

MEDIA CONTACT:**JOHN SEROFF – GreenHousePublicity@gmail.com**

Contact for Central Park events info, press tickets and artist assets

SIN HOM-GOGOLAK / 212-360-8281 / shom@cityparksfoundation.org

Contact for City Parks Foundation/SummerStage information, Citywide/Dance/Theater/Gala info and assets

For Immediate Release**City Parks Foundation announces****SUMMERSTAGE***Presented by AT&T***Over 110 FREE music, dance, film, comedy, family and theater programs in
18 parks across all 5 boroughs***Season Features Special Premieres for Music, Dance and Theater**Season runs June 6 – August 30*

April 23, 2012 – New York, NY– City Parks Foundation proudly announces the 2012 season of **SummerStage presented by AT&T, New York’s largest free performing arts festival, bringing over 110 free performances to eighteen parks throughout the five boroughs.** With performances ranging from American pop, Latin and world music to dance, comedy and theater, SummerStage fills a vital niche in New York City’s summer arts festival landscape. **Cutting edge artists from over 15 countries will perform at SummerStage, presenting the best of what is happening globally in the arts world as well as in the heart of the city. Since its inception twenty-seven years ago, more than six million people from New York City and around the world have enjoyed SummerStage. The festival runs from June 6th until August 30th.**

“AT&T* is proud to be the first city-wide sponsor of SummerStage, a quintessential New York City event,” said Tom DeVito, AT&T’s vice president and general manager for New York and New Jersey. “We plan to be on-site at performances in Central Park and every borough to provide New Yorkers with a more interactive experience than ever before including the opportunity to check out the latest technologies on the market and access to charging stations for concert-goers.”

This season, in addition to its impressive lineup, City Parks Foundation’s SummerStage has commissioned a number of artists to create four unique programs that will premiere for the first time ever at SummerStage. These four works span the worlds of music, dance and theater and feature some of the brightest rising stars, as well as several critically acclaimed artists. These distinctive events further SummerStage’s dedication to presenting the best artists from around the world, and playing an active role in promoting artistic creativity.

Numerous artists have chosen SummerStage as their platform to showcase new works. **In addition to the four commissions, there will be twelve premieres, offering audiences the chance to see the latest works from a number of dance and theater companies.**

“Audiences have come to expect the highest-quality, free arts programming from SummerStage and we intend to continue that tradition. We also see the importance of contributing to the arts landscape through supporting artists in their creative endeavors via the funding of these commissioned works,” says City Parks Foundation President, Alison Tocci. “We are delighted that the debut of these exceptional pieces will always be associated with SummerStage.”

Musical highlights from this season include soul legend, **BOBBY WOMACK**, hip-hop legends **BRAND NUBIAN** and **BIG DADDY KANE**, contemporary R&B stars **J. HOLIDAY** and **ERIC BENÉT**, new generation rockers **DAWES**, **ALABAMA SHAKES** and **GARY CLARK JR.**, reggae stars **INNER CIRCLE** and **MIDNITE**, cutting edge comedy troupe **THE UPRIGHT CITIZENS BRIGADE**, gospel greats **HEZEKIAH WALKER** and **LE’ANDRIA JOHNSON**, a global cast of the best Latin rockers, salsaeros and bachata singers including **MALA RODRIGUEZ**, **KINKY**, **HECTOR “EL TORITO” ACOSTA**, **TOBY LOVE**, and **JOSÉ ALBERTO “EL CANARIO”**, downtown performance legend **JOEY ARIAS**, jazz great **ROY HAYNES**, and dozens of other top notch artists.

Dance enthusiasts will be visually engaged with a stunning array of performances that feature a variety of dance genres including tap, hip-hop, step, modern, vogue and numerous others. Female hip-hop troupe, **DECADANCETHEATRE** will premiere a new work set to Vivaldi’s famed *Four Seasons* violin concertos. Contemporary dance superstar **KORESH DANCE COMPANY** will perform pieces from its famed repertoire. Modern dance company, **WHITE WAVE Young Soon Kim Dance Company** will perform *Here NOW So Long*, an ambitious work featuring live music that will explore the body’s limitless capacity for expression.

SummerStage Theatre presented by Time Warner will delight viewers with the world premiere of **THE POWER OF THE TRINITY**, a theatrical concert event celebrating Ethiopia’s last monarch, Haile Selassie. **PAIGE IN FULL** makes its NYC premiere and is an exceptional coming of age story told through the lens of hip-hop music. The Faux-Real Theatre Company premieres its newest take on the classic, **JASON AND THE ARGONAUTS— TALES FROM THE ARGONAUTICA**.

The complete SummerStage schedule follows. For the most up-to-date scheduling and line-up for all SummerStage programming, follow SummerStage via the below links and visit www.SummerStage.org for festival information.

Twitter: @SummerStage

Facebook: www.facebook.com/summerstagenyc

City Parks Foundation (CPF) is the only independent, nonprofit organization to offer park programs throughout the five boroughs of New York City. We work in over 750 parks citywide, presenting a broad range of free arts, sports, and education programs, and empowering citizens to support their parks on a local level. Our programs and community building initiatives reach more than 600,000 people each year, contributing to the revitalization of neighborhoods throughout New York City.

**AT&T products and services are provided or offered by subsidiaries and affiliates of AT&T Inc. under the AT&T brand and not by AT&T Inc.*

SummerStage 2012 Schedule

Shows taking place at our Central Park location are noted in blue.

Doors open one hour prior to listed show times.

Date	Time	Artist	Location
Wed, June 6	7:00 PM	Midnite DJ Carter Van Pelt Hosted by Dahved Levy	Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn
Thurs, June 7	7:00 PM	Bobby Womack Willis Earl Beal	Central Park, Manhattan
Thurs, June 7	7:00 PM	Buckshot, Smif n Wessun and Sean Price of Boot Camp Clik	Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn
Fri, June 8	7:00 PM	JJ Hairston Jessica Reedy	Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn
Fri, June 8	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Decadancetheatre Whitney Hunter[medium] <i>All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Decadancetheatre</i>	Von King Park, Brooklyn
Sat, June 9	7:00 PM	10th Cine Fest Petrobras Brasil NY <i>*Live Performance by Sandra de Sá</i> <i>*Full Film Screening of the new Raul Seixas documentary: RAUL</i>	Central Park, Manhattan
Sat, June 9	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Germual Barnes / Viewsic Expressions Dance Restoration Dance Theatre Company <i>All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Calvin Wiley</i>	Von King Park, Brooklyn
Sun, June 10	4:00 PM	SummerStage Kids Brooklyn Family Day featuring FELA Queens The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus DJ Stormin' Norman	Von King Park, Brooklyn
Sun, June 10	7:00 PM	Idle Warship Film Screening: Brooklyn Boheme	Von King Park, Brooklyn
Tues, June 12	8:00 PM	The New York Pops with Ozomatli	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, June 12	7:00 PM	Bushman NiyoRah DJ Soul Selector Hosted by Dahved Levy	Von King Park, Brooklyn
Wed, June 13	7:00 PM	J. Holiday Eric Roberson	Von King Park, Brooklyn
Thurs, June 14	7:00 PM	EPMD DJ Scratch	Von King Park, Brooklyn
Fri, June 15	8:00 PM	Joey Arias	Central Park, Manhattan
Fri, June 15 Sat, June 16	8:00 PM	<i>"Paige in Full" a play by Paige Hernandez</i> Directed by Danielle A. Drakes	Von King Park, Brooklyn

Sat, June 16	7:00 PM	Dawes Kurt Vile and The Violators	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, June 17	6:00 PM	<i>The Blue Note Jazz Festival</i> featuring Groove Theory Soulive Riq and Rah with Strings (Blackthought + Rahzel) DJ ?uestlove	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, June 19	7:00 PM	AraabMUZIK Das Racist	Red Hook Park, Brooklyn
Wed, June 20	8:00 PM	<i>Comedy Central: Indecision in the Park</i> featuring <i>The Daily Show</i> stars and writers: Rory Albanese Wyatt Cenac Adam Lowitt Al Madrigal John Oliver Kristen Schaal Hosted by John Hodgman	Central Park, Manhattan
Wed, June 20	7:00 PM	<i>Lyricist Lounge 20 Year Anniversary</i> featuring Brand Nubian Game Rebellion	Red Hook Park, Brooklyn
Thurs, June 21	7:00 PM	Deer Tick Jonny Corndawg	Red Hook Park, Brooklyn
Fri, June 22 Sat, June 23	8:00 PM	<i>"Paige in Full"</i> a play by Paige Hernandez Directed by Danielle A. Drakes	Red Hook Park, Brooklyn
Sun, June 24	3:00 PM	Alabama Shakes Diamond Rugs Robert Ellis	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, June 24	7:00 PM	<i>Comedy Central Live</i> presents Hannibal Buress with Kevin Barnett and Josh Rabinowitz	Red Hook Park , Brooklyn
Tues, June 26	7:00 PM	<i>Workmen's Circle Yiddishfest 2012 -</i> <i>Singing for a Better World</i> featuring The Klezmatics SoCalled Daniel Kahn and The Painted Bird Joshua Nelson NYT-Folksbiene's "Soul to Soul" Yiddish Princess	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, June 26	7:00 PM	Cano Estremera	Soundview Park, Bronx
Wed, June 27	7:00 PM	Safire Lisette Melendez DJ Lucho	Soundview Park , Bronx
Thurs, June 28	7:00 PM	Our Latin Thing: A Tribute to The Fania All Stars Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue	Soundview Park , Bronx

Fri, June 29	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Limón Dance Company <i>All Levels Open Dance Master Class by</i> <i>Limón Dance Company</i>	St. Mary's Park, Bronx
Sat, June 30	8:00 PM	Limón Dance Company with special musical guest Paquito D'Rivera	Central Park, Manhattan
Sat, June 30	4:00 PM	SummerStage Kids Bronx Family Day Featuring: The Red Trouser Show The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus Little Club Heads	St. Mary's Park, Bronx
Sat, June 30	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Kaleidoscope of Dance Featuring: Legendary House of Ninja KR3T Militeri Tucker and special guests <i>All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Full Circle</i>	St. Mary's Park, Bronx
Sun, July 1	8:00 PM	Limón Dance Company with special musical guest Paquito D'Rivera	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, July 3	7:00 PM	José "El Canario" Alberto	St. Mary's Park, Bronx
Thurs, July 5	7:00 PM	8 y Más presents A Tribute to Tito Puente	St. Mary's Park, Bronx
Fri, July 6 Sat, July 7	8:00 PM	"A King of Infinite Space" a play by Mando Alvarado Directed by Jerry Ruiz Adapted from William Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i>	St. Mary's Park, Bronx
Sat, July 7	3:00 PM	CBGB Festival – Artists TBA	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, July 8	3:00 PM	SummerStage Kids Family Day featuring Justin Roberts and The Not So Ready for Naptime Players Ill Style & Peace Productions The New York Chinese Cultural Center The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, July 8	7:00 PM	Frankie Negrón	St. Mary's Park, Bronx
Tues, July 10	7:00 PM	Chubb Rock Kurtis Blow DJ Bent Roc	Crotona Park , Bronx
Wed, July 11	7:00 PM	The Latin Alternative Music Conference with Mala Rodríguez Profetas Ximena Sariñana	Central Park, Manhattan
Wed, July 11	7:00 PM	Nice and Smooth Ed O.G. The Awesome 2	Crotona Park , Bronx
Fri, July 13 Sat, July 14	8:00 PM	"A King of Infinite Space" a play by Mando Alvarado Directed by Jerry Ruiz Adapted from William Shakespeare's <i>Hamlet</i>	Crotona Park , Bronx

Sat, July 14	3:00 PM	The Latin Alternative Music Conference with Kinky Los Auténticos Decadentes 3Ball MTY DJ Raff	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, July 15	7:00 PM	A Guthrie Family Reunion: Celebrating WoodyGuthrie's 100th Birthday with Arlo Guthrie Abe Guthrie Cathy Guthrie Annie Guthrie Sara Lee Guthrie and Johnny Irion	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, July 15	7:00 PM	Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue Blue Magic	Crotona Park , Bronx
Tues, July 17	7:30 PM	The Upright Citizens Brigade presents The All-Stars of Improv	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, July 17	7:00 PM	The Chi-Lites Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue	Queensbridge Park, Queens
Wed, July 18	7:00 PM	Big Daddy Kane Marley Marl	Queensbridge Park, Queens
Thurs, July 19	7:00 PM	WAR Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue	Queensbridge Park, Queens
Fri, July 20	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Liberation Dance Theater Jamal Jackson Dance Company All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Jamal Jackson Dance Company	Queensbridge Park, Queens
Sat, July 21	3:00 PM	Bebel Gilberto Criolo Flávio Renegado DJ Béco Dranoff	Central Park, Manhattan
Sat, July 21	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Malcolm Low Formal Structure VON USSAR danceworks All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Jamel Gaines Creative Outlet Dance Theatre of Brooklyn	Queensbridge Park, Queens
Sun, July 22	3:00 PM	Orchestre Poly-Rythmo SMOD Bibi Tanga and the Selenites DJ Chief Boima	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, July 24	7:00 PM	Full Force Johnny Kemp of Force MD's Jeff Redd Meli'sa Morgan	Springfield Park, Queens
Wed, July 25	8:00 PM	The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series	Central Park, Manhattan

