



***Unbound*, a book-launch series co-presented by BAM and Greenlight Bookstore, returns this fall with Masha Gessen, Alice Waters, and Dan Rather**

Unbound: Masha Gessen in conversation with David Remnick
Exclusive NY launch of *The Future is History: How Totalitarianism Reclaimed Russia*

Oct 3 at 7pm

BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Ave)

Tickets: \$25 (event only); \$45 (with book)

Unbound: Alice Waters in conversation with Hilton Als
Launch of *Coming to My Senses: The Making of a Counterculture Cook*

Oct 23 at 7:30pm

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave)

Tickets start at \$25 (and at \$45 with book)

Unbound: Dan Rather

Moderator to be announced

Exclusive NY launch of *What Unites Us: Reflections on Patriotism*

Nov 6 at 7:30pm

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave)

Tickets: \$25 (event only); \$45 (with book)

Aug 14, 2017/Brooklyn, NY—*Unbound: A Book Launch Series with BAM and Greenlight Bookstore* returns this fall to present vibrant evenings with authors Masha Gessen, Alice Waters, and Dan Rather. Tickets for the *Unbound* events go on sale Aug 22 (Aug 15 for BAM Members). Books may be purchased along with tickets. All three events will have American Sign Language (ASL) interpretation.

Russian-American journalist Masha Gessen has been praised as “humbly erudite, deftly unconventional, and courageously honest” by *On Tyranny* author Timothy Snyder. In this time of newly-escalated tension between Russia and the Western world, he notes, “when we must understand Russia to understand ourselves, we are all very lucky to have her.” Gessen’s new book *The Future is History: How Totalitarianism Reclaimed Russia* is a major narrative nonfiction work and a cautionary tale for our time. Over the course of the past three decades, Russia, having seemingly shed its Soviet incarnation for good and embarked on a journey toward democracy, has devolved into a retro-totalitarian state run by Vladimir Putin with an iron fist. Gessen captures this pivotal era through the stories of several Russians whose lives spanned these decades, who blossomed with its embrace of

unprecedented freedoms, and were then crushed by its war on the very means by which they had come to understand themselves. *New Yorker* Editor in Chief David Remnick will moderate. Book signing following the talk.

Gessen has written several books including the national bestseller *The Man Without A Face: The Unlikely Rise of Vladimir Putin*. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *The New York Review of Books*, *Vanity Fair*, *Slate*, and many other publications, and her many awards include a Carnegie Fellowship and a Guggenheim. She lives in New York.

For press information, contact David Hsieh at dhsieh@BAM.org or 718.724.8027.

The long-awaited memoir from cultural icon and culinary standard bearer **Alice Waters** recalls the circuitous road and tumultuous times leading to the opening of what is arguably America's most influential restaurant, Chez Panisse. When she opened the doors of her "little French restaurant" in Berkeley, CA in 1971 at the age of 27, no one ever anticipated the indelible mark it would leave on the culinary landscape—Waters least of all. In *Coming to My Senses*, she retraces the events that led her to 1517 Shattuck Avenue and the tumultuous times that emboldened her to find her own voice as a cook when the prevailing food culture embraced convenience and uniformity. *Coming to My Senses* is a quietly revealing look at one woman's evolution from a rebellious yet impressionable follower to a respected activist who effects social and political change on a global level through the common bond of food.

Alice Waters is a chef, author, food activist, and the founder and owner of Chez Panisse restaurant in Berkeley, California. She has been a champion of local sustainable agriculture for over four decades. In 1995 she founded the Edible Schoolyard Project, which advocates for a free school lunch for all children and a sustainable food curriculum in every public school. She has been Vice President of Slow Food International since 2002. She conceived and helped create the Yale Sustainable Food Project in 2003, and the Rome Sustainable Food Project at the American Academy in Rome in 2007. Her honors include election as a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2007; the Harvard Medical School's Global Environmental Citizen Award, which she shared with Kofi Annan in 2008; and her induction into the French Legion of Honor in 2010. In 2015 she was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Obama, proving that eating is a political act, and that the table is a powerful means to social justice and positive change. Alice is the author of fifteen books, including *New York Times* bestsellers *The Art of Simple Food I & II*, *The Edible Schoolyard: A Universal Idea*.

