

## Judy's Top Five

**Evanston Review (IL)** - Thursday, April 15, 2010

Suggestions for things to do in Evanston, with comment from staffer Judy Brinkworth. To suggest an event for this page, e-mail Judy at [jbrinkworth@pioneerlocal.com](mailto:jbrinkworth@pioneerlocal.com).

Let's just say, I won't be looking for ceramic poultry. Lincolnwood Elementary School hosts a rummage sale from 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. April 17 at the school, 2600 Colfax St. Open to the public, the sale features clothing, furniture, decorative objects, toys and more. Proceeds will support programs at the school. For more information call (847) 859-8880.

The last rummage sale I went to, I bought a ceramic folk-art chicken for only \$10. When my hero saw it, he started laughing, "That's the same chicken we sold for \$2.75 at our garage sale two years ago -- you said it was way too cutesy and the beady eyes followed you around the kitchen." Later, when I took my purchase to the basement and accidentally smashed it with a hammer, I thought about how I just love being married to a man with such a keen memory. Love it, love it, love it.

After all, I have my standards, sort of. "Spring Cloud" -- a room-size art installation by Mark Rumsey -- is on display through May 6 at the Dittmar Gallery at the Norris University Center, 1999 Campus Drive on the Evanston campus of Northwestern University. To fully experience the work, viewers are invited to move around the space and even lie on the floor. For times and ticket prices, call (847) 491-2348 or visit <http://www.norris.northwestern.edu/dittmar.php>.

I can't wait to see "Spring Cloud." However, in spite of the suggestion above, I will not lie on the floor to view the art exhibit. I do not lie on floors in public places. Even if it was titled "Spring Cloud and You Get \$50,000 To Lie on the Floor," I would not lie on the floor. Even if it was titled "Spring Cloud and If You Lie on the Floor You Get a Date with George Clooney in His Italian Villa," I would not ... well, maybe for 15 seconds -- in a graceful, ladylike way. All for art, Georgio mio!

Multi-talented to be sure. The community is invited to a lecture-performance titled "Revealing Ravel" at 7:30 p.m. April 15 in Lutkin Hall, 700 University Place on the Evanston campus of Northwestern University. Hear the world premiere of an unpublished Maurice Ravel composition and other selections. Admission is free. For more information call (847) 491-5441.

It's a little known fact that when Ravel finished composing his famous "Bolero" with its pulsating rhythms -- Dum, da-da Da-da/Dum, da-da Da-da -- he had such a headache, he sat down and invented Extra-Strength Tylenol. It is not ridiculous! Were you there? Huh? Huh? Oh be still.

Why I love the Y. The Evanston History Center (EHC) invites the public to "The History of the YMCA in Evanston" at 7 p.m. April 22 at the center, at the historic Charles Gates Dawes House, 225 Greenwood St. Tickets are \$5, free for EHC members. To reserve a place, call (847) 475-3410.

One summer in Chicago, all us kids were given free swimming lessons at the Wilson Avenue YMCA. However, I couldn't learn to swim because I couldn't float -- I was terrified of lifting my feet off the bottom of the pool. But the Y instructor was so kind -- she would say, "Judy, just try," and I would sob, "I can't," and she would say, "It's OK, honey." And then the last lesson came and she said, "Judy, just try," and I blubbered, "I can't," and she yelled, "It's not OK, you stubborn twerp, lay down in that water and get your feet up NOW!" And I did. And that's why I love the YMCA.

And finally, my last chance for the Big Top. "Science Fiction: An Experiment in Circus" is being presented by the Actors Gymnasium through April 18 at the Noyes Cultural Arts Center, 927 Noyes St. The acrobatic adventure features robots, aliens, physical comedy and flights through the air. For times and ticket information, visit [brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com) or call 1-800-838-3006.

*This Actors Gymnasium's show is a treat for families, and they really do fly through the air! I went backstage and asked if I could take part in the spectacular flights -- except, of course, I wouldn't be up, up in the air -- one of the cast would just carry me across the stage in my gorgeous costume with silver spangles while I blew kisses to the audience. They told me to leave. Acrimomious acrobats, I must say.*

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