



# Dairy Queens

Two Brooklyn entrepreneurs bring some sweetness to a wounded land.



Rwandan students savor a scoop.

would bring joy and indulgence, as well as empowerment through jobs,” Dundas says. After raising \$80,000 in grants and donations, Dundas’s business partner, Alexis Miesen, 35, journeyed to Butare (population 90,000) to help train members of Katese’s all-woman Ingoma Nshya drumming cooperative, most of whom scraped by selling eggs or braiding hair, in shop operations.

These days, with Dundas and Miesen’s help, the drummers run an ice cream parlor called Inzozu Nziza (“Sweet Dreams”) that enables its 11 employees to feed, clothe, and educate more than 70 family members; it also contributes to the livelihood of dozens of dairy farmers, coffee bean growers, and beekeepers. Since about 90 percent of Rwanda lacks access to electricity, most customers have never tasted frozen treats. Homemade flavors like maracuja (passion fruit) “typically inspire amused shock,” says Miesen. “But most people have no problem finishing their bowl.” Eventually, the Rwandan women will assume full control of the business. “And we’ll cheer them on from the sidelines,” says Miesen. —LESLIE GOLDMAN



Alexis Miesen, 35  
Jennie Dundas, 40  
BLUE MARBLE ICE CREAM  
BROOKLYN



**IN 2008 JENNIE DUNDAS**, the 40-year-old co-owner of Brooklyn’s socially conscious Blue Marble Ice Cream shops (they use local organic milk and renewable energy), met Rwandan drummer and playwright Odile Gakire Katese at a theater workshop. Inevitably, they got to talking about the 1994 genocide that killed 800,000 people and left Katese’s homeland in a seemingly permanent state of mourning. Katese had an idea. “She thought an ice cream parlor

## Warm Weather Playlist:

# ZIGGY MARLEY

Bob Marley’s eldest son is back with his fourth solo reggae album, the soulful, breezy *Wild and Free*. Here he shares his ultimate songs of summer.

**For a day in the sun:** “‘Master Blaster,’ by Stevie Wonder, is up-tempo and fun, like Stevie himself. Stevie’s always making jokes; he really knows how to put people at ease. He’s one of my inspirations, as a musician and a person.”

**For a night out:** “‘She Wolf,’ by Shakira, makes you want to let go of your inhibitions and jam. I toured with

Shakira last year in South America, and I loved this song even more after I saw her perform it. *Nobody moves like her.*”

**For a little romance:** “‘Forward to Love,’ from my new album, makes me think of my wife. We met at one of my shows about ten years ago, when she was a talent agent. I knew right when we made eye contact that she was it for me.”

**For a hit of nostalgia:** “My father’s song ‘One Love’ inspired the One Love Peace Concert in Jamaica in 1978. I was 9, but I still remember when he brought the heads of the two rival political factions onstage to join hands. His music was meant to uplift. I can’t imagine summer without it.”