For press information, contact Sarah Garvey sgarvey@BAM.org or 718.724.8044.

At a moment of crisis over our national identity, **Dan Rather** has been reflecting—and writing passionately almost every day on social media—about the world we live in, what our core ideals have been and should be, and what it means to be an American. In *What Unites Us: Reflections on Patriotism*, a collection of wholly original essays, the venerated broadcast journalist celebrates our shared values and ambitions. Writing about the institutions that sustain us, such as public libraries, public schools, and national parks; the values that have transformed us, such as the struggle for civil rights; and the drive toward science and innovation that has defined the United States, Rather will bring to bear his decades of experience on the frontlines of the world's biggest stories.

During a famed and storied career that has spanned more than six decades, Dan Rather has interviewed every living President since Eisenhower and was on the ground for every major event, from the assassination of John F. Kennedy to Watergate to 9/11. In 1962 he joined CBS News, where he quickly rose through the ranks to assume the position of anchor and managing editor of the *CBS Evening News* in 1981. His reporting was featured across the network and helped establish venerable and innovative programs such as *60 Minutes* and *48 Hours*. Upon leaving CBS, Rather created the Emmy Award-winning primetime news magazine and documentary program, *Dan Rather Reports*. He is currently founder, president, and CEO of News and Guts, a multimedia production company that specializes in nonfiction content.

For press information, contact Christian Barclay cbarclay@BAM.org or 718.724.8044.

Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) is recognized internationally for its innovative programming of dance, music, theater, opera, and film. Its mission is to be the home for adventurous artists, audiences, and ideas. BAM presents leading national and international artists and companies in its annual Winter/Spring Season and highlights groundbreaking, contemporary work in the performing arts with its Next Wave Festival each fall. Founded in 1983, the Next Wave is one of the world's most important festivals of contemporary performing arts. BAM Rose Cinemas features new, independent film releases and BAMcinématek—a curated, daily repertory film program. In 2012, BAM added a third venue, the Richard B. Fisher Building, to its campus, providing an intimate and flexible 250-seat performance venue—the Fishman Space—as well as the Hillman Studio, a rehearsal and performance space.

BAM serves New York City's diverse population through community events, literary series, and a wide variety of educational and family programs. BAM, America's oldest performing arts center, has presented performances since 1861, and attracts an audience of more than 750,000 people each year. The institution is led by President Katy Clark and Executive Producer Joseph V. Melillo. Visit BAM.org.

Founded in October 2009, **Greenlight Bookstore** is a general independent bookstore with two store locations in Brooklyn, as well as kiosks at BAM theaters. Through knowledgeable staff, curated book selection, community partnerships, and a robust e-commerce website as well as beautiful bookstore spaces on Fulton Street and Flatbush Avenue, Greenlight combines the best traditions of the neighborhood bookstore with a forward-looking sensibility. Greenlight has garnered local, national, and international press coverage for its innovative startup model and its continuing success. In addition to partnering with BAM on the Unbound series, Greenlight hosts literary events in its stores several nights a week. More information and details can be found at greenlightbookstore.com.

Credits:

Programming in the BAM Howard Gilman Opera House is supported and endowed by the Howard Gilman Foundation.

Your tax dollars make BAM programs possible through funding from the City of New York Department of Cultural Affairs and the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature. The BAM Next Wave Festival is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts. The BAM facilities are owned by the City of New York and benefit from public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs with support from Mayor Bill de Blasio; Cultural Affairs Commissioner Tom Finkelpearl; the New York City Council including Council Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito, Finance Committee Chair Julissa Ferreras,

Cultural Affairs Committee Chair Jimmy Van Bramer, Councilmember Laurie Cumbo, and the Brooklyn Delegation of the Council; and Brooklyn Borough President Eric L. Adams. BAM would like to thank the Brooklyn Delegations of the New York State Assembly, Joseph R. Lentol, Delegation Leader; and New York Senate, Senator Velmanette Montgomery.

General Information:

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM