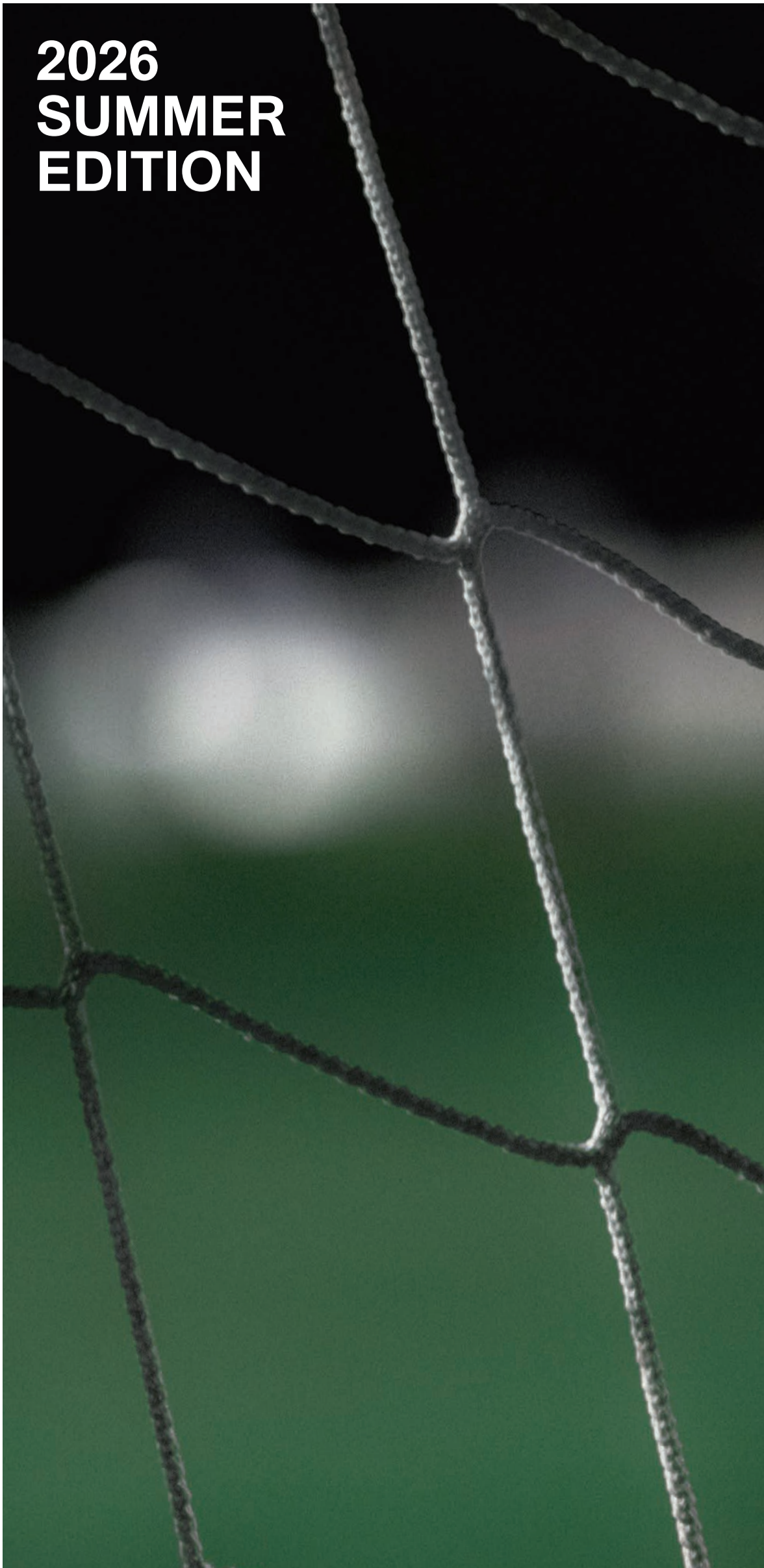


**2026
SUMMER
EDITION**



THE DISTRICT TEA

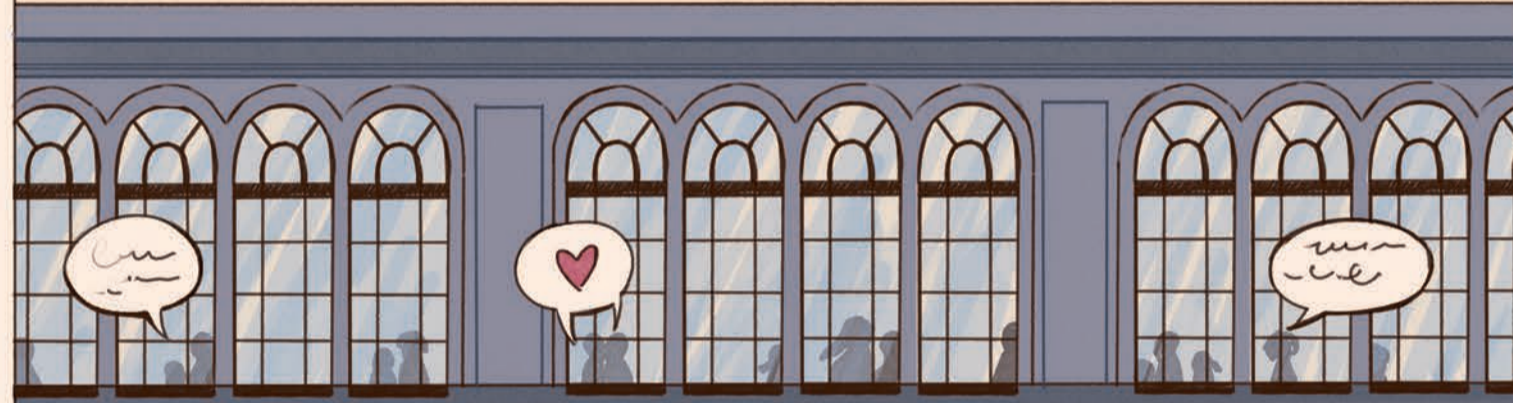
love at first sight



read @ the promenade



SUMMER *in* MEATPACKING



catch up with old friends



first dates at the Whitney



DEAR READER:

Summer 2026, it's going to be hot. And if you haven't heard, the World Cup is coming.

