo: Cathedral Archives

Kent Tritle, Director of Cathedral Music, gave a recital that included **Mendelssohn's Sonata IV in B flat major**, and the **Fantasy and Fugue in C Minor by JS Bach**. Cathedral Artist in Residence **Frederick Renz** and **Early Music New York** presented **Polonaise! The Golden Age**, a spirited array of tunes from late 18th century Poland. As always, Fred's music got toes tapping and provoked a desire to slip back in time to experience the delights of Europe before the modern age. **Alessandra Belloni's Tarantata** explored music from Italy and Brazil, and was as fiery and magical as expected, with healing trance dances, ritual drumming and love ballads.

The weekend of October 25 and 26, Nightwatch Dusk & Dawn presented **The Light Within—Our Shadow**, a dialogue and workshop led by **Peter Azrak**. The workshop explored the Jungian idea of the Shadow: the dark side of the soul where we hide the things we fear, dislike, and are ashamed of about ourselves. (The shadow can also contain good qualities, such as unrealized potential.)

Halloween at the Cathedral was, as usual, delightfully terrifying, with children, ghosts and demons of all ages joining master puppeteer **Ralph Lee** and the **Mettawee River Theater Company** for a night of shrieks and shivers. The classic German Expressionist horror story **The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari** was shown.

On October 30, a recital by **Thomas Murray**, University Organist and Professor of Music, Yale University, widely known for his playing of orchestral transcriptions for the organ, featured transcriptions from works by **Edward Elgar**.

The Poets Corner Induction for **John Berryman** (Sunday, November 3) featured readings by poets **Mary Jo Bang, Alfred Corn, Kelly Cherry, Corrina Bain**, and Poet in Residence **Marilyn Nelson**. The

following night, the life and work of **Daniel Hoffman** (1923–2013), Cathedral Poet in Residence from 1988 to 1999, was celebrated intimately by some of the friends, fellow poets and familiar Cathedral faces who knew Dan best. A larger, public memorial is planned for later in 2014.

On November 6, **Raymond Nagem**, Associate Organist at the Cathedral and C.V. Starr Doctoral Fellow at the Julliard School, performed a recital of 20th-century French music. The following week the Cathedral, in conjunction with **The New York Open Center**, hosted **What Are You Hungry For?**, a lecture and book signing by holistic doctor, healer, guru and prolific author **Deepak Chopra**. Dr. Chopra spoke about the emotional and spiritual longings that can manifest as disordered eating, and how conscious eating can aid healing.

On November 20, **Most Elevating of Voices, The Musical Legacy of Andrew Carnegie: A Transatlantic Celebration** paid tribute to the generous contributions of Andrew Carnegie to organ and choral music (he donated more than 7,000 pipe organs to churches in the United States and the United Kingdom). The Cathedral collaborated with **Dunfermline Abbey**, in Dunfermline, Scotland, on a two-concert miniseries. The concert in Scotland took place on October 12, 2013.

The Cathedral would like to thank **McGarry Bowen**, the advertising agency whose generous donation of time and expertise made the recent clothing closet drive at Cathedral Community Cares such a rousing success. CCC also extends thanks to **the Congregation of Saint Saviour** for helping facilitate an autumn hygiene product drive. Congregation members help support the Cathedral community year-round; during the Christmas season, their thoughtful gifts of turkeys and pies enliven the holidays of many in the neighborhood.



Photo by Isadora Wilkenfeld



Photo by NYCBeekeeping

Dean's Meditation: New Normal

THE VERY REVEREND DR. JAMES A. KOWALSKI

“We’re not going to be disrespected. We have to get something out of this. And I don’t know what that even is.”

U.S. Representative from Indiana, the Honorable Marlin Stutzman (R)

“I campaigned in 2012 all over this country for months: ‘Repeal and replace Obamacare.’ That was not the mandate of the voters. If they wanted to trepeal Obamacare, the 2012 election would have been probably significantly different.”

Arizona Republican U.S. Senator and former Presidential candidate, the Honorable John McCain

“Negotiating in the classic diplomatic sense assumes parties more anxious to agree than to disagree.”

Secretary of State Dean Acheson, the Truman Administration

By the end of the month of the government shutdown, Texas Senator Ted Cruz had made his way to the Iowa GOP's annual fundraising dinner in Des Moines. There he explained to an audience of 600 that his key role in the partial shutdown had been a success because he had “got people talking,” as he asserted:

One of the things we accomplished in the fight over Obamacare is we elevated the national debate over what a disaster, what a train wreck, how much Obamacare is hurting millions of Americans across this country.

Economists at Standard & Poor's estimate the total cost of the shutdown may total as much as 24 billion dollars. The collateral damage includes lost government services, non-government business losses, temporary layoffs and interruptions in business spending. Add in the loss in U.S. economic prestige every time Washington goes into gridlock over spending. We entered a three-month cooling off period, which only temporarily ended the freeze on the government's budget authority and the threat to a Treasury default on the public debt.

And then we heard lots of talk about cans simply kicked down the road. Franklin D. Roosevelt famously said, “When you get to the

end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on.” This Cathedral endeavors to bring people under its roof by using its convening authority to invite people to “Enter the Cathedral, and Enter the Conversation.” What we went through this fall defied any definition of conversation known to me. Perhaps whenever politics becomes bitterly partisan it inevitably cannot be conversational, as partisans communicate only with their own base.

Fareed Zakaria wrote in *The Washington Post* in 2011 about “a way out of our dysfunctional politics”—citing uncompromising ideology as the heart of the problem. Recalling previous ideological movements in American politics, such as those led by William Jennings Bryan, Barry Goldwater and George McGovern, Zakaria found it hard to blame the Tea Party of our time. Why, in the past, could people find ways between elections to compromise and govern? His conclusion was simply that in the last four decades or so it is not the intensity of ideology that has changed, but rather “the structure of politics, making it more beholden to narrow, specialized interests—including ideological ones—rather than broader national ones.”

There was no golden age in Washington when people were more high-minded than they are today. But 40 years ago, the rules and organizing framework of politics made it easier for the two parties to work together. Since then, a series of changes has led to the narrowcasting of American politics. Redistricting has created safe seats so that, for most House members, their only concern is a challenge from the right (for Republicans) and the left (for Democrats).

Bill Schneider, a professor of public and international affairs at George Mason University, wrote last July in Reuters about the upheaval in Egypt. Only last year, Mohamed Morsi was Egypt's first freely elected president, actually garnering 51.7 percent of the vote—slightly more than the percentage by which President Obama won reelection here. The Muslim Brotherhood, which had been banned and persecuted for some 60 years, emerged as the party in power. And yet Morsi would be overthrown despite having been democratically elected. Why? Schneider concluded: “An election is a necessary but not a sufficient condition for democracy.” Professor Schneider explained:

The Morsi government may have been elected, but there are other requirements for a democracy. A democratic government has to guarantee minority rights. It has to accept the opposition as legitimate. It has to be willing to abide by the rules. And the truest test of a democracy: The government has to give up power if it is defeated at the polls.

I left the Cairo airport just as the so-called Arab Spring was beginning. I had met people involved in tourism who had jobs and who had assumed that the Mubarak family was another political franchise. They expected stability and hoped their lives would continue to improve. But they either misread or simply could not see the many people around them—lots of them young adults with advanced degrees and no jobs—who were ready to demand change and take their demands to the street.

In the midst of the vitriol about healthcare the focus zeroed in on the problems with websites and rollouts, and seemed to ignore or forget the underlying need to address the costs to all

of us when people do not have coverage. Do we refuse to see the problems or simply create crises rather than work to fix them? Babe Ruth used to say, “Every strike brings me closer to the next home run.” Are we moving forward?

Jason Pontin is the Editor in Chief and Publisher of *MIT Technology Review*. That school is revered for its prowess in things technical. On October 24 one year ago, Pontin wrote an article titled, “We Can't Solve Big Problems?”

It's not true that we can't solve big problems through technology; we can. We must. But all these elements must be present: political leaders and the public must care to solve a problem, our institutions must support its solution, it must really be a technological problem, and we must understand it.

Pontin tells the story about the Apollo program. He uses it as a metaphor for the capacity of technology to solve big problems. Pontin concedes that the Apollo program is not reproducible as a model—“This is not 1961: there is no galvanizing historical context akin to the Cold War, no likely politician who can heroize the difficult and dangerous, no body of engineers who yearn for the productive regimentation they had enjoyed in the military, and no popular faith in a science-fictional mythology such as exploring the solar system.” Pontin muses that perhaps “going to the moon was easy...It was only three days away.” But more importantly, he acknowledges that we certainly do not lack for challenges, which he illustrates:

A billion people want electricity, millions are without clean water, the climate is changing, manufacturing is inefficient, traffic snarls cities, education is a luxury, and dementia or cancer will strike almost all of us if we live long enough.

The good news he presents is that there are “indefatigable technologists who refuse to give up trying to solve” the big problems of our time. He created in that article a “special package of stories” to introduce them to us.

Nelson Mandela is likewise indefatigable. “I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter; I have made missteps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can only rest for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not ended.”

And Mandela's persistence reminded me of that long-ago walk so eloquently depicted by Phillips Brooks in “O Little Town of Bethlehem:”

How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given;
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of His heaven.

Such conversations, wrought in humble and selfless commitment, challenge us not to linger with the gifts of freedom and responsibility entrusted to us.

Looking Ahead



Photo by Isadora Wilkenfeld

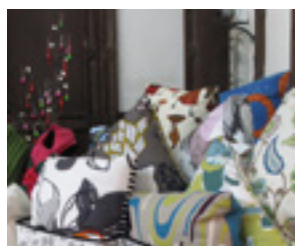


Photo by Isadora Wilkenfeld

December opens with the annual **Cathedral Crafts Fair**, where you can find gifts for anyone on your list who values the beautiful, the handmade and the one of a kind. If you dread the crowds and traffic of holiday shopping, yet don't want to buy everything online, come to the Cathedral where strolling is still a pleasure, where peacocks may greet you as you arrive (or not; they're fickle), and where you can linger after shopping to look at **Mary Bloom's** marvelous photographs of dogs.

If you have never made it to any previous **Winter Solstice Concerts**, let this be the year you experience the joyful celebration of the longest night of the year. In contrast to the Summer Solstice dawn concert, this evening concert is lively, busy, full of sound and color to ward off the cold and the dark. “**Bring Home the Sun**” features the **Paul Winter Consort**, vocalists

Theresa Thomason, Forces of Nature Dance Theatre and special guests to be announced.

The annual **Christmas Concert**, December 14, will take place in the Great Crossing and will feature the combined Cathedral Choirs and Orchestra with soloists. Ottorino Respighi's delightful “Laud to the Nativity” will be the centerpiece of this festive concert, together with Renaissance motets. There will also be traditional Christmas carols, with the audience invited to join in. While you're here, take a look at the **Peace Tree**, decorated by Cathedral School students.

For those of you who don't enjoy fighting the crowds in Times Square, but want to be part of a larger community on the last night of the year, the **New Year's Eve Concert for Peace** is an inspiring choice. Kent Tritle will conduct, joined by Jamet Pittman, soprano and John Moore, baritone in a concert featuring Handel, Haydn, Mozart and the spirituals of Moses Hogan. Cathedral Artist in Residence Judy Collins makes a special appearance. Concertgoers leave with the exquisite music still echoing in their thoughts, feel a little more hopeful about our beautiful and troubled world. **Great Music in Great Space** will present concerts throughout the winter and spring. Check the box on page 7 and the calendar for more details.

