

Thomas Roma's photograph from cover of the two-time Guggenheim Fellowship recipient's book "Found in Brooklyn." Roma will sign copies of this and his other books Wednesday at Tabla Rasa Gallery.

Urban art offers 'Summer' escape

VISIT VARIOUS artistic views, textures and content of the urban landscape this weekend as the Summer in the City exhibit opens at Tabla Rasa Gallery on Saturday.

The work of eight featured artists, including Esteban Chavez and Mauricio Trenard Sayago, offers oversized prints and large canvases.

Artist Mary Creede specializes in nocturnal views with rich hues, while the industrial skylines by Karen Roth are raw and gritty.

Other works range from the elegant modular panels by Jim Dustin to whimsical fantasies of Stephen Basso. One can almost hear the sounds of the American art form of jazz depicted in the brilliant collages of Willie Torbert.

Two-time recipient of Guggenheim Fellowships, photographic artist Thomas Roma shows his series of the diverse ethnic neighborhoods of Brooklyn. He will sign copies of his books during the artists' reception on Wednesday. They include "Come Sunday," "Found in Brooklyn," "Old and On Their Own," "Sunset Park" and "Higher Ground."

Tabla Rasa Gallery is at 224 48th St., in SPaRC (Sunset Park Artists' Community). The Summer in the City exhibit, which opens on Saturday, will be on view through Aug. 27. Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays. You may call for additional hours and information at (718) 768-0305.

MUSIC AL FRESCO

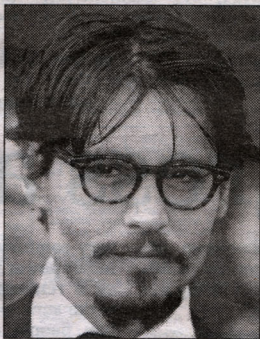
■ They started as a casual collective of blues musicians seeking gigs for when they were home from the road. Now the Black Coffee Blues possess a sound that is all their own and will appear in the new free outdoor concert series at

J. J. Byrne Park, Fifth Ave. between Third and Fourth Sts. at 6:30 tonight. Bring blankets and lawn chairs. Call (718) 768-3195.

■ Catch The Dells, The New Stylistics, and Ray, Goodman and Brown in concert at the 23rd annual Martin Luther King Junior Concert series at Wingate Field, Winthrop, between Brooklyn and Kingston Aves. Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz once again will host world-class musical talents. Showtime is 7:30 p.m. Monday. Bring lawn chairs. Call (718) 469-1912.

FILM

■ A Johnny Depp retrospective, "In Deppth," opens tomorrow at the BAM Rose Cinema, 30 Lafayette Ave. BAMcinematek presents an eight-film series exploring the work of Johnny Depp. The first offering, "A Nightmare On Elm Street," is tomorrow at 6:50 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. On Saturday, "Edward Scissorhands" will be screened at 2 p.m., 4:40 p.m., 6:50 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Catch "Cry-Baby" at 2 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6:50 p.m. and 9:15 p.m. Sun-



Johnny Depp is honored at BAM Rose Cinema.

day. Admission is \$10. Call (718) 636-4100.

NOSTALGIA TRAIN TOUR

■ Vintage "Lo-V" subway cars will once more take a triumphant ride at 10 a.m. Sunday from Grand Central to 242nd St. sponsored by the New York Transit Museum. At the three-hour layover receive free admission to the Van Cortlandt House Museum, enjoy children's programs at Van Cortlandt Nature Center and take a self-guided stroll along the John Kieran Nature Trail. Tickets are \$30 and \$10 for children ages 3 to 17. Reservations are required, call (718) 694-1867.

Compiled by Gayle DeWees
gdeweess@nydailynews.com