Whether you call it soccer or fútbol, or even if you've never seen the game played, it's going to consume the city. Whether you believe New York is the Sao Paulo of America, Dakar of America, or Zagreb of America, or like former Mayor Adams all of the above, New York is indisputably the best city in America to experience the World Cup. While the game will occur on the other side of the Hudson, the real fun will come from finding your pocket to cheer on teams from around the world that are also right at home here.

In Meatpacking, we've got places to watch and cheer (or cry), events and programs planned to give you something to do between the games, and enough to stay busy if you're one of those people who doesn't — gasp — watch them. Secure one of our Summer of Soccer Passports and plan your multiple visits. Bring friends. Grab a spritz, catch the sunset. Work from the Plaza or the Promenade. Go shopping. Eat food from a country who is playing a game — which you can easily find at Chelsea Market.

As the games crescendo, on July 4th the country will have made it 250 years since its founding. Celebrations will ensue in all manner of red, white, and blue. Fireworks are on the East River, but BBQ, beer, and a little patriotic spirit is good everywhere.

Throughout the summer, we're hosting three distinct, sports-themed pieces of public art. Leo Villareal's "Buckeyball," an illuminated steel sphere, will anchor 14th Street Square. Slightly west, we'll unveil "The Runner," by Tomokazu Matsuyama in the Promenade. And in Gansevoort Landing, one of 23 soccer ball-inspired pieces of art commissioned specifically for the World Cup will be on display. The piece here was curated by The Whitney Museum and is by renowned multimedia artist, Leo Castañeda.

This edition of the Tea is ripe with personality, art, and a lot of District insider intel. Summer Goals, our new Open Streets program, kicks off the season and we carry through to our open streets program, Vibes on Little West 12th, in August. West Side Fest returns the second weekend in July, and we've got the Roy Lichtenstein show at the Whitney opening in September to kick off the fall art season.

We've welcomed a slew of new tenants since our last issue, and we're expecting a splash of new retailers and restaurants to open later this year, too. Enjoy it and let us know what you think. Feel free to DM us at @meatpackingNY or via email at hello@meatpacking-district.com.

Here's to the teams playing the world's sport in the city that makes the world tick. See you on the field.

Cheers,

Jeffrey LeFrancois
Executive Director



MEET MEATPACKING

The Meatpacking District is a neighborhood like no other: a fusion of grit and glam, where old New York meets the frenetic pace of the 21st Century. It has a magnetic appeal. Nestled into the western corner of Lower Manhattan, before the chic boutiques and upscale bars, it was home to industrial slaughterhouses, public markets, and a bustling working waterfront. Its evolution has been layered, giving the district a rich, interesting, yet – often contradictory charm. And while we have the best guides for whichever journey you choose in the Meatpacking District, a curious wander might be the best way to experience it. Day and night, the cobblestone streets are alive with culture. You're bound to stumble onto something delicious, stylish, thought-provoking, and very likely – all of the above.

DISTRICT ALL-STARS

It takes a team to keep the District looking its best. Here are the people who show up—day in and day out.



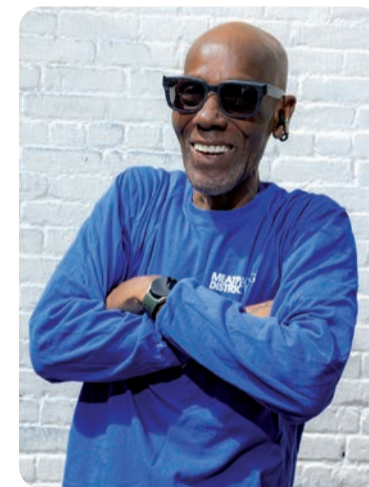
Name: Vance Lawson,
Supervisor
Hometown: New Jersey
Working Since: 18 years
Fav Sports Team: I like all sports.



Name: Kevin Cromer,
Assistant Supervisor
Hometown: Jamaica, Queens, NY
Working Since: 12 years
Summer Goal: Fun time, playing sports, like handball.
Fav Sports Team: New England Patriots.



Name: Larry Sweeney,
Associate Supervisor
Hometown: Brooklyn
Working Since: 7 or 8 years
Summer Goal: Help keep Meatpacking clean! That's my goal, like always.



Name: Louis Robinson
Hometown: The Bronx
Working Since: 13 years
Summer Goal: Just enjoy it, the neighborhood, meeting people, just doing what I do.
Fav Sports Team: Knicks.



Name: Derek Jimenez
Hometown: Raleigh, NC
Working Since: 4 years
Summer Goal: Keep hope alive.
Fav Sports Team: I'm not really into sports. I like playing the guitar.



Name: William "Will" Griggs
Hometown: The "Boogie Down" Bronx
Working Since: 15 years
Summer Goal: Take better care of myself and my family.
Fav Sports Team: I like the Knicks, feel like they're gonna make the playoffs.



