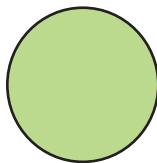
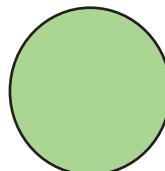
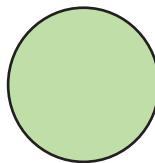
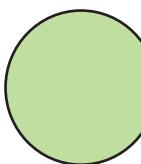


# THE V ZINE



By Rory Rucker<sub>1</sub>



## A Greener Future for New York City

By Rory Rucker

*The climate crisis is increasingly becoming more concerning. Dina Elkin is working to lessen its impacts in as many ways she can.*

With the rising threat of climate disaster on the rise, a woman named Dina Elkin is working to make New York City more sustainable. Elkin, the director of events and park for the organization Solar One, a green energy education center, is utilizing solar energy to power Stuyvesant Cove Park.

Stuyvesant Cove Park is a public park within Manhattan that Elkin has transformed into a place where citizens can hold events powered entirely by solar energy.

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"The reason why we do an events program is to make people more aware of the possibilities of solar power in an urban environment," Elkin says.

Since joining Solar One in 2007, she has seen renewable energy go from being laughed at to being seriously considered as an energy source. Elkin believes there is a bright future for sustainable energy due to this change in public opinion.

Elkin claims that switching from nonrenewable energy sources such as coal to more sustainable sources, like solar and air is essential in combating climate change.

"I think at the policy level if we decide that we're going to put most of our eggs in a clean- electricity basket, that probably will have the biggest impact," she says.

Solar One works to educate kids on sustainability, and encourages them to talk with their parents about renewable energy and ways to integrate it into their daily lives. One way it does this is through Stuyvesant Cove Park itself, as it is popular with children and parents.

While Elkin has seen significant environmental change in New York City, she sees a long road ahead. Removing cars off the road, especially in New York, is something Elkin believes needs to happen to lessen the effects of climate change, but though she understands it will take time for that change to be possible. Right now, she is focusing focuses on her work at Solar One and is combatting climate change one step at a time.



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## Mitski mystifies in Brooklyn

By Rory Rucker and Allison Foster

“Just how many stars will I need to hang around me to finally call it heaven?” Mitski’s chilling vocals entranced the crowd of fans, who hung on to every word of “Remember My Name,” a song from the indie superstar’s recent album *Be The Cowboy*. Mitski, born Mitski Miyawaki, brought her stunning lyricism and performative expression to Brooklyn Steel Dec. 1 for one of four sold out shows, playing a stacked setlist from four albums.

Mitski’s musical journey began six years ago at SUNY Purchase, where she became attuned to her passion to create — releasing her first two albums, *LUSH* and *Retired From Sad, New Career in Business*, as junior and senior projects. Her critical acclaim came with her third project, the traditionally heart wrenching *Bury Me At Makeout Creek*, released on Double Double Whammy Records in 2014. *Puberty 2*, her fourth album praised for nuanced emotional depth and heightened lyrical skills. In late August 2018, the Japanese-American songwriter released *Be The Cowboy* on independent record label Dead Oceans, and could never have predicted where it’d take her. Last week, album of the year lists gave *Be The Cowboy* stellar reviews.<sup>4</sup>

On the Be The Cowboy tour, which consisted of 24 sold-out U.S. shows across the country, Mitski brought along Overcoats, Sasami and Downtown Boys, the latter two of which opened her string of Brooklyn Steel shows. Headed by women of color, the tone of both bands was political and energetic, embracing the importance of representation in music and politics. The punchy, in-your-face acts exited, and the crowd began chattering in excitement for the main act. Crowding fans donned cowboy hats and merch, AirDropping Mitski memes to anyone who’d accept them.

Conversations stopped and turned into cheers as Mitski sauntered onto stage, wearing a corset and dressed in all black. The stage was kept mostly dark, with the exception of three blank screens fixed behind her. Projected black and white optical illusions and fluttering rose petals appeared on them as Mitski danced in perfect synchrony to her heartbreak lyrics. “I want a kiss like my heart is hitting the ground/ I’m holding my breath with a baseball bat,” sings Mitski on “Townie.” Fans echoed the lyrics through their tears, but not for long. The snappy intro cymbals of “Nobody” sent concertgoers into a frenzy — the popular track has racked up over 7 million plays on Spotify and 2 million views on YouTube.



