



# XTR M LY HUNGARY

art & culture beyond your expectations

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## EXTREMELY HUNGARY Program Schedule – updated April 2009

*Extremely Hungary* is a yearlong festival showcasing the best of modern and contemporary Hungarian visual, performing, and literary arts throughout New York and Washington, D.C. Launched in January 2009, the festival reveals aspects of Hungary’s thriving contemporary culture through concerts, exhibitions, opera, new plays, literary symposia, and even such whimsical events as a Hungarian mustache contest and a re-interpretation of the traditional Austro-Hungarian opera ball.

*Please note that programs are subject to change. For more information please visit [www.extremelyhungary.org](http://www.extremelyhungary.org).*

### NEW YORK CITY EVENTS – SPRING 2009

***Munkácsi’s Lost Archive***  
**International Center of Photography**  
January 16 – May 3

An exhibition of the recently rediscovered archive of Hungarian fashion photographer Martin Munkácsi (1896 – 1963), best known for his dynamic images of athletes and models in motion.

***t.error—***  
***your fear is an external object***  
**Hungarian Cultural Center**  
February 20 – May 2

Seventeen international and Hungarian artists examine our attitudes towards violence, fear, and visual stimulation. The exhibition pays particular focus to the way in which the media manipulates our perception of violence.

***The Danube Exodus:***  
***The Rippling Currents of the River***  
***By Péter Forgács and the Labyrinth***  
***Project***  
**The Jewish Museum**  
March 15 – August 2

An interactive multimedia installation of found footage from two historic voyages on the Danube River: the first, the exodus of Jews escaping down the Danube in 1939, the second, a “reverse” exodus of Germans fleeing Soviets up the Danube one year later. Award-winning multimedia artist Péter Forgács was the recipient of the 2007 Erasmus Prize.

***Hungarian Mustache Contest***  
***Awards Ceremony***  
**Radegast Hall & Biergarten**  
April 16

The winners of the two-month mustache contest will be crowned in an exuberant evening of Hungarian music and celebration at Brooklyn’s Radegast Biergarten. First prize is a trip for two to Budapest.

***Kornél Mundruczó: Delta***  
***Premiere & Screening***  
**Bohemian National Hall**  
April 17

Hungarian filmmaker Kornél Mundruczó tells the story of a quiet young man who returns to his isolated hometown and enters into an intimate relationship with a sister he had never met. Presented as part of the Czech Center’s *Disappearing Act: European Cinema from New Wave to New Wave*.

**Anna Faur: Girls**  
**Premiere & Screening**  
**Bohemian National Hall**  
April 18

A feature film debut inspired by a true crime committed in Hungary, when two teenage girls were killed by a taxi driver. Presented as part of the Czech Center's *Disappearing Act: European Cinema from New Wave to New Wave*.

**Hungarian Writers at PEN World**  
**Voices Festival**  
**Various locations**  
April 27 – May 3

Renowned writer and philosopher Péter Nádas is joined by his younger contemporaries László Garaczi, János Térey, Zsófia Bán, and Eszter Babarczy for this five day international festival of letters.

**Pan-European Picnic Redux**  
**Empire Fulton Ferry Park, Dumbo**  
May 3

An open air picnic celebrating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original 1989 event when Hungary opened its borders to East Germans for twenty-four hours. The event will include food and keynote addresses by writers Michael Meyer and Eszter Babarczy. Hosted by PEN World Voices and Extremely Hungary.

**Péter Forgács' Hunky Blues: The**  
**American Dream**  
**Premiere & Screening**  
**The Museum of Modern Art**  
May 4

Based on original footage and photographs provided by the Hungarian community of New Brunswick, NJ, and Library of Congress, this documentary by internationally acclaimed director Péter Forgács explores immigrants' crucial role in shaping the American experience. Forgács will represent Hungary at this year's Venice Biennale. *Hunky Blues* is presented as part of MoMA's Modern Mondays series and features a conversation with Forgács after the screening.

