



HISTORIC
NEW HARMONY

First Look

April 2025



Bob Etienne of Heart Felt Creations talks with students attending Heritage Artisans Days in April 2024.

IT'S SPRINGTIME AGAIN IN NEW HARMONY

Historic New Harmony (HNH) and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (NHGCA) are abuzz with activity this spring, especially now that the 2025 tour season is officially underway! We hope you'll join HNH

on April 23, 24 and/or 25 during our time-honored event—Heritage Artisans Days—where we welcome thousands of children and introduce them to 19th century artisans who would have been present during the Harmonist (1814–1824) and Owenite (1825–1827) eras. We hope to see you participate as a (repeat) visitor, student, teacher, chaperone and/or volunteer this year.

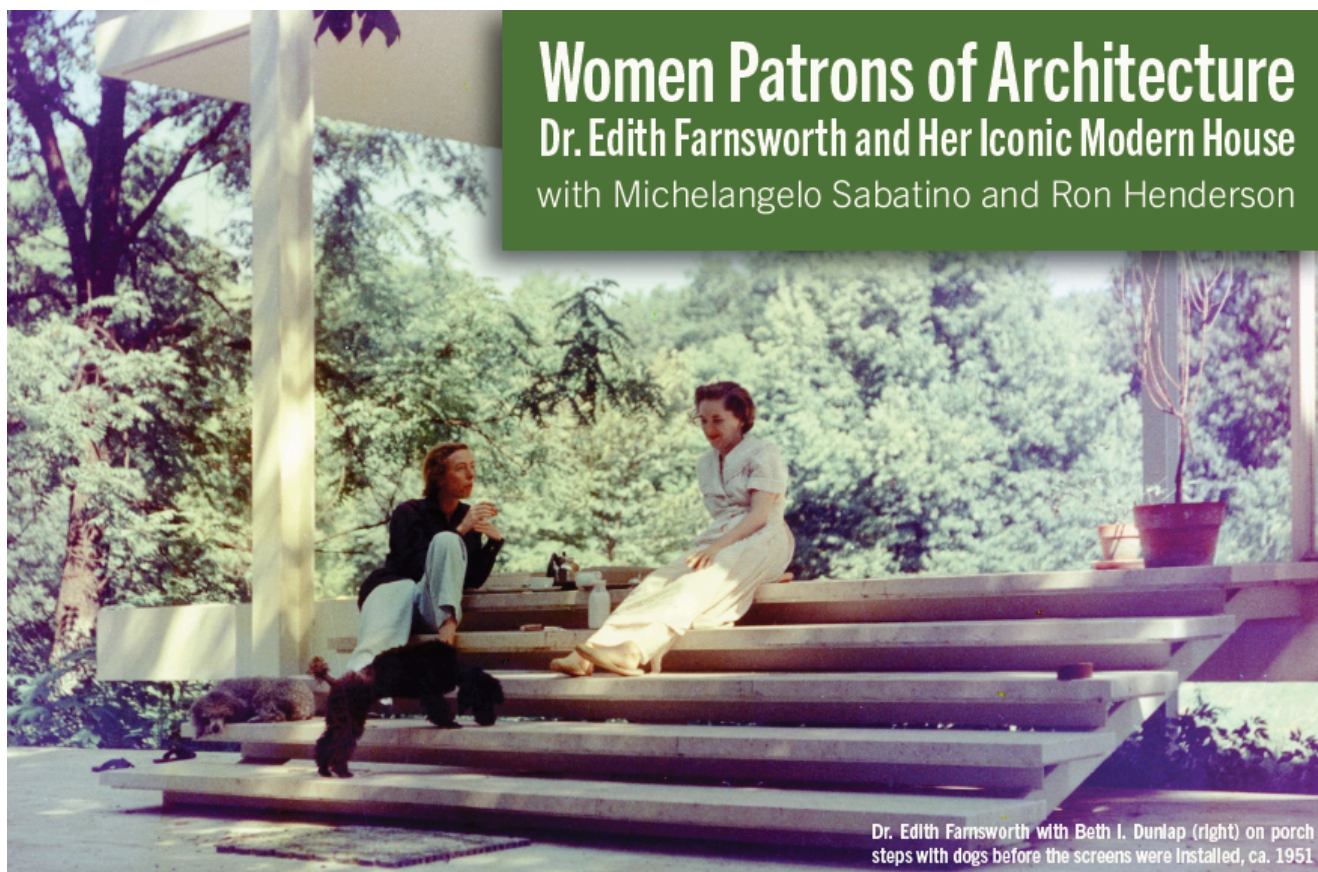
Don't miss your chance to check out *Encountering: Io Palmer, Pavlina Vagioni and Anna Tshouhlarakis* at the NHGCA before it closes on April 12 and return on or after April 19 to visit *Future / Past / Presence: The 2025 New Harmony Contemporary Print Invitational and Exchange*. Last, but not least, swing by the Atheneum Visitors Center to see the *Trees of 40 Fruit* in bloom and book a tram or historic tour. We look forward to sharing New Harmony's artistic heritage—past and present—with you and hope you'll join us in Utopia this spring!