The prolific setlist boasted 25 songs from all of Mitski’s albums (except *LUSH*), and even included two solo performances of “A Burning Hill” and “My Body’s Made of Crushed Little Stars.” Mitski’s songwriting distinguishes her from the rest of her indie counterparts, even being called “the most advanced American songwriter” by Iggy Pop earlier this year. Lead singer of Downtown Boys Victoria Ruiz gave similar praise to Mitski’s songwriting during their opening set. Ending on “Goodbye, My Danish Sweetheart,” one of the songs she wrote while attending SUNY Purchase, Mitski had her audience clinging on to every last word.

“Cause there’s nobody better than you,” she sang, as fans proclaimed their love for her. Waving as she exited the stage, audience members were left amazed, and forever changed.

Mitski told Pitchfork in July, “Even if it sometimes hurts, [the stress] doesn’t matter as long as I get to be a musician.”

## Best Art Museums in New York



Artists: Marisol, David Hammons, Jonathan Borofsky

### The Whitney Museum of American Art



Artist: Ragen Moss



The Whitney is a museum located in Manhattan. It contains a lot of art from modern and still-living artists.

Some of this art is fairly avant-garde, like the sculptures on the first page.

It also contains art from more well known artists, like this Georgia O'Keeffe painting.

Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$18 for students and seniors, and free for those 18 and under. Fridays from 6-9pm are Pay What You Want, meaning visitors pay what they want to.

The museum is open now, but with a significantly smaller capacity and all visitors must follow COVID-19 guidelines; Masks are required and visitors must keep a six feet distance.

The Museum of Modern Art, also known as The MoMa is a famous Manhattan museum that houses some of the most classic pieces of art.

It showcases Van Gogh's Starry Night and Claude Monet's Water Lillies, among many others



## The MoMA



Tickets to this museum cost \$25 for adults, \$18 for seniors, \$14 for students, and free for children under 16.

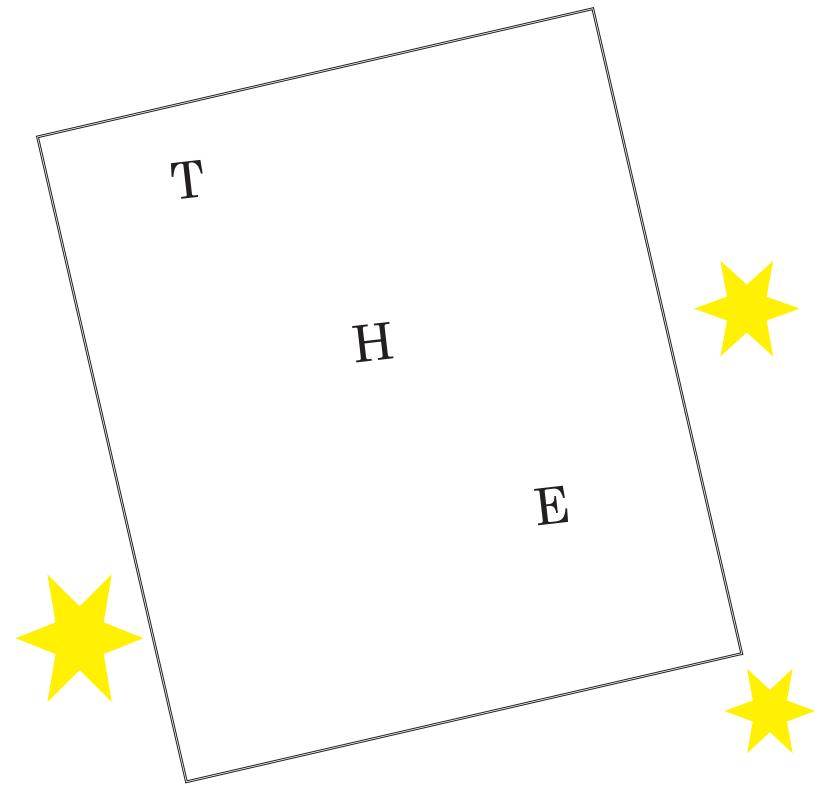
Tickets bought by non-members are now timed due to COVID-19 regulations. All visitors must follow state Coronavirus guidelines.

