

ROUTES

A Weekly Guide to African-American Culture

November 18-24, 1991

• (212) 627-5241 •

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**LISTINGS INSIDE: ART • CABARETS • CONCERTS • THEATER
RESTAURANTS • FREE-FOR-ALL**

CELLI, DOING BUSINESS THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY

My favorite place to shop was Bloomingdale's, until I found Celli's Grab Bag, a gifts boutique in Mall Number 2 at Rochdale Village, a co-operative housing complex in Jamaica, Queens. True, the jeweled bags, jewelry boxes, scarfs and hats in the window caught my eye. But once inside, it was the warm and soft-spoken Mrs. Celestine Smelley, affectionately known as Celli, who won me over.

"I've always been a lover of people," Celli says, trying to explain herself. "Being very sensitive to everyone's feelings, not wanting mine to be hurt, I developed a great deal of patience. My mother used to say that I had the patience of Job, which made me move kind of slow, but that's part of my charm."

Celli greets all of her customers with a smile and a friendly "May I help you?" If they wish, she patiently assists them in making choices. Using her acquired knowledge of fashion from Needle Trades High School and keeping abreast of fashion trends, she makes suggestions about what looks good with what. "I always give an honest opinion," she says, "even if it means losing a sale."

One day, this year, I had planned to purchase a necklace and a bracelet to complement a black velvet jump suit, spangled with jewels. Celli looked at the jump suit and said "I would love to sell you something, but you don't need anything to wear with



this except expressive earrings." I was surprised by her reply but, after considering her advice, I agreed with it. What is more, I was pleasantly surprised at her for not trying to *just make the sale*. These are the reasons why, she boasts, "all my customers have become my friends." Another is her willingness to become involved in community service. In the recent Co-Op election Celli and five fellow candidates won seats on the Board of Directors. Celli received the most votes.

As for the boutique, it's a treasure trove of colorful silk scarves, jewelry—baubles and beads, shiny gold chains, sparkling crystals, arty brass necklaces, and black cameo pins. There are sassy hats and bad boy caps; chic pocketbooks, soft leather bags and jeweled evening clutches. Two new hot items have just arrived. One is a gold epaulet dripping with gold and silver beads, that is worn over one shoulder. The other is a jeweled cape that can also be worn as a shawl, or as a peplum on a dress or suit. Inspirational gifts, such as the book *I Dream A World*, by Brian Lanker and children's poems on education, how to earn money and prayer are displayed. Prices are reasonable.

Celli started her business 18 years ago, after her husband died leaving her to raise their two year old son, Evan, who is now 22 years old and a member of the New York City police force. "I never dreamed of having a business," says Celli, who previously worked as a sales representative at AT & T. "But a friend encouraged me to join her in this venture, and after she left, I took up the challenge of developing the business myself. In so doing, I learned that God wanted me to be here. So now I feel that this is His business. He has entrusted it to me and I am not going to let Him down." According to her, "He has never let me down."

Being sensitive, Celli never fails to be concerned about the spirit of her customers. "Sometimes patrons come through that door with a heavy heart," she says, adding "sometimes I have a heavy heart." For these reasons she sometimes plays inspirational music in the store, music like *Amazing Grace* sung by Aretha Franklin. At times, she helps youngsters shopping for Christmas. "You can tell they have saved up all year for this," she says smiling. "They come in with the pennies, just like they saved them. So I wrap their gifts especially nice for them. They get special attention." But then again, everybody gets special attention from Celli—that's her old-fashioned charm.

Business hours: Tuesday-Saturday, 10 am-6 pm. Telephone (718) 723 1200.

—Estelle Whiting

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CLUBS AND CABARETS

- **Sumi Tonooka Quartet**
Nov 18
- **Lois Bonilla & Mike Crain Quartet**
Nov 19
- **John Hicks Trio**
Nov 20 & 21
- **Shirley Scott Trio**
Nov 22 & 23
- Birdland** • 2745 Broadway
/105th St • 749-2228

The Zawinul Syndicate
Nov 19-24
The Blue Note
131 W. 3rd St • 475-8592

Sonny Rollins
Nov 22 & 23
The Bottom Line
15 W. 4th St
228-6300

Larry Willis
Al Harewood
Paul West
Nov 18-23
Bradley's • 70 University
Pl/11th St • 228-6440

Bobby Short
Through Dec 31
Cafe Carlyle
Madison Ave/76th St
744-1600

• **The Buster Benton Blues Band**
Nov 18 & 19

• **J.W. Williams & the ChiTown Hustlers**
Nov 20 & 21

• **The Houserockers—Brewer Phillips & Ted Harvey**
Nov 22 & 23

Chicago B.L.U.E.S.
73 Eighth Ave/13th St
255-7373

• **Von Freeman Quartet**
Nov 19-24

• **Clifford Jordan Big Band**
Mondays
Condon's
117 E. 15th St • 254-0960

Astrud Gilberto
Nov 19-24
Fat Tuesdays • 190 Third
Ave/17th St • 533-7902

Steve Kuhn, piano
David Finck, bass
Nov 20-23
Knickerbocker Bar & Grill
33 University Place
228-8490

• **Phil Haynes' 4 Horns & What?**
Nov 21, 9 pm

• **Roy Nathanson Quartet**
Nov 24, 9 pm
Knitting Factory • 47 East
Houston • 307-7171

Jazz Cabaret
Nov 24, 5-9 pm
Larry Ridley, bass
Virgil Jones, trumpet
Larry McClellan, trombone
Adam Cruz, drums
Donald Smith, piano
Patience Higgins, sax
Jann Parker, vocalist
Marc Ballroom • 27 Union
Square • 234-8869

• **Ohio Players**
Nov 19

• **Defunkt**
Nov 20
S.O.B.s • 204 Varick St
(Houston St) • 243-4940

• **Tommy Flanagan Trio**
Nov 19-24

• **Eddie Chamblee Quartet**
Saturdays, 2-6 pm

• **Doc Cheatham**
Sundays, 3-7 pm
Sweet Basil • 8 Seventh
Ave/Bleecker • 242-1785

Bobby Blue Bland
Nov 22 & 23
Sweetwaters • 170
Amsterdam Ave/68th St •
873-4100

Mingus Big Band
Nov 20
Time Cafe • 380 Lafayette
St • 533-7700

Tito Puente
Nov 18
Village Gate • Bleecker/
Thompson Sts • 475-5120

Kenny Barron Quartet
Nov 19-24
Village Vanguard • 178 7th
Ave South • 255-4037

• **Rick Margitza Quartet**
Nov 19

• **Santi Debriano Group**
Nov 20 & 21

• **Greg Osby Sound Theater**
Nov 22, 23 & 24
Visiones • 125 MacDougal
St • 673-5576

Gloria DeNard & Trio
special guest **Sylvia Barnes**
Nov 21, 7 & 9 pm
Waterside Plaza E. 25th St
& FDR Drive • 722-5190 or
684-6885

Kirk Lightsey
Santi Debriano
Nov 18-23
Zinno • 126 W. 13th St •
924-5182

• Brooklyn •

Dave Gordon Quartet
featuring **Zane Massey, sax**
Nov 29
The New Brown Sugar •
433 Marcus Garvey Blvd •
453-5759

• Queens •

Papo Vazquez Sextet
Nov 22, 8 & 9:30 pm
Jamaica Arts Center Jazz Club • 161-04 Jamaica Ave
• (718) 658-7400

• New Jersey •

Ann Marie Moss
Nov 22 & 23
Trumpets • 6 Depot Square
Montclair • (201) 746-6100

CONCERTS

Tito Puente
Dave Valentin
Millie 'P'
Milira
Jay Hoggard Quintet
Nov 24
Apollo Theatre
253 W. 125th St • 864-0372

George Shearing
Dorothy Donegan
Dick Hyman
Lionel Hampton
Nov 21, 7:30 pm
Town Hall • 123 W. 43rd
St • 840-2824

RESTAURANTS

B. Smith's
Southern & American cuisines
Trendy
771 Eighth Ave • 247-2222

Copeland's
Southern cuisine
A Harlem institution
547 W. 145th St • 234-2457

Caribe
Jamaican cuisine
Pleasant and informal,
cash only.
117 Perry St/ Greenwich St
255-9191

Honeysuckle
Southern cuisine
Trendy
507 Columbus Ave
496-8095

Jamaican "Hot Pot"
Small restaurant of 7-8
tables inside and 3
outside—but has a large
reputation for good food at
bargain prices.
2260 Adam Clayton
Powell, Jr., Blvd/133rd St
491-5270

Vernon's Jerk Paradise
Jamaican cuisine
Jerk preparation of meats.
252 W. 29th St • 268-7020
*Reviewed in 7/29/91 issue.