It will take some weeks to complete, but by January 30th, Chinese artist **Xu Bing's** amazing 6-ton phoenixes, celebrating the raw power of modern industrial society and its perhaps quixotic desire for immortality, will be hanging in the Cathedral (see article). Come look at these mighty and fearsome birds, guaranteed to be unlike any you have ever seen, in art or nature.



Photo by Isadora Wilkenfeld

Winter events 2013

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Services

8 am Morning Prayer & Holy Eucharist
9 am Holy Eucharist
11 am Choral Eucharist
4 pm Choral Evensong

Daily Services

Monday–Saturday
8 am Morning Prayer
8:30 am Holy Eucharist (Tuesday & Thursday only)
12:15 pm Holy Eucharist
5 pm Evening Prayer

TICKETS AND RESERVATIONS

Unless otherwise noted events do not require tickets or reservations. Tickets for all performances other than free or “suggested contribution” events may be purchased directly from the Cathedral’s website, stjohndivine.org, or by calling (866) 811-4111.

Your contributions make it possible for the Cathedral to offer the many programs listed below. Please fill out the enclosed envelope.

Please visit the Cathedral’s website, stjohndivine.org or call the Visitor Center (212) 316-7540 for updates and additional event and tour information.

Don’t forget to become a fan of the Cathedral on Facebook, where previews of events are listed and the adventures of resident peacocks Phil, Jim, and Harry can be followed in detail!

ONGOING PROGRAMS, TOURS, WORKSHOPS

The Great Organ: Midday Monday

Cathedral organists provide a 30-minute break for mind, body and spirit at 1:00 pm with an entertaining and informative demonstration of the Cathedral’s unparalleled Great Organ.

The Great Organ: It’s Sunday

The Great Organ: It’s Sunday invites established and emerging organists from across the U.S. and around the world to take their turn at the Great Organ and present a free 5:15 pm concert.

PUBLIC EDUCATION & VISITOR SERVICES TOURS AND CHILDREN’S WORKSHOP

Public Education & Visitor Services offers Cathedral Highlights, Vertical, and Spotlight Tours. All tours meet for registration at the Visitor Center inside the Cathedral entrance, at 112th Street and Amsterdam Avenue. Highlights Tours: \$6 per person, \$5 per student/senior. Vertical Tours: \$15 per person, \$12 per student/senior. Spotlight Tours: \$10 per person, \$8 per student/senior.

Highlights Tours

Mondays, 11 am–Noon & 2–3 pm; Tuesdays–Saturdays, 11 am–Noon & 1 pm–2 pm; Select Sundays 1 pm–2 pm
Explore the many highlights of the Cathedral’s history, architecture, and artwork, from the Great Bronze Doors to the seven Chapels of the Tongues. Learn about the Cathedral’s services, events, and programs that welcome and inspire visitors from around the world. \$6 per person, \$5 per student/senior. No prior reservation necessary. Meet at Visitor Center.

Vertical Tours

Wednesdays, Noon–1 pm; Fridays, Noon–1 pm; Saturdays, Noon–1 pm & 2 pm–3 pm
On this adventurous, “behind-the-scenes” tour, climb more than 124 feet through spiral staircases to the top of the world’s largest cathedral. Learn stories through stained glass windows and sculpture and study the grand architecture of the Cathedral while standing on a buttress. The tour culminates on the roof with a wonderful view of Manhattan. \$15 per person, \$12 per student/senior. Space is limited to 20 people 12 years of age and older, and reservations are recommended. For reservations, visit the Cathedral website or call (866) 811-4111. Bring a flashlight. Meet at Visitor Center.

Textile Treasures

Fridays, December 13, January 17, and February 28, 2 pm–4 pm
Explore the Cathedral’s magnificent art collection with a special focus on textiles! This unique opportunity includes a behind-the-scenes visit to the Cathedral’s world-renowned Textile Conservation Lab, which conserves tapestries, needlepoint, upholstery, costumes, and other textiles. Particular attention will be paid to the Barberini collection of the Life of Christ tapestries, given before there was even a cathedral to display them in, and the Acts of the Apostles tapestries, based on cartoons by Raphael. \$20 per person, \$15 per student/senior.

Space is limited to 20 people 12 years of age and older. For a schedule of tours and reservations, visit the Cathedral’s website or call (866) 811-4111. Meet at Visitor Center.

Medieval Birthday Parties

Saturdays & Sundays, by availability

Celebrate your child’s birthday with a two-hour party in the Medieval Arts Workshop, where children sculpt gargoyles, weave, make brass rubbings, carve a block of limestone, and much more! For children ages 5 & up. Call the Public Education & Visitor Services Department at (212) 932-7347 for more information and reservations.

NIGHTWATCH

The Nightwatch program has been updated and expanded with three exciting and innovative offerings: Nightwatch Crossroads, Knightwatch Medieval and Nightwatch Dusk & Dawn. For more information visit stjohndivine.org or contact: (212) 316-5819 / nightwatch@stjohndivine.org.

ADULTS AND CHILDREN IN TRUST (A.C.T.)

To learn about the many nurturing year-round programs for young people offered by A.C.T., please call (212) 316-7530 or visit www.actprograms.org.

ACT Day Camps

ACT offers kids and families new friends and a place to enjoy their days away from school and home. Join us for a fascinating and fun time at a variety of day camps! Registration is on a first-come first-served basis. Enrollment is limited.

Children’s Quest Fund

Help us to invite children from many countries, religions and economic levels under the shadow of the beloved Cathedral. While any amount will help, \$1,000 enables a child from a low-income family to participate in a premiere summer camp experience. Please send donations to the Cathedral, designated “A.C.T.’s Children’s Quest Fund.”

Divine Children’s Party Packages

Easy for parents, great fun for children. Proceeds support A.C.T. Children’s Fund. Reserve party dates now. Speak to a party manager for details (212) 316-7530.