Wed, July 25	7:00 PM	Le'Andria Johnson Trin-I-Tee 5:7 Brian Courtney Wilson Amber Bullock	Springfield Park, Queens
Thurs, July 26	7:00 PM	Tamia	Springfield Park, Queens
Fri, July 27	7:00 PM	The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series	Brooklyn Bridge Park
Fri, July 27 Sat, July 28	8:00 PM	"The Power of the Trinity" a play by Roland Wolf Directed by Alfred Preisser Music by Tomás Doncker	Springfield Park, Queens
Sat, July 28	3:00 PM	Gary Clark Jr. GIVERS	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, July 29	3:00 PM	Héctor Acosta "El Torito" DJ Lobo Alex Sensation	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, July 29	4:00 PM	SummerStage Kids Queens Family Day featuring Randolph Matthews Little Club Heads LuckyBob: Magic Juggling Comedy	Springfield Park, Queens
Sun, July 29	7:00 PM	Taj Weekes & Adowa Shine & The Moonbeams Randolph Matthews Film Screening: <i>Africa United</i>	Springfield Park, Queens
Tues, July 31	8:00 PM	"The Power of the Trinity" a play by Roland Wolf Directed by Alfred Preisser Music by Tomás Doncker	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, July 31	7:00 PM	The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series	Crotona Park, Bronx
Tues, July 31	7:00 PM	Keith Murray The Beatnuts	Tappen Park, Staten Islane
Wed, Aug. 1	8:00 PM	Camille A. Brown & Dancers with Imani Uzuri Malcolm Low Formal Structure Dancin' Downtown at The Joyce Contest Winner	Central Park, Manhattan
Wed, Aug. 1	7:00 PM	Rob Base	Tappen Park, Staten Islane
Thurs, Aug. 2	7:00 PM	The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series	Clove Lakes Park, Staten Islane
Thurs, Aug. 2	7:00 PM	GQ Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue	Tappen Park, Staten Islane
Fri, Aug. 3 Sat, Aug 4 Sun, Aug. 5	8:00 PM	"The Power of the Trinity" a play by Roland Wolf Directed by Alfred Preisser Music by Tomás Doncker	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 4	3:00 PM	Amadou & Mariam Theophilus London	Central Park, Manhattan

Sun, Aug. 5	4:00 PM	5th Annual Gospel Explosion featuring Hezekiah Walker and Friends Vashawn Mitchell Le'Andria Johnson James Fortune & F.I.Y.A.	Central Park, Manhattan
Mon, Aug. 6	7:00 PM	Sidi Touré The Pedrito Martinez Group Wouter Kellerman	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Tues, Aug. 7	7:00 PM	The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series	Jackie Robinson Park, Manhattan
Tues, Aug. 7	7:00 PM	Robert Glasper Experience with special guests	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Wed, Aug. 8	7:00 PM	Smokie Norful	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Thurs, Aug. 9	7:00 PM	The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series	Socrates Sculpture Garden, Queens
Thurs, Aug. 9	7:00 PM	Jon B Jagged Edge	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Fri, Aug. 10	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Camille A. Brown & Dancers MoralesDance All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Camille A. Brown	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 11	3:00 PM	Carolina Chocolate Drops Buckwheat Zydeco Abigail Washburn	Central Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 11	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Kùlú Mèlé African Dance and Drum Ensemble MBDance All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Kùlú Mèlé African Dance & Drum Ensemble	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Sun, Aug. 12	4:00 PM	The Fourth Annual R&B Fest featuring Eric Benét and more TBA	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, Aug. 12	4:00 PM	SummerStage Kids Uptown Family Day featuring Jazz at Lincoln Center's Jazz for Young People® on Tour, Little Club Heads, Double Dutch Dreamz	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Sun, Aug. 12	7:00 PM	Yerba Buena DJ Bobbito Garcia a.k.a. Kool Bob Love Film Screening: "Doin' it in the Park: Pick-Up Basketball, NYC"	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Tues, Aug. 14	7:00PM	Goapele Yolanda Zama Film Screening: "Come Back Africa"	Central Park, Manhattan
Tues, Aug. 14	7:00 PM	Toby Love	Highbridge Park, Manhattan
Wed, Aug. 15	8:00 PM	Koresh Dance Company BalletX Dancin' Downtown at The Joyce Contest Winner	Central Park, Manhattan

Wed, Aug. 15	7:00 PM	Henry Santos	Highbridge Park, Manhattan
Thurs, Aug 16	7:00 PM	24 Horas K Rose	Highbridge Park, Manhattan
Fri, Aug. 17	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	WHITE WAVE Young Soon Kim Dance Company DoubleTake Dance <i>All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Desmond Richardson of Complexions Contemporary Ballet</i>	East River Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 18	3:00 PM	Australia Day featuring Megan Washington Emma Donovan DJ Ashley Feraude with Jonty Hall	Central Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 18	7:00 PM Class 8:00 PM Perform	Eleone Dance Theatre Niles Ford Urban Dance Collective <i>All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Calvin Wiley</i>	East River Park, Manhattan
Sun, Aug. 19	3:00 PM	Jamaica's 50th Anniversary of Independence Celebration featuring Inner Circle Israel Vibration The Mighty Diamonds DJ Carter Van Pelt	Central Park, Manhattan
Sun, Aug. 19	7:00 PM	The Upright Citizens Brigade presents The All-Stars of Improv	East River Park , Manhattan
Tues, Aug. 21	7:00 PM	José Alberto "El Canario" 8 y Más DJ Polito Vega	East River Park , Manhattan
Wed, Aug. 22	7:00 PM	Lyricist Lounge 20 Year Anniversary featuring Pete Rock vs. DJ Premier	East River Park , Manhattan
Thur, Aug. 23	7:00 PM	Two Boots 25th Anniversary Concert Artists TBA	East River Park , Manhattan
Fri, Aug. 24	7:00 PM	20th Anniversary Charlie Parker Jazz Festival with Bird with Strings with Miguel Atwood-Ferguson and special guests Produced by Revive Music	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 25	3:00 PM	20th Anniversary Charlie Parker Jazz Festival with Roy Haynes Rene Marie's 'Experiment In Truth' Derrick Hodge ERIMAJ	Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 25 Sun, Aug. 26 Mon, Aug. 27	8:00 PM	"Jason and the Argonauts: Tales from the Argonautica" a play by Apollonius Rhodius Performed by The Faux-Real Theatre Company	East River Park, Manhattan
Sat, Aug. 26	3:00 PM	20th Anniversary Charlie Parker Jazz Festival with Gregory Porter Andy Milne & Dapp Theory Sullivan Fortner	Tompkins Square Park, Manhattan

Tues, Aug. 28 Wed, Aug. 29 Thurs, Aug. 30	8:00 PM	<i>"I'm Going to Make a Small Incision Behind Your Ear to Check and See if You're Actually Human REDUX" a play Performed by Witness Relocation</i>	East River Park, Manhattan
---	---------	---	-------------------------------

SummerStage Benefit Concerts

Proceeds from benefit concerts support the free programs of SummerStage

Please note that doors open one hour prior to listed showtime

All Paid Shows Take Place at Rumsey Playfield in Central Park

Date	Time	Artist	
Mon, June 11	6:00 PM	Foster the People with Tokyo Police Club and Kimbra	SOLD OUT
Mon, June 25	7:00 PM	Childish Gambino with Danny Brown and Schoolboy Q	SOLD OUT
Tues, July 3	7:00 PM	Norah Jones	
Mon, July 16	6:30 PM	Young the Giant	
Mon, July 23	6:00 PM	Beach House	SOLD OUT
Mon, Aug. 6	TBA	Old Crow Medicine Show	
Wed, Aug. 8	6:30 PM	M83	SOLD OUT

Ticket Information for Benefit Concerts

Tickets can be purchased online at www.ticketmaster.com or by calling 1-800-745-3000.

To purchase tickets with no Ticketmaster service fee for Bowery Presents Concerts, visit the Mercury Lounge Box Office at 217 E. Houston St. or the Music Hall of Williamsburg at 66 N. 6th St. between Kent & Wythe Sts.

Live Nation Concerts - visit the Fillmore Box Office at 17 Irving Pl.

AEG Concerts - visit the Nokia Theatre Box Office at 1515 Broadway at 44th St. or the Highline Ballroom, 431 W16th St. between 9th and 10th Aves.

SummerStage 2012 Commissioned Works

Saturday, June 30 and Sunday, July 1 in Central Park, Manhattan

Limón Dance Company with special musical guest Paquito D’Rivera

Join SummerStage as we celebrate the 65th anniversary of the **José Limón Dance Company** and the “Summer of Limón” series. The company will premiere ***Come With Me***, a specially commissioned dance piece set to live music by world-renowned GRAMMY® Award winning, Cuban composer, Paquito D’Rivera and choreography by Rodrigo Pederneiras of Brazil’s Grupo Corpo. This new work is Pederneiras’ first commission for a U.S dance company and D’Rivera’s first dance commission.

Wednesday, August 01 in Central Park, Manhattan

Camille A. Brown & Dancers with special musical guest Imani Uzuri

Camille A. Brown & Dancers unite with vocalist and composer, Imani Uzuri for a thrilling premiere night of original choreography set to selections from Uzuri’s new album, *The Gypsy Diaries*, which will be performed live.

Friday, July 6 and Saturday July 7 in St. Mary’s Park, The Bronx

Friday, July 13 and Saturday, July 14 in Crotona Park, The Bronx

“A King of Infinite Space” a play by Mando Alvarado

Directed By Jerry Ruiz, adapted from *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

American rock collides with Shakespeare in the SummerStage commissioned, theatrical concert event, **A King of Infinite Space**. Noted playwright **Mando Alvarado’s** modern spin on **William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet*** places the plot in the Lower East Side, Manhattan for a more relatable take on the quintessential tale of struggling family dynamics, power, and revenge. Fusing the music and themes from American rock icon Pearl Jam’s ground-breaking album, *10*, with a gritty Lower East Side dynamic, this concert event relates Shakespeare’s 17th century literature to 21st century New York City.

Friday, August 24 in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

The 20th Anniversary of The Charlie Parker Jazz Festival

***Bird with Strings* with Miguel Atwood-Ferguson and special guests**

Produced by Revive Music

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the beloved late summer jazz favorite, the **Charlie Parker Jazz Festival**. In honor of this anniversary, SummerStage will present an additional evening of performances. This exceptional night will feature the world premiere of specially commissioned pieces by **Revive Music Group** in collaboration with **Miguel Atwood-Ferguson**, celebrating the vibrant work of Charlie Parker's 1950's record, *Charlie Parker with Strings*.

Complete Show and Artist Information

Shows taking place at our Central Park location are noted in blue.

Doors open one hour prior to listed show times.

Wednesday, June 6 at 7:00pm in Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn

Midnite

DJ Carter Van Pelt

Hosted by Dahved Levy

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: Reggae

Artist Website: <http://www.midniteband.com>

Midnite weaves the cultural lyrics of “old school” roots music with modern day experiences to create a unique listening experience. “Roots Reggae” is an apt description for Midnite's musical style, in which they forgo the frills of extensive remixes, overdubbing and other musical refinements. The group’s vigorous, weighty sound, driven by punchy bass lines is on the cutting edge of modern roots music. Their debut album, *Unpolished* which included such classics as “Don't Move” and “Love the Life You Live” was released in 1997 to much acclaim. For their second release, *Ras Mek Peace*, songs like “Hieroglyphics,” in which graffiti is likened to ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics, showcases the intelligent songwriting that pervades all of Midnite’s works.

Artist Website: <http://wkcrjamaica.blogspot.com/>

Head DJ of *Eastern Standard Time* on WKCR 89.9 FM in New York City, **DJ Carter Van Pelt** is a true student of Jamaican music of every era, from ska to dancehall. His focus on 70’s reggae will set the mood for Midnite’s hypnotic brand of VI (Virgin Island) roots. His WKCR program has earned a worldwide reputation for bringing artists to the studio for historic interviews, augmented with deep cuts, all played from vinyl. Van Pelt is also the founder/producer of the Coney Island Reggae Soundsystem Series, held each summer on the iconic Coney Island Boardwalk.

Thursday, June 7 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Bobby Womack

Willis Earl Beale

Presented with Giant Step

File Under: Rock, Classic R&B

Artist Website: <http://bobbywomack.com>

Bobby Womack defines rock and roll history. He is set to release his first new album in 18 years on June 12th. *The Bravest Man In The Universe*. Over the span of his 50 plus year career, Bobby Womack has collaborated with some of the most legendary artists of our time including Wilson Pickett, Aretha Franklin, Elvis Presley, The Rolling Stones, Gorillaz - and countless others. Discovered by the late great Sam Cooke in the early 60’s and ultimately rising to the top of the charts with the singles, “Lookin’ For A Love” and “It’s All Over Now.” The standard bearer for contemporary soul music, with numerous hit

albums over his career was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall Of Fame in 2009.

Artist Website: <http://www.willisearlbeal.com>

Chicago's **Willis Earl Beal** taught himself how to make music while working overnight at a motel in New Mexico. The recordings he made during this time are a result of what one creative mind could do with a few found instruments and objects; a cassette-based karaoke machine and a \$20 microphone. They resulted in his recently released debut album *Acousmatic Sorcery*. Pitchfork calls Willis' "a booming, soulful voice." and *Stereogum* said he "has a voice that seems like it shouldn't belong to a person alive in this century - a fiery, possessed, devils-chasing-me Old Testament groan."

Thursday, June 7 at 7:00pm in Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn

Buckshot, Smif n Wessun and Sean Price of Boot Camp Clik

File Under: Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://www.duckdown.com/website/boot-camp-клик#about>

Boot Camp Clik's style of hardcore raps over dirty samples, epitomizes classic New York hip-hop. A collaboration of famed rappers; **Buckshot, Smif N Wessun** (Tek & Steele), Heltah Skeltah (**Sean Price** and Rock) and OGC, Brooklyn's BCC rappers led the resurgence of east coast style hip-hop during a time when the west coast's "G-Funk" style was becoming hip-hop's choice sound. With successful releases such as Smif N Wessun's *Da Shinin'*, member of BCC helped re-invigorate east coast hip-hop. After unleashing several individual projects, BCC released its debut, *For the People* and followed with *Basic Training: The Best of Boot Camp Clik* which showcased the groups rich history of under the radar hits. Over the years, these Brooklynites have collaborated on songs with legends like Tupac Shakur, Mary J Blige and Busta Rhymes. With *Monumental*, a new album out featuring BCC's Smif N Wessun & Pete Rock and new releases slated for 2012 from Buckshot, Sean Price and BCC, these hip-hop luminaries are still making moves in the rap world.

