

A Cicada Celebration at the Staten Island Museum



A cicada work at the Staten Island Museum.

Brandon Ballengée and Staten Island Museum

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Brood II sounds like the title of a B-grade horror film, but it's not. It's the name of a very real insect invasion this summer: the emergence, after 17 years, of a new swarm of humming, mating periodical cicadas.

Many people see them as a temporary annoyance, and others find them downright creepy, but a solid contingent is positively enraptured. On Staten Island, the only borough lush and leafy enough for Brood II to really settle in, cicadaphiles among us can, for the next couple of weeks at least, get up close and personal.

["They're Baaack! Return of the 17-Year Cicadas,"](#) an interactive exhibition at the Staten Island Museum, features tens of thousands of cicada specimens, cicada-inspired cartoon drawings by Taylor Jones, maps and videos tracking the emergence, activities for children and other "unusual cicada ephemera." In the museum's courtyard is "The Love Motel for Insects: Magicicada Staten Island Variation," a bug-attracting light installation by the sculptor and biologist Brandon Ballengée. Recommended admission is \$5.

(Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.; 75 Stuyvesant Place, at Wall Street, St. George; 718-727-1135, statenilandmuseum.org.)

The museum is also organizing a handful of “citizen science” projects across the borough during the cicada emergence. On Saturday at 10 a.m., a group will meet at Meisner and Rockland Avenues to tour Buck’s Hollow, where previous cicada species were found. On Sunday at noon, a group will meet at the Martling Avenue Bridge in Clove Lakes Park for a two-hour tutorial in spotting and counting cicadas. Both walks are led by the museum’s director of [natural science](#), Ed Johnson. (statenilandmuseumscience.blogspot.com.)

A JAZZY NEW RELEASE

As quintessentially American as jazz is, there is surely something about its improvisational core, and the open spaces and trancelike states that its more adventurous practitioners can conjure, that suggests the sublime expanses of the Far East. The [Rubin Museum](#), which specializes in the art and culture of the Himalayas, has obviously made this connection and will present the jazz luminaries [Gary Peacock and Marilyn Crispell](#) in a concert to celebrate the release of their new album, “Azure,” on Friday. Held in the Rubin’s concert space, specially designed for acoustic music, the show is one of a three-part series featuring artists with new releases on the ECM label. Admission is \$20.

(Friday at 7 p.m., 150 West 17th Street, Chelsea; 212-620-5000, rmanyc.org.)