

Beard on Books

Susan Ungaro

President of the James Beard Foundation
invites you to attend an intimate reading featuring

Manny Howard

Author of

My Empire of Dirt: How One Man Turned His Big-City Backyard Into a Farm

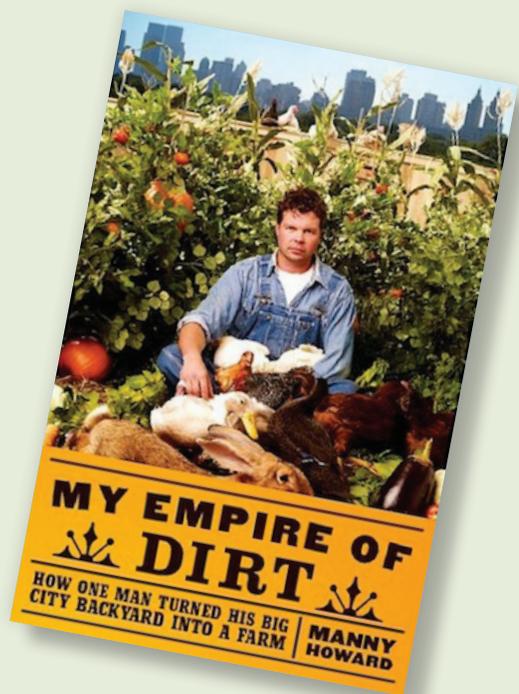
Wednesday, August 4, 2010

12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m.

Book signing will follow reading and discussion

The James Beard House

167 West 12th Street, NYC
(between Sixth and Seventh Avenues)



About *My Empire of Dirt: How One Man Turned His Big-City Backyard Into a Farm*:

In *My Empire of Dirt: How One Man Turned His Big-City Backyard Into a Farm*, Manny Howard recounts his ambitious backyard farming project in Brooklyn. After months of marital strife, a mangled finger, and a freak tornado, Howard—a lifelong urban dweller and magazine writer—discovers that eating close to home is not always as idyllic as it first seems. With self-deprecating humor, self-satisfied pride, and an honest portrayal of his time on the Farm (as he begins to call his endeavor), complete with rabbits, chickens, and a vegetable patch, Howard asks readers to consider what it's really like to eat locally and the meaning of responsible consumption.

Beard on Books, an ongoing monthly literary series featuring readings and discussions with some of the food world's most celebrated authors, is free to students with a suggested donation of \$20 for nonstudents.

Acqua Panna and **S.Pellegrino** waters, **illy caffè**, **Mighty Leaf Tea**, and **Green & Black's® Organic Chocolate** will be served. Sweets provided by **Three Tarts**. Guests are also welcome to bring a brown-bag lunch. Book signing will follow readings and discussions, and books will be available for purchase from Mobile Libris.

Enjoy made-to-order illy espresso beverages handcrafted by Giorgio Milos, illy caffè master barista, visiting from Italy.

To RSVP, please call James Beard Foundation reservations manager Colleen Vincent at 212.627.2308.