Friday, June 8 at 7:00pm in Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn

JJ Hairston

Jessica Reedy

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WLIB

File Under: Gospel

Artist Website: <http://www.youthfulpraise.org>

James "JJ" Hairston and the Youthful Praise choir have proven themselves to be one of the most sought after contemporary choirs in the nation. As the Minister of Music for the First Cathedral Church in Bloomfield, CT, Hairston's music has been used by church praise teams all around the world, due to the huge success of songs that Hairston has written including the Billboard chart topping song, "Resting on his Promise," the hit worship song "Lord you're mighty," and the ground-breaking praise song "Incredible God - Incredible Praise."

Artist Website: <http://www.jessicareedymusic.com>

Jessica Reedy first gained national attention as a contestant on the second season of the national TV gospel singing competition, BET's *Sunday Best*. As a runner-up she went on to secure a record deal and

released her debut, *From The Heart* in 2011 which went on to top Billboard's "Gospel Album Chart." Featuring Reedy's charisma that is about love, honesty and praising God; songs such as the current radio favorite "Put It on the Altar," speaks to finding a solution to one's problems. Yet it is the album's lead single, "God Has Smiled on Me," that showcases Reedy's one-of-a-kind voice and arresting low register that belies her young age and incomparable range.

Friday, June 8 – Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

Decadancetheatre

Whitney Hunter [medium]

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Decadancetheatre

File Under: Dance, Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://decadancetheatre.com>

Since 2004, **Decadancetheatre** has been challenging hip-hop's male-dominated convention, by taking female dancers out of the background of music videos and into the forefront of theatrical performance. Decadancetheatre emerged on the hip-hop scene in 2004 with its acclaimed debut, *Decadance vs. The Firebird* an urban re-imagination of Stravinsky's famed 1910 ballet. A key ambassador of authentic, New York City hip-hop culture, the company represents a global vision of hip-hop featuring an international roster of dancers. Focusing on all elements, including breakdance, MCing, DJing and graffiti, Decadancetheatre translates the vibrant energy of street culture to the international stage. Decadancetheatre presents an excerpt of their new work *4*, set to Antonio Vivaldi's violin concertos, "The Four Seasons." In this new duet, the dancers embody the classical notes and find the hidden hip-hop rhythms within the 289 year-old classic.

Artist Website: <http://whitneyhunter.com>

Whitney V. Hunter is a Brooklyn-based performance and exhibition artist who creates and curates work for the stage, gallery, and alternative spaces. One of *Trace Magazine's* "7 NYC Dancers on the Rise," Hunter's impressive resume spans the world of art, education and dance. He has worked with choreographers and companies such as Martha Clarke, Martha Graham, Reggie Wilson, Pascal Rioult, and at prestigious institutions including the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance, Peridance Center, The Ailey School and The Invisible Dog Art Center. Watch Hunter take the stage with his the world premiere of his new performance project, Whitney Hunter[medium] in the NY premiere of a work for an all-male cast.

Master Class: Join members of Decadancetheatre for a high-energy dance class showcasing hip-hop basics.

Saturday, June 9 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

The 10th Annual Cine Fest Petrobras Brasil NY Film Festival

Live Performance by **Sandra de Sá**

Full Screening of the new **Raul Siexas** documentary film "**RAUL**"

File Under: Brazil, Global, Film

Festival Website: http://www.brazilianfilmfestival.com/ny/2012/ny2012_en.html

Brazilian cinema is celebrating the 10th edition of **Cine Fest Petrobras Brasil – NY**. This annual event honors the best and the brightest of Brazil’s innovative new cinema. As is tradition, the opening night film of the 10th Cine Fest Petrobras Brasil NY, presented outdoors at SummerStage in Central Park, will feature a performance by the Queen of Brazilian Soul, Sandra de Sá, followed by director Walter Carvalho’s documentary, *RAUL* a look into the life of Brazilian rock legend, Raul Seixtas.

Artist Website: <http://www.sandradesa.com.br>

A Brazilian icon, **Sandra de Sá** has been collecting awards, international recognition and multiple hits over the past thirty years. With a personal voice and warm tone, she is considered by many to be the “Queen of Brazilian Soul.” An advocate of Música Preta Brasileira (Brazilian Black Music) which is Brazil’s unique mixture of soul, funk, samba, rock and blues, de Sá has been captivating audiences since her first single “Demônio Colorido” was released. Over her illustrious career, de Sá has had numerous hit albums and has recently released *AfricaNatividade - Sandra 30 Years*, a celebration of the musical links between Africa and Brazil.

Raul Seixas is known as an icon of Brazilian Rock and developed a unique musical style that emphasized the maverick and the mystic. His body of work consists of twenty-one albums and numerous collaborations with then fellow mystic, and future worldwide bestselling author, Paulo Coelho. Director Walter Carvalho, an experienced cinematographer unveils **RAUL** through rare images from archives, family encounters and discussions with artists, producers and friends, documenting the life and public image of one of Brazil’s most controversial and important rockers.

Saturday, June 9 – Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

Germual Barnes / Viewsic Expressions Dance

Restoration Dance Theater Company

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Calvin Wiley

File Under: Dance

Artist Website: <http://www.viewsicex.org>

Germual Barnes/Viewsic Expressions Dance was formed in 1993 by Bessie Award winner, Germual Barnes. The company has gained world renowned attention, performing across the U.S. and at major international festivals, showcasing its style of contemporary dance that fuses a broad range of movements: athletic, gestural and theatrical. The *New York Times* has claimed that Barnes, “[has] a stage presence that [is] both larger than life and casual.” Barnes has infused this vitality into the company. With a commitment to live music, which is a feature of every performance on its international touring schedule, the company collaborates with leading orchestras, opera companies and musicians such as GRAMMY® award winning pianist and composer, Paul Sullivan among numerous others.

Artist Website: <http://www.restorationplaza.org/arts-and-culture/youth-arts-academy>

The Restoration Dance Theatre Company (RDTTC) members are ambassadors for the Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation Center for Arts and Culture’s Youth Arts Academy Dance Department. The company receives professional training, attends master classes, and participates in the ChoreoQuest mentorship project working with artistic directors and/or choreographers. RDTTC has an eclectic repertoire grounded in African, ballet, modern and jazz and performs throughout the tri-state area, and

is showcased annually at Brooklyn Academy of Music's, DanceAfrica! with visiting companies from the African diaspora. The ChoreoQuest troupe will perform a special dedication to the late choreographer, Niles Ford.

Master Class: Join acclaimed fitness and dance choreographer, Calvin Wiley for a high energy, stylistically diverse dance class.

Sunday, June 10 at 4:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

SummerStage Kids Brooklyn Family Day featuring

FELA Queens

The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus

DJ Stormin' Norman

Presented by Disney

File Under: Family, Theater

SummerStage Kids presented by Disney presents Brooklyn Family Day, a day dedicated to engaging children and their families through interactive fun! The event features performances spanning DJ'ing to African movement and song and even includes a circus performance! Families will also have the opportunity to participate in face painting, arts/crafts and instrument making workshops, and free sports lessons including golf workshops. With so many different acts, there will be something for everyone! Adults can now stay late for more fun featuring an evening concert and film!

For more information on these programs visit: www.SummerStage.org.

From the Broadway hit, *Fela!*, these Queens engage and excite audiences of all ages. Their analysis of African movement and song naturally leads to the examination of Africa's history and culture. Their performances bring about a deeper understanding of the rich and diverse land and people of Africa.

Fela's Queens explore African history and culture through the study of contemporary musicians and the dances that accompany the various musical styles.

Artist Website: <http://www.bindlestiff.org>

Performers from **The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus** provide atmospheric entertainment today. Since 1995 the Bindlestiff Family Cirkus has traveled the world, bringing its unique hybrid of vaudeville, circus, Wild West shows, burlesque and sideshow to hundreds of thousands of people. Famous among audiences and within the variety performance community, the company has produced innumerable cabaret shows, custom performances, all-ages productions in addition to sophisticated adult shows. Dedicated fans come back again and again to experience the very best and most original acts working today. Bindlestiff's extended family includes over 450 of the world's best circus and variété artists.

Artist Website: <http://sundaesermon.com>

DJ Stormin' Norman, founder of the Sundae Sermon Festival, was originally part of a groundbreaking DJ collective that brought the famed *Thunderstorm Mix* on New York's WBLS 107.5FM to life. By introducing live mixing to daytime radio, he helped set a new precedent in national radio. For over 20 years, he's played major New York clubs, exclusive downtown spots and elite private events worldwide. A Harlem resident for over 15 years, he also DJ/produces Sundae Sermon Radio on WHCR 90.3FM and the Sundae Sermon Festival a summer outdoor event that promotes environmental, educational and recreational family friendly activities in Harlem while dancing under the sun.

Sunday, June 10 at 7:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

Idle Warship

Full Screening of the film “**Brooklyn Boheme**”

Presented in Association with ImageNation Cinema Foundation

File Under: R&B, Hip Hop, Film

Artist Website: <http://www.idlewarship.com>

Idle Warship is a collaboration between longtime friends and collaborators, hip-hop luminary **Talib Kweli** and critically acclaimed soul singer and songwriter **Res**. Kweli and Res’ partnership has become a musical force to be reckoned with. Their latest release, *Habits of the Heart* effortlessly shifts from the rhythmic hand-clapping blast of the single, “Laser Beams” to the off-kilter futuristic track, “Driving Me Insane” to the unbridled, heartfelt piano ballad, “Beautifully Bad.” With guest spots from Chester French and John Forte on “Covered in Fantasy,” and Michelle Williams on “Katya,” *Habits of The Heart* takes you on one thrilling journey.

Film Website: <http://www.bkboheme.com>

Brooklyn Boheme is a love letter to the vibrant African American artistic community that resided in Fort Greene and Clinton Hill, Brooklyn during the 80’s and 90’s that included cultural icons such as Spike Lee, Chris Rock, Branford Marsalis, Rosie Perez and Talib Kweli. Narrated and written by Fort Greene resident Nelson George, this feature length documentary celebrates “Brooklyn’s equivalent of the Harlem Renaissance” and follows the rise of a new kind of African American artist, the Brooklyn Boheme. This community of artists made this part of Brooklyn a mecca for young blacks and Latinos, where they were bonded by great ambition, good times and jamming parties. Co-directed by award winning film director Diane Paragas, *Brooklyn Boheme* is a chronicle of that magical time.

PAID SHOW – SOLD OUT

Monday, June 11 at 6:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Foster The People with Tokyo Police Club and Kimbra -PAID SHOW – SOLD OUT

File Under: Rock

Paid shows at SummerStage Central Park help support over 100 free shows in NYC parks

Tuesday, June 12 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

The New York Pops with Ozomatli

File Under: Latin, Rock, Instrumental, R&B

Artist Website: <http://www.newyorkpops.org>

The New York Pops is the largest independent pops orchestra in the United States, and the only professional symphonic orchestra in New York City specializing in popular music. Led by Music Director Steven Reineke, the orchestra performs an annual subscription series and birthday gala at Carnegie Hall. The New York Pops was founded by Skitch Henderson in 1983 with a mission to create greater public awareness and appreciation of America’s rich musical heritage. The New York Pops’ extensive education

programs allow thousands of public schoolchildren to participate in concert and music-making experiences throughout the five boroughs of New York City.

Artist Website: <http://www.ozomatli.com>

Ozomatli celebrates the multitude of cultures in Los Angeles with their music – a notorious urban-Latino-and-beyond collision of hip-hop and salsa, dancehall and cumbia, samba and funk, merengue and comparsa, East LA R&B, Jamaican ragga and Indian raga. For 15 years, they have entertained audiences around the world with their unique sound of horns, percussions, strings and vocals while promoting a positive message of peace. According to the *LA Times*, “Ozomatli’s deep community connections and polyglot mix give the band a musical and cultural cachet.” The seven multi-racial members of Ozomatli are committed to addressing social issues of local, national, and international importance through fun, yet inspirational entertainment.

Tuesday, June 12 at 7:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

Bushman

NiyoRah

DJ Soul Selector

Hosted by Dahved Levy

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: Reggae, Global

Artist Website: <http://www.burningbushesmusic.com>

Bushman was born in St. Thomas, Jamaica and has been raised as a Rasta his entire life. Often thought of as the Jamaican musical medicine man, Bushman is well known for his hits, “Worries and Problems,” “Fire Pon a Weak Heart” and “Call the Herse.” Known for his thoughtful lyrics about topics ranging from politics, diet and life style to the current state of the world, his rich, deep, baritone voice is a mainstay of the reggae music scene. His latest release, *Bushman Sings The Bushdoctor, a Tribute to Peter Tosh* debuted at #9 on the Billboard Reggae Charts in 2011 and he is currently recording a new album, *Conquering Lion*.

Artist Website: <http://niyorah.com>

Reggae artist **NiyoRah**’s songs delve into a wide range of issues including cultural living, love for nature, strengthening of all peoples and spiritual growth. Since his debut album, *A Different Age* was released this Virgin Island based performer has had reggae fans buzzing over his socially conscious brand of roots reggae. His latest album, *Feel Your Presence* further establishes NiyoRah’s popularity and fan base. An avid performer at festivals throughout the US and the Caribbean, he has performed alongside artists such as Erykah Badu and Buju Banton.

One of New York’s most versatile DJ’s, **DJ Soul Selector**’s passion for music and dance got him into some of the city’s legendary clubs, which eventually led to spinning. He went on to work a number of premiere locations including Sullivan Hall, SOB’s, Leopard lounge, BB Kings and the Canal Room concocting a mixed up taste of music and serving it to the masses. DJ Soul Selector has opened shows for Damian Marley, Alpha Blondy and Bushman and is currently the resident DJ for Restless Media

Wednesday, June 13 at 7:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

J. Holiday

Eric Roberson

Presented in Association with GlobeStar Media and WBLS

File Under: R&B

Artist Website: <http://www.jholiday.com>

Laid-back Washington, D.C.-based R&B vocalist **J. Holiday** brings an unexpected edge to R&B music. He bears a street sensibility and bravado normally reserved for hip-hop but remains inspired by groups such as Boyz II Men and Jodeci. His first release, the hit single “Be with Me” was the prelude to the full-length debut album, *Back of My Lac’*. The album became a major success due to singles like “Bed” and “Suffocate,” both of which topped the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop Songs chart. Holiday’s second album, the more romantic *Round 2*, shows audiences a softer side with tracks that are reminiscent of early 70’s soul.

