

CRANE'S CLARION



"he who Tootheth not his own horn, his horn shall Not be Tooteth-ed"

Volume XXVII No.1, Jan 2012

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

CYBER NEW YEAR for CRANE'S CLARION

CRANE'S CLARION began over 25 years ago, mostly to toot my own horn, first under hand & eye of Erv Raible, (the days of literal cut & paste at the local Copy Center) and then with Artist/Cyber Whiz, Bruce Stevens. I am enormously proud of what it has become, but it was a huge job mailing it to our 1800+ mailing list, a 5-step process for each CLARION (9,000 swipes). So this year the Clarion will be online, and I won't be doing the CLARION mailing except to some of you for whom I have no email address. I will be saving a tree, but hurting the US Postal Service. So if you've received this printed version, please email me at 4canary@pipeline.com, so I can add your email address to my contacts. I hope you will enjoy reading it. Thanks so much, Cynthia

MY ARCHITECTURAL & HISTORICAL HEAVEN

Wall Street to The Gehry Building

According to City of New York official data, the Financial District neighborhood is named Wall Street, a name with dubious connotations these days. On the other hand, we are living close to the birth of **Occupy Wall Street** Movement; it's truly life-affirming after all the slime surrounding our Madoff mayhem. There is history everywhere; we roughly overlap the boundaries of the 17th century New Amsterdam settlement and we're chock-a-block with museums: American Finance; Police; Fire; 9/11; Jewish; Irish; Skyscraper; American Indian; the site of the first US Capitol and the inauguration of our first US President, George Washington; St. Paul's Church (where he worshipped); Fraunces Tavern (where he said farewell to his troops); the New York Stock Exchange, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York; plus the entire South Street Seaport, not to mention the Statue of Liberty, Battery Park and the World Financial Center.



Chez nous on Fulton Street

These narrow, cobblestoned streets down here in the Financial District are a historical Cornucopia, a delightful architectural mix teeming with life. Little Stone Street, now a mini outdoor Restaurant Row, dates to 1600's Dutch colonists. Nearby, to the west, are Zuccotti Park and the Cathedrals of Finance recently invaded by the courageous folks of

OWS "Occupy Wall Street". It's terrific walking or biking in all directions, Broadway, Wall Street, Battery Park, the World Financial Center, the World Trade Center. Walking the other way, to the east is the 18th Century South Street Seaport and its fleet of ships. Restaurants, Museums. Heaven!

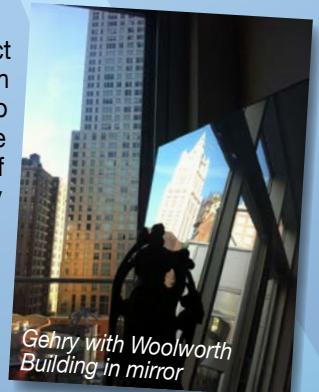


Gehry Building



Woolworth Building

We live on Fulton Street, and mercifully, the wall of our apartment is glass and faces the back of "the tallest residential tower in the Western Hemisphere", 8 Spruce Street, the 870 feet tall, 76 story Gehry Building. Too bad they ran out of money, as, instead of repeating the gorgeous, undulating silver skin on all 4 sides, the back side is totally flat with zero decoration. Still, it reflects some spectacular southern skies and sunsets for us. I've heard that the city required the builders to put in a school in the base, and, using a different architect, the rich folks got Gehry and silver, and the kids got five floors of really ugly. The sheer size of it down here is awesome, but like the Chrysler with the Empire State, it will soon be eclipsed by megatower One57 coming in soon at 1,004 feet. Just to the west of us is the neo-Gothic jewel, the Woolworth Building. It's a view I captured with mirrors!!!!



Gehry with Woolworth Building in mirror



One World Trade Center

Since the physical space where the twin towers stood, is now the memorial, the replacement, is in a different place. It appears to be bang, right there at the end of our block - all mirrored, kind of filling in the space - even more startling than 8 Spruce. No longer called the Freedom Tower, it is now One World Trade Center, and has not yet reached its projected 1,776 feet. It will be America's tallest building.

IRVING 'SCROOGE' PICARD'S MADOFF CLAW BACK LIST:

"Picard's worse than Madoff" The Story Family has been living in terror of the perverse Mr. Irving ("Javert") Picard and his MADOFF CLAW BACK ever since Madoff struck. (<http://tinyurl.com/dismissclawback>)

I have yet to meet anyone who isn't shocked when I tell them that Irving Picard is suing us! We who were wiped out! Acting for 'the court', working at huge expense and personal gain (never mind the trees sacrificed for all the paper), Picard wants money 'back' from us. The *Daily News* got it right: "Irving Picard will 'wind up being richer than' Bernie Madoff, says attorney for defrauded investors" (<http://tinyurl.com/picardricher>)

Stay tuned. It ain't over till it's over, and I am not going down easy.

CANARY NOTES:

UPCOMING GIG: Sunday January 29 on Long Island, I'll be doing my show **JOHN DENVER, BERNIE MADOFF & ME**, which was one of the **"Top Cabaret Acts of the Year 2010"** Andrew Martin, WPAT & NiteLifeExchange.com

East Meadow Public Library

1886 Front St. East Meadow, NY 11520

The show is at 2 p.m., **Sunday January 29**

Admission is Free!