CATHEDRAL COMMUNITY CARES (CCC)

All programs meet in the CCC office, the Sunday Soup Kitchen or the Cathedral A.C.T. gym unless otherwise specified. Please visit stjohndivine.org for more information on CCC programs.

Nutrition, Health and Clothing Center

The Center hosts monthly HIV testing (in partnership with Care for the Homeless), as well as blood pressure, heart health, diabetes, and other screenings throughout the course of the year. Please visit our website for upcoming screening dates. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Acting Director, (212) 316-7581.

Clothing Closet

Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10am–1pm
Contact: Lauren Phillips, Acting Director, (212) 316-7581

Sunday Soup Kitchen

Every Sunday in the A.C.T. gym. Breakfast, 10 am; Lunch, 12:30 pm
Contact: Thomas Perry, Food Program Manager (212) 316-7579 (T/W/Th after 12 noon)

SNAP/Food Stamps Program

(in partnership with the Human Resources Administration, The Food Bank for New York City, New York City Coalition Against Hunger, and Columbia University-SHOUT) *Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays (by appointment only)*
Pre-screening and, if eligible, help with online applications and recertification is available. Contact: Lauren Phillips, Acting Director, (212) 316-7581.

DECEMBER

SELECTED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Children Crafts at the Cathedral

Friday, December 6–Sunday, December 8
The 18th annual Cathedral craft fair presents exquisite, one-of-a-kind offerings from a wide array of far-flung artisans. For hours and more information, visit craftsatthecathedral.com.

Bishop Suffragan Convention

Saturday, December 7, beginning at 8:30 am
Visit suffragan.episcopalny.org for information on the election of a bishop. Access to the Cathedral will be limited until the convention adjourns (around 4 pm).

Nightwatch Dusk and Dawn

Friday, December 13, 7 pm
Nightwatch Dusk and Dawn is designed for adults seeking time away from their busy lives for soul renewal and spiritual direction. This Friday evening of meditation, reflection and chanting will be led by The Reverend Canon Patti Welch and Ambika Cooper. Tickets are \$15. To register, visit stjohndivine.org.

I Love New York: Spotlight on the City

Saturday, December 14, 10 am–11:30 am
Celebrate New York City and its indomitable spirit with a special tour of the Cathedral. Learn how the Cathedral and City serve as places of diversity, tolerance, and human achievement. Hear stories of New York’s immigrants, inventors, and artists who have helped shape the City and the world. Visit the Firefighter’s Memorial and see New York City’s skyline in sculpture. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko.

Medieval Arts Children’s Workshop

Saturday, December 14, 10 am–Noon
In this signature workshop, children carve a block of limestone, create medieval illuminated letters, design gargoyles, weave, and more! Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$6 per child, with accompanying adult. Meet at Visitor Center.

Cathedral Christmas Concert

Saturday, December 14, 7 pm
Ottotino Respighi’s delightful Laud to the Nativity will be the centerpiece of this festive concert, together with Renaissance motets, and carols with which the audience is invited to join in. Visit stjohndivine.org for tickets and more information.

Early Music New York: A Bohemian Christmas

Sunday, December 15, Sunday, December 22, and Wednesday, December 25 at 2 pm; Wednesday, December 25 at 7:30 PM
Cathedral Artists in Residence Early Music New York and Frederick Renz celebrate another joyous holiday season. Visit earlymusicny.org for tickets and more information.

Paul Winter’s 34th Annual Winter Solstice Celebration

Thursday, December 19 and Friday, December 20, 8pm; Saturday, December 21, 2pm and 7:30pm
Paul Winter’s Winter Solstice Celebration, “Bring Home the Sun,” features the Paul Winter Consort, vocalist Theresa Thomason, Forces of Nature Dance Theatre and special guests to be announced. Gen Adm: \$35 Gen Adm: \$55 Reserved: \$90. Tickets at stjohndivine.org.

Cathedral School Peace Tree Ceremony

Friday, December 20, 11 am
Students of the Cathedral School celebrate the season with song and poetry.

A Season of Lights: A Winter Solstice Workshop

Saturday, December 21, 10 am–Noon
In this special workshop, children and their families brighten up their winter with a reading of Nancy Luenn’s Celebrations of Light, learning about winter festivities from around the world. After exploring the many sources of light in the Cathedral, including stained glass windows, families are then off to the workshop. Activities include rolling beeswax candles; cutting Chinese and Taiwanese paper lanterns; sculpting clay candelabras inspired by Hindu floating lamps, Jewish menorahs, and Kwanzaa kinaras; and more! Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$8 per child, with accompanying adult.

With Angels and Archangels: Spotlight on Angelic Images

Saturday, December 28, 2 pm–3 pm

Discover images of angels in the Cathedral's glass and stone. Learn about the role of angels in the Hebrew, Christian and Islamic scriptures, the angelic hierarchy and how to identify angels by their field marks. The tour concludes with an ascent to the triforium for a birds-eye view of the breathtaking Archangels Window. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek. Binoculars recommended. Participants must be 12 years of age and older for the ascent.

New Year's Eve Concert for Peace

Tuesday, December 31, 7 pm

Founded by Leonard Bernstein in 1984, the annual New Year's Eve Concert for Peace is a signature Cathedral event, gathering old friends and new for over a quarter of a century. The music, the candles, and the spirit of peace send audiences out into the chill January night feeling connected, uplifted, and ready to communicate and uphold that spirit. Tickets available at stjohndivine.org.