Artist Website: <http://www.ericrobersonmusic.com>

Grammy nominated singer, songwriter and producer **Eric Roberson’s** music is relatable, allowing him to form personal connections with each of his listeners. Influenced by elements of multiple genres including soul, R&B, house, hip-hop, jazz and rock inhibits him from being confined or limited to any one genre of music. His music is personal, poetic, positive and progressive. All of these factors, paired with a humble, inspiring, and inviting spirit, has earned Roberson the love and respect of each of his fans one by one, over a career that has spanned seven independent releases to date including 2011’s *Mr. Nice Guy*.

Thursday, June 14 at 7:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

EPMD

DJ Scratch

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://www.myspace.com/therealepmd>

EPMD (“Erick and Parrish Making Dollars”) are famed as one of the pioneers of hip-hop. Their debut album, *Strictly Business*, topped the R&B album chart and went gold, as did their follow-up, *Unfinished Business*. They continued releasing hit singles such as “It’s My Thing,” “You Gots to Chill,” and “Rampage” which revealed their talent in rhymes and their feel for a good groove. Although they split to pursue solo careers, the duo reunited with the album, *Back in Business*. While working on their solo projects, they continued to record as EPMD, bringing them to the studio in 2008 for the acclaimed album, *We Mean Business*. With their rhyme delivery over minimal beats, EPMD influenced gangsta rap as they took listeners on “a funky joy ride through a gangster-fantasy universe,” according to *Rolling Stone* magazine.

Artist Website: <http://scratchvision.com>

DJ Scratch is one of the most recognized & respected exhibition, tour & club DJs in the world. Honored

in *The Source Magazine* as a “Hip-Hop Icon,” DJ routines & turntable tricks created by DJ Scratch over the past 20 years are still being done by some of the biggest DJs today like Kid Capri and Funkmaster Flex.

Friday, June 15 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Joey Arias

File Under: Cabaret, GLBT, Theater

Artist Website: <http://joeyarias.com>

Equal parts singer, comedian, drag queen, performance artist and MC, **Joey Arias** has a career that defies classification but fuses together effortlessly to create a unique performance experience complete with extravagant costumes and wigs. A fixture of downtown New York City nightlife since his start as a backup singer for David Bowie through his 2011 hit show *Arias With a Twist*, this entertainer has been awing audiences with his distinctive brand of humor and wit, leading the *New York Times* to declare, “From one moment to the next, [Joey Arias] is as sweet and naive as a storybook shepherdess, as dirty-mouthed and -minded as a sailor on shore leave, as scatterbrained as Lucy Ricardo, as serene as a Tibetan monk or as no-nonsense as an old Broadway trouper.”

Friday, June 15 and Saturday, June 16 at 8:00pm in Von King Park, The Bronx

“Paige in Full” a play by Paige Hernandez

Directed by Danielle A. Drakes

SummerStage Theater presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

Paige Hernandez’s debut theater work, *Paige in Full* features Hernandez alongside of DJ Reborn, in a unique coming of age story that speaks to a dynamic, hip-hop-influenced generation. A blending of poetry, dance, media and music that tells the tale of a multicultural girl’s journey of self-discovery, where hip-hop music takes center stage. “Such pointed moments will prompt theatergoers to ruminate a little about identity politics and the molding of the self in a multicultural world” says *The Washington Post*. The production explores how identity is shaped by ethnicity and popular culture, telling a personal yet universal story through the lens of hip-hop music.

Saturday, June 16 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Dawes

Kurt Vile and the Violators

File Under: Rock

Artist Website: <http://dawestheband.com>

A self-described “American rock ‘n’ roll band,” **Dawes** represent everything pure and true about that genre, four talented friends making music together, fueled by a shared belief in the power of their songs. With *Nothing Is Wrong*, the Los Angeles-based band continues to master their blend of singer/songwriter reflection with folk, country and AOR-inspired arrangements, all ringing guitars, soaring harmonies and heartfelt melodies. After spending the past two years on tour, songs like

“Coming Back To A Man” have a restless, unsettled quality evocative of life lived on the road. It’s a collection of songs that expertly builds upon the template laid by 2009’s extraordinary debut, *North Hills, Nothing Is Wrong*.

Artist Website: <http://kurtvile.com>

Kurt Vile and the Violators have a way of tying time in knots. You can hear it on their newest album, *Smoke Ring For My Halo* where the pinwheeling guitars and reaching atmospheres of the single, “Baby’s Arms” are as strange as they are familiar: a demonstration of how Vile can put worn methods and sounds through himself and end up with something that isn’t emotionally or sonically obvious. By marrying the introspection of the nocturnal stoner with the exploration of a troubadour frontiersman, Vile belongs to a long lineage of classic American songwriters, but he’s the only one who’s alive and in his prime today.

Sunday, June 17 at 6:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

The Blue Note Jazz Festival featuring

Groove Theory with Amel Larrieux and Bryce Wilson

Soulive

Riq and Rah with Strings with Black Thought and Rahzel

DJ ?uestlove of The Roots

Produced by Jill Newman Productions

File Under: Jazz, R&B, Hip Hop

Groove Theory, comprised of New York City natives **Amel Larrieux** and **Bryce Wilson**, is an R&B duo originally formed in 1991. The group’s tunes are saturated with sounds of romance and sensuality evoked in their breakthrough hit, “Tell Me,” which dominated the soul and R&B airwaves. The combination of velvety vocals of sultry singer-songwriter, Larrieux, and the soulful sounds of producer-musician, Wilson, made the duo’s reunification in 2010 well received by fans, old and new. After the time apart, both artists have come into their own, creating new material and performances well worth the listen.

Artist Website: <http://www.royalfamilyrecords.com/soulive>

When brothers Neal and Alan Evans first invited guitarist Eric Krasno to get down at their Woodstock, NY studio, it was out of mutual love for the great soul-jazz organ trios of the 60’s and 70’s. They went on to form **Soulive** and released numerous records and recordings with acclaimed artists like Chaka Khan, Dave Matthews, Talib Kweli and John Scofield. Their musical relationships, speak volumes about how versatile they are. Jazz, hip-hop, rock, soul, funk, R & B, Blues – musically, there is not much the band hasn’t done over their 12 year career span. Their most recent release *Rubber Soulive*, is the trio’s twist on Beatles classics and received rave reviews.

As The Roots’ drummer and joint front-man, **DJ ?uestlove** is well known across the musical sphere. Whether known for the twelve albums The Roots produced or his performances with the band on *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, ?uestlove’s impact on music today is undeniable. Throughout his career, he has produced with icons such as Common, Al Green, and John Legend. He is also the associate producer of hit Broadway play *Fela!*, along with Will and Jada Pinkett Smith and Jay-Z. His passion for music is eminent with talent in not only percussion, but production, DJ-ing, and dub video clips as well.

Tuesday, June 19 at 7:00pm in Red Hook Park, Brooklyn

AraabMUZIK

Das Racist

Presented in Association with MeanRed Productions

File Under: Hip Hop, Rock

Artist Website: <http://www.araabmuzikmvp.com/>

Recently featured in *Under Armor* advertisements, recording artist, **AraabMUZIK** has his own signature style, putting a unique spin on the world of hip-hop. His preferred style is to create songs with fast rhythmic touches; an interpretation of hip-hop that is unheard of and loved by listeners. *Consequence of Sound* says AraabMUZIK's "2011 debut, *Electronic Dream*, bridged gaps among various strains of rap and EDM plus the outskirts of indie-ville." The album was also featured on *Pitchfork's* "Best New Music" list, describing his sound as a mix of "freelance beats that hint at a fully developed personal aesthetic." His mix of rhythms and carefully chosen samples provides for an awesome, unforgettable performance, both in studio and live.

Artist Website: <http://dasracist.net>

Brooklyn-based **Das Racist** is known for their use of humor, obscure references, and unconventional style. Featured on the cover of *Spin Magazine* in 2011, this self-described Hare Krishna, hard-core rap, folk-music trio has established themselves as one of the most interesting groups in music today. In 2011, after releasing their album, *Relax*, the group was named in many year-end "best of" lists, including *Rolling Stone's* and *Spin's* lists of "Fifty Best Albums of 2011." It was also landed fourth on *Spin Magazine's* "Rap Albums of the Year." Das Racist's distinctive style makes them one of a kind, defying all previous notions of rap and hip-hop.

Wednesday, June 20 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Comedy Central's Indecision in The Park featuring writers and stars of *The Daily Show*:

Rory Albanese

Wyatt Cenac

Adam Lowitt

Al Madrigal

John Oliver

Kristen Schaal

Hosted by John Hodgman

File Under: Comedy

Website: www.thedailyshow.com www.comedycentral.com

"**Indecision in the Park**" is this year's presentation of "COMEDY CENTRAL Park." The event will feature stand-up from *The Daily Show* including performances by correspondents Wyatt Cenac, Al Madrigal, John Oliver, contributor Kristen Schaal, executive producer Rory Albanese, co-executive producer Adam Lowitt and hosted by John Hodgman. This marks the sixth consecutive year COMEDY CENTRAL has participated in this hugely successful SummerStage event.

Rory Albanese is a seven-time Emmy winning executive producer and writer for *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. He has been a key part of the series since 1999 including co-authoring *Earth: The Book* with Stewart and the other *Daily Show* writers. Albanese is also an accomplished stand-up comedian. His first one-hour stand-up special aired on COMEDY CENTRAL in April 2010. Albanese and John Oliver are writing a feature film for Paramount Pictures.

Wyatt Cenac is a comedian/actor/writer who currently resides in New York and is an Emmy® Award-winning writer and correspondent on *The Daily Show*. Previously, he spent three seasons as a writer and contributed voice-over work for FOX's *King of the Hill*. In 2008, he starred in the film, *Medicine for Melancholy*, which was nominated for three Independent Spirit Awards. Most recently, his first one-hour stand-up special, *Comedy Person* aired on COMEDY CENTRAL.

Adam Lowitt is a three-time Emmy award-winning Co-Executive Producer for *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. As a stand-up comedian, he has appeared on COMEDY CENTRAL's *John Oliver's New York Stand Up Show* and performs regularly in New York City and across the nation. Check out adamlowitt.com for show dates.

Al Madrigal is a correspondent on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and joined the series in May 2011. *The New York Times* calls Madrigal's comedy "dynamic" and HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts Festival in Aspen named him "Best Stand-Up Comedian." His unique, spontaneous and fast-paced lyrical, story-telling style has made him a regular on television with numerous appearances on COMEDY CENTRAL including his own half-hour stand-up special, *COMEDY CENTRAL Presents: Al Madrigal, John Oliver's New York Stand-up Show* and "Pretend Time with Nick Swardson." His late-night television appearances include *Conan*, *The Late Late Show with Craig Ferguson* and *Jimmy Kimmel Live*.

John Oliver has been correspondent and multiple Emmy-winning writer on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* since 2006. In that time, he has done everything from interviewing UN Ambassadors to breaking his nose fighting for the Confederate Army. He appears regularly on NBC's *Community* and hosts COMEDY CENTRAL's stand-up series *John Oliver's New York Stand-Up Show*. He is also the voice of "Vanity Smurf" in the Smurf movies. That last one is not a joke.

Kristen Schaal starred in the HBO cult hit, *Flight of The Conchords* and is the Women's Issues correspondent for *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. Other film and television credits include *Dinner for Schmucks*, *Toy Story 3*, *30 Rock*, *COMEDY CENTRAL Presents: Kristen Schaal*, and FOX's *The Simpsons*. She also provides the voice for Louise in the FOX animated series *Bob's Burgers*.

John Hodgman is the resident expert on *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and the author of *That Is All*, his third and final book of complete world knowledge compiling fascinating fake facts and made up trivia on subjects as diverse as wine, wealth, sports, and the end of the world. Previously, he portrayed the "PC" in a series of advertisements for a MAJOR computer company, as well as Louis Greene on HBO's *Bored To Death* and a space brain surgeon on *Battlestar Galactica*. Even more previously, he wrote for *The New York Times Magazine* and the *Paris Review*. Even most previously, he was a cheesemonger.

Wednesday, June 20 at 7:00pm in Red Hook Park, Brooklyn
Lyricist Lounge 20 Year Anniversary featuring
Brand Nubian

Game Rebellion

File Under: Hip Hop

Website: <http://lyricistlounge.com>

SummerStage celebrates the 20th anniversary of the acclaimed hip-hop brand, Lyricist Lounge. A respected part of hip-hop music and culture, Lyricist Lounge has hosted hundreds of live showcases featuring the best up and coming talent while acting as a career platform for many of today's superstars.

Artist Website: <http://www.myspace.com/98093317>

The Five Percent Nation of Islam was a popular inspiration for numerous thinking-man's rap groups during the early 1990's, and **Brand Nubian** was arguably the finest of the more militant crop. Although they were strongly related to the Native Tongues posse in style and sound, they weren't technically members, and were less reserved about spotlighting their politics and religion. Their outspokenness led to controversy, in part because Brand Nubian's sheer musicality made them so listen able regardless of what their messages were. The hoopla surrounding their aggressive Afrocentrism sometimes overshadowed the playful and positive sides of their work, as well as the undeniable virtuosity of lead MC Grand Puba's rhymes -- all showcased to best effect on their highly acclaimed debut, *One for All*. Rock and roll has been awaiting the coming of **Game Rebellion** for a long time: A Brooklyn band whose metal, punk and rudeboy licks sound as credible as their hip-hop lyrics and head-nodding bounce. Game Rebellion makes the difficult sound effortless and the miraculous seem second nature: a hard rock band with a B-boy MC who can actually spit a street worthy mixtape of hip-hop anthems created by a band that actually rocks and flows.