**StoryCorps/Hungarian File**  
**Various locations**  
May 15 – 23, September 26

The Story Corps project, which captures oral histories, will record Hungarian voices and experiences for their Library of Congress Archives.

**Soft is the New Cool: Hungarian**  
**Designers at New York Design Week**  
**Hungarian Cultural Center**  
May 16 – 19

This special design exhibition and fair introduces 15 emerging Hungarian designers and their works. The fair focuses on the theme of "softness"—as applied to graphic, furniture, jewelry and architecture design. Curated by WAMP, a Budapest-based design organization. *Supported by I.D. Magazine.*

**The World According To...**  
**Hungarian Cultural Center**  
May 28 – September 12

An exhibition featuring the works of contemporary women painters from the collection of Hungarian gallerist Judit Virág. Works by Katalin Haász, Luca Korodi and Eszter Radák, among others, are presented alongside their American counterparts.

## NEW YORK CITY EVENTS – SUMMER 2009

**Félix Lajkó Concert**  
**River to River Festival**  
**Michael Schimmel Center for the**  
**Arts at Pace University**  
June 1

Charismatic avant-garde violinist Felix Lajko fuses folk, jazz, Gypsy and Jewish klezmer sounds to create a unique performance as part of the River to River festival.

**"How They Lived": Photographs of**  
**Hungarian Jewish Life, 1870-1940**  
**92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y**  
June 4 – July 2

A photography exhibition documenting everyday life of Hungarian Jews from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century to the brink of World War II.

***Cooking Class with  
Chef András Hernádi***  
**French Culinary Institute**  
June 15

A unique opportunity to get hands-on lessons in Hungarian cooking from Chef Hernádi, Executive Chef of the Hungarian Consulate General in New York, at one of America's most renowned culinary institutions.

***Discussion with Kati Marton***  
**Yale Center for British Art,**  
**\*New Haven, CT**  
June 24

Acclaimed Hungarian-American writer Kati Marton will discuss her experiences as a journalist and human rights advocate during Yale's International Festival of Arts & Ideas. Ms. Marton is the co-chair of *Extremely Hungary*.

**Ivanov**  
**by József Katona Theatre Budapest**  
**Lincoln Center Festival**  
July 7 – 11

Award-winning Hungarian director Tamás Ascher's interpretation of Chekhov's *Ivanov*, set in Hungary during the 1960s and 1970s, is part of Lincoln Center's annual summer festival. *Ivanov* will make its U.S. premiere in New Haven as part of Yale's International Festival of Arts & Ideas on June 24.

**Peasant Opera**  
**by Béla Pintér and Company**  
**Lincoln Center Festival**  
July 21– 26

A farcical tale of taboos and traditions in the Hungarian countryside, young director Béla Pintér's musical soap opera features an original score that melds Hungarian folk tunes with Baroque structures.

#### NEW YORK CITY EVENTS – FALL 2009

***Cabaret Magyar***  
**Galapagos Art Space**  
September 25, October 16 and  
November 20

A series of *fin-de-siècle* cabarets where the public can sip wine and enjoy edgy and humorous performances by New York and Hungarian artists, writers, and musicians.

***Opera on Earth***  
**Brooklyn Museum of Art**  
October 3

The traditional Austro-Hungarian Ball turns into a modern extravaganza, featuring live opera performances, opera movies, DJ's, and VJ's. The *Extremely Hungary* flagship event, the *Opera on Earth* is presented as part of the Brooklyn Museum's Target First Saturdays.

***Hungarian Directors and Producers  
in America***  
**BAMcinémathèque**  
October 9 – 18

A film series at the Brooklyn Academy of Music exploring the impact of Hungarian directors and producers on American cinema, including luminaries like Michael Curtiz, director of *Casablanca* and William Fox and Adolf Zukor, founders of 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox and Paramount.

