

NEW YORK

DECEMBER 26, 2005-JANUARY 2, 2006

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123 REASONS TO LOVE NEW YORK RIGHT NOW



No. 124
Michael De Feo,
a.k.a. Flower Guy.
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REASONS TO LOVE NEW YORK

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Street-art veteran Michael De Feo has spent more than a decade pasting whimsically uplifting silk-screened prints around the city (pictures at mdefeo.com); except for his trademark flower, he never repeats an image. His first giant flower, painted eleven years ago, still stands on a building on East 23rd Street.

WHAT'S TO LOVE ABOUT NEW YORK?

Isn't it a megalopolis of rude strivers, unapproachable weirdos, and obtuse artistes swimming through hordes of rats and swindlers to cramped, overpriced dens of immorality? Well, yes, that's one reason. In this issue, we catalogue more than a hundred more. Every New Yorker carries around his own personal list, which he constantly amends. You'll almost certainly find some of your own true loves here as well as a few with which you might find grievous fault. But that's what life in this city is all about—endless variety and, along with it, ample fodder for argument. In addition to the unapproachable weirdos, that may be the biggest reason we ♥ NY.

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On the Cover: Flower Guy painting one of his 10,000 signature flowers for New York Magazine. Cover and this page: photographs by David Harry Stewart for New York Magazine.