## Brooklyn Museum

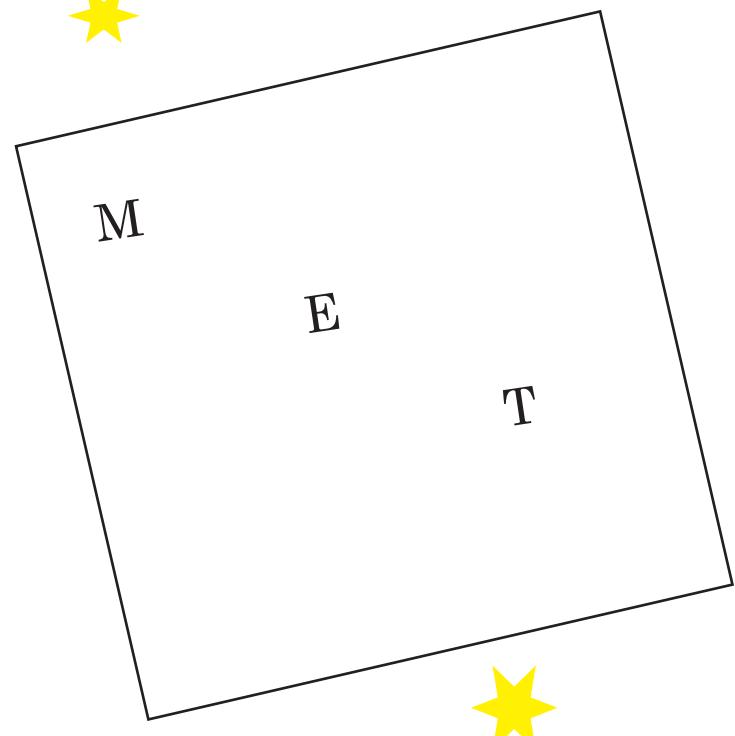
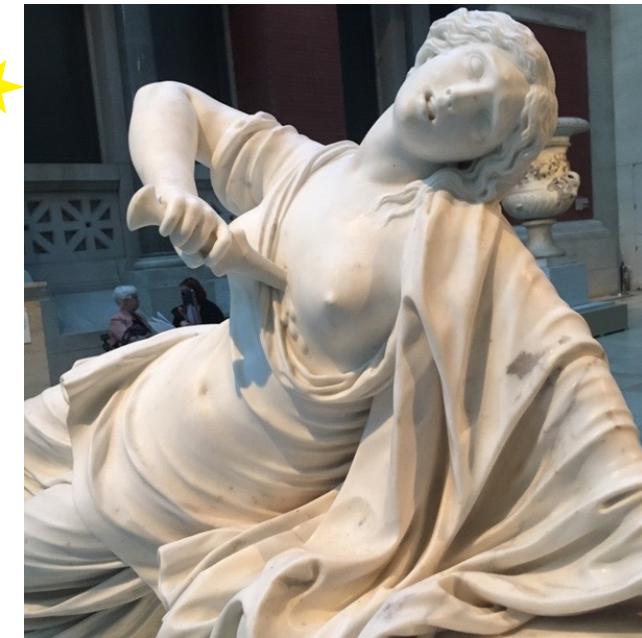
The Brooklyn Museum is one of New York's largest art museums and houses art that represents many cultures.

Tickets are \$16 per adult, \$10 for seniors and students, and free for anyone under 19.





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# The Metropolitan Museum of Art