CELEBRATING THE SEASON: SERVICES Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

Tuesday, December 24, 4 pm

Christmas Eve Festal Eucharist of Christmas

Tuesday, December 24, 10:30 pm with 10 pm Prelude

Christmas Day Choral Eucharist

Wednesday, December 25, 10:30 am (only service of the day)

New Year's Eve Watchnight Service

Tuesday, December 31, 11 pm

New Year's Day Eucharist

Wednesday, January 1, 10:30 am (only service of the day)

Medieval Arts Children's Workshop

Saturday, January 11, 10 am–Noon

In this signature workshop, children carve a block of limestone, create medieval illuminated letters, design gargoyles, weave, and more! Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$6 per child, with accompanying adult. Meet at Visitor Center.

Unfinished Symphony: Spotlight on Architecture

Saturday, January 11, 2 pm–3 pm

Learn about the architectural styles within the Cathedral, how it was constructed, who designed it, where it stands within American architectural history, what keeps it standing up, and why it's still not finished. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek.

Cathedral School Kwanzaa Celebration

Friday, January 17, 9 am

Visit cathedralnyc.org for information.

Within the Walls: Exploring Hidden Spaces

Saturday, January 18, 10 am–11:30 am

Please see description for January 4. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko.

Signs and Symbols: Spotlight on Symbolism

Sunday, January 19, 1 pm–2:30 pm

Please see description for January 5. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Becca Earley.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, January 24, 6 pm

Please see description for January 10.

With Angels and Archangels: Spotlight on Angelic Images

Saturday, January 25, 2 pm–3 pm

Please see description for December 28. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek.

Phoenix Rising: Xu Bing at the Cathedral

Thursday, January 30–Saturday, February 1

Xu Bing's monumental phoenix sculptures, complex symbols of Chinese and international legend, will be on view through 2014.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Interspiritual

Friday, February 7, 6 pm

This Friday evening and overnight experience for high-schoolers and their chaperones explores practices and beliefs from many spiritual traditions. Visit stjohndivine.org for more information and to register.

Absalom Jones Festival Eucharist

Saturday, February 8, 10:30 am

The entire Diocese of New York is invited to gather for a Festival Eucharist at 10:30 am commemorating the life and witness of Absalom Jones, the first African American ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church.

Signs and Symbols: Spotlight on Symbolism

Sunday, February 9, 1 pm–2:30 pm

Please see description for January 5. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Becca Earley.

Great Music in a Great Space: Ornament of the World

Wednesday, February 19, 7 and 9 pm

Continuing the exploration of music from around the world, The Cathedral Choir and Rose of the Compass, an instrumental ensemble featuring recorder virtuoso Nina Stern, present music from the Spanish Renaissance. Stern and Rose of the Compass have been described by *The New York Times* as having "...impeccable early and world-music credentials." This concert will be performed in one of the Cathedral's seven Chapels of the Tongues: the Chapel of Saint James, patron of Spain.

Medieval 2.0: Spotlight on Traditions Transformed

Saturday, February 22, 10 am–11:30 am

What does New York's Cathedral of St. John the Divine share with the great medieval cathedrals of Europe? How does it depart from that tradition? Join Senior Cathedral Guide John Simko for a tour of architecture and stained glass that focuses on St. John's unique blend of modern New York and medieval Europe.

Unfinished Symphony: Spotlight on Architecture

Saturday, February 22, 2 pm–3 pm

Please see description for January 11. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Sunday, February 23, 1 pm–3 pm

Please see description for January 4. Led by Cathedral Guide Bill Schneberger.

Medieval Arts Children's Workshop

Saturday, February 22, 10 am–Noon

In this signature workshop, children carve a block of limestone, create medieval illuminated letters, design gargoyles, weave, and more! Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$6 per child, with accompanying adult. Meet at Visitor Center.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, February 28, 6 pm

Please see description for January 10.

JANUARY

SELECTED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Camels and Kings: A Gift Giving Workshop

Saturday, January 4, 10 am–Noon

Children and their families gather to explore the story surrounding the famous journey of the three wise men, celebrated around the world. The two-hour workshop begins with a story and then children make gift boxes, costumes and sparkling crowns. Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$8 per child, with accompanying adult.

Within the Walls: Exploring Hidden Spaces

Saturday, January 4, 10:30 am–Noon

This extended tour features "behind-the-scenes" climbs in both the eastern and western ends of St. John the Divine. In the East, descend into the unfinished crypt and then ascend Rafael Guastavino's beautiful spiral staircase to incredible views high above the altar. The western climb presents an amazing view down the entire length of the world's largest cathedral. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Tom Fedorek. \$20 per person, \$15 per student/senior. All participants must be 12 years of age and older and reservations are recommended.

The Cathedral in Context: Spotlight on Morningside Heights

Saturday, January 4, 2 pm–4 pm

The Cathedral spurred the growth of Morningside Heights into becoming one of Manhattan's most unique neighborhoods. Go back in time on an illustrated walking tour of the neighborhood and its historic architecture and institutions, and learn about its development into the "Acropolis of Manhattan." The tour begins at the Cathedral and ends at Riverside Church. Led by Cathedral Guide Bill Schneberger. \$15 per adult, \$12 per student/senior. All participants must be 12 years of age or older and reservations are recommended. This tour requires extensive outdoor walking and use of stairs.

Signs and Symbols: Spotlight on Symbolism

Sunday, January 5, 1 pm–2:30 pm

Explore the signs and symbols in the Cathedral and discover the unique attributes that characterize saints. Learn what role animals and Greek letters play in the iconography of the paintings, glass and stone, and how these legends have inspired artists through the centuries. Led by Senior Cathedral Guide Becca Earley.

Nightwatch Crossroads: Christian

Friday, January 10, 6 pm

This Friday evening and overnight experience for high schoolers and their chaperones explores Christian faith traditions. Visit stjohndivine.org for more information and to register.

FEBRUARY

SELECTED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Weaving Stories: A Textile Workshop

Saturday, February 1, 10 am–Noon

Exploring the Cathedral's tapestries and the stories they tell, children will learn about the Medieval craft of weaving. Families will then weave on looms they have crafted from cardboard and paper before taking home their own textile creations. Recommended for ages 4 and up. \$8 per child, with accompanying adult. Meet at Visitor Center.



