New York Transit Museum

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BRINGING BACK THE CITY: WHAT'S BELOW?

Tuesday, April 12th from 6:30 – 8:30 pm

Below the streets of New York City lies an intricate and expansive maze of water mains, power lines, sewage systems, and tunnels and tracks for the subway and five passenger railroads (LIRR, Metro-North, New Jersey Transit, PATH, and Amtrak). As the city's infrastructure continues to grow and modernize, urban designers and city planners face the challenge of making the components of this vast underground network co-exist alongside – or around – one another. How did major events like September 11th and Superstorm Sandy impact what's below? On Tuesday, April 12th, join archeologist Alyssa Loorya and Untapped Cities founder Michelle Young at the New York Transit Museum for a fascinating evening examining what lies beneath our feet.

Alyssa Loorya, preservationist and registered professional archeologist, is cofounder and president of Chrysalis Archeology, a cultural resource management firm providing consultation and services related to archaeology, historic preservation, architecture, and public outreach. Loorya is a past president of the Professional Archeologists of New York City, and serves on the boards of several preservation organizations – including the Hendrick I. Lott House Preservation Association and the Historic Districts Council. She has developed special content curricula in archaeology, historic preservation, and architectural studies for the NYC Department of Education and several local museums and non-profits. Loorya is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Anthropology at the CUNY Graduate Center.

Michelle Young is the founder of <u>Untapped Cities</u>, an online magazine about urban discovery. She is a graduate of Harvard College in the History of Art and Architecture and holds a master's degree in urban planning from Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, where she is an Adjunct Professor of Architecture. She is the author of <u>Broadway</u> from Arcadia Publishing, <u>New York: Hidden Bars & Restaurants</u> from Jonglez Publishing and is currently working on the book <u>Secret Brooklyn: An Unusual Guide</u> for Jonglez.

Tickets are available at http://bit.ly/WhatsBelow for \$10 (free for Museum members). Visit www.mta.info/museum/programs for more information on Transit Museum programs and to purchase tickets.

New York Transit Museum programs explore the history, ingenuity, and inner workings of the transit system that is the lifeblood of our region. *AfterHours* at the Transit Museum provides an extended opportunity to explore the museum and features panels and programs with experts from the MTA, and the design, urban planning, and engineering fields – all set against the backdrop of the Museum's 1936 decommissioned subway station.

Bringing Back the City: What's Below? is presented in conjunction with **Bringing Back the City: Mass Transit Responds to Crisis**, now on display at the Transit Museum in Downtown Brooklyn. Some of the exhibition's content, including videos and images, are available at www.BringingBacktheCity.com.

ABOUT BRINGING BACK THE CITY:

The New York Transit Museum's exhibition, *Bringing Back the City: Mass Transit Responds to Crisis*, offers a unique perspective on the vital, often unseen, work of New York's transit employees. Using the events of 9/11, the 2003 Northeast Blackout, Hurricane Sandy and other severe weather events as examples, the exhibition reveals the critical role that mass transit personnel play in preparing for and responding to natural and man-made disasters. Through a vibrant display of objects, photographs, media, and personal accounts, the exhibition highlights the technical and professional skills needed to restore public transportation service and get New Yorkers moving again after crisis strikes.

ABOUT NEW YORK TRANSIT MUSEUM:

The New York Transit Museum, one of the city's leading cultural institutions, is the largest museum in the United States devoted to urban public transportation history and one of the premier institutions of its kind in the world. The Museum explores the development of the greater New York metropolitan region through the presentation of exhibitions, tours, educational programs and workshops dealing with the cultural, social and technological history of public transportation. Since its inception nearly 40 years ago, the Museum – which is housed in a historic 1936 IND subway station in Downtown Brooklyn – has grown in scope and popularity. The New York Transit Museum operates a Gallery Annex in Grand Central Terminal that presents changing exhibitions. As custodian and interpreter of the region's extensive public transportation networks, the Museum strives to share through its public programs their rich and vibrant history with local, regional, and international audiences.

What: BRINGING BACK THE CITY: WHAT'S BELOW?

When: Tuesday, April 12, 6:30 pm (doors open at 6:00)

Where: New York Transit Museum

Boerum Place and Schermerhorn Street

Admission: \$10/Free for Museum members

Tickets: http://bit.ly/WhatsBelow

Complimentary press passes available.

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