Jezebel
Southern/American cuisine
Scarfs, swings and
sophistication.
630 Ninth Ave/45th St
582-1045

La Famille Restaurant
Southern cuisine
Roomy and informal
2017 5th Ave/ 125th St
534-9909

Livi's Restaurant
Caribbean & Southern cuisine
Informal
29 E. 126th St/ Mad. & 5th
Aves • 831-4931

MoBay
Jamaican & Southern cuisines
248 W. 14th St(Bet. 7th &
8th Aves) • 255-7735

Pan Pan 5th Avenue
Restaurant/Cafe
Southern cuisine
Informal
1325 5th Ave/110th &
111th Sts • 996-1212. •
Reviewed in 10/20/91
issue.

Perk's Fine Cuisine
Fine cuisine
Elegant & trendy
Dancing Wed- Sat, 11 pm.
553 Manhattan Ave/123rd
St • 666-8500 • Reviewed
in 9/8/91 issue.

The Shark Bar
Southern cuisine
307 Amsterdam Ave/74th
& 75th Sts • 874-8500

Sylvia's
Southern cuisine
Relaxed and informal
328 Lenox Ave • (126 &
127th Sts) • 996-0660

Third World Cafe
Third World cuisine(*spices
used are from West Africa*)
A very special little cafe.
700 W. 125th St/West
Side Hwy • 749-8199

**Wilson's Restaurant &
Bakery**
Southern Cuisine
A Harlem institution
1980 Amsterdam Ave/
158th St • 923-9821

• Brooklyn •

Keur n' Deye
Senegalese Cuisine
737 Fulton St (S. Elliot St.
& S. Portland Ave
(718) 875-4937

McDonald's Dining Room
Country home cooking
327 Stuyvesant Ave
(718) 574-3728 • Tues-Sun

Greene Avenue Grill
*Grilled American &
Southern cuisine*
13 Greene Ave/Fulton St
(718) 797-2099

• Queens •

La Detente
Continental and Caribbean cuisine
23-04 94th St • East
Elmhurst • (718) 458-2172

Manhattan Proper Cafe
Southern cuisine
217-01 Linden Blvd/
Springfield Blvd
(718) 341-CAFE

• Long Island •

Chez Antoine
French Caribbean cuisine
Elegant
590 Sunrise Highway •
Baldwin • (516) 223-9426

THEATER

**New Faces/New
Voices/New Visions**

Perfect Courage
Nov 15-17

Featuring Bill T. Jones,
Rhodessa Jones and Idris
Ackamoor

The narrative work, which
examines the nature of
love, commitment,
violence and healing.
Aaron Davis Hall at City
College • West 135th St./
Convent Ave. • 650-7100

Distant Fires
Through Dec 1

A drama of racism and
misunderstanding at a
construction site in
Baltimore. *Among the
members of the cast David
Wolos' Fonteno
Giancarlo Esposito
Ray Anthony Thomas*
Atlantic Theatre Company
336 W. 20th St. • 645-8755

Once on This Island
A musical, set in the
Caribbean, about a poor
girl's passion for the son of
a wealthy landowner.
Booth Theatre • W. 45th
St/ Broadway • 239-6200

Billie, Malcolm & Yusuf
Through Dec 29
A musical, drama, Emmy
Straight, fourth-rate comic,
turns up in Heaven to find
Billie Holiday, Malcolm X
and Yusuf Hawkins
trapped in their own
greatness and brings them
"down to earth."
Castillo Cultural Center •
500 Greenwich St • 941-
5800

**From The Mississippi
Delta**
Written by Endesha Ida
Mac Holland, directed

by Jonathan Wilson.
Endesha Ida Mae Holland's
boldly inspirational, gutsy
and often hilarious
autobiographical play. It
follows her life as she
blazes her way from
rebellious young prostitute
to PhD.