Name: Silvia Rodriguez
Hometown: New Jersey
Working Since: 3 years
Summer Goal: Just be more mindful and do my best every day.
Fav Sports Team: Not a sports team, but I have a favorite singer, Alicia Keys.



Name: Teressa Davis
Hometown: New York
Working Since: 2 years
Fav Sports Team: No, not really. (MTPK: Do you have a favorite singer?) No, I like all types of music, so I don't really have a favorite singer.



Name: Richard Muir
Hometown: Harlem, NY
Working Since: 3 years
Summer Goal: Hopefully, I'll be able to see the Knicks play in the playoffs.
Fav Sports Team: Let's go Knicks!



Name: Virginia Davis
Hometown: Newark, New Jersey
Working Since: 3 years
Summer Goal: To maintain the Meatpacking District.
Fav singer or artist?: I'm not into R&B. I'm into gospel, John P.K.

SUMMER GOALS

Summer Goals transforms the District's iconic cobblestone streets into open-air stages for culture, creativity, and community.

Programming partners include Agustin Grasso Quartet, Ajna Dance Company, Bryant Park Jugglers, Greenwich House Pottery, Jaclyn McKay, Laura Baran, Lauren Chiarello Mika, Malaika Collective, Piao Capoeira, Print Center New York, The Danny Raycraft Trio, The Horticultural Society of New York, and more.

Events will take place from 11 AM to 6 PM across the Meatpacking District's Open Streets on Little West 12th Street and West 13th Street on the following dates:

SATURDAY, MAY 30	SATURDAY, JULY 11
SUNDAY, JUNE 7	WEST SIDE FEST
SATURDAY, JUNE 13	SUNDAY, JULY 12
SATURDAY, JUNE 20	WEST SIDE FEST

More information about each program can be found at meatpacking-district.com.



GAME DAY SNACKS AROUND THE WORLD FROM CMB



The team at Chelsea Market Baskets (CMB) knows their snacks. They shared a selection of shelf-stable, easily toteable, specialty foods perfect for picnic season or game day:

SHORTBREAD HOUSE OF EDINBURGH - Cello packs of shortbread available in a variety of flavors including the popular, particularly British Stem Ginger variety, which contains chunks of Australian ginger along with ground ginger.

PEA GREEN BOAT - Also from Scotland, these Cheese Sables are rich little biscuits flavored with mature cheddar and Parmigiano Reggiano. The high percentage of cheese in the recipe is one of the reasons they taste so good, especially with wine or beer.

BREWER FOODS - Pretzel Flatbreads are sesame flatbreads made with flavorful and nutritious spent brewer grains leftover from the craft beer-making process. This pretzel version has added crunch and deep flavor and is perfect for dips and cheese.

SUPERBON - From Madrid, Jalapeño is their newest variety in the Superbon line of chips. In addition to the spicy jalapeño, you'll detect notes of sweet bell pepper, too.

CLAUDIO'S COOKIES - Baked in Brooklyn, the lemon cookies taste like summer in the park and happen to be gluten-free.

And before you ask, yes, they also have additional picnic essentials that are sold year-round, such as these perennially popular bright cotton throws perfect for lounging in the park (or on the couch), fitted picnic baskets, woven totes, and lightweight cotton shoppers. This generously-sized, officially licensed MTA version proudly features the neighborhood's transit lines and their home base, Chelsea Market.

Chelsea Market Baskets is located at 75 9th Ave, in Chelsea Market.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

More information about each program can be found at meatpacking-district.com and [@meatpackingny](https://twitter.com/meatpackingny).

SATURDAY, MAY 30

What: Summer Goals
Where: Little West 12th Street + West 13th Street

MONDAY, JUNE 1

What: Movies on the Cobble: *The Brittney Griner Story*
Where: Gansevoort Plaza
In partnership with Rooftop Films and NewFest Pride

SUNDAY, JUNE 7

What: Summer Goals
Where: Little West 12th Street + West 13th Street

SATURDAY, JUNE 20

What: Summer Goals
Where: Little West 12th Street + West 13th Street

SATURDAY, JULY 11 - WEST SIDE FEST

What: Summer Goals
Where: Little West 12th Street + West 13th Street

SUNDAY, JULY 12 - WEST SIDE FEST

What: Summer Goals
Where: Little West 12th Street + West 13th Street

THURSDAY, JULY 16

What: Vibes on Little West 12th
Where: Little West 12th Street

THURSDAY, JULY 30

What: Vibes on Little West 12th
Where: Little West 12th Street

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13

What: Vibes on Little West 12th
Where: Little West 12th Street

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27

What: Vibes on Little West 12th
Where: Little West 12th Street

A SUMMER'S NIGHT

BY KATERINA VENTOURATOS

Trimmed blankets laid on the ground where we sat
In the midst of summer, cool drinks in hand
A warm breeze and shooting stars lined the sky
We were living then, life at our own pace
I remember when we could show some grace
Remember when you could show me your face
When we'd beat each other down with a gaze
Forever trapped together in a maze
Laced with love and hate; a happy marriage
As the curtain falls; a true comedy

WHERE FASHION KICKS

As soccer fever sweeps into New York this summer, its influence extends far beyond the pitch. Through these two perspectives, sporty essentials are transformed into statements of style. **Discover and shop both stories at meatpacking-district.com**

I'VE NEVER WATCHED SOCCER BEFORE: HERE'S HOW I'M STYLING THE SUMMER OF SOCCER AESTHETIC

BY CAROLINE ALBERT

Zadig & Voltaire
831 Washington St.



