

# THE NEW YORKER

## GOINGS ON

**Cultural happenings in New York and elsewhere, both online and off.**

« WWJD (with an M.F.A.)? | Main | Neil Never Sleeps »

**July 21, 2008**

## World Voices Project



In honor of the sixtieth anniversary of the signing of the United Nation's Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the artist Brenda Ray has travelled the world and recorded countless folks reciting the document in their native language. Along with the well-known Romance languages, she has clips of people in Tigrinya of Eritrea, Amharic of Ethiopia, Mongolian, Zulu, and Shona of Zimbabwe. She has turned these tapes into a sound installation that opened yesterday at the South Street Seaport. It involves a "jungle of headphones," some of which play the recordings straight and others of which mix the various languages into a new piece. Either way, these simple but profound rights speak to all of us.—*John Donohue*

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