

## CLIFTON BENEVENTO

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# The New York Times

## Arts

THE WEEK AHEAD

Feb. 19 — 25



### Film

**DOCUMENTARY FORTNIGHT 2012**, the Museum of Modern Art's annual international festival of nonfiction film, continues through Feb. 28 with the United States premiere on Sunday of "Without Gorky," an exploration of the troubled life of Arshile Gorky, the Armenian-born American painter and forerunner of the Abstract Expressionists. Directed by his granddaughter Cosima Spender, who interviews relatives, the movie focuses on Gorky's suicide in 1948 when he was in his mid-40s. At the time he was undergoing treatment for cancer; his painting arm had been paralyzed in a car accident; and his marriage was ending.

Monday night brings the North American premiere of Ji Dan's "When the Bough Breaks," about two Chinese sisters growing up on the outskirts of Beijing who, against their parents' will, struggle to continue their education. Wu Tsang's documentary "Wildness," having its world premiere Wednesday night, is a portrait of the Silver Platter, a landmark bar in East Los Angeles that has long provided a friendly refuge for gay and lesbian Latino immigrants. The movie captures the creativity and conflict when a group of young, gay artists organize a weekly performance-art party at the bar. *A full schedule and ticket information are at [moma.org](http://moma.org).*

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