Diane Sanders
Assistant Director of Historic New Harmony

PROGRAMS

New Harmony, Indiana, is located in the Central Time Zone.

**WOMEN PATRONS OF ARCHITECTURE:
DR. EDITH FARNSWORTH AND HER ICONIC MODERN HOUSE
3:30 P.M., APRIL 13**



On Sunday, April 13 at 3:30 p.m. at the Atheneum Visitors Center (401 North Arthur St.), architectural historian Michelangelo Sabatino will discuss his new book, *The Edith Farnsworth House: Architecture, Preservation, Culture*, exploring the three distinct “lives” of the iconic modern house. Designed by Mies van der Rohe for Dr. Edith Farnsworth, the house has evolved through different phases of ownership and preservation, from its creation as a pioneering work of modern architecture to its later years under the Palumbo family and its current stewardship by the National Trust for Historic Preservation and Landmarks Illinois, which opened the house to the public 20 years ago.

Sabatino will be joined by contributor Ron Henderson to discuss the house’s architectural significance, preservation challenges and cultural impact, while Diane Sanders, Assistant Director of Historic New Harmony, will read excerpts from Farnsworth’s memoirs.

Copies of *The Edith Farnsworth House*, as well as Sabatino’s other books, *Avant Garde in the Cornfields* and *Modern in the Middle*, will be available for sale at the Atheneum Museum Shop for signing following the program.

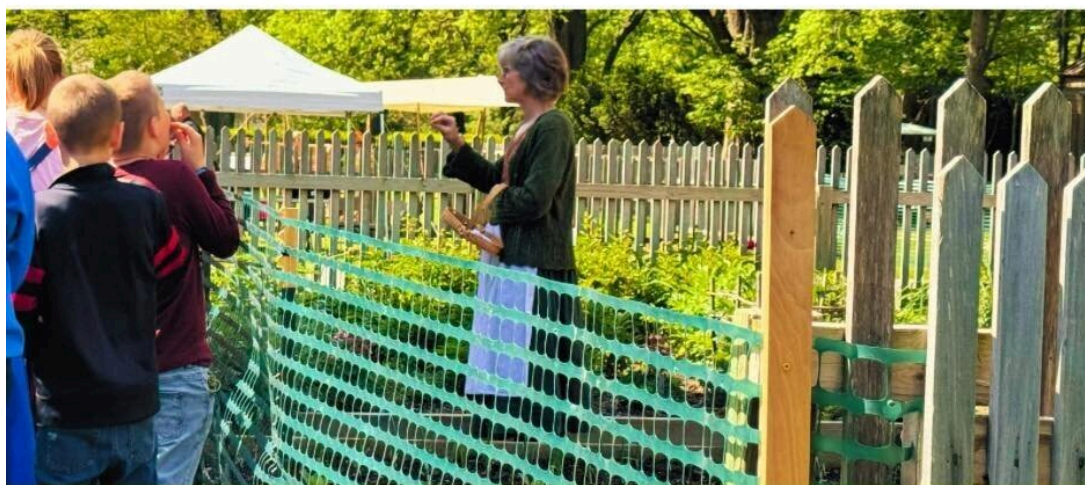


Historic New Harmony will host its annual Heritage Artisans Days on April 23-25. Geared toward elementary school students, this program allows children to learn what life was like living in New Harmony, Indiana, in the early 1800s. Students will experience 19th-century history through interaction with historic interpreters who will present their professions and roles, including paper marbling, blacksmithing and more! For more information, contact Historic New Harmony at 812-682-4488, email us at harmony@usi.edu or visit our [website](#).