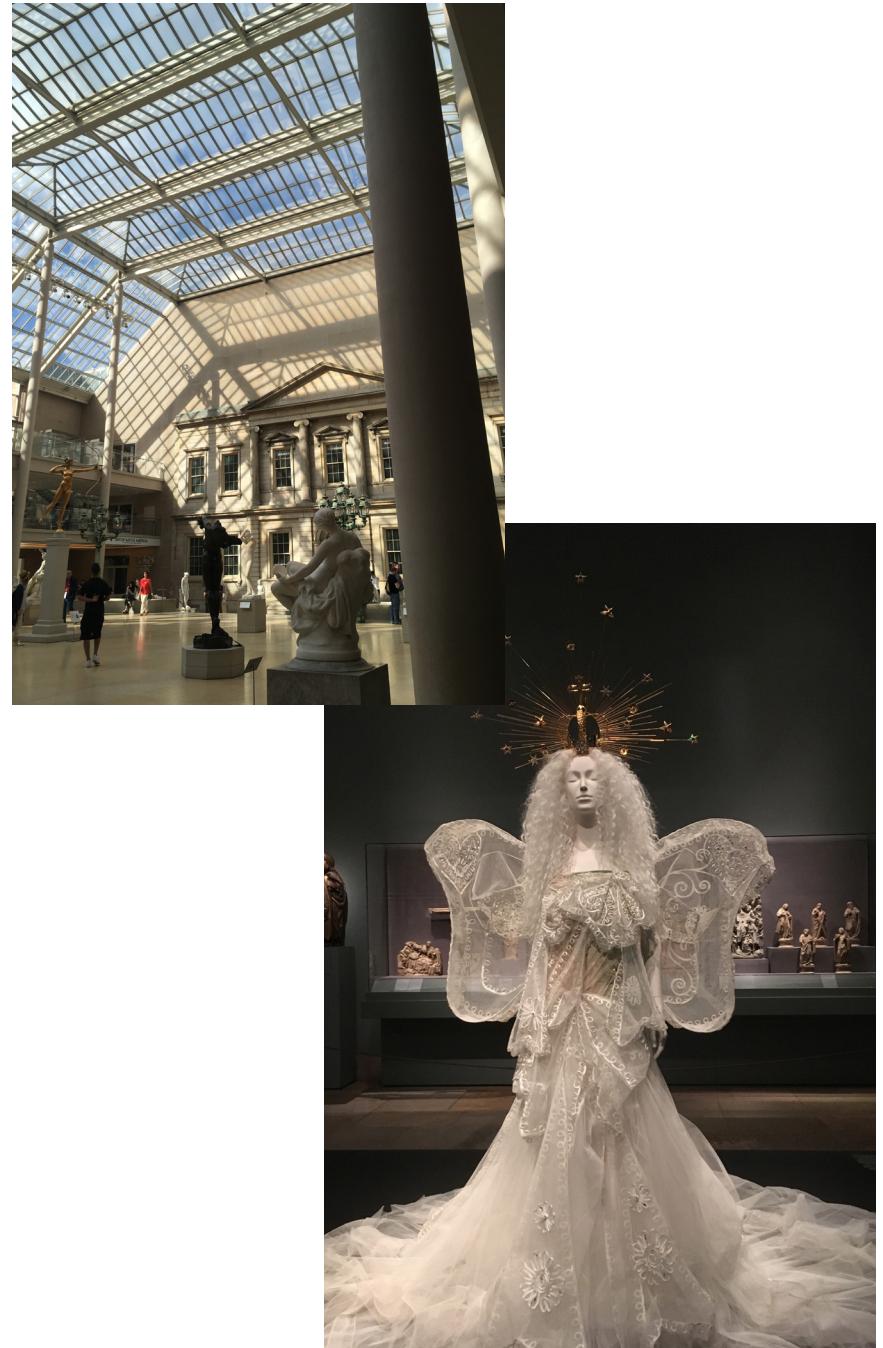
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, or The Met is possibly New York City's most well known museum. It is the largest art museum in the country. Built in 1874, The Met is one of New York's most important cultural buildings.

It showcases many European sculptures, like Perseus with the Head of Medusa by Antonio Canova and Lucretia by Philippe Bertrand (seen on the last two pages).

The Met also hold an annual fundraising gala, usually called The Met Gala hosted by Vogue's Anna Wintour. The money fundraised goes towards The Met's Costume Institute. It is often viewed as the biggest fashion event of the year, where America's most famous celebs get dressed to match the year's theme. After the gala, The Met holds a public exhibit where items from that year's theme are showcased. The photo on the right page is from 2018's Heavenly Bodies theme, which was all about artistic religious expression.

The Met is pay what you can for New York residents and students in New York, New Jersey or Connecticut.

General admission tickets are \$25 for adults, \$12 for students, and \$17 for seniors.





## Isobel Dickson on Her Style and Fashion Inspiration

Q: Where do you look for fashion inspiration?

A: I kinda look everywhere; I'm always interested to see what kind of new innovations they are coming up with. Also, a lot of my looks are inspired off of vintage or historical styles that I'll see in movies and think about how I can bring different inspirations into the way I dress. I feel like I'm just as inspired by contemporary cool fashion as 70s kitschy stuff, like I'm obsessed with how the people in ABBA dress. I am also really obsessed with the fashion of period dramas like anyone in a Jane Austen movie. Even though none of those things are connected I feel very connected to a lot of different inspirations in my own wardrobe because for me it's all about things that make me happy when I wear them and thinking about little ways to bring fun or elegance or drama or whatever moods into real life.

# About the Creator

Rory Rucker is a journalism and design student at The New School in Manhattan.

She is most interested in entertainment and news journalism.

She currently writes for her college's paper, The New School Free Press.

She also writes poetry and hopes to one day publish her poetry collections.

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