Thursday, June 21 at 7:00pm in Red Hook Park, Brooklyn

Deer Tick

Jonny Corndawg

File Under: Rock, Country

Artist Website: <http://www.deertickmusic.com>

The music of **Deer Tick** fits loosely into the alternative/country category, but lead singer John McCauley's rough, raw, and ragged vocals bring a wealth of rock and grunge influences to the band's sound. Following the 2007 release of their first CD, *War Elephant*, Deer Tick began earning comparisons to bands such as Felice Brothers and Langhorne Slim. Their two follow-up albums, *Born on Flag Day* and *The Black Dirt Sessions* both helped to secure the band's unique mark on the face of music with their trademark sound. The band's fourth release, *Divine Providence* changes directions and features rowdy and raucous songs that draw inspiration from the raw power of the Stones and the Stooges.

Artist Website: <http://jonnycorndawg.com>

Jonny Corndawg is a country singer, not a singer-songwriter. Born in Montana, raised in rural Virginia, Corndawg has been touring on his motorcycle since he dropped out of school in 2001. He's played shows in every U.S. state, Canada and in Europe, but you won't find him on CMT. His music is more in the vein of that obscure '70s country that housewives would discover on a Bear Family reissue in twenty years. In addition to pursuing the lost art of the Real Deal, Corndawg is an airbrushing, leather-working, marathon-running, truck-driving American. Audiences rest assured; *Nashville Scene* says "this guy knows exactly what he's doing."

Friday, June 22 and Saturday, June 23 at 8:00pm in Red Hook Park, Brooklyn

“Paige in Full” a play by Paige Hernandez

Directed by Danielle A. Drakes

SummerStage Theater presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

Paige Hernandez’s debut theater work, **Paige in Full** features Hernandez alongside of DJ Reborn, in a unique coming of age story that speaks to a dynamic, hip-hop-influenced generation. A blending of poetry, dance, media and music that tells the tale of a multicultural girl’s journey of self-discovery, where hip-hop music takes center stage. “Such pointed moments will prompt theatergoers to ruminate a little about identity politics and the molding of the self in a multicultural world” says *The Washington Post*. The production explores how identity is shaped by ethnicity and popular culture, telling a personal yet universal story through the lens of hip-hop music.

Sunday, June 24 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Alabama Shakes

Diamond Rugs

Robert Ellis

File Under: Rock

Artist Website: <http://www.alabamashakes.com>

The story of the **Alabama Shakes** begins in a high school psychology class in Athens, Alabama when Brittany Howard approached Zac Cockrell and asked if he wanted to try making music together. Inspired by diverse artists such as James Brown, Otis Redding, Led Zeppelin and AC/DC, the band retained a sense of groove and space from their idols, along with a blistering force and emotion that simply couldn’t be learned. Eventually finding their way to a Nashville studio in 2011, they cut the song “You Ain’t Alone,” which helped launched the band. In 2011, *NPR* named them one of the best bands of the year, while *MTV* has called them one of the top bands to look for in 2012.

Artist Website: <http://www.diamondrugs.viiny.com>

Diamond Rugs is a collaboration between members of Deer Tick, The Black Lips, Los Lobos, Dead Confederate and Six Finger Satellite. When John McCauley, the lead of Deer Tick decided he wanted to make another record during his downtime in his new home base of Nashville he decided to work with a number of friends and musical colleagues. What happened next was entirely unexpected; the musicians McCauley had recruited to play on his record, ended up contributing their own songs to the album and a fully-formed band emerged. The Diamond Rugs debut long player is going to be released in 2012.

Artist Website: <http://www.robertellismusic.com>

The best of folks who write songs make you think about time and **Robert Ellis** has the same ability. When he performs, the final hours of night race along in a sweaty, whisky-soaked blur. When he sits on a stool -- with just his guitar, voice and songs -- time slows down, as he spins tales of love and life and the way they twist together and are torn apart. All of it could easily be classified as country, of a sort with the great writers and players Ellis studies and admires, from George Jones to Paul Simon. Ellis’ own

songwriting ability shines on his debut album, *Photographs*.

Sunday, June 24 at 7:00pm in Red Hook Park, Brooklyn

Comedy Central Live presents

Hannibal Buress with Kevin Barnett and Josh Rabinowitz

File Under: Comedy

Website: www.comedycentral.com

For the first time ever, **Comedy Central Live** is expanding and holding a SummerStage event in the outer boroughs in addition to the annual “Comedy Central Park” event in Central Park. The inaugural show, Comedy Central Live Presents: Hannibal Buress, will take place in Brooklyn and also feature comedians Kevin Barnett and Josh Rabinowitz. This marks the sixth consecutive year the network has participated with SummerStage.

Cool, confident and intelligent, **Hannibal Buress** is one of the hottest comedians on the scene, he has earned both the honor of performing at the Montreal “Just For Laughs” Festival and the well-earned respect of his peers, who regard him as one of the brightest young talents to emerge from Chicago. A natural storyteller who can captivate a room with his words alone, Buress generates huge laughs with the laidback, quirky observations that have become his trademark style. Recently, Buress opened for Aziz Ansari at the “South Beach Comedy Festival” in March.

Kevin Barnett’s credits include appearances on Comedy Central, CollegeHumor.com and a panelist on MTV’s *#FAIL*. He can also be seen in the independent film, *How to Follow Strangers* and comedian Mike Birbiglia’s feature film *Sleepwalk With Me*. Barnett performed at the “Just For Laughs Comedy Festival” in Montreal and a co-host one of the best podcasts in New York, *The Roundtable of Gentlemen*.

Josh Rabinowitz began performing stand-up comedy in Philadelphia while attending the University of Pennsylvania. Since graduating, he has moved to New York City. His credits include CollegeHumor.com, FX’s *Louie*, performing at the Breakout Artist Series at The New York Comedy Festival and opening for comedians Mike Birbiglia, Bo Burnham, John Mulaney and Rhys Darby.

PAID SHOW – SOLD OUT

Monday, June 25 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Childish Gambino with Danny Brown and Schoolboy Q - PAID SHOW – SOLD OUT

File Under: Hip Hop

Paid shows at SummerStage Central Park help support over 100 free shows in NYC parks

Tuesday, June 26 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Workmen’s Circle Yiddishfest 2012: *Singing for a Better World* featuring

The Klezmatics

SoCalled

Daniel Kahn and The Painted Bird

Joshua Nelson

NYT-Folksbiene's "Soul to Soul"

Yiddish Princess

Presented in association with The Workmen's Circle/Arbeter Ring

Produced by Moishe Rosenfeld, Golden Land Concerts & Connections

File Under: Jewish, Klezmer, Rock, Hip Hop, Global

SummerStage celebrates the musical legacy of Eastern Europe with a day dedicated to Yiddish music celebrating traditional klezmer and modern interpretations that fuse the traditional with everything from rock to hip-hop influences. Special guests include: the "Prince of Kosher Gospel" **Joshua Nelson**, **The National Yiddish Theatre's production of *Soul to Soul***, an electrifying concert that explores the intersections between African-American and Yiddish folk music traditions and pop/rock band, **Yiddish Princess**.

Artist Website: <http://klezmatix.com>

The Klezmatix are world-renowned and Grammy-winning superstars of the klezmer world. They erupted out of New York City's East Village in 1986 and revitalized klezmer for the new century with music that is steeped in Eastern European Jewish tradition and spirituality, while incorporating contemporary themes such as human rights and anti-fundamentalism with eclectic musical influences including Arab, African, Latin and Balkan rhythms, jazz and punk. In the course of over twenty years they have released nine albums of wild, spiritual, provocative, reflective, and ecstatically danceable music, forever redefining and transcending traditional labels.

Artist Website: <http://www.socalledmusic.com>

Josh Dolgin, known as **Socalled**, is a rapper and producer, known for his eclectic mix of hip-hop, klezmer and other types of folk music. A pianist, accordion player, producer, composer, rapper, singer, journalist, photographer, filmmaker, magician, cartoonist and puppet maker, he has been making records and touring the world for over a decade with his unique mash-up of traditional Jewish meets urban hip-hop sound. Socalled continues on his mission of boundary-crossing with the mixing of acoustic and electric instruments and digital and analog recording techniques, all while exploring different cultures in the service of creating something catchy, smart, hilarious, emotional and timeless.

Artist Website: <http://www.paintedbird.net>

Detroit-born, Berlin-based **Daniel Kahn** is an integral part of the international Yiddish and klezmer scene. "To Klezmer what the Pogues were to Folk... polyglot, pan-European Punkfolk." He sings old and original songs in Yiddish, English, and German that are poetically dark, tragically humorous and politically subversive. His band, The Painted Bird concocts a mixture of klezmer, radical Yiddish song, and political cabaret, kept together by Kahn's amazing abilities as a songwriter, translator and performer. Their newest album *Lost Causes*, winner of 2011 Record of the Year by the German Record Critics' Association, challenges the borders between radical/ traditional, lyrical/political, east/west and folk/punk.

Tuesday, June 26 at 7:00pm in Soundview Park, The Bronx

Cano "El Cano" Estremera

File Under: Latin, Salsa

Puerto Rican salsa singer, **Cano Estremera** has had a successful career in the music industry, spanning almost thirty years. Starting out as solely a percussionist, Estremera is now dedicated to performing

music of all genres. Estremera recorded six albums with Bobby Valentin's band before forming his own group in 1984. Nicknamed "El Cano," a word which is commonly used in Puerto Rico to refer to people of light complexion, Estremera is arguably the most famous albino in the Caribbean country and has raised awareness on the condition through his music. With a reputation for being a fast and clever improviser through soneo (call-response improvisation), Estremera is also known as "Dueño del soneo," or "Owner of Soneo." His on-the-spot technique provides for a unique, engaging audience experience.

Wednesday, June 27 at 7:00pm in Soundview Park, The Bronx

Safire

Lisette Melendez

DJ Lucho

File Under: Latin, Freestyle

Safire's string of club hits helped make her one of Latin freestyle's most popular female performers. She was discovered at an audition, where she won the chance to record the already-waiting single "Don't Break My Heart" which became a club hit. Her follow-up single, "Let Me Be the One" further established her in the popular Freestyle genre. Safire's self-titled album debut featured her two previous hits, plus the even more successful ballad, "Thinking of You."

Lisette Melendez is a freestyle and Latin pop singer hailing from Spanish Harlem, New York City. With powerful and sultry vocals, these songs propelled her debut album, *Together Forever* to gold status. Best known for her hits, "Together Forever" and "A Day In My Life (Without You)," both of which were dance music hits, Melendez helped to popularize the Latin freestyle genre.

Artist Website: <http://www.djlucho.com>

DJ Lucho's early exposure to the harmonious rhythms of Latin music in his Harlem neighborhood nurtured an innate talent that propelled him to become one of the most gifted DJs and producers in the music industry. His interaction with different genres of music has allowed him to develop a unique and versatile style, which was guided by his deep appreciation for various cultures and their musical influences.

Thursday, June 28 at 7:00pm in Soundview Park, The Bronx

Our Latin Thing: A Tribute to The Fania All-Stars

Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue

File Under: Latin, Rock, R&B

Our Latin Thing, an ensemble of lead singers and musicians from New York's top Latin bands, pays tribute to the legendary group, the Fania All-Stars. **The Fania All-Stars** were a group of artists from the 1970's that popularized Latin music's sound to a wide audience via their large scale concerts. Included in the group were salsa greats such as Ray Barretto, Willie Colón, and Johnny Pacheco. Our Latin Thing will perform an assortment of all the Fania All Stars' top hits, whose music was influenced by American jazz, soul, and rock and roll.

Artist Website: <http://www.classicsoul.com>

Felix Hernandez is in the business of remembering the good ol' days. Hernandez's wildly popular radio show, *Rhythm Revue*, takes on a life of its own weekly at New York's Roseland, where three thousand disciples regularly come to hear Fernandez spin the sounds of the past and boogie down. Felix Hernandez will rock the crowd once again at SummerStage again with his mix of soul, Motown, funk, salsa and disco dance classics. Bring your dancing shoes.

Friday, June 29 - Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in St. Mary's Park, The Bronx

Limón Dance Company

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Limón Dance Company

File Under: Dance, Latin

Artist Website: <http://limon.org>

From its inception the **Limón Dance Company** has served as a cultural ambassador. The company was founded in 1946 by Mexican choreographer, José Limón and is a modern dance company performing to over 30,000 audience members annually. Named one of "America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures" by the Dance Heritage Coalition and recipient of the 2008 National Medal of Art, Limón was instrumental in shaping the creation of American modern dance as we know it today. Immigrating to the United States from Mexico in 1918, Limón is considered one of Mexico's greatest artistic exports, and a role model for Hispanic and Latino communities across the country. This season, Limón Dance Company celebrates its 65th anniversary with a number of special performances, classes, and workshops.

The Limón Dance Company will perform three pieces originally choreographed by Jose Limón including, *There is a Time*, *Chaconne* and *Moor's Pavane*.

Master Class: Join members of the Limón Dance Company as they host a class based on the modern dance techniques that the company has become famous for.

Saturday, June 30 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Limón Dance Company with special musical guest Paquito D'Rivera

File Under: Dance, Latin, Jazz

Join SummerStage as we celebrate the 65th anniversary of the José Limón Dance Company and the "Summer of Limón" series. The company will premiere *Come With Me*, a specially commissioned dance piece set to live music by world-renowned GRAMMY® Award winning, Cuban composer, Paquito D'Rivera and choreography by Rodrigo Pederneiras of Brazil's Grupo Corpo. This new work is Pederneiras' first commission for a U.S dance company and D'Rivera's first dance commission.

Artist Website: <http://limon.org>

From its inception the **Limón Dance Company** has served as a cultural ambassador. The company was founded in 1946 by Mexican choreographer, José Limón and is a modern dance company performing to over 30,000 audience members annually. Named one of "America's Irreplaceable Dance Treasures" by the Dance Heritage Coalition and recipient of the 2008 National Medal of Art, Limón was instrumental in shaping the creation of American modern dance as we know it today. Immigrating to the United States from Mexico in 1918, Limón is considered one of Mexico's greatest artistic exports, and a role model for Hispanic and Latino communities across the country. This season, Limón Dance Company celebrates its

65th anniversary with a number of special performances, classes, and workshops.