LEARN MORE



APRIL 23-25



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

HELP US CONNECT KIDS TO HISTORY

Historic New Harmony

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS FOR HERITAGE ARTISANS DAYS

We're looking for volunteers to help bring the past to life at our annual Heritage Artisans Days festival, Wednesday through Friday, April 23-25. Thousands of elementary school students will be coming to New Harmony, Indiana, to experience 19th-century history through interaction with historic interpreters who will demonstrate their professions and roles in a community.

Volunteers at Heritage Artisans Days will welcome students, teachers and chaperones to the event, assist with performances and demonstrations at the Murphy Auditorium and Working Men's Institute, sell tickets and rock candy, support event activities and more. No expert knowledge about history required—just enthusiasm for making a positive impact and a good experience for the kids and their adults.

Dates: Wednesday, April 23, Thursday, April 24 and Friday, April 25

Location: Volunteer check-in at the Atheneum Visitors Center, 401 North Street, New Harmony, Indiana

Available Shifts: 8-10:30 a.m., 10:15 a.m.-12:45 p.m., 12:30-3 p.m. or all day (8 a.m.-3 p.m.)

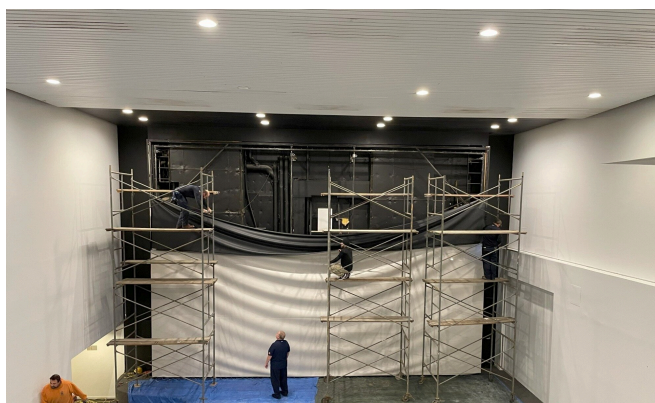
SIGN UP AS A VOLUNTEER

WINTER 2025 PHOTO ESSAY



2025 in New Harmony started with a winter storm. Snow blanketed the town for a few days in early January, turning it into a winter wonderland. This photo shows the Eigner and Weber cabins with the David Lenz House in the background.

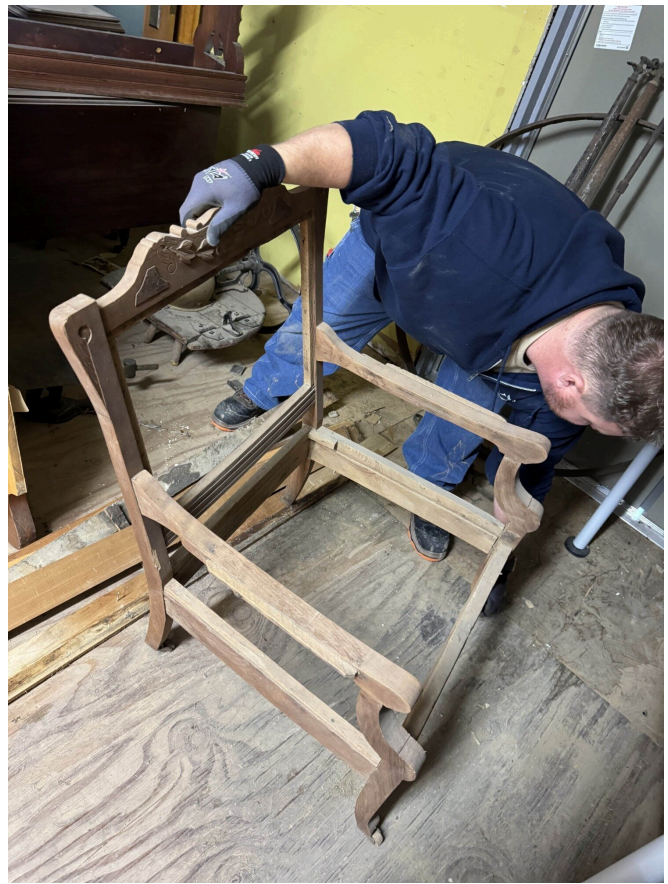
Photo taken by James Taylor-Caudill, January 6, 2025.