Circle-In-The-Square
(Downtown) • 159
Bleecker St • 307-2700

• **Thoughts of A Confused
Black Man**
Fridays & Saturdays, 8
pm

An African's experience
in America

• **Ms. Hazel's House of
Heavenly Rest**
Sundays, 3 pm, through
Nov 24

This original script takes
place in a funeral home
setting and deals entirely
with the confrontations
and emotions of making
"final arrangements." It is
the hilarious antics of the
living relations that keep
the audiences in stitches.

Harlem School of The Arts
• 645 St. Nicholas Ave •
926-4100

• **A Bolt From the Blue**
Through Dec 8

A women marries into the
middle class only to be
confronted by her past
with the return of her ex-
lover.

H.A.D.L.E.Y Players
207 W. 133rd St (7th Ave)
• 368-9314

• **Six Degrees of Separation**
Courtney B. Vance

Set in Manhattan, about a
con artist at an elegant
dinner party.

Vivian Beaumont Theater
Broadway/65th St
239-6200

• **The Good Times are
Killing Me**

A play with music, follows
the comic coming of age of
two girls, one white and
one black, as they explore
the mysteries of adoles-
cence, music, divided
families and racism.

Minetta Lane Theatre
18 Minetta Lane (Bet. 3rd &
Bleecker) • 307-4100

The New York Shakespeare Festival

Pericles

A play about how people
cope individually and
collectively with the loss of
people loved. It examines
cycles of death and birth/
resurrection. *Featured in
the cast: Robert Beatty, Jr.,
Paul Butler & Sandra
McClain*

The Public Theater • 425
Lafayette St • 598-7150

• Brooklyn •

Lotto

Through Jan 26, 1992

The Benson family, a
typical family, convinced,
that winning the lottery
will solve all of their
problems. One day they
actually hit the jackpot for
\$20 million. Lotto is zany
and funny.

The Billie Holiday Theatre
• 1368 Fulton St • (718)
636-0918/9

DANCE

Thuli Dumakude

South African actress &
singer autobiographical
sketch is interwoven in an
evening of music and
dance.

Theater Arielle • 432 West
42nd St • 967-7079

• Brooklyn •

Urban Bush Women

Nov 23, 8 pm
Nov 24, 3 pm

Praise House

Earthy and elemental,
soaring and sophisticated,
Praise House is a seamless
unification of dance,
music, chants and field
hollers, overflowing with
spiritual energy and
bittersweet joy.
Choreographer/director
Jawole Willa Jo Zollar
draws upon African
American cultural tradition
in rural south to create a
full-evening work of
vision, beauty, angels and
other worlds.

Brooklyn Academy of
Music • 30 Lafayette •
(718) 636-4100

ART GALLERIES

Bill Hutson

Through Nov 30

The Cinque Gallery • 560
Broadway/Prince St •
Room 504 • 560-2098

Joe Overstreet

Through Nov 30

Kenkeleba Gallery • 214 E.
2nd Street • 674-3939

African Images, Part II

Nov 19-Dec 8

Robertson African Arts •
36 W. 22nd St, 4th Fl •
675-4045

• Brooklyn •

People and Places

Debra Holland

Through Nov 27

Generations Gallery
966 Fulton St (Bet.
Cambridge Pl & Grand Ave
(718) 638-6910

MUSEUMS & CULTURAL CENTERS

Africa Explores: 20th

Century African Art
Through December '91

Exhibit explores the
continuing vitality of trad-
itional art which coexists
today with a modern art
that is uniquely African.

The Center for African Art
54 E. 68th St (Bet. Mad. &
Lex Aves) 861-1200.