Photo: Cathedral Archives

American Poets Corner: William Carlos Williams



Photo by Tenzin Dharlo

The Approach of Winter

The half-stripped trees
struck by a wind together,
bending all,
the leaves flutter drily
and refuse to let go
or driven like hail
stream bitterly out to one side
and fall
where the salvias, hard carmine,—
like no leaf that ever was
—edge the bare garden

Winter Trees

All the complicated details
of the attiring and
the disattiring are completed!
A liquid moon
moves gently among the long branches.
Thus having prepared their beds
against a sure winter
the wise trees
stand sleeping in the cold.

William Carlos Williams (1883–1963) was inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1992.

William Carlos Williams was born in Rutherford, New Jersey. He began writing poetry as a teenager, and decided then to become both a writer and a doctor. He received his MD from the University of Pennsylvania, and throughout his life practiced both professions. Williams, associated with both the Imagist and the American Modernist Movement in literature, famously described his poetic method in the phrase “No ideas but in things.”

The Cathedral appreciates the generosity of the Drue Heinz Trust and Mrs. Edward T. Chase, whose support ensures that poetry continues to be an important part of arts at the Cathedral.

Dreaming in Stone

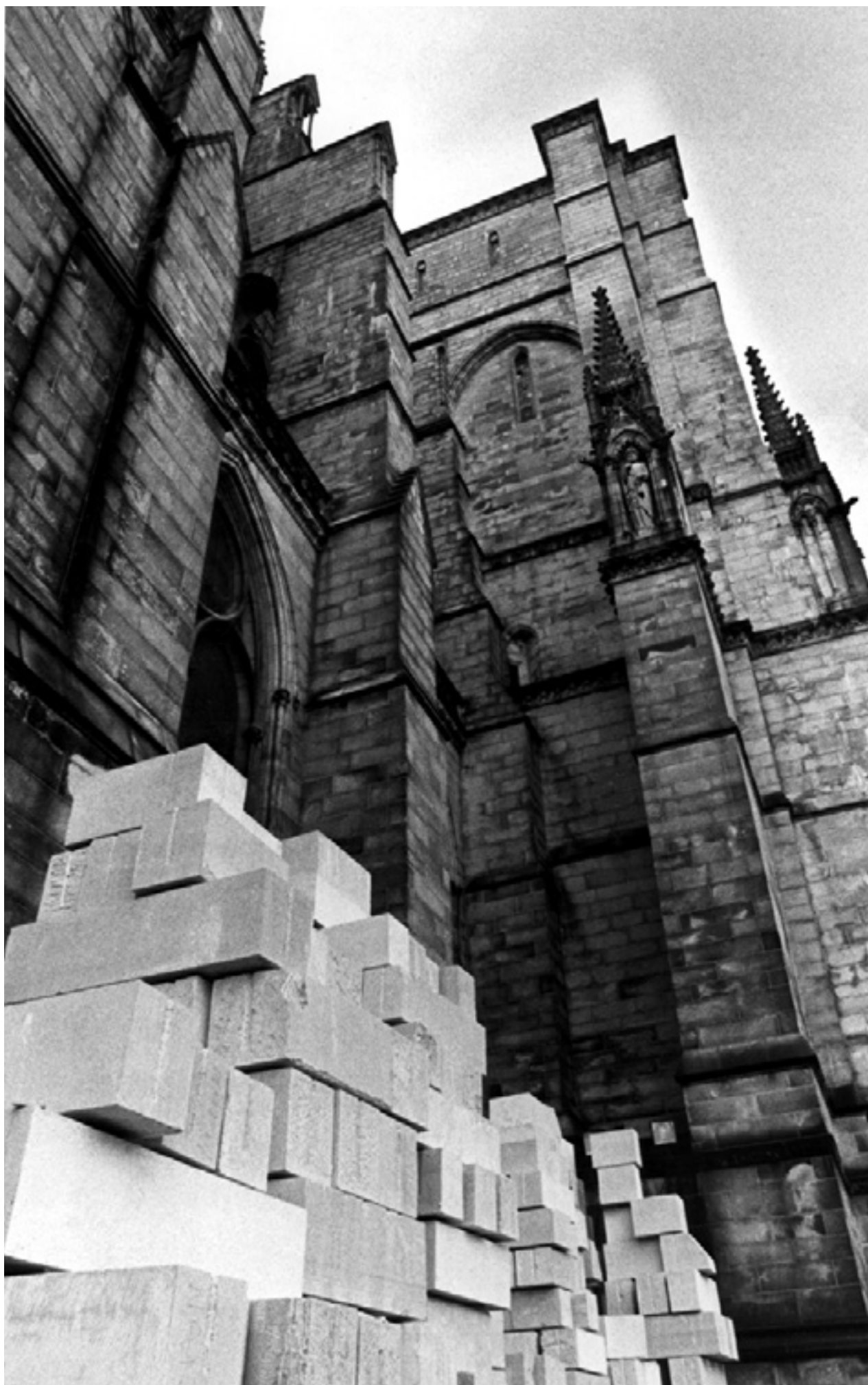


Photo: Cathedral Archives

“I wish that I might be a thinking stone.”

*From “Le Monocle de Mon Oncle” by Wallace Stevens
Inducted into the American Poets Corner in 1989*

One of the Cathedral's great resources is its dedicated band of artists (and poets and photographers) in residence. You see their names in these pages over and over: new projects, new performances, eloquent readings. But some Cathedral artists work more quietly. Chris Pelletieri, graduate of the Cathedral's stone carving apprenticeship, and sculptor of the fountain in the Biblical garden as well as the four 20th century figures on the Cathedral's Historical Parapet, is one of these.