While the Atheneum Visitors Center was closed for the winter, Historic New Harmony upgraded the building's 45-year-old HVAC system. This \$750,000 project replaced the old machinery with a new system that will be more reliable and energy efficient while providing a more comfortable temperature inside the building.



Collections manager Heidi Taylor-Caudill started a project to digitize Historic New Harmony's collection of Block Files in January. The Block Files contain photographs and information on people, places and events in New Harmony, Indiana, from the 19th century through at least the 1990s.



On January 20, collections manager Heidi Taylor-Caudill and maintenance staff member Christian Farley inventoried a large number of items from Historic New Harmony's collection stored off-site.



From January 11-February 22, the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art presented the exhibition, *Infinite Gauge: Makenzie Goodman and Adam Stacey*, featuring new works in sculpture and image-based media from the artist duo.



The New Harmony Interpreters' Association took a field trip on February 10 to John James Audubon State Park in Henderson, Kentucky. There, they received a behind-the-scenes tour of the Audubon Museum and discussed interpretation with museum curator Connor Humphreys. They also learned about connections between John James Audubon and the naturalists in the Owen/Maclure community in New Harmony.





Historic New Harmony (HNH) held its 12th Talking History gathering at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art on March 20. Participants had the chance to view the exhibition, *Encountering: Io Palmer, Pavlina Vagioni and Anna Tsouhlarakis*, and examine items from HNH's collections related to trade and exchange. The discussion centered on the history of commerce in New Harmony.

On January 22, Historic New Harmony hosted the first meeting of the Owen/Maclure Bicentennial Committee with other organizations and individuals interested in planning a celebration of the 200th anniversary of Robert Owen's purchase of New Harmony from the Harmonists. This meeting was followed by a second meeting of the committee at the Working Men's Institute on February 27.



Maintenance staff spent the winter working on various projects to preserve and maintain Historic New Harmony's properties. This included cleaning the



window shutters on the 1830 Owen House and replacing siding on the Joseph Neef House.

EXHIBITS



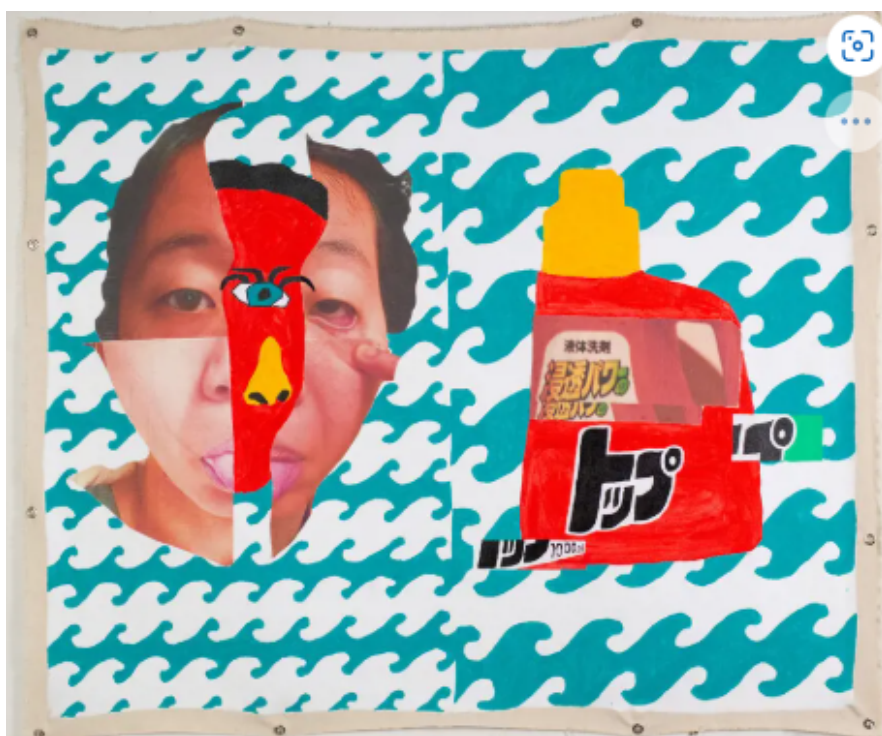
New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