This summer, a certain tournament is in town – and not too far from NYC! With the world tuned in to the games, it's the perfect time to really get into soccer—fútbol, depending on who you ask. There are a few ways to celebrate, from trekking to New Jersey for a match, gathering with friends at a bar, or even dusting off your old cleats.

I, however, will be embracing the summer of soccer in the only way I know how: through fashion.

While I've never been one to watch sports, there is a certain je ne sais quoi to sports culture. Soccer is particularly so popular, so polarizing, and so fascinating that I have no choice but to get in on the action.

World Cup fashion is somewhat of a sport in itself. Think bright colors, performance wear turned streetwear, and lots of accessories. And what better time to try something new than a New York summer?

Unsure of where to start? I went window shopping in the Meatpacking District for some inspiration.

Zadig & Voltaire
831 Washington St.



While I love the look of a soccer jersey, I didn't really love the idea of buying one just to wear for one event. Instead, I gravitated toward this varsity-style Zadig & Voltaire Boo T-shirt—same idea, but much more wearable.

For bottoms, there are two directions you can go. The Zadig & Voltaire Poma Pants are a chic take on track pants, paying homage to the style with a bold orange stripe down the side. Just sporty enough to wear all summer again. Pair these with cleat-inspired metallic sneakers from Sandro.

Golden Goose
812 Washington St.



Or, lean into the idea of performance wear turned streetwear with these Golden Goose sport shorts. Wear them to the gym for your morning workout, and to the bar at night. For a true fashion statement, pair your shorts with another trend: heels and socks. I love the look of these bright ASICS neon green crew socks worn under Sandro heeled metallic leather mules. Bold enough to be seen from the top of the bleachers, they're reminiscent of late-night soccer practices.

Sandro
405 West 13th St.



When it comes to World Cup fashion, accessories make the outfit. I love the Maje chain belt for a little sparkle. You could even add some of your favorite pins or keychains onto it to show team spirit. Or, use a Zadig & Voltaire scarf as both a belt and a headscarf—it's another pop of color and surprisingly functional.

ANINE BING's cheetah-print hat adds a bit of pattern and some much needed sun protection. Since cheetah is basically a neutral, there's no

need to pick a team—this one's just for the vibes. One of the best investments you can make this summer is a great pair of sunglasses. I love the Zander sunglasses from KREWE—they genuinely look good on everyone.

AllSaints
402 West 13th St.



And of course, what's an outfit without a bag? The AllSaints Vega Mini Leather Shoulder Bag feels reminiscent of a vintage gym bag, but with sharper edges and that signature AllSaints grunge.

For my favorite part, jewelry is the finishing touch to any great soccer fashion look. Mixing metals is the way to go here, maximizing the bling and balancing out all the sports energy. Start with the ANINE BING chunky chain bracelet layered alongside the AllSaints Janna bangle and April T-bar bracelet. I love a maximalist stack in the summer. The AllSaints Lia chunky necklace is the perfect way to show your heart really does beat for the game (or at least the aesthetic). Top it all off with either the simple AllSaints Hazel pearl hoop earrings or the bolder ANINE BING curved rectangle earrings.

The thing about me is, if there's a theme and a vibe (and ideally an outfit), I will be there. Just make sure we can get the photo—and that there are snacks nearby.

How are you bringing the World Cup to life with your outfits this summer?

About Caroline Albert

Caroline Albert is a New York City-based publicist and writer with a passion for creative storytelling and a sharp pulse on the cultural zeitgeist. She specializes in shaping narratives that resonate, connecting brands and audiences through thoughtful, timely communication. All with a touch of her signature tongue-in-cheek humor.

Through her Substack, *Window Shopping*, Caroline channels her love of writing into curated gift guides, founder features, and the discovery of emerging brands, offering readers a fresh and fun perspective on what's next.

WHERE



STYLE SCORES

A summer of soccer is coming to New York this season, and it's time to get fitted up for a summer of games, screenings, and all-around celebration! Even though athleticwear doesn't typically spark visions of high fashion, we here at Meatpacking believe that a little bit of glam can be infused into anything, even sweaty summer game-day outfits. We've rounded up some of our favorite sports-inspired pieces from brands around the neighborhood that will help you effortlessly travel from the pitch to the afterparty.

ANINE BING
807 Washington St.



ELEVATED CLASSICS

The soccer fan uniform - a polo jersey, a baggy denim bottom, and a sporty shoe - is so popular that a whole trend was named after it - Blokcore. The polo jersey is really the glue of the whole look... Frame offers a stripped-down white polo that will instantly become a closet staple, or check out Vince's button-down cropped version for more styling options. When it gets chillier at night, throw on ANINE BING'S collegiate-style hoodie for warmth while staying true to that sporty aesthetic.

alice + olivia
431 West 14th St.



VINTAGE SPORTSWEAR

The Y2K and 90s-inspired vintage sportswear trend has been slowly gaining traction since the beginning of the year, and it might just be the look of the summer with the World Cup bringing sports to the cultural forefront again. Track pants get transformed into elegant trousers with alice + olivia, while lululemon and Gucci offer variants of the track jacket style. Or, go for an archival fashion reference, with the Bisu top from Lili the First that is highly reminiscent of the 2000s Prada Sport collections (which have since defined the way we now think of athleisure). If your idea of "vintage" falls a little farther back in time, YSL's short shorts in wool and mohair or Zadig & Voltaire's striped tank top recall that iconic 80s look.

Golden Goose
812 Washington St.



SHOE STYLING

No soccer look is complete without a good shoe, but the real secret is in the shoe styling. Step out and show up for your team with Golden Goose's customizable shoelaces available in a variety of colors, patterns, and textures, and pair with a fun sock from Marni to ensure that your look is always winning, even if your team isn't.