Pelletieri grew up at the Cathedral, attending The Cathedral School for 8 years and singing in the Cathedral choir. He went on to get a math degree from NYU and work in construction before returning to join the apprenticeship program, then in its last years. The program, running from 1978–1994, trained and employed neighborhood youth, propelling many into a career working with stone; added 50 feet to the South Tower; and, with its commercial arm, did stone work for the Jewish Museum, the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian church and Rockefeller Center.

Pelletieri fell under the spell of stone carving and began to look at the familiar Cathedral with new eyes, focusing on the angels, saints and other carved figures that adorn the façade and interior. Twenty years later, Pelletieri is still working on

Cathedral grounds, with inspiration always at hand. He has spent his life as an artisan in stone, a trade that requires dedication and a willingness to accept uncertainty. He uses both of the traditional techniques for stone carving: direct carving of the stone, and the pointing method, where a clay model is made first. Either way, the intimacy of working with stone is paramount. Pelletieri is convinced that if more people were exposed to the deep satisfaction of stone carving, it would be as popular as other handcrafts.

In 2008 and again in 2013, Pelletieri offered stone carving workshops at the Cathedral, organized by the department of Public Education and Visitor Services. Students learned basic techniques and used the tools—hammers, mallets, and chisels—that stone carvers have used for centuries (although the chisels are today made of high grade steel). His enthusiasm and love for his craft created a supportive, communal spirit, and Pelletieri plans to offer more workshops in the future.

Pelletieri has carved a limestone staircase outside a Fifth Avenue mansion, fireplaces and mantel reliefs, fountains and cemetery ornaments, including one for The Right Reverend Paul Moore (Bishop of New York, 1972–1989).

Threads of Silver and Gold



Photo: Textile Conservation Lab

On a recent afternoon, staff at the Textile Conservation Lab were working on a Chinese rug, a Brussels tapestry, an 18th-century Japanese temple wall hanging, and Chinese civil service rank badges, circa late 19th century. The last two items come from the Staten Island Museum, which is moving into a larger building in Snug Harbor and is taking the opportunity to have many objects that were in storage cleaned and repaired for their inaugural exhibit *Treasure Box of World Art* in fall 2014.

“This is an exceptionally beautiful piece,” said Textile Conservation Lab Director Marlene Eidelheit, referring to the temple hanging with its central image of a 20-armed Kannon Bodhisattva, a goddess of mercy in Japanese Buddhism. “It’s made of many different silks, with metal-wrapped thread used throughout.” The damaged area—a mass of threads hanging loose—needs to be aligned and, strand by strand, sewn down to a support fabric on the back.

The rank badges are 12-inch square colorful textiles that were sewn on the back and front of official robes, so that neither coming nor going would anyone mistake the relative importance of another official (or his wife, who was also allowed to wear the badges). The central image on each badge is a wild goose and paradise flycatcher, with other traditional symbolic images, such as peonies, bats and peaches, surrounding it.

The tapestry is one of a 16th century series portraying the life of Scipio Africanus (236–183 B.C.E.), the great Roman general

who defeated Hannibal in the Second Punic War. The tapestry belongs to the Doris Duke Mansion, Rough Point, in Newport, R.I. TCL conservator, Ligia Fernandez, who has worked on the other tapestries in the series, cleaned and treated the tapestry, adding fiber where the silk had deteriorated, as well as a new green border.

The blue and gold Chinese rug, an impressive 27’ by 16’, was probably woven for a palace in the late 1700s. It came to the Lab needing cleaning, new pile, and repair of a large hole (about 14” square) the result of a pot left on the rug. The damp eventually rotted the fibers.

“It took Ania Szalecki, TCL conservator, nearly two years to finish,” said Marlene. “Ania did a remarkable job!”

At time of writing, the Lab was preparing for its autumn Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) class in carpet structure with Valerie Soll, TCL conservator. Every year, the Lab participates in a hands-on course for second year textile conservation graduate students, teaching dye-to-match techniques and tapestry conservation. The students have five class sessions at the Lab, and also work with conservators at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. “Many of our interns have come out of the program,” said Marlene. “We’ve had some gifted interns.”

For I was Hungry and You Gave Me Food: The Hunger Clock



Photo by Isadora Wilkenfeld

On October 1, the government shut down, causing inconvenience—and worse—to many. That was also the day that the Cathedral and many other organizations around the country displayed the Hunger Clock, a video installation similar to the national debt clock on view at Times Square. The hunger clock counted down the minutes to November 1, the day when, at press time, proposed cuts in SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, or food stamps), hurting 48 million Americans, were scheduled to go into effect.

Globally, over 8 million people die of hunger every year. Many more suffer malnourishment and food insecurity. In New York, nearly one in four families with children report days in the last year when they couldn’t afford food. Cathedral Community Cares serves over 200,000 meals a year, and demand keeps rising. The Cathedral urges you to join us and our partners in the struggle for a just and compassionate food policy.

While the Hunger Clock was displayed on the wall of the Chapel of St. James, Dean Kowalski was joined by New York City Coalition Against Hunger Executive Director Joel Berg, Catholic Charities’ Executive Director Monsignor Kevin Sullivan, State Senator Gustavo Rivera, Pastor Heidi Neumark from Trinity Lutheran Church, Pastor Alistair Drummond from West End Presbyterian Church, Xavier Mission’s Executive Director Cassandra L. Agredo, and City Harvest’s Kate MacKenzie for a press conference discussing the issue of food stamps, food in New York City, and our responsibilities for our communities.

The Cathedral Invites You to Take A Pause to Consider Climate Change

“I don’t think there is anything as powerful as an active heart. And the activists I know possess this powerful beating heart of change. They do not fear the wisdom of emotion, but embody it. They know how to listen. They are polite when they need to be and unyielding when necessary. They remain open, even as they push boundaries and inhabit the margins, understanding eventually, the margins will move toward the center. They are tenacious, informed, patient, and impatient, at once. They do not shy away from what is difficult. They refuse to accept the unacceptable. The most effective activists I know are in love with the world.”