ENCOUNTERING: IO PALMER, PAVLINA VAGIONI AND ANNA TSOUHLARAKIS

MARCH 1-APRIL 12

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (NHGCA) proudly presents *Encountering: Io Palmer, Pavlina Vagioni and Anna Tsouhlarakis*, a three-person exhibition reflecting on themes of cross-cultural trade, exchange and diasporas. *Encountering* explores intersectional identities and cross-cultural frameworks over time: both themes simultaneously overlap with the overlapping histories comprising present-day New Harmony, Indiana. Works on view encompass sculpture, collage, assemblage and non-traditional art materials, foregrounding the ways in which approaches to material culture shift over time. *Encountering* offers timeless yet interconnected perspectives on identity, investigating both the tensions and possibilities existing at global crossroads and the complexities that necessarily result.

LEARN MORE



Skye Taniai, *Self Portrait with Japanese Laundry Detergent* (2023). Image courtesy of the artist.

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

FUTURE/PAST/PRESENCE:
THE 2025 NEW HARMONY CONTEMPORARY PRINT EXCHANGE
APRIL 19-MAY 10

Co-organized by John P. Begley (contemporary artist, printmaker and founding director, New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art and Printshop - 1975 through 1983) and Brett Anderson (contemporary artist, printmaker and University of Southern Indiana Associate Professor of Art and Director of USI's McCutchan Art Center and Pace Galleries) is a continuation of multiple portfolio exchanges that the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art has hosted over its illustrious history. The invitational supports three broad goals of the gallery; by acting as a vehicle to bring contemporary art from across the nation to a rural region of the United States; by highlighting the communal ideology of the city's history by encouraging printmaking and the

portfolio exchange format; and to help secure the future of New Harmony's cultural legacy. This exhibit will feature works by over 30 artists currently living and working across eight states with ties and links to the Midwest region and Southwest Indiana in particular.

LEARN MORE



New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, 506 Main Street.

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

RESIDENCE IX APRIL 19-MAY 10

Residence IX spotlights artists-in-residence from the New Harmony Clay Project for 2024-2025. This exhibit will feature work by Corrina Cowles, Ruth Trok, Thea Keene, Wendy Eggerman and Lily Fein.

New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art

OPENING RECEPTION

The opening receptions for *Residence IX* and *Future/Past/Presence* will be from 3 to 6 p.m. Saturday, April 19 at the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, 506 Main Street in New Harmony.

Brett Anderson and (John) JP Begley will be in conversation at the NHGCA from 3:30-4 p.m.

Free and open to the public, with refreshments provided.

NOTABLE DATES

On Friday, April 18, Historic New Harmony's office and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art will be closed for Good Friday. The Athenium Visitors Center will be open that day for tours and information. The Athenium Visitors Center and the New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art will be closed on Sunday, April 20, for Easter.

JOB OPENINGS

Historic New Harmony and New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art are looking for good candidates for the following positions:

- Historic Site Interpreter (part-time; seasonal)
- Sales Assistant (part-time; seasonal)
- Senior Gallery Associate (full-time)

Please help us by forwarding this information to anyone you know who might be interested in working with us.

UPCOMING EXHIBITS AND EVENTS

Under the Beams: The Revelers

7:30 p.m. April 12 at Murphy Auditorium (417 Tavern Street)

Cajun ‘revelers’ help celebrate our 25th anniversary season! Ambassadors of their Cajun musical heritage, and young revelers who know how to throw a party, take the stage and lead the way for the finale to our 25th year! The Revelers have been hailed as one of Louisiana’s most exciting bands and bring not only traditional Acadian fiddle and accordion, but electric bass and guitar, drum set and saxophone! Members include Blake Miller, accordion; Chas Justus, guitar; Daniel Coolik, violin; Glenn Fields, drums; Trey Boudreaux, bass; and The Chris Miller, saxophone.