Origin, Design & Pattern

Harlem Textile Works'
Prints & Fabric Designs
Through Nov 29

Countee Cullen Library •
104 W. 136th St •
Mezzanine • 534-3377

Faculty Art Show

Through Dec 7

Lisa Bradley

David Brean

Gregory Christopher

Ada Pilar Cruz

Michele Godwin

Maceo W. Mitchell

Harlem School of The Arts
• 645 St. Nicholas Ave •
926-4100

• **Picturing Africa:**
Photographs of the Zulu,
1870-1900

Through Jan 31
Mezzanine, Michael C.
Rockefeller Wing

19th century albumen
prints by European
colonial photographers of
the Zulu peoples, in what
is now the Republic of
South Africa.

• **New Guinea Bone**
Carvings

Through Dec 1

About 100 examples of
ornaments, tools,
weapons and other small
objects.

• **Barbara Chase-Riboud**

All That Rises Must
Converge, painting

• **Horace Phippen**

Victorian Parlor I,
painting

• **Martin Puryear**

Tango, sculpture

Metropolitan Museum of
Art • Fifth Ave & 82nd St
535-7710

• **Pleasures and Terrors of**
Domestic Comfort

Through Dec 31

The current state of the
American Dream of
domestic happiness is
examined in this photo-
graphy exhibition. Con-
tributing photographers:

Albert Chong
Marilyn Nance
John Pinderhughes
Carrie Mae Weems

The Museum of Modern
Art • 11 W. 53rd St • 708-
9400

• **Interrupted Life**

Through Dec 29

A multi-disciplinary
exhibition examining the
theme of death in the
Western world.

• **James Van Der Zee**
photos are a part of the
exhibition.

The New Museum of
Contemporary Art
583 Broadway/Houston St
219-1222

• **The African Presence in**
the Americas

Through December

• **African-Americans in**
Space Science

Through December

• **Guided tours by**
appointment only

The Schomburg Center for
Research in Black Culture
515 Lenox Ave/ 135th St •
491-2200

• **Africa and the Diaspora:**

Selections from the
Permanent Collection

Through Jun 7, 1992

Includes 95 paintings.
Exhibition examines the
influence of African art
and culture on the art,
artists, and culture of the
Americas and the
Caribbean.

Studio Museum of Harlem
144 W. 125th St • 864-4500

• **Painted Forms: Recent**
Metal Sculpture

Through December

Melvin Edwards

Asafokra (1990)

96x168x120

Whitney Museum at Philip
Morris • The Sculpture
Court • 120 Park Ave
South • 878-2550

• **Bronx •**

• **Juried Doll Exhibit—Faces**
of New York

Through December

Elisa Peres

Bronx Museum of the Arts
• 1040 Grand Concourse
681-6000

FILM

• **A Tribute to Redd Foxx**

Nov 22, 6:30-9:30 pm

• **Blacks in Blue Comedy**

Adult rated rare and live
historic film footage from
performance of Redd Foxx,
LaWanda Page, Skillet &
LeRoy, Wildman Steve,
Rudy Ray Moore, Jack
"Moms" Mabley, Marsha
Warfield, Whoppi

Goldberg, Richard Pryor &
others.

Art Gallery • Adam
Clayton Powell, Jr. State
Office Bldg • 163 W. 125th
St/7th Ave • 873-5040

• **Film and Booze**

Nov 22, 7 pm

• **Finding Christa**

Screenplay by Camille
Billops & James Hatch
In 1962 Camille Billops
put her four year old
daughter up for adoption.
In 1980 they are reunited
and begin to search for
each other.

Department of Cultural
Affairs • 2 Columbus Ave
• 966-3231

FREE FOR ALL

• **African American 1960's**
Literary and Arts
Movement, Lower East
Side

Nov 23, 10 am-5 pm

Nov 24, 2-5 pm

Forum and photo exhibit
of a 1960's cultural
renaissance

Henry Street Settlement
Louis Abrons Art Center
466 Grand Street • 598-
0400

CHILDREN

• **The Story of Oafus by**
Rodz, A Puppet Company

Nov 23, noon & 1:30 pm

The story of Oafus brings
the problem of extinction
into a format where
children can learn about
the state of our animal
kingdom while having a
great time.

The Jamaica Arts Center •
161-04 Jamaica Ave • (718)
658-7400

3 MONTH TRIAL SUBSCRIPTION \$9

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Old Chelsea Station, P.O. BOX 20103
NEW YORK, NY 10011

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____