Sandro
405 West 13th St.



ACCESSORIES

Finish off your perfect summer gameday look with accessories like this small leather crossbody bag from Sandro, an elevated version of the belt bag that soccer fans especially seem to love, or with these Pucci aviators from two minds that are a chic way to incorporate some much-needed sun protection into your look.

Zimmermann
652 Hudson St.



REFEREE

Bonus item! Do you find yourself disagreeing with every call the referee makes? Are you feeling a strong desire to go down into the pitch yourself to keep those players in order? Take matters into your own hands and sneak your way onto the pitch with this striped top from Zimmermann that'll ensure you're the most striking ref out there.

FINDING THE EXACT WORDS



When was the last time you intentionally listened to music? The last time you were still? Music acts as a soundtrack to life, and this playlist is a space to sit with yourself. Laying at the park looking up at the sky, looking out the train window, or walking around the city that can make you feel so minuscule just as fast as you can be the main character, allow your thoughts to wander wherever your heart feels it needs to. There's a quiet kind of romance in being present with whatever comes up, whether it's clarity, nostalgia, or something harder to name. With hints of Jazz and RNB, this playlist will evoke the feeling of finding the exact words you needed, to songs with no words at all, but the exact feeling you were looking for.

1. DEAR THERAPIST by _BY.ALEXANDER
2. Pilot by Ravyn Lenae
3. journal entry by Nali

4. Pray for Me by SAULT
5. Mama Earth by Wakai, Elinore
6. all over u by Rowena Fysx
7. Be That Easy by Sade
8. soundgood by B.Cool-Aid, Pink Siifu, Ahwlee, Liv.e, Jimetta Rose, V.C.R
9. Heiwa by Mansur Brown
10. Feel by SOLYSSE.
11. YA NO PODÍA SALIR by BLK ODYSSEY

About SOLYSSE

SOLYSSE. is a genre-defying singer-songwriter and poet from Los Angeles who has planted roots in New York. She is also a manager of N°Between, a Japanese-inspired cocktail and record bar at Chelsea Market, where she leads the venue's music program. Her latest single 'roommate', released this month, is available on all streaming platforms and marks a new chapter in her evolving sound.



We practically celebrate in the office when Feast On Us announces the return of the drink of the season: Hibiscus Lemonade. Sweet, refreshing, and as pretty as it is delicious, it's the ultimate summer sip. If you haven't had a chance to grab one yet, consider this your sign: head over ASAP.

Feast On Us is located at 645 Hudson St.

STUCK ON SOCCER

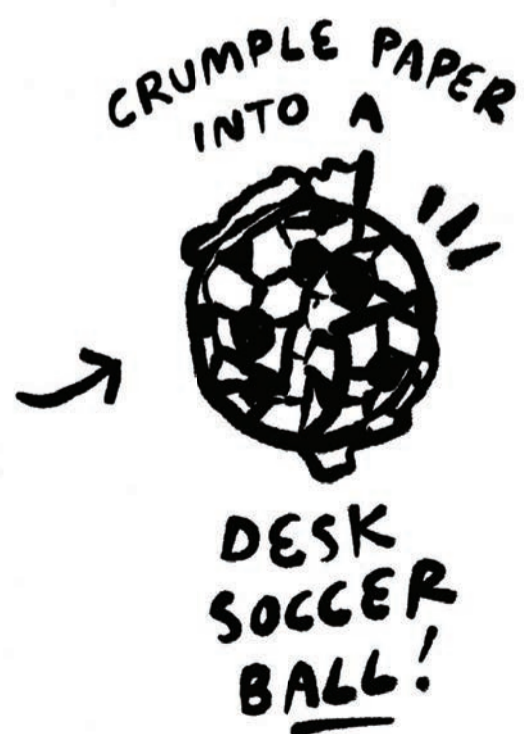
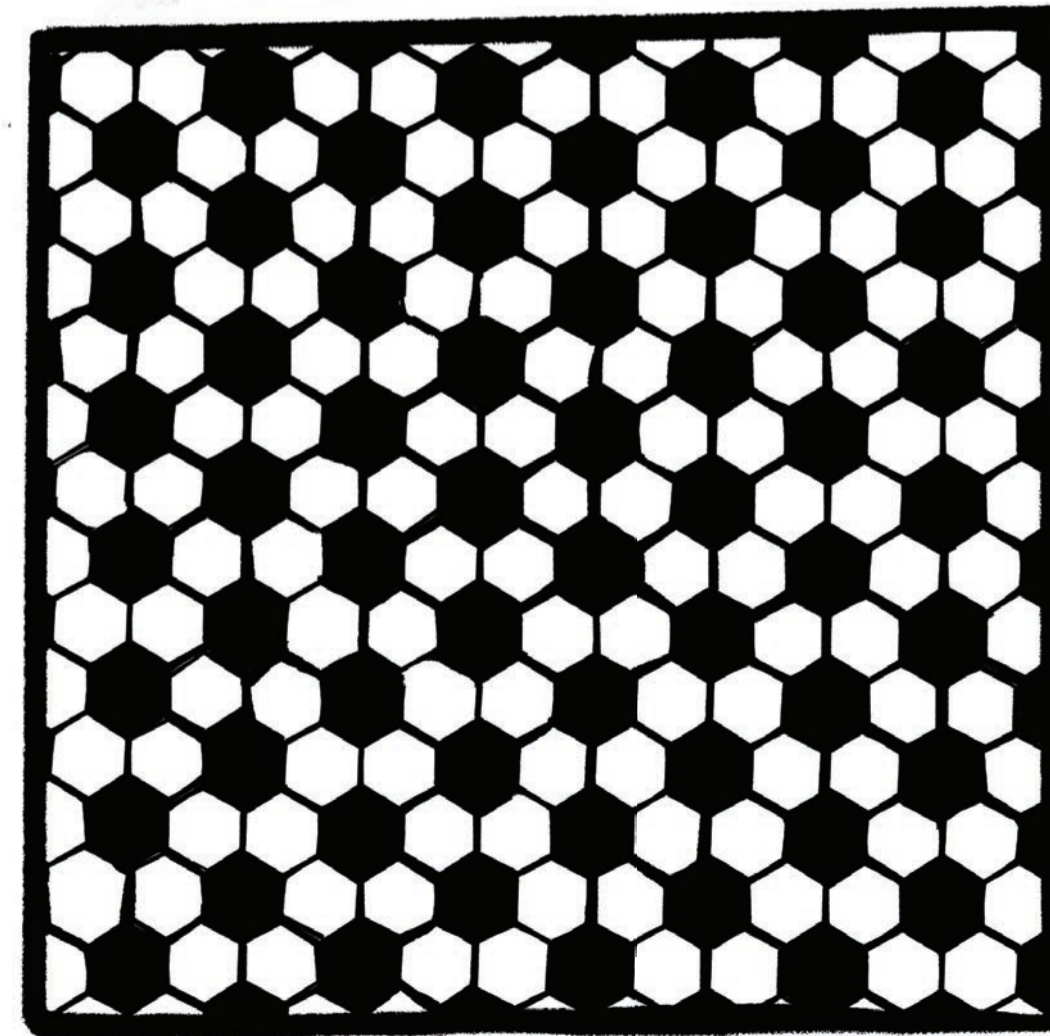


