

Time Out

New York

Thanksgiving weekend!

Parade highlights and hundreds of fun events

Best Black Friday sales

Your guide to big discounts

**The coolest old-school
restaurants**

Five iconic spots to check out this winter

Secrets OF CLASSIC NYC

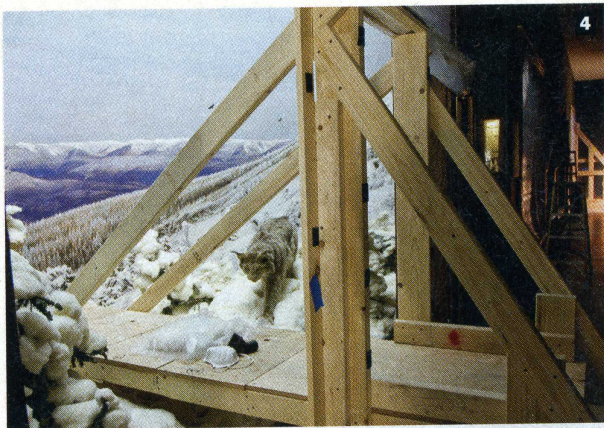
**25 ways to rediscover
the city—even if you've
lived here forever**

NOV. 25 – DEC. 24

THEATER RECREATES THE BELOVED TALE
HOLIDAY CLASSIC FEATURES THE TALENTS
VICTORIA CLARK. IT'S A MUST-SEE EVENT
children under 2. Now open Fridays through
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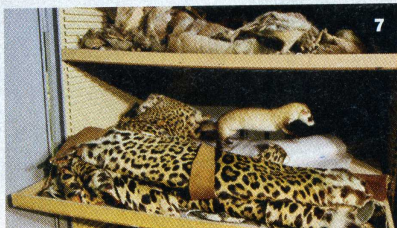
HESS

PLUS! Hidden stores | Marilyn, Freud and Muppets on film



4 Before any work can begin on these fragile exhibits, a sculptor on staff builds cantilevered scaffolding to protect the plants and the soil used in the displays. The grass that fills the grizzly habitat, like much of the foreground material, was retrieved on the same Alaskan expedition as the animals themselves in the late 1930s.

5 Behind a partition that divides the hall in half—only a few feet from roaring tour groups and squealing kids—Quinn and a team of three artists, three conservators and a taxidermist are at work. Here, Julia Sybalsky, a conservation fellow, is repairing the Canadian lynx scene.



6 Since visitors can only see one side of the mountain lion's face, conservators have left the hidden half untouched. "Often we will not treat one side [of an animal] to monitor how the pigment will fade over time," says Quinn.

7 To match the pigments used to color the coats of the display animals, the

museum refers to its collection of scientific specimens (kept in dark storage containers), as well as the depictions painted on the dioramas. For example, check out the museum's black-footed ferret: Until it was revamped earlier this year, its coat and raccoonlike eye mask had been bleached nearly white.



Subway secrets

See a defunct station

The old City Hall stop in lower Manhattan was envisioned as the MTA's most majestic station when it was completed in 1904. It eventually closed because longer chains of subway cars couldn't fit onto its looping track. The New York Transit Museum offers tours to its members, although it's possible to get a gratis peek at the beautiful platform. Simply stay on a downtown 6 train as it makes the loop around Brooklyn Bridge—City Hall to the uptown track, and keep an eye out for the bygone station's vaulted ceilings and Art Nouveau skylights.

Peep underground art

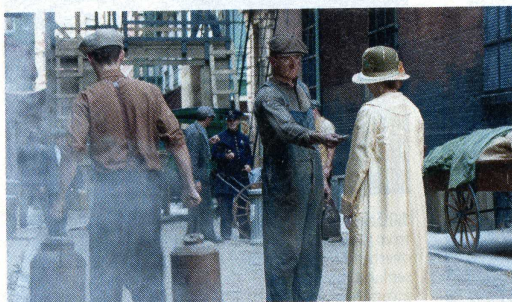
Thanks to the MTA's Arts for Transit program, the subway system is filled with colorful installations intended to beautify the often dreary stations. Though acclaimed artists like Roy Lichtenstein and Sol LeWitt have contributed to the program, some of its best curios were created by less well-known artists: For example, in the Newkirk Plaza station on the Q line, gaze up to spot David Wilson's blue-and-red patterned *Transit Skylight* installed in the ceiling. Or check out our favorite piece, Bill Brand's *Masstransiscope*, a zoetrope created from 228 hand-painted panels. Take a ride on a Manhattan-bound B or Q train from DeKalb Avenue to view the kinetic mural between that station and the Manhattan Bridge. (Be sure to look to the right.)

Look for abandoned tracks

A quiet stretch of Joralemon Street in Brooklyn Heights conceals one of the transit system's hidden gems: A brownstone on the block (near Willow Place) is actually a facade housing an entrance to the defunct Atlantic Avenue Tunnel, the city's oldest railroad passageway. (The DOT discontinued tours of the space in 2010.) Farther east, there are four disused tracks and two unfinished platforms hidden in the Utica Avenue station in Bedford-Stuyvesant. The depot was part of a planned expansion of the IND subway line, but the MTA abandoned the project because of a lack of funds. You can still see the station shell by standing on the existing platforms and looking up—you'll be able to spot the underside of the tracks. —AD

Filming in New York City

Location scouts reveal their favorite spots for shooting movies and TV shows. By **Annemarie Dooling**



Boardwalk Empire

FILMED IN: Cortlandt Alley

The production team for HBO's Prohibition-era drama re-created the Atlantic City boardwalk in a vacant lot on Greenpoint's Commercial Street, but scenes from the show are also filmed outdoors in Brooklyn and Manhattan. Cortlandt Alley—a small enclave just off Canal Street—is a popular locale because of its grisly ambience. "We had to find a street that looked like the Lower East Side," says Amanda Foley, a location manager for the show. "[And] the building owners were so open to us being there."



Enchanted

FILMED IN: Times Square
Scenes for the 2007 fairy tale were shot in the busy hub. According to co-location manager Jason Farrar, to work in Times Square, film crews must get special allowance to turn the area into a set in the wee hours. "At 2 or 3 in the morning when it's quiet and there aren't that many people around, it's a very different place," Farrar explains.



The Smurfs

FILMED IN: Rockefeller Center

For the 2011 adaptation of the cartoon series, location scout Nick Carr—who also runs the blog Scouting NY (scoutingny.com)—occasionally had to improvise. He and his team transformed a vacant Rockefeller Center storefront into a makeup shop so convincingly that passersby actually tried to enter it.