Reservations begin on Thursday, January 19

online at www.eastmeadow.info

or by calling 516-794-2570 ext. 560

"Cynthia Crane is a cabaret treasure. Saucy, pert and emotionally as sharp as a stiletto, she alternatively can be funny, touching, wistful or serious. You'll have to look long and hard to find a more satisfying performer."

Peter Leavy, editor Cabaret Scenes Magazine

NOTES FROM THE NEST:

Moving the cheese It's a whole new life for Ted Story & me, in a totally different space, in a whole new neighborhood. We are way downtown in the Financial District. After a lifetime of Brownstone living (my childhood home, a 4-story brownstone, is still standing at 1109 Lexington Avenue), we're now in an elevator building, with a gym!!!! Things are booming down here, construction everywhere and, unlike Greenwich Village for us, pain-free. We have all the subways and we're half-way between the wonderful South Street Seaport and the World Trade Center – great restaurants, new to me supermarkets (Zeytuna & Jubilee) and a 'new life' feeling.

We are so proud of both our girls. It's been three really tough years, and they have triumphed over their trials.

Samantha has graduated with distinction from her three years studying Classical Acupuncture. Just licensed, she will soon be setting up her own practice. (www.samanthastory.com)

Alexandra gets great 'reviews' from her ESL students, and her jewelry is getting deserved buzz – really lovely work.

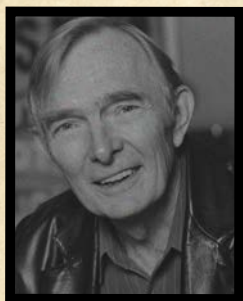
(www.alexstoryjewelry.com)

Her boys, too, are well, Declan 8 and Bowie 5, have adapted to the circumstances of their lives and, with good reason, have become very fond of Thomas Jacobs. That's Thomas Jacobs and the 2 boys after the big catch

In March of 2011 Ted had the same operation I had 6 years ago, a Catheter Ablation for Atrial Fibrillation, with the great Dr. Jonathan Steinberg. (http://www.lookoutjazz.com/clarion1.htm#_2005).

Troubles not over, he required a repeat surgery in November. We look forward eagerly to a shiny New Year, a far better year for one and all.

Happy New Year! Cynthia Crane



GUEST COLUMN: TED STORY

I'm trying hard not to think about Bernie Madoff, Congress, my Heart Surgery, Cynthia's Painful Arthritic Neck, the National Economy, the World Economy, our Personal Economy or Fracking. That leaves, "What I Had For Lunch" and Shakespeare.

The movie Hank and I are trying to write has hit some snags brought on by the pretty much ho-hum response by the public to Roland Emmerich's film, *Anonymous*. It had many good things about it but, obviously, he did something wrong, and we should learn.

Richard Roe's posthumous book, *The Shakespeare Guide to Italy* is finally out, and I highly recommend it to all you Italy lovers and Shakespeare lovers. Never again will you believe that the plays could have been written by someone who never visited Italy.

I realize that most of you believe that the guy from Stratford "did it". I wonder how many of you also realize that there are prerequisites to having this belief. In other words, there are a few impossible things you must believe first in order to believe that the Stratford man actually

wrote the plays of Shakespeare. I have compiled a short list. I realize that none of these represents actual "evidence" but they violate commonsense too much.

1. You must believe that William Shakespeare, who wrote many of the smartest, cleverest, most literate women in dramatic literature (Portia, Katherine, Cleopatra) raised two girls who were functionally illiterate.

Reason: History tells us that Susanna Shakespeare made a "painfully formed signature" and Judith signed with her mark.

2. You must believe that the all-time greatest writer of the English language was an inveterate plagiarist who stole, not just characters and plots, but whole scenes from a bunch of plays with different titles, which were written anonymously and performed at Court in the 1570s.

Reason: This illogical story is the official Stratford theory of this phenomenon. A more logical theory is that, as a mature writer, Shakespeare reworked his own early plays, keeping the good parts and fixing the rest, re-titling them, making them into the plays we're familiar with. He stole from himself. Unfortunately, the Stratford guy was only 10 years old in the mid-70's. But Oxford was 25.

3. You must believe that Shakespeare is exempt from a basic truth about artists, that writers write about themselves.

Samuel Butler: "Every man's work whether it be literature or music or pictures or architecture or anything else is always a portrait of himself and the more he tries to conceal himself, the more clearly will his character appear"

Anatole France: "Failing the resolution to hold our peace, we can only talk of ourselves"

Edward Albee: "Your source material is the people you know, not those you don't know. Ultimately, however, every character is an extension of the author's own personality."

Reason: To date, no one has succeeded in finding any evidence of the man from Stratford in the Plays and Sonnets. In contrast, Oxford's biography is all over the plays and sonnets including his special knowledge of Italy gleaned in his 15 month travels.

For lunch? Grilled cheese and an Irish Coffee.

BACK ISSUES: "Who Was That Masked Man?"
Parts I-IV www.lookoutjazz.com/clarion1.htm