We enlisted artist and friend of the BID, Crimalis Cuevas (@crisa.creates), to design stickers inspired by a certain sporting event coming to town. Crimalis Cuevas is a New York-based digital illustrator and graphic designer who captures the essence of a moment through bold lines and narrative simplicity. Their versatile style shifts to mirror the specific feeling of each piece, distilling stories into impactful visual forms. Committed to community impact, Crimalis provides graphic design for local nonprofits, leveraging their craft to support and benefit the New York neighborhoods they call home.

IT'S SPORTS, ILLUSTRATED!

This summer is all about goals, so we asked one of our Summer Goals partners to design badges inspired by activities you can do in Meatpacking. Cut them out and tape them onto your journal or maybe just turn your desk into a mini soccer pitch.

Jaclyn McKay is a designer, artist and educator working across many mediums - from interaction design to illustration, animation, and now drawing puzzles by hand. She's been working in the Meatpacking District for years and is always inspired by the vibrant history and culture in the neighborhood. You can follow her latest projects at @jaclynsthings on Instagram or at jaclynmckay.com.



MEATPACKING HAT TRICK

1. What's your go-to ice cream flavor?
2. What song or artist will be on repeat for you this summer?
3. What's one goal or intention you've set for the summer?

RACHEL CHANOCH, CHERRY ORCHARD CREATIVE

1. Coffee
2. Doechi
3. Give birth! (currently pregnant with my second), and work + play outside as much as possible.

EDDIE WUNDERLICH, ALLURE 13 SALON

1. Van Leeuwen Ice Cream, a mix of honeycomb and cherry chocolate chip on a waffle cone. Cherry Chocolate chip on top for that bitter first bite, and honeycomb on the bottom because it's their number one seller, and why not save the best for last!
2. Pulyay. Specifically love "I know some things." By Pulyay and Marcel. The melody is quite beautiful.
3. Keep going strong towards my professional pivot to master Men's Grooming, precision hair cutting, and Barbering. After investing in a few weeks of education, traveling to the Gradient Academy in Montreal and Cleveland to meet my mentor, it's time to turn my practice into progress.

JANILET, MEATPACKING DISTRICT PUBLIC AMBASSADOR

1. Cookie Monster
2. Two Tulips
3. Travel somewhere

BRAD HOYLMAN-SIGAL, MANHATTAN BOROUGH PRESIDENT

1. Pistachio
2. Madonna - Confessions on a Dance Floor Part II
3. Catch a Meatpacking District summer movie with my eight-year-old!

FATMA, FEAST ON US

1. Absolutely strawberry!
2. Heseeny by Tul8te (must listen to)
3. Eat a Feast On Us Turkey club sandwich on the beach with a bag of chips and iced coffee.

KAYLA DOUGLAS, WEST VILLAGE BOOK CLUB

1. Pistachio
2. It's always a Dua Lipa summer for me...
3. I'm looking forward to being home to start summer! It's been a packed spring travel calendar, and I'm excited to spend some intentional time hanging out in the neighborhood with lots of long West Side Highway walks. Also, can we talk about the incredible new retail options in Meatpacking? A summer wardrobe dream.

MAI AKDENIZ, THE PICNIC DAY

1. Double chocolate
2. Brazilian Pagode all day, all night
3. Traveling, which is part of my job

ROBERT VALIN, THE URBAN BEAR

1. Anything chocolate, though dark is preferred. My summer addiction is the cioccolato at Gelateria Gentile on Hudson.

2. Caetano Veloso. For me, nothing sets the summer tempo quite like bossa nova — I could listen to it (and him) every day.
3. To slow down, over-indulge in cioccolato gelato, and work on my podcast.