***Hungarian Cabarets***  
**Café Sabarsky at the Neue Galerie**  
October 15 and 22

Café Sabarsky evokes the great cafés that served as centers of intellectual and cultural life in turn-of-the-century Central Europe—the perfect setting to hear Hungarian jazz singer Marianna Falusi.

***Hungary at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y***  
**Zoltán Kocsis**  
**92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y**  
October 17

As part of special series presenting great Hungarian achievements in music and literature, renowned pianist Zoltán Kocsis will perform works by Schubert.

***Béla Tarr Selects***  
**The Museum of Modern Art**  
October 22 – 31

A series of films by Béla Tarr, an uncompromising master of contemporary cinema, alongside a selection classic Hungarian films that influenced Tarr, and new works by young Hungarian filmmakers.

***Baking Demonstration and Class with Hungarian Chef***  
**French Culinary Institute**  
October 30

A unique opportunity to learn the art of baking from a Hungarian pastry chef, presented at one of America's most renowned culinary institutions.

***Samizdat!***  
***Underground Music Festival***  
**LaMaMa Experimental Theatre,**  
**(Le) Poisson Rouge**  
November 5 – 8

In celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall, a weekend of revolutionary music bands that were active in Eastern Europe in the '80s, presented alongside their American counterparts. The festival includes Hungarian band Kontroll Csoport. Presented in collaboration with the New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.

***Hungary at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y***  
***Keller Quartet***  
**92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y**  
November 8

The Keller Quartet performs works by Beethoven, Bartók and Ligeti as part of a series presenting great Hungarian achievements in music and literature.

***The Impact of the Bauhaus in Hungary: Panel and Symposia***  
**The Museum of Modern Art**  
November 17

This day-long symposia of international scholars, architects and art historians will survey the Bauhaus in Hungary and its impact on modern architecture. Presented in conjunction with MoMA's Bauhaus exhibition, November 4, 2009 – January 20, 2010.

***Shukar! Contemporary Gypsy Art***  
**Hungarian Cultural Center**  
November

A rare exhibition of the best of Hungarian Gypsy painting, wood-carving, photography and art installations.

***Fire & Fire: Hungarian Gypsy and Black American Music Revue***  
Fall

A juxtaposition of the music from two rich cultures, both of which have influenced music genres the world over. This unique production will include fashion, dance, and video.

#### **NEW YORK CITY EVENTS – WINTER 2010**

***Contemporary Hungarian Film Festival***  
**Film at Lincoln Center**  
February

A series showcasing a selection of films made in the past three years by young Hungarian filmmakers, accompanied by symposia with the directors.

***Hungary at the 92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y***  
***Miklós Perényi, András Schiff, and Péter Esterházy***  
**92<sup>nd</sup> Street Y**  
February 23, 25 and March 1

Three special concerts highlighting Hungarian music and literature: Hungarian-born cellist Miklós Perényi, performing works by Ligeti, Brahms, Bach and Kodály; cellist András Schiff, performing works by Haydn; and internationally-renowned literary figure Péter Esterházy, one of Hungary's leading living writers, reading from his novel *Celestial Harmonies* with musical interludes performed by András Schiff.

#### **WASHINGTON, D.C. EVENTS – 2009**

***Lajos Vajda and Another Time, Another Place: Contemporary Hungarian Video Artists***  
**American University, Katzen Arts Center**  
March 17 – April 19

A combined exhibition of Lajos Vajda (1908-1941), considered the most distinctive artist of the Hungarian avant-garde movement, and a show of contemporary Hungarian video artists.

***Picturing Progress: Hungarian Women Photographers, 1910 – 1946***  
**National Museum of Women in the Arts**  
March 20 – July 5

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Hungarian women filled the positions of male photographers who joined military service during both world wars. This exhibition focuses on the wellspring of work by Hungarian women photographers, including images of the poor, which many women photographers disseminated in pursuit of social justice.

***Péter Forgács: Hunky Blues***  
**Documentary Screening**  
**National Gallery of Art**  
May 10

Based on original footage and photographs provided by the Hungarian community of New Brunswick and the Library of Congress, internationally acclaimed director Péter Forgács explores immigrants' historically crucial role in shaping the American experience. The documentary premieres at MoMA on May 4.