Driftwood: The Life of Harlan Hubbard

May 13-July 12 at the Atheneum Visitors Center (401 North Arthur Street)

This traveling exhibit is based on Jessica K. Whitehead's new biography of northern Kentucky artist and writer Harlan Hubbard, *Driftwood: The Life of Harlan Hubbard*. More information to come.

Transcendence

May 17-June 28 at New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (506 Main Street)

Curated by Indianapolis-based conceptual artist and cultural producer, Ventiko, "Transcendence" features works by Rachel Leah Cohn, Jenny Del Fuego, Anna Schink, Constance Edwards Scopelitis, Sylva Dean & Me and Studio Lauren Zoll: all Indianapolis-based artists whose works in the exhibit will speak to connections to a higher spiritual dimension and the Divine Feminine. Ventiko is a Power Plant grant 2022 awardee, a DeHaan artist of distinction award winner and has exhibited or curated works for exhibit in Indianapolis, Indiana; Los Angeles, California; New York, New York and abroad in Italy, the Dominican Republic, the United Kingdom, Serbia and South Korea.

Historic New Harmony Advisory Board’s Spring Hat Luncheon

11 a.m. May 31 at the Rapp-Owen Granary (413 Granary Street)

Save the date for this year's Spring Hat Luncheon presented by the Historic New Harmony Advisory Board. The theme for this year's fundraiser is *Alice in Wonderland/Through the Looking Glass*, and the program will feature lunch, a theatrical reading, music and silent auction. Prizes will be awarded in the hat and centerpiece competitions. Additional information and ticket sales will be available soon. Stay tuned, so you're not late for this very important date!

New Harmony Firefly Festival

June 27-28 at the Atheneum Visitors Center (401 North Arthur Street)

The annual Firefly Festival in New Harmony, Indiana, is presented by One New Harmony and Historic New Harmony to honor Indiana's state insect, "Say's Firefly," and Thomas Say, the Father of American Entomology. More information to come on the 2025 festival.

Independence Day Celebration

July 4 at the Atheneum Visitors Center (401 North Arthur Street) and Maclure Park (Church Street)

Join us at the Atheneum on July 4 for an Independence Day Celebration in partnership with the Friends of the Working Men's Institute. The celebration includes a keynote speech by Andrew Wilson and a reading of the Declaration of Independence. A golf cart parade follows the event at the Atheneum and ends at Maclure Park with a community picnic. More information to come.

Liminal Worlds

July 12-August 23 at New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art (506 Main Street)

Curated by Kimi Kitada, "Liminal Worlds" considers the hybrid, multicultural identities of Asian American artists in the Midwest region through the work of seven artists. The featured artists work expansively across printmaking, sculpture, painting and moving images, including works by: Heehyun Choi, Daeun Lim, Lisa Maione, William Plummer, Skye Taniai, Heinrich Toh and Hope-Lian Vinson. Drawing on the cultural theory of Homi Bhabha's concept of hybridity, the artists' practices reference a multivocal, fluid and unfixed notion of identity. Some of the selected artists grew up in the United States, while others immigrated to the U.S. at various moments in their artistic careers. Scholar Erika Lee posits, "what does it mean to be Asian American in the Midwest?" This exhibition delves into that question by foregrounding the "in-between" spaces of cultural belonging and holding space for multiple identities at once. Curator Kimi Kitada lives and works in Kansas City, Missouri,. In addition to her work curating exhibits across the U.S. and internationally for venues in Washington, D.C.; New York, New York; Rome, Italy; Kansas City, Missouri and Budapest, Hungary.

Help Historic New Harmony continue its historic preservation efforts, educational programming, and more with your charitable gift to the USI Foundation. You can make your gift securely online at [USI.edu/giving](https://usi.edu/giving), calling 812-464-1918, or mailing to USI Foundation, 8600 University Blvd., Evansville, IN 47712. Your charitable gift is tax-deductible, and a gift receipt will be issued.



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