ARIANNA SARTZETAKIS, UNCOVER MORE

1. Chocolate chip cookie dough
2. Bad Bunny
3. To spend as much time outdoors as possible in NYC's public parks!

PAULINE NAKIOS, LILLA P

1. Anything chocolate.
2. Pearl Jam
3. To try all of the new frozen yogurt spots throughout the city.

SAMIR, FKAJAZZ

1. Coffee chocolate chip.
2. This summer I'll have my music on repeat because I'm currently working on a series of EPs coming soon (shameless plug, lol).
3. My main intention is health/wellness. If I got another, it would equally be an expansion!

THE INSIDE SCOOP

Perched at the very edge of the Meatpacking District (17th and Eighth), OddFellows is less of a suggestion and more of a ritual—one you should be committing to weekly, if not daily this summer. To guide your order, we turned to Liv, a longtime scooper with two years behind the counter, who knows the menu better than anyone. They are scooping for themselves Vanilla Blackberry Blondie, Raspberry Rocky Road, and Sprinkles. Whatever cone or sundae you get, you won't go wrong at OddFellows. **Visit OddFellows at 141 Eighth Avenue.**



MANGO MANIA

We are an office of mango lovers and this tropical delight is found across the neighborhood in a variety of places.

Mango Sticky Rice — Ayada Thai inside Chelsea Market

A classic done right. Available all year long and perfect for grab-and-go. Only \$12.

Mango Flame — Bangkok Supper Club

Mezcal • Mango • Honey • Lemon • Tonic. Smoky, citrusy, and kissed with tropical sweetness.

Mango Mood — PHLUR available at Sephora

A body & hair fragrance mist bursting with ripe mango, airy orris flower, and warm notes of patchouli, vanilla, and brown sugar. Bright meets sultry.

Hot Tropic — Shaquanda's available at Heatonist inside Chelsea Market

A bold blend of mango, papaya, and orange layered with ginger, mustard seed,

and Kashmiri chili. Sweet heat with a serious NYC attitude.

Thai Mango Salad — N*Between inside Chelsea Market

Herradura Blanco • Empirical Cilantro • Mango • Chipotle. Fresh, zesty, and just a little smoky.

Kasugai Mango Gummies — Available at Pearl River Mart inside Chelsea Market

Made with real fruit juice, these soft, aromatic Japanese gummies are perfect for sharing.

Vegan Coconut Mango Sticky Rice — OddFellows

Dairy-free coconut ice cream swirled with mango and chewy rice mochi. A fan favorite for a reason.

Peach Mango Green Tea — Celsius available at CVS on Eighth

Fizz-free, refreshing, and lightly energizing.



WHERE TO HAVE A PUBLICLY PRIVATE BREAKDOWN

We get it. It's hot, it's humid, and we're feeling a little overstimulated. When you're dwelling on the tiniest of inconveniences, you've got options.

OUTSIDE HERMÈS

A classic for a reason.

FABRIQUE BAKERY

The answer is yes... a sweet treat will help.

ARRIVIAMO BAR AT STARBUCKS RESERVE

Because breakdowns and an espresso martini flight sound like the perfect summer pairing.

THE WEST 14TH STREET PROMENADE

Dramatic pacing encouraged.

SMACKING BURGER

When you need gassing up.

METRO CINEMA

"Breakdowns feel good in a place like this."



GRIT. GLAMOUR. GOOOOOOOOOOAL!

Three products Sephora Meatpacking employees swear by. Consider this your sign to add them to your cart now.



SOFIE PAVITT FACE
Mandelic Acid Exfoliating & Clearing Serum



INNBEAUTY PROJECT
Extreme Cream Anti-Aging, Firming, & Lifting Refillable Moisturizer



HOURGLASS
Unreal Radiant Glow Liquid Highlighter

SAY HELLO TO K'AB JUUN



A new gallery of contemporary Mexican design arrived in the neighborhood last year. Stop by to explore handcrafted furniture, lighting, art, and objects — all made in Mexico. The space is designed to feel intimate and layered, and meant to be experienced slowly. Founded by Ilana Goldberg, we chatted with her about this one-of-a-kind space in Meatpacking.

K'ab Juun is the first showroom in New York City fully dedicated to showcasing Mexican design. How would you characterize the current landscape of contemporary Mexican design, and what are some aspects of it that you think everyone should know about?

Contemporary Mexican design is incredibly rich and multifaceted; it exists at a unique intersection of deep-rooted tradition and bold experimentation. What makes it so powerful is that it's not disconnected from its past; on the contrary, it actively builds upon it. Many of today's most compelling designers work in close collaboration with artisans, reinterpreting ancestral techniques through a contemporary lens.

I think what people should really understand is the level of rigor behind it. It's not just "craft" in a decorative sense; it's conceptual, material-driven, and often deeply intellectual. There's a strong narrative embedded in each piece, whether it's about identity, territory, or process. For a long time, Mexican design has been underrepresented in the global conversation, and what we're seeing now is a very exciting moment where it's finally being recognized for what it truly is: a sophisticated and essential voice within contemporary design. And I couldn't be more excited and grateful to be part of this conversation and to help bring it to New York and to the world.

How has your (Ilana Goldberg's) interior design background influenced the design of the gallery space – from the archways to the clay flooring – and how does it influence your curatorial ethos?

My background in interior design is very present, both in the architecture of the space and in the way I curate. I don't see the gallery as a white box; I see it as an environment that holds and elevates the objects. Elements like the archways or the clay flooring are not decorative decisions; they're about creating atmosphere, texture, and a sense of grounding. I wanted the space to feel warm, tactile, and intimate, closer to a lived-in environment than to a traditional gallery.

At the same time, it was very important to me that the space made the artists and their work feel worthy of representing Mexico in a place as significant as the Meatpacking District. The expectations were high, and I felt a strong responsibility, not only to showcase Mexico, but to do so in a way that could stand confidently within New York City. This project is not just about Mexico; it's also about NYC, and my deep gratitude to this city.