***StoryCorps/Hungarian File***  
**Hungarian Reformed Federation of America**  
June 27

The Story Corps project, which captures oral histories, will be recording Hungarian voices and experiences for their Library of Congress Archives.

***Contemporary Hungarian Film Series***  
**National Gallery of Art**  
September / October

A series of 10 recent films by young Hungarian filmmakers, as well as a special feature on award-winning but controversial filmmaker Gábor Bódy.

***Panel Discussion on the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Fall of Communism***  
**Newseum**  
October 10

The Newseum will host a panel discussion with politicians from the Eastern Bloc and U.S. who played a central role in ending communism. Journalists who reported on the events in Eastern Europe as the wall fell will join the discussion.

## PREVIOUS EVENTS

***Celebrating Hungary***  
**Carnegie Hall**  
January 24 – February 14

A two-week celebration of Hungarian music and artists—from Haydn's courtly masterworks to folk sensation Beáta Palya to composer and performer György Kurtág's first New York appearance.

***Zsolnay Art Pottery from The Collection of Dr. László Gyugyi***  
**The Forbes Galleries**  
January 24 – March 21

An exhibition of 160 pieces of ceramics by the artisans of Zsolnay, Hungary's famed porcelain factory legendary for its innovative Art Nouveau masterworks.

***Great Paintings, Small Masterpieces from the Nancy G. Brinker Collection***  
**The Forbes Galleries**  
January 24 – March 28

This selection of early 20th-century Hungarian art featured more than twenty works by influential Hungarian painters including László Moholy-Nagy, and József Nemes-Lampérth from the collection of Nancy G. Brinker, former U.S. Ambassador to Hungary.

***György Kurtág: Hommage à Bartók***  
**Library of Congress**  
February 7

For the official launch of the D.C. arm of the festival, acclaimed Hungarian composer György Kurtág wrote and performed a piece based on Bartók's music.

***Beáta Palya at Millennium Stage***  
**John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts**  
February 8

Hungarian village girl turned European starlet Beáta Palya performed a free concert of world music.

***Hungarian Food Week with Chef  
Attila Bicsár***  
**Café des Artistes**  
February 27 – March 6

In celebration of the country's traditional cuisine, landmark New York restaurant Café des Artistes, helmed by Hungarian George Lang, hosted Chef Attila Bicsár for a week.

***Dénes Várjon and Steven Isserlis***  
**92nd Street Y**  
**Tisch Center for the Arts**  
March 5, 8, and 10

Renowned Hungarian pianist Várjon joined master cellist Isserlis in an intimate exploration of three leaders of Romanticism—Chopin, Mendelssohn and Schumann—in honor of the 200th anniversary of their births.

***Screening Room: Contemporary  
Hungarian Video Artists***  
**Janos Gat Gallery**  
March 5 – 7

This Hungarian-owned Lower East Side gallery presented the newest voices in Hungarian video art, with three nights of projections and a diverse selection of works by artists based in Budapest and New York.

***Extremely History: Andrea Deszö***  
**Bridge Art Fair**  
March 5 – 8

Hungarian artist Andrea Deszö created a miniature theater commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of Communism, featuring stop-motion animated robots and tiny aliens that created a world of mystery for visitors to this annual art fair.

***Hungarian Food at Village Voice  
“Choice Eats”***  
**The Park Avenue Armory**  
March 31

Delicious Hungarian pastries were featured at this popular event showcasing international cuisine from over 50 restaurants.

***Vicky Shick: Glimpse***  
**Danspace**  
April 2 – 4

Hungarian and American dancers collaborated to present the latest modern dance work by New York-based and Hungarian-born choreographer Vicky Shick.

*Extremely Hungary* is organized by the Hungarian Cultural Center in New York. Funding for the festival is provided in part by the Hungarian Ministry of Education and Culture.