

Five best Purim

Do yourself a mitzvah and party hard during the most debaucherous of Jewish holidays. By Allie J.

Purim, which begins at sundown on **Saturday 19**, commemorates the victory of the Jewish people who foiled a royal plan for their own annihilation (as outlined in the book of Esther, also known as the Megillah). But lest you think the holiday is simply about pious observance, know this: Purim parties typically involve dressing up in a costume, chowing down on sweets (including hamantaschen, a filled tricorned pastry) and drinking a boatload of wine—and the debauchery is all sanctioned by the Lord. Plan your outfit now—the sillier the better—and shake your *gragger* at these events.



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1 Purim Masquerade

Get down to a plethora of world-music superstars during this dance party, hosted by indie record label Shemspeed. Label founder (and artist) Diwon promises sets that fuse hip-hop and Israeli music, including a performance from African-American Orthodox Jewish hip-hop artist Y-Love. "The whole place is going to transform into a dance floor," says Diwon of Drom, which hosts the bash. Local school sponsors Baruch, Hunter and Queens College will provide masks and hamantaschen, along with other surprises. *Drom*, 85 Ave A between 5th and 6th Sts (212-777-1157). *Thu 17 at 9pm; \$10, advance \$8.*

2 Purim Carnival: I Love Vinyl (Couches)

Relive the holiday celebrations of your childhood (but with a healthy dose of drinking and dancing) at 92Y Tribeca's grown-up bash. "When I was a kid, the gravy part was waiting for the story to end and then running to the other room and playing all the games," says Rabbi Dan Ain of the 92nd Street Y. "We're going to focus on the running-to-the-other-room-to-play part." Sip on a passion-fruit margarita (\$8) as you try your hand at carnival games. Meanwhile, DJs Scribe and Jon Oliver of semiregular dance party I Love Vinyl will spin an eclectic mix of hip-hop, soul, funk, electro and old-school house from their LP-only collection. *92Y Tribeca*, 200 Hudson St at Canal St (212-601-1000, 92ytribeca.org). *Sat 19 at 9pm; \$20.*

3 The Follies Esthere Purim Extravaganza

"On this holiday, you're commanded to get so drunk that you don't know the difference between right and wrong," says Amy Eichenwald,

4 A Night Purim in

Purim is already a fa with all the drinking folks behind KinkyJ's their naughty romp. stimulation of the se and event organizer. Get there early to p sampling; stay thro hookah flavors, auth music and an atmos KinkyJews revelry. *Bar*, 131 Ave C betu (kinkyjews.com). *Sa Eastern-themed cos*

5 A Very CHER

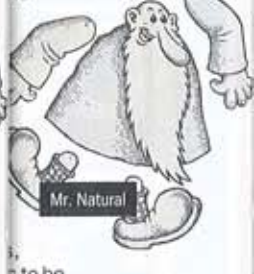
Who better to shindig than CHER known for elaborate parties (past events 7-Eleven and Cheeto at the Jewish Museum jams will be spun, and will be consumed. D outfit is encouraged, making materials on attire. "We're going store and go crazy," Destiny Pierce. Once gussied up, pose wit in a tableau vivant d *The Jewish Museum*, (212-423-3200, they 8:30-11pm; \$15.



Sneak peek "R. Crumb: Lines Drawn on Paper"

As one of the first comic artists to spurn the censorship rules that prevailed in the late 1960s, R. Crumb was a key figure in creating a viable community that nurtured indie illustrators. In "R. Crumb: Lines Drawn on Paper," which opens **Wednesday 23** at the Museum of American Illustration at the Society of Illustrators (128 E 63rd St between Park and Lexington Aves; 212-838-2560, societyillustrators.org; Tue 10am-8pm, Wed-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat noon-4pm; free; through Apr 30), the artifacts on display—pages of defunct publications like *The East Village Other* and Crumb's own *Zap Comix*—highlight the artist's connection to a wider scene of weirdness that thrived in the underground newspapers and magazines of the '60s, '70s and '80s.

Though widely distributed in the comics community, Crumb's often salacious, fetishistic art wasn't part of the mainstream. "When I was a kid, everyone I knew would take their small stash of Crumb comics and hide it away," recalls curator Monte Beauchamp, who publishes the annual comics anthology *Blab*. "It was bad news if you got caught by your parents with a Crumb comic." Far from being hidden under mattresses, Crumb's work now seems to be popping up everywhere: A hardbound version of *The Book of Genesis Illustrated* (his pervy retelling of the first book of the Bible) was released in 2009, with a corresponding show at David Zwirner Gallery; meanwhile, "Comics Stripped," currently on view at the Museum of Sex, features some of Crumb's racier doodles. The scope of "R. Crumb: Lines Drawn on Paper" is broader than either of those: Observing the show's 90 pieces, visitors will learn about the cartoonist's iconic characters, such as the horny, anthropomorphic Fritz the Cat and shamanistic Mr. Natural.—Andrew Friscano



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