Terry Tempest Williams

Writer and activist Terry Tempest Williams contributed to the 2011 *Value of Water* exhibition and has visited the Cathedral many times.

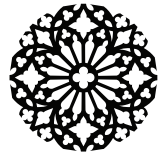
Great Music in a Great Space

This September, Cathedral Trustee Martha Wolfgang and husband Peter Hutchings hosted a small group of generous Cathedral contributors and Friends of Music donors with an intimate musicale in their home to kick-off the 2013–14 Great Music in a Great Space series. Kent Trittle, Director of Cathedral Music (harpsichord), Jorge Avila (violin), Arthur Fiacco (cello) and Jamet Pittman (soprano) performed works by Bach, Handel, Vivaldi and Gliere.

Now the holidays are upon us, and, the Cathedral choir and orchestra are preparing for the upcoming holiday concerts, and finalizing details for winter and spring concerts. Kent Trittle, the Cathedral’s Director of Music, has recently been investigating the many acoustical opportunities the Cathedral has to offer. From the haunting sound of a *capella* singers against the backdrop of the Rose Windows to intimate concerts in the Chapels of the Tongues, the interchange between architecture and music has never been livelier. The next concert that takes advantage of this wealth of space is *Ornament of the World*, on February 19, at 7 and 9 pm. The Cathedral Choir and Rose of the Compass, an instrumental ensemble featuring recorder virtuoso Nina Stern, will present music from the Spanish Renaissance. This concert will be performed in the Chapel of Saint James, the patron saint of Spain.



Photo by Helena Kubicka de Braganca



The Cathedral
Church of **Saint John**
the **Divine**

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Gifts from Cathedral friends and supporters allow the Cathedral to plan for the future. Please take the time to fill out the contribution envelope in the pages of the newsletter. Your generosity is needed and is always appreciated.

The Spirit of the Season



Photo: Cathedral Archives

The holidays remind us to be grateful for all that we have been given, from the strength to do our jobs and follow our dreams to the Earth that sustains us. It's a time for celebration with family and friends—a time to look at children's faces and remember that pure expectancy and wonder.

It's also important to remember those who don't have enough food, clothing, social services, afterschool activities, cultural outings, or companionship. The Cathedral works year round to enrich the lives of both the haves and the have-nots: clergy, staff, volunteers and the many artists and activists who speak or perform at the Cathedral are all part of our embrace of the larger community. It's a challenge, especially in difficult economic times. When this issue went to press, Congress had proposed cuts of 4 billion dollars from the SNAP program (food stamps), which directly affects the Morningside Heights neighborhood. Unemployment among vulnerable



Liturgical volunteers Linda Lees, Lisa Chin, and Lorraine Simmons at St. Francis Day. Photo: Cathedral Archives

populations is high. Everyone works harder just to pay the rent than was necessary a generation ago—and this affects the time available for volunteering, making art, social action and much else. Another challenge is the maintenance and repair of this architectural landmark.

Many of you concentrate your charitable contributions at the end of the year. Please take a moment to think about Cathedral Community Cares (CCC) Soup Kitchen and Clothing Closet, which also offers social and medical services; Adults and Children in Trust (ACT) with its myriad of summer, pre-school and after-school programs; Friends of Music, which supports the Cathedral choral and organ concerts; the American Poets Corner, celebrating the best in our nation's literature; the Textile Conservation Lab, conserving precious textiles, including Cathedral tapestries damaged in the 2001 fire; and our beautiful gardens, managed by the

Cathedral Gardens Conservancy. Join us in supporting the Cathedral's Annual Fund and make a gift by December 31! An envelope is enclosed for your convenience. For further information, please contact the Development Department at (212) 316-7488 or support@stjohndivine.org.

Of course, there are many ways to give that go beyond money. New and unused children's toys may be donated to CCC to make the holidays a little brighter for kids in need. Please make your contribution by December 15; contact Lauren Phillips, Acting Program Manager, at (212) 316-7581 or lphillips@stjohndivine.org with any questions. The Cathedral also always needs volunteers, for assistance with the liturgy, pitching in at ACT, CCC and The Cathedral School, leading guided visits and working in the garden. Whatever your interests and skills, there is room and a warm welcome for you here. Also consider joining the Society of Regents, an association of men and women who provide annual unrestricted leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more to support the preservation and maintenance of the Cathedral architecture, as well as its educational, outreach and artistic programs. Members of the Society of Regents are invited to special events throughout the year.

Winter 2013-14 at the Cathedral

Close Friends

Kalie Kamara, who interned at the Cathedral for three summers, is now working with CCC as Interim Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator. It's a pleasure to have Kalie back.

John McKay joined us as Capital Projects Manager, expanding his important role at the Cathedral.

Stephanie Weichsel is our new intern at CCC. Stephanie has an MBA from Columbia Business School, a BA from the United States Naval Academy, and served five years as an officer in the Marines. She will be analyzing CCC from a business perspective and will be an enormous help.

Please Be In Touch

We welcome your suggestions and comments on the newsletter. Please write us at editor@stjohndivine.org.

Society of Regents

Regents gathered at The University Club on October 22 for the first in the series of 2013-14 Midtown Luncheons hosted by Dean Kowalski. Featured guest Howard Rubenstein, celebrating the 60th anniversary of his eponymous public relations firm, discussed the challenges, successes and ethical questions surrounding the representation of public figures. The Midtown Luncheons, extended as a benefit to Regents members at the \$2,500 level and above, focus on topics across all faiths, cultures and ideologies and engage a diverse range of leaders in New York City in lively conversation. For more information on joining the Society of Regents and the benefits of membership at the \$1000 level or above, please contact the Development Department at (212) 316-7488 or support@stjohndivine.org.