To achieve this vision of truly immersing Mexican design into New York, I collaborated with a local architect, Jesús Aguilar of Studio Ater, the best! Together, we designed a space that bridges both contexts. The result feels aligned with the standards of New York while remaining deeply rooted in Mexican identity. It has been incredibly rewarding to see how this has resonated; the artists feel proud and well represented, and we've already had many more designers wanting to join the collection, drawn not only to the project but to the space and the team behind it. That same thinking carries into the curatorial approach. I'm always considering how pieces coexist, how they speak to one another, and how they are experienced spatially. It's less about individual objects and more about the dialogue between them.

Your showroom's name, K'ab Juun, is Mayan for hand and unique. For you, what is the significance of handicraft work, especially in this ever-more-industrial and automated world?

For me, handicraft represents something deeply human. It carries time, intention, and presence in a way that industrial production simply cannot replicate. In a world that is becoming increasingly automated, these objects remind us of the value of the hand, of imperfection, of process, of individuality. Each piece holds a kind of quiet memory of how it was made, and of who made it. There's also an ethical dimension to it. Supporting handmade work means supporting communities, preserving knowledge systems, and sustaining cultural continuity. It's not nostalgic, it's essential.

What are some of your favorite pieces currently on view in the showroom?

It's always difficult to choose, because every piece in the gallery is there for a reason and carries its own story. That said, I'm particularly drawn to the onyx collection *Materia* by Raúl de la Cerda. The pieces have a striking presence; they explore weight, translucency, and material in a way that

feels both sculptural and functional at the same time.

I also deeply love working with Caterina Moretti of Peca. There's an incredible level of precision in her work, and a profound respect for process across all the materials she engages with: wood, clay, and textiles. In particular, the *Aurum* collection holds a very special place for me. The *Aurum* Cabinets and *Aurum* Boxes are prominently placed in the gallery, and I'm constantly in awe of the meticulous gold leaf work she applies to the wood. It's both delicate and incredibly powerful.

And then there's Ente. Their stone pieces have a quiet, grounded presence. There's a kind of restraint and honesty in the way they approach material that I find very compelling. The pieces don't try to do too much, and that's precisely what makes them so strong.

What's your favorite thing to do in the summer in New York City?

I love simply walking the city in the summer; there's an energy that feels alive and spontaneous. Spending time along the West Side Highway or the Hudson, going to galleries, having long lunches that turn into dinners... there's a kind of ease that New York rarely allows itself during the rest of the year. I also love attending Shakespeare in the Park; it's such a special New York tradition. I'm fascinated by the ritual of sitting for hours just to get a ticket; it really speaks to what the city offers its residents for free, and how people come together around culture in such a unique way. I also love going on picnics in the park any day of the week, but especially when there's a concert by the New York Philharmonic at the Great Lawn in Central Park, it creates such a magical, communal atmosphere. Another favorite activity is walking back from Brooklyn to Manhattan across the Brooklyn Bridge, especially in the summer light. Summer is when the city feels the most open; there's a sense of possibility everywhere.

Were there any specific qualities about the Meatpacking District that drew you towards locating K'ab Juun here?

The Meatpacking District has a very interesting balance between history and contemporaneity, which feels very aligned with what we're doing at K'ab Juun. There's a strong design and cultural presence in the neighborhood, but it also still has a certain rawness to it. It didn't feel overly polished or predictable, which was important to me. I also liked the idea of placing Mexican design in a context where it could be part of a broader, international conversation, surrounded by fashion, art, and architecture.

Who will you be rooting for this summer? How will you be celebrating?

Mexico, always! And I imagine celebrating in a very informal way, gathering friends, watching the games together, probably at the gallery at some point. There's something about the World Cup that creates an instant sense of community, and I love that. It brings people together in a very genuine, emotional way.

Beyond that, we're especially excited about something we're developing at the gallery this summer. We were very interested in exploring the intersection between art and the World Cup, thinking about how to bring that energy into a cultural and design context. At first, it wasn't entirely clear how to approach it, but our incredible creative team at K'ab Juun had the idea to reach out to Mario Cortés, also known as Cuemanche. Mario is the artist behind the official illustrated posters representing Mexico in the World Cup, a body of work that captures not just the sport, but a broader visual identity tied to culture, movement, and national pride. His process is deeply narrative-driven, blending illustration, symbolism, and a very distinct graphic language that feels both contemporary and rooted. We had the opportunity to speak with him about his creative process, and we'll be hosting an Instagram Live conversation with him during the summer. In addition, we'll be bringing his three World Cup posters, signed by him, for a special presentation at the gallery, so people can experience them up close. It felt like a very natural way to celebrate the World Cup for us, not just as a sporting event, but as a cultural moment that can also be explored through art and design.

K'ab Juun is located at 38 Little West 12th St.

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MEATPACKING DISTRICT MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

SUMMER IN MEATPACKING

We asked artist Alania Caridad Hinckson to envision what Summer in Meatpacking looks like for our first-ever comic! Hinckson is an illustrator, designer, and writer from Jackson Heights, New York. They graduated from the Maryland Institute College of Art in 2024 with a degree in Illustration and have since exhibited work in the Society of Illustrators Student Scholarship Competition and at Artscape, Baltimore's largest outdoor art event. Their debut picture book, Oh, Pearl!, is an expansion of their senior thesis and marks their entry into children's publishing. When not drawing, Alania can be found making lattes or performing concerts for their cat, Yuki. They currently live in New York.



THE DISTRICT TEA