Artist Website: <http://www.paquitodrivera.com>

Cuban-born saxophonist and clarinetist **Paquito D’Rivera**’s performances transcend musical genres, where he is equally at home performing cool jazz, hot Latin sounds or even a classical concerto. With a famed career and numerous accolades, D’ Rivera added to his long list of awards and accomplishments with two 2011 Latin GRAMMY® Awards for “Best Latin Jazz Album” and “Best Classical Contemporary Composition.” As popular as ever, he has composed and will play original music for the world premiere of this special commissioned dance piece for SummerStage.

Saturday, June 30 at 4:00pm in St. Mary’s Park, The Bronx

SummerStage Kids Bronx Family Day featuring

The Red Trousers Show

The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus

Little Club Heads

Presented by Disney

File Under: Family, Theater

Get ready for an energetic, interactive show at this year’s Bronx Family Day! Brought to you by **SummerStage Kids** presented by Disney, this special event will have families wowed by circus tricks and acrobatics and then on their feet for a memorable dance party experience! Families will also have the opportunity to participate in face painting, craft workshops and free sports lessons including golf workshops! This is sure to be an entertaining day you would not want to miss! Adults can now stay late for more fun featuring an evening of dance performances!

For more information on this program visit: www.SummerStage.org.

Artist Website: <http://www.theredtrousersshow.com>

David Graham and Tobin Renwick, are a high energy acrobatic, juggling and comedy duo that make up **The Red Trousers Show**. They have been performing in circuses and theaters, and busking all over America and internationally since 2000. Having been called “a spectacular and unique act” by the *Midnight Circus*, as well as a group of “amazing acrobats” by *ABC News*, their performances are entertaining for all ages.

Artist Website: <http://www.bindlestiff.org>

Since 1995, **The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus** has traveled the world, bringing its unique hybrid of vaudeville, circus, Wild West shows, burlesque and sideshow to hundreds of thousands of people. The company has produced innumerable cabaret shows, custom performances, and all-ages productions in addition to sophisticated adult shows. Bindlestiff also produces the NYC Unicycle Festival, yearly held on Governor’s Island over Labor Day Weekend. Today, Bindlestiff presents The Hell on Wheel Unicycle Stunt Show, in collaboration with the Chatham Unicycle Club of Columbia County, NY.

Artist Website: <http://www.littleclubheads.com>

Little Club Heads has revolutionized the idea of “family time” by providing a dance party experience for children aged 12 months to 10 years old and their parents. At their events, parents can socialize while children have an opportunity to mingle, dance, and stay fit. After over 40 events and entertaining over 35 thousand guests over the past two and half years, the New York City based business is rapidly

expanding.

Saturday, June 30 - Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in St. Marys' Park, The Bronx

Kaleidoscope of Dance featuring

Legendary House of Ninja

KR3T

Milteri Tucker and special guests

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Full Circle

File Under: Dance, GLBT, Hip Hop, Latin

Kaleidoscope of Dance is a special night of performances guest curated by Ana "Rockafella" Garcia from hip-hop dance troupe, Full Circle. This night's performances will span multiple genres of dance including hip-hop, Latin, contemporary, salsa, bachata, bruk up and angola club.

Artist Website: www.facebook.com/legendaryhouseofninja

The Legendary House of Ninja was established by Willie Ninja, considered by many to be the "godfather" of "Vogue," the dance style that was popularized by Madonna's hit song with the same name. Inspired by *Vogue* magazine and characterized by model-like poses integrated with angular, linear, and rigid arm, leg, and body movements, vogue is an established dance form that is practiced in the gay ballroom scene and clubs in major cities throughout the United States.

Artist Website: <http://www.kr3ts.com>

Based in Spanish Harlem, **KR3TS** promotes the art of dance by teaching and fostering a core-performance group that features pre-professional dancers. KR3TS gives aspiring dancers an outlet to develop skills, set goals, improve self-esteem and learn cooperation and integration as part of a group. Dancers are versed in various dance styles including ballet, modern, jazz, hip-hop, salsa, merengue, and African dance.

Artist Website: www.milteritucker.com

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, **Milteri Tucker** is the founder and artistic director of BOMBAZO Dance Co, and company member of world renowned choreographer Maria Torres. She has performed and showcased her work at City Center, Alvin Ailey, Hostos Main Stage, BAAD, Pregones Theater, Thalia Spanish Theater, Castillo Theater, El Museo del Barrio, Julia de Burgos Cultural Center, Lehman Center for the Performing Arts. Milteri is the premier lead dancer of the Puerto Rican Folkloric dance company, Danza Fiesta.

Master Class: Learn breakdancing basics with members of the hip-hop dance troupe, Full Circle.

Sunday, July 1 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Limón Dance Company with special musical guest Paquito D'Rivera

File Under: Dance, Latin, Jazz

Join SummerStage as we celebrate the 65th anniversary of the José Limón Dance Company and the "Summer of Limón" series. The company will premiere *Come With Me*, a specially commissioned dance piece set to live music by world-renowned GRAMMY® Award winning, Cuban composer, Paquito

D’Rivera and choreography by Rodrigo Pederneiras of Brazil’s Grupo Corpo. This new work is Pederneiras’ first commission for a U.S dance company and D’Rivera’s first dance commission.

Artist Website: <http://limon.org>

From its inception the **Limón Dance Company** has served as a cultural ambassador. The company was founded in 1946 by Mexican choreographer, José Limón and is a modern dance company performing to over 30,000 audience members annually. Named one of “America’s Irreplaceable Dance Treasures” by the Dance Heritage Coalition and recipient of the 2008 National Medal of Art, Limón was instrumental in shaping the creation of American modern dance as we know it today. Immigrating to the United States from Mexico in 1918, Limón is considered one of Mexico’s greatest artistic exports, and a role model for Hispanic and Latino communities across the country. This season, Limón Dance Company celebrates its 65th anniversary with a number of special performances, classes, and workshops.

Artist Website: <http://www.paquitodrivera.com>

Cuban-born saxophonist and clarinetist **Paquito D’Rivera’s** performances transcend musical genres, where he is equally at home performing cool jazz, hot Latin sounds or even a classical concerto. With a famed career and numerous accolades, D’ Rivera added to his long list of awards and accomplishments with two 2011 Latin GRAMMY® Awards for “Best Latin Jazz Album” and “Best Classical Contemporary Composition.” As popular as ever, he has composed and will play original music for the world premiere of this special commissioned dance piece for SummerStage.

Tuesday, July 3 at 7:00pm in St. Mary’s Park, The Bronx

José “El Canario” Alberto

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Salsa

Artist Website: <http://www.elcanario.com>

José Alberto, is a Dominican salsa singer with a career that spans the past thirty years. His voice was widely adored by salsa fans, and his exceptional whistling abilities led fans to give him the nickname “El Canario” (The Canary). As a pioneer of a new style of salsa called salsa romántica, which arose at a time when classic, big-band salsa, was losing popularity on the Latin record charts, El Canario focused mainly on the romantic, softer aspects of the music, creating a mixture of earlier salsa brava and the ballad style. El Canario received international attention as the bandleader of Tipica 73 as well as for hit songs such as “Sueño Contigo” and albums including his debut, *Noches Calientes* and *Dance With Me*.

PAID SHOW – Visit www.ticketmaster.com for tickets

Tuesday, July 3 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Norah Jones - PAID SHOW – Visit www.ticketmaster.com for tickets

File Under: Rock, Jazz, Roots, Bluegrass

Paid shows at SummerStage Central Park help support over 100 free shows in NYC parks

Thursday, July 5 at 7:00pm in St. Mary’s Park, The Bronx

8 y Más presents **A Tribute to Tito Puente**

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Salsa

Artist Website: www.8ymas.com

8 y Más is one of the hottest new bands on the contemporary Latin music scene today. Comprised of a team of internationally recognized musicians considered by many to be some of the best in NYC and beyond, 8 y Más boasts a stellar lineup including Bobby Allende, Angel Fernandez, Ricky Gonzalez and Marc Quiñones. In November, 2006, the band released its first production, *Juega Billar* to much acclaim by salsa music lovers. For this special night, the band celebrates the musical legacy of the late, beloved salsero, Tito Puente called by many, "El Rey de los Timbales" (The King of the Timbales).

Friday, July 6 and Saturday, July 7 at 8:00pm in St. Mary's Park, The Bronx

"A King of Infinite Space" a play by Mando Alvarado

Directed by Jerry Ruiz, adapted from *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

****Note: This production contains strong language****

American rock collides with Shakespeare in the SummerStage commissioned, theatrical concert event, **A King of Infinite Space.**

Artist Website: www.cruzandothemovie.com

Noted playwright **Mando Alvarado's** modern spin on William Shakespeare's *Hamlet* places the plot in the Lower East Side, Manhattan for a more relatable take on the quintessential tale of struggling family dynamics, power, and revenge. The production breaks away from Shakespeare's Elizabethan English by using modern language and costuming while still portraying the core theme and plot of the original play. Fusing the music and themes from American rock icon Pearl Jam's ground-breaking album, *10*, with a gritty Lower East Side dynamic, this concert event relates Shakespeare's 17th century literature to 21st century New York City. Director **Jerry Ruiz** and his design team craft a stream-lined, bare bones yet theatrical storytelling approach that convey this timeless story to a contemporary audience with clarity, simplicity and a modern sensibility.

Saturday, July 7 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

CBGB Festival – Artists TBA

File Under: Rock

Sunday, July 8 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

SummerStage Kids Family Day featuring

Justin Roberts and The Not So Ready for Naptime Players

Ill Style & Peace Productions,

The New York Chinese Cultural Center

The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus

Presented by Disney

File Under: Family, Asia, Hip Hop, Theater, Rock

SummerStage Kids' Family Day is back for another raucous afternoon of whacky fun. This family affair will awaken the kid in all of us through engaging performance from around the world and around the corner, puppetry, music, dance classes, arts and crafts workshops, a chance to make your own instruments and magical mayhem! *SummerStage Kids* will also offer Vocalpercussion: a specially designed workshop for people of all ages. This intimate workshop will use recycled materials, sounds, and storytelling to create a fun atmosphere and a chance to create new music for all to share.

Artist Website: <http://www.justinroberts.org/nr4np.php>

Justin Roberts is truly one of the "all-stars" of the indie family music scene. With numerous national awards and a devoted fan base, Justin and The Not Ready for Naptime Players dish out unexpectedly intelligent and whimsically rocking music for kids and their parents. His latest CD, *Jungle Gym* ascends through the collective memories of childhood: from the joys of trick or treating and sleepovers to the magic stillness of snow days. Giant pounding drums, vintage electric guitars, strange and fanciful time changes and soaring vocals has Roberts being called "The Paul McCartney of kids' music" by *USA Today*.

Artist Website: <http://www.myspace.com/illstyleandPeace>

Illstyle & Peace Productions is a multicultural dance company that creates works rooted in hip-hop blended with an eclectic mix of performance disciplines including tap, DJing and beatboxing. The New York Times has said "Watching these dancers [is] like watching the greatest ballet virtuosos, each fighting gravity and the appearance of effort, and demanding and getting the impossible from the human body." With a mix of gravity defying moves and upbeat music, families will be captivated by the non-stop action moves of this talented troupe.

Artist Website: <http://www.chinesedance.org>

Founded in 1974, **The New York Chinese Cultural Center** (NYCCC) is dedicated to deepening the understanding and appreciation of Chinese culture in the global community and to preserve the art of Chinese dance. NYCCC fulfills its mission by offering professional classes, workshops and performances while nurturing creative and innovative new works that reflect the rich cultural heritages and the diverse community today. Join NYCCC as they celebrate 2012's Year of the Dragon, complete with the famed Chinese Lion Dance, a mix of colorful traditional and folk dances celebrating the various cultures of China, interactive fan dance workshops and Chinese inspired arts and crafts for all ages.

Artist Website: <http://www.bindlestiff.org>

Performers from **The Bindlestiff Family Cirkus** provide atmospheric entertainment today. Since 1995 the Bindlestiff Family Cirkus has traveled the world, bringing its unique hybrid of vaudeville, circus, Wild West shows, burlesque and sideshow to hundreds of thousands of people. Famous among audiences and within the variety performance community, the company has produced innumerable cabaret shows, custom performances, all-ages productions in addition to sophisticated adult shows. Dedicated fans come back again and again to experience the very best and most original acts working today. Bindlestiff's extended family includes over 450 of the world's best circus and variété artists.

Sunday, July 8 at 7:00pm in St. Mary's Park, The Bronx

Frankie Negrón

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Salsa

Puerto Rican salsa star **Frankie Negron** creates a new brand of modern Latin music by fusing his roots and upbringing together into a harmonious sound. Taking influence from American icons like Bruce Springsteen and Bon Jovi, and combining pop, rock, gospel, R&B, hip-hop and reggaeton into his contemporary salsa tunes, Negron is not your typical salsa star. Signed at the age of 17, Negron has had an extensive relationship with the music industry. He released seven albums between 1997 and 2003 alone. Negron has earned Grammy nominations, Billboard Award nods, and two Premio Lo Nuestro Awards for "Song of the Year." He also boasts four Platinum album awards to his credit, proving his innovation well received by his audiences.

Tuesday, July 10 at 7:00pm in Crotona Park, The Bronx

Chubb Rock

Kurtis Blow

DJ Bent Roc

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://www.myspace.com/chubbrocklegend1>

Chubb Rock, often compared to a hip-hop Barry White, dropped out of pre-med at Brown University to pursue his musical career. Regarded as one of the East Coast's most dexterous rappers, he first appeared on the national rap scene with his self-titled debut, *Chubb Rock*. His 1991 release, *The One*, reached #13 on Billboard's Top Hip-Hop/R&B chart that year. Three singles from that release made it to #1 on Billboard's Top Rap Single chart list that same year including, the classic song, "Treat Em Right," "Just the Two of Us" and "Lost in the Storm."

Artist Website: <http://www.kurtisblow.net>

Kurtis Blow, one of the founders of recorded rap inspired a generation of rappers with his street sense, social criticism, and commercial savvy that was instrumental in raising up a generation of MC's. One of the first rapper's to be signed by a major label; he went on to release ten albums over eleven years with numerous hits such as "Basketball" and "If I Ruled the World," which was famously covered by Nas in 1997. His rhymes feature cinematic sensibilities, opening the world's eyes and ears to the truths of the inner city. In his newest venture, Blow is the co-founder of the Hip-Hop Church, where he serves as rapper, DJ and worship leader.

DJ Bent Roc is the premiere mix master on New York City's 107.5 WBLS. Besides spinning for all the station's events, he spins weekly on Saturdays for his own show, *Classic Flavors* alongside his partner, legendary rapper, Chubb Rock. With his weekly show, DJ Bent Roc gives respect and attention to the pioneers of hip-hop culture. With over 20 years of DJ experience, along with the *Billboard* "R&B / Hip Hop Radio Show of the Year" award under his belt, DJ Bent Roc will rock your world!

Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

LAMC: The Latin Alternative Music Conference featuring

Mala Rodríguez

Profetas

Ximena Sariñana

File Under: Latin, Rock, Hip Hop, Global

Spanish rap star **Mala Rodríguez** rose to fame quickly, earning plenty of attention with her socially minded lyrics and strong femininity. Arising from the fertile hip-hop scene of Seville during the late '90s, her debut album, *Lujo Ibérico*, established her immediately as one of Spain's notable female rappers. The hit single, "Yo Marco el Minuto" cemented her place on the Latin hip-hop world. Her follow up albums, *Alevosía* and *Malamarismo* found Rodríguez experimenting with new sounds but remaining a potent rapper and thoughtful lyricist. Her newest release, *Dirty Bailarina* spawned the single "No Pidas Perdón" which won the Latin Grammy for "Best Urban Song."

Artist Website: <http://www.myspace.com/somosprofetas>

Profetas is a revolutionary tropical hip-hop duo formed by the African female voice of Antombo Langangui and the Colombian MC Pablo Fortaleza. They have become one of the essential groups pioneering urban music in Latin America. Their fusion of Afro-Colombian music, reggae, rock and hip-hop has driven the band to fame in Latin America, Germany and Austria with Colombian newspaper *El Tiempo* calling the band "a revelation of Colombian hip-hop." Profetas newest album, *Baila* continues the group's mix of "high-energy, socially conscious, sophisticated tracks" says *MTV Iggy*.

Artist Website: <http://www.ximenamusic.com>

When Mexican vocalist **Ximena Sariñana** released her debut solo album *Mediocre*, in 2008, *Rolling Stone* gave it four stars and praised it as "one of the strongest debuts from a female singer-songwriter since Norah Jones' Come Away With Me." Recording the Spanish-language album was a natural step for Sariñana, who had risen to fame as a child actress and had fronted a successful indie band. Sariñana's self-titled English language debut is a collection of songs that showcase her striking voice, thoughtful lyrics and offbeat personality. The album not only reflects Sariñana's wise-beyond-her years demeanor, but also the kind of sonic growth and experimentation expected from a risk-taker.

Wednesday, July 11 at 7:00pm in Crotona Park, The Bronx

Nice and Smooth

Ed O.G.

The Awesome 2

File Under: Hip Hop

East coast hip-hop duo **Greg Nice & Smooth B** are famed for writing smart, tongue-in-cheek rhymes that ride bangin' hooks. Released in the late 1980's and early to mid 90's, Nice & Smooth's albums, including *Nice and Smooth* and *Ain't a Damn Thing Changed*, are acknowledged hip-hop essentials. Their biggest hit, "Sometimes I Rhyme Slow..." is fondly remembered for its moderately somber rhyme with introspective lines about poverty, AIDS and drugs that was set to the guitar loop of Tracy Chapman's hit single, "Fast Car." Known for their humorous rhymes and catchy hooks, they often appeared as guest emcees on albums by the Beatnuts, Gang Starr, and Tony Touch among many others.

Ed O.G. hails from Boston and the lead rapper in the group Ed O.G. and Da Bulldogs. His debut with the group, titled *Life of a Kid in the Ghetto* received critical acclaim for its gritty depiction of ghetto life. The

album included the song “Be a Father to Your Child” and “I Got To Have It.” Since then, Ed O.G. has gone on to release four solo albums and numerous collaborations with artists including Pete Rock, DJ Premier, RZA, KRS-One and Common.

Teddy Tedd and Special K, better known as the legendary DJ duo, **The Awesome 2** are regarded as power players in hip-hop’s radio and DJ scene with shows on such famed stations such as 105.9 in NYC and on Sirius and AOL. Regulars on the international party scene for over twenty years, they have played all over the world, establishing themselves as hip-hop tastemakers.

Friday, July 13 and Saturday, July 14 at 8:00pm in Crotona Park, The Bronx

“A King of Infinite Space” a play by Mando Alvarado

Directed By Jerry Ruiz, adapted from *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

****Note: This production contains strong language****

American rock collides with Shakespeare in the SummerStage commissioned, theatrical concert event, **A King of Infinite Space.**

Artist Website: www.cruzandothemovie.com

Noted playwright **Mando Alvarado’s** modern spin on William Shakespeare’s *Hamlet* places the plot in the Lower East Side, Manhattan for a more relatable take on the quintessential tale of struggling family dynamics, power, and revenge. The production breaks away from Shakespeare’s Elizabethan English by using modern language and costuming while still portraying the core theme and plot of the original play. Fusing the music and themes from American rock icon Pearl Jam’s ground-breaking album, *10*, with a gritty Lower East Side dynamic, this concert event relates Shakespeare’s 17th century literature to 21st century New York City. Director **Jerry Ruiz** and his design team craft a stream-lined, bare bones yet theatrical storytelling approach that convey this timeless story to a contemporary audience with clarity, simplicity and a modern sensibility.

Saturday, July 14 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

LAMC: The Latin Alternative Music Conference featuring

Kinky

Los Auténticos Decadentes

3Ball MTY

DJ Raff

File Under: Latin, Electronic, Rock, Global

Artist Website: <http://kinkymusic.com>

Known for their energetic live shows, **Kinky** is a Latin alternative group that draws from funk-rock as well as electronic dance music, resulting in a unique hybrid that has garnered them an international following. The five-piece band from Monterrey, Mexico released their self-titled debut, *Kinky* in 2002, which was met with critical acclaim. Over a range of albums including *Atlas*, *Reina* and *Barracuda*, a string of singles became huge hits such as “Más” and “A Dónde Van Los Muertos?” The band’s 2011

release *Sueño de la Maquina* incorporates hip-hop influences into their trademark electronic sound and has sprung the hit single, “Negro Día.”

Artist Website: <http://www.losautenticosdecadentes.com>

Los Auténticos Decadentes is one of the most famous bands in Argentina with a career that spans over thirty years. A mix of ska, carnival and rock with a strong Latin influence, lends the group their famous party anthem sound. Their first hit was the single, “Veni Raquel,” which set the tone for the irreverence and ironic humor that they have become famous for. Many of their songs are classic anthems of Argentine nightlife, such as “Corazón” and “La Guitarra.”

Artist Website: <http://www.latinpowermusic.com.mx/artista/3ballmty>

Comprised of Monterrey DJs Erick Rincón, Sheeqo Beat and DJ Otto, tribal guarachero group **3Ball MTY**, specialize in club sounds that take inspiration from regional folk songs, electro-house sounds, and elements of cumbia and Afro-Cuban beats. The group’s debut album, *Inténtalo* which was released in 2011, has created a buzz in the music scene by blending traditional northern Mexican styles with electro beats to produce a riveting new sound. These DJs bring an unmatched energy to their music, leading *The New York Times* to call their sound “a stunning aerobic workout of fusion” with a “robust sense of history and a keen urge to destroy and update it.”

Artist Website: <http://www.djraff.net>

Hailing from the far reaches of South America, Chile’s **DJ Raff** has helped to sow the seeds of what is now considered one of the biggest and most important hip-hop scenes in Latin America. His blend of creative sampling, beats, keyboard arrangements and scratching have earned him a place amongst Latin America’s most highly regarded and groundbreaking DJs and music producers, where he has made beats for many different artists and released his own solo material.

Sunday, July 15 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

A Guthrie Family Reunion: Celebrating Woody Guthrie's 100th Birthday featuring

Arlo Guthrie, Abe Guthrie, Cathy Guthrie, Annie Guthrie, Sara Lee Guthrie and Johnny Irion

File Under: Rock, Folk

For this special show, famed folk singer Arlo Guthrie and his family will come together to offer a rare and special tribute to his father, Woody Guthrie, in celebration of Woody’s 100th birthday.

Artist Website: <http://www.arlo.net>

Folk music icon **Arlo Guthrie** is a legendary artist who shares timeless stories and unforgettable classic songs as he carries on the Guthrie Family legacy. With his singular voice as both a singer-songwriter and social commentator, he has maintained a dedicated fan base that spans the globe. A celebrated figure in American music, Arlo connects with communities far and wide leaving a lasting impression of hope and inspiration. His artistic ventures help bridge an often-divided world through his powerful spirit of song and his inimitable musical ingenuity forges to new creative heights as he perseveres through the times. If you’ve been to an Arlo Guthrie concert in the past 20 years, it’s likely you’ve seen his son, **Abe Guthrie**’s great smile, and heard his adept and tasteful keyboard accompaniment along with his powerful supporting vocals. Abe started performing professionally with his father in the early '80s, when he founded the band, Xavier. A multi-faceted artist, Abe Guthrie has demonstrated his versatility by having a hand in many music projects worldwide. His varied roles have ranged from performance and

studio musician, engineer, producer, graphic artist and of course, Arlo's right hand man on-stage and off.

Cathy Guthrie always knew she'd be in the music business but never thought she'd be a musician. Overseeing the Los Angeles office for the Guthrie family recording label, Rising Son Records, in 2000 she decided to pair up with Amy Nelson (daughter of Willie Nelson) to form the duo, Folk Uke. With Amy on guitar and Cathy on ukulele they began writing songs and in 2005, they released their self-titled debut CD, which has earned them a cult following. Their vocal harmonies and melodies are sweet and contagious, and their lyrics are explicit.

Annie Guthrie is a prolific songwriter and versatile musician, playing acoustic guitar, bass, and autoharp. Her songs are a pure reflection of her life and she has taken that to heart writing songs that tell it like it is. Annie has been singing ever since she can remember, even appearing at the age of four on Arlo's album *Someday*, and later on *Woody's 20 Grow Big Songs*, and *More Together Again*. Previously she has performed with her siblings as The G Babes, with Folk Uke, and with The Guthrie Family Rides Again Tour. In June 2011 she released her single "Lullaby."

A lot can happen in five years, and for the husband-and-wife duo **Sarah Lee Guthrie** and **Johnny Irion**, the time between *Exploration*, their first album together in 2005, and 2011's *Bright Examples*, has been one nonstop whirlwind of activity. Not only has the couple toured extensively both as a duo and as part of the "Guthrie Family Rides Again" tour, they've also released the children's album *Go Waggaloo*, a live DVD entitled *Folk Song* and a solo album by Johnny. *Bright Examples* finds Guthrie and Irion taking their patented country-rock sound and tilting it in a direction Guthrie describes as "more atmospheric or psychedelic, sort of dreamy but colorful."

Sunday, July 15 at 7:00pm in Crotona Park, The Bronx

Blue Magic

Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue

File Under: R&B, Latin

Artist Website: <http://www.myspace.com/MAGICOFTHEBLUE>

Blue Magic, best known for their irresistible smooth soul ballads, successfully climbed the Top 40 R&B singles chart with their first three releases before breaking through and crossing over with platinum selling hit single, "Sideshow," which became a pop hit phenomenon. Blue Magic's unbeatable mix of smooth tunes and tender lyrics made "Three Ring Circus," their next single, another crossover hit that helped to define the soul sound.

Artist Website: <http://www.classicsoul.com>

Felix Hernandez is in the business of remembering the good ol' days. Hernandez's wildly popular radio show, Rhythm Revue, takes on a life of its own weekly at New York's Roseland, where three thousand disciples regularly come to hear Fernandez spin the sounds of the past and boogie down. Felix Hernandez will rock the crowd once again at SummerStage again with his mix of soul, Motown, funk, salsa and disco dance classics. Bring your dancing shoes.

PAID SHOW – Visit www.ticketmaster.com for tickets

Monday, July 16 at 6:30pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Young the Giant - PAID SHOW – Visit www.ticketmaster.com for tickets

File Under: Rock

Paid shows at SummerStage Central Park help support over 100 free shows in NYC parks

Tuesday, July 17 at 7:30pm in Central Park, Manhattan

The Upright Citizens Brigade presents *The All-Stars of Improv*

File Under: Comedy

Artist Website: www.ucbtheater.com

The Upright Citizens Brigade is home to some of the biggest stars in comedy today. From *Saturday Night Live* to *The Office* and *Parks and Recreation*, the guys and gals of UCB are all over the place; including the writing rooms and offices of *the Colbert Report*, *the Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and even on the big screen. UCB alums have starred in the best, freshest, most irreverent comedies of the past decade. Watch this cast of all-stars from the big and small screen take over SummerStage to do what they do best, two acts of fully improvised comedy that will have audiences rolling. This show has never been seen before; will never be seen again and will never be forgotten.

Tuesday, July 17 at 7:00pm in Queensbridge Park, Queens

The Chi-Lites

Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue

File Under: R&B, Latin, Rock

Artist Website: <http://www.chi-lites.info/>

A Rhythm & Blues Hall of Fame inductee, **The Chi-Lites** bring a lush, creamy sound distinguished by their four-part harmonies and layered productions to stage. The Chicago-based smooth vocal quartet first achieved success with "Give It Away", their hit single attaining number ten in the R&B charts. The ballads "Have You Seen Her" and "Oh Girl" followed, topping the R&B charts with "Oh Girl" also achieving number one in the Billboard charts. With their song, "Are You My Woman", sampled and featured on Beyoncé's number-one hit "Crazy In Love", the Chi-Lites prove that they are still musical powerhouses in R&B and soul.

Artist Website: <http://www.classicsoul.com>

Felix Hernandez is in the business of remembering the good ol' days. Hernandez's wildly popular radio show, Rhythm Revue, takes on a life of its own weekly at New York's Roseland, where three thousand disciples regularly come to hear Fernandez spin the sounds of the past and boogie down. Felix Hernandez will rock the crowd once again at SummerStage again with his mix of soul, Motown, funk, salsa and disco dance classics. Bring your dancing shoes.

Wednesday, July 18 at 7:00pm in Queensbridge Park, Queens

Big Daddy Kane

Marley Marl

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://www.officialbigdaddykane.com>

Hip hop legend **Big Daddy Kane** first exploded onto the scene in 1986 with the pioneering rap group The Juice Crew. Only two years later, Kane found smashing success as a solo artist with his second full-length album, *It's a Big Daddy Thing*, featuring the classic tracks "I Get the Job Done" and "Long Live The Kane." Big Daddy Kane's mastery of the microphone has placed Big Daddy Kane on MTV's "Greatest MCs of All Time" list.

One of hip-hop's first super producers, **Marley Marl** was an early innovator in the art of sampling, which resulted in some of the sharpest beats and hooks during rap's Golden Age. As the founder of Cold Chillin' Records, Marl assembled a roster filled with some of the finest hip-hop talent in New York during the 1980's. His production work for those and many other artists boasted a bright, booming, and robust sound that helped move street-level hip-hop's into more mainstream territory. His production credits span hip-hop royalty including, Rakim Big Daddy Kane, Capone-N-Noreaga, and Fat Joe.

Thursday, July 19 at 7:00pm in Queensbridge Park, Queens

WAR

Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue

File Under: Latin, Rock

Artist Website: <http://www.wartheband.com>

WAR's long-haired musical virtuosity and influences, which include, jazz, rock, funk, soul, R&B, and Latin, have impacted their fans, as well as other musicians, regardless of race, generation, or genre. Founding member, Lonnie Jordan, states that this is one "WAR" that has truly brought people together for peace, love, and harmony. Their music and history transcends generations of pop culture and has a universal appeal to parents, grandparents, and children across the world. With over forty years in the music industry, WAR has had a profound influence on contemporary American music and continues to provide stellar live performances for today's audiences.

Artist Website: <http://www.classicsoul.com>

Felix Hernandez is in the business of remembering the good ol' days. Hernandez's wildly popular radio show, Rhythm Revue, takes on a life of its own weekly at New York's Roseland, where three thousand disciples regularly come to hear Fernandez spin the sounds of the past and boogie down. Felix Hernandez will rock the crowd once again at SummerStage again with his mix of soul, Motown, funk, salsa and disco dance classics. Bring your dancing shoes.

Friday, July 20 - Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in Queensbridge Park, Queens

Liberation Dance Theater

Jamal Jackson Dance Company

All Levels Open Dance Master Class with Jamal Jackson Dance Company

File Under: Dance, Jazz, Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://www.liberationdancetheater.org>

Liberation Dance Theater (LDT) preserves and celebrates the heritage of jazz, traditional folklore, and the pulse of street culture to create physical narratives for themes relating to identity, communal responsibility, and spirituality. Since 2007, LDT has been pushing the boundaries of socio-political art through performance, arts education, and cultural exchange. LDT has been seen nationally, regionally, and internationally including: Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival, Alvin Ailey Citi-Group Theater, and Joe's Pub DanceNOW Festival. Artistic Director/Founder, Jacinta Vlach was awarded "Best Emerging Artist" by the *SF Bay Guardian Readers Poll 2010* and *SF WEEKLY* says Liberation Dance "jettisons the neutral ground of conventional dance for more provocative terrain." The company will premiere *Love and Money: Egypt to New York*, a new work that explores the great intangible known as "love." In a series of chapters beginning with Cleopatra's reign in Egypt and ending in present day New York City, *Love and Money* addresses the impact money and social status has on the sanctity of love.

Artist Website: <http://www.jamaljacksondancecompany.org>

Jamal Jackson Dance Company (JJDC) was founded with the purpose of fusing various traditional African dance styles with modern and hip-hop techniques while incorporating diverse musical styles in order to create a technique that is relevant to a diverse community of Americans. Through the company's signature style, which is characterized by looseness in the arms, hips and spine, fast footwork, and a constant bounce, the choreography weaves together to tell stories that redefine ideas of community and blur divisive lines, while still celebrating the beauty of individual cultures. *Footprints From My Head's Rhythm* is a direct representation of the choreographic themes at the core of JJDC with each piece exploring a different aspect of reconciling the need for people to maintain individuality while being accepted into a community.

Master Class: Company members of Jamal Jackson Dance Company will teach energetic, full-body movement that flows fluidly between West African, Hip Hop and Modern dance techniques.

Saturday, July 21 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Bebel Gilberto

Criolo

Flávio Renegado

DJ Béco Dranoff

Presented in Association with Brasil Summerfest

File Under: Brazil, Rock, Hip Hop, Electronic, Global

Join SummerStage as we celebrate the newest generation of musicians making a mark on the Brazilian music scene with up and coming Brazilian hip-hop artists Criolo and Flávio Renegado making their New York City premiere.

Artist Website: <http://www.bebelgilberto.com>

Internationally acclaimed singer/songwriter **Bebel Gilberto** is the daughter of Joao Gilberto, the iconic voice of bossa nova. Gilberto's famed father would always color her musical path, and with the addition of elements of electronic music, she took the legacy of bossa nova from Bahia to the dance floor, earning worldwide success. With the release of *Tanto Tempo* in 2000, Gilberto formulated her trademark electronic bossa nova, which took over clubs around the world and positioned Bebel as one of the top-selling Brazilian artists in the U.S. Her subsequent albums, which garnered several GRAMMY®

nominations, including *Bebel Gilberto*, *Momento* and *All in One* refined her sound to also include an acoustic lounge style that showcased her strengths as a composer.

Artist Website: <http://www.criolo.net>

Criolo, Brazil's newest star creates rhymes like an industrial machine. At the same time, he can also sing beautifully and blend Brazilian rhythms including samba, soul, Afro-funk and rock riffs and assemble it with hip-hop beats and flow to create some of the most exciting new music to come out of Brazil in recent times. Recently chosen by MTV Brazil as "Best New Artist" in 2011, Criolo's newest album, *Nó Na Orelha* explores his full range of musical adventurousness and is lyrically, a dense and far-reaching work.

Artist Website: <http://minhatribo.flaviorenegado.com.br>

Rising Brazilian hip-hop artist, **Flávio Renegado** has been making moves in the Brazilian music scene since 2008 with the release of his debut, *Do Oiapoque a Nova York*. Renegado's sound is at once identifiably hip-hop based but incorporates other musical influences such as reggae, maracatu, Cuban music, African rhythms, samba and other sounds typical of Brazilian culture. These global inspirations are exemplified in his newest release, *Minha Tribo é o Mundo* meaning, "My Tribe is the World."

Artist Website: <http://becodranoff.com>

Béco Dranoff has been involved in the Brazilian music industry for over 20 years. Béco's multi-faceted career and international expertise positions him as a unique bridge for cultural projects between Brazil and the world. As a Music Selector, Béco has worked in prestigious venues such as Cielo, MoMA's Sculpture Garden, Le Poisson Rouge and Nublu. His musical style can be defined as Global-Neo-Brazilian, featuring new hybrid sounds from Brazil's top DJ's and producers mixed in with a good dose of classic beats such as Samba, Forró, Bahian grooves and everything else in between. Béco hosts *SONORIDADE*, a monthly online Brazilian radio show.

Saturday, July 21 - Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in Queensbridge Park, Queens

Malcolm Low Formal Structure

VON USSAR danceworks

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Jamel Gaines Creative Outlet Dance Theater of Brooklyn

File Under: Dance

Artist Website: <http://www.wix.com/malcolmlow/formalstructure>

Malcolm Low is a 2012 New Directions Choreography Lab Fellow chosen by Robert Battle, Artistic Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and is also the director of Malcolm Low Formal Structure. He has performed with a number of premiere companies such as Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal, Ballet British Columbia, Ronald K. Brown/Evidence, Complexions, and most notably the Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Co. Join Formal Structure as they premiere *Stable Freedom*, a high energy celebration of life featuring solos, duets, trios and a quartet set to a suite of mixed and arranged music.

Artist Website: <http://www.vonussardanceworks.org>

VON USSAR danceworks is a contemporary-modern dance company founded in 2002 by Astrid von Ussar. The company has met with critical acclaim and has quickly catapulted to become one of the most promising dance companies in New York City. Comprised of seven powerful and athletic dancers representing different cultures, ethnicities, and technical training, the troupe's vivid choreography uses bold and intensely energetic movements to create an edgy, powerful dance style. With a strong,

empowered female perspective, VON USSAR danceworks creates works that explore daily life and the inner workings of the human condition.

Master Class: Come experience the joy of movement with this class that teaches contemporary modern dance infused with West African and hip-hop elements.

Sunday, July 22 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Orchestre Poly-Rythmo

SMOD

Bibi Tanga and The Selenites

DJ Chief Boima

Presented in Association with The Museum for African Art

File Under: Africa, Rock, Hip Hop, Global

Artist Website: <http://www.polyrythmo.com>

The eternal youth of the legendary **Orchestre Poly-Rythmo** from Benin, Africa has stunned deejays and African music aficionados with their pure African funky sound for over forty years. Their voice, brass section, guitar and percussion weaves together to create an irresistible Afro-funk sound deeply anchored in voodoo music, beat out by an immense vertical drum. By inter-mixing these vibrant traditional rhythms with psychedelic guitar riffs, unreal organ harmonies and funk and soul elements, the band has gone on to perform throughout Africa and internationally alongside other famous African musicians such as such as Seun Kuti and Amadou and Mariam. The band has just released a new album, *Cotonou Club* featuring musicians from Scottish band, Franz Ferdinand, Angelique Kidjo and Fatoumata Diawara.

Artist Website: <http://www.smod.fr>

The Malian group **SMOD** is a group of four young MCs, hailing from Bamako, the capital of Mali in West Africa. In 2002, they edited their first album, *Dunia Kuntala*. The album and the group's intersection of folk meets rap with a distinctly African vibe launched them to fame in their homeland. Two years later, they released the follow up, *Ta I Tola* in collaboration with numerous famed world artists including Amadou & Mariam and Manu Chao. With a new album being released in 2013 and a world tour lined up, SMOD is taking their special brand of African hip-hop to audiences around the world.

Artist Website: <http://www.myspace.com/bibitanga>

The future of funk is being written right now by a pair of Parisian groove theorists named **Bibi Tanga** and Professeur Inlassable. Singer, bassist and bandleader Bibi Tanga bridges the divide between Paris' arty South Bank of the Seine and the gritty suburbs, where he grew up as an immigrant from the Central African Republic. Tanga's music is marked by slinky, sinuous bass lines and a wicked falsetto that conjures up the spirit of Prince and Curtis Mayfield. With his band, the Selenites, they forge a stunningly original new sound, and create a space where Afro-futurism meets steampunk and Fela Kuti jams with Sidney Bechet.

Artist Website: <http://chiefboima.com>

Chief Boima is a Sierra Leonean-American electronic musician/DJ, cultural activist, and writer currently based in New York. He is a member of the Brooklyn based music, art and culture collective, Dutty Artz. His DJ style was inspired by the parties he knew growing up in a close knit African immigrant

community in Wisconsin. As a touring club DJ, he has become a respected figure in the promotion of various musical styles from around the globe such as Coupe Decale, Cumbia, Kuduro, and Champeta.

PAID SHOW – SOLD OUT

Monday, July 23 at 6:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Beach House - PAID SHOW – SOLD OUT

File Under: Rock

Paid shows at SummerStage Central Park help support over 100 free shows in NYC parks

Tuesday, July 24 at 7:00pm in Springfield Park, Queens

Full Force

Johnny Kemp of Force MD's

Jeff Redd

Meli'sa Morgan

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: R&B, Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://www.fullforceworld.com>

Brooklyn native R&B performers and producers, **Full Force** has been a major player in the music scene since 1984. Their successful career is clear from their extensive list of collaborations, including Rihanna, Justin Timberlake, Bob Dylan, Usher, and Nicki Minaj. Hailed by former *Billboard Magazine* editor, Havelock Nelson, as the “original hip-hop vocal band,” they continue to be in demand for live performances and musical collaborations. True to their name, Full Force represents a power to be reckoned with.

New York born and bred, **The Force MD's** began their climb to fame by singing and dancing on Greenwich Village street corners and the Staten Island ferry. Among the first R&B vocal groups to intermix catchy doo wop-affected consonances with hip-hop beats, the Force MD's versatile mix of credible urban savvy with smooth showbiz pleases both b-boys and traditional soul fans.

With a clear vision and passion for music and performing, **Jeff Redd** has had a long, successful musical career. As a winner of Grammy, American Music, Soul Train and Billboards Awards, Redd has worked as both a performer and in the production field. Known for jumpstarting Mary J. Blige's career, Redd now has his own independent record label. His song, “You Called and Told Me” is still considered to be a top single in the R&B world. With various other projects under his belt, including a long list of soundtracks and albums, Redd's music has always, and continues to inspire.

New York soul songstress **Meli'sa Morgan** began her professional career as a backup singer, working with a number of major artists including Whitney Houston and Chaka Khan. Morgan's debut single, a cover of Prince's hit “Do Me Baby,” shot to the top of the charts and the album of the same name hit the top five. It showed Morgan to be an appealing, sultry singer and a developing songwriter. Following up with another hit, “Do You Still Love Me” as well as her sophomore disc, *Good Love*, Morgan became well known as one of R&B's songbirds and continues to contribute guest vocals to a number of artists today.

Wednesday, July 25 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series featuring

Dimitri Pittas, Danielle de Niese, John Del Carlo and Dan Saunders on piano

File Under: Opera

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series, first presented in 2009, returns this year with six performances in the parks of all five boroughs, kicking off July 25 at SummerStage in Central Park. This performance features Met stars Danielle de Niese (soprano), Dimitri Pittas (tenor), and John Del Carlo (bass-baritone), accompanied by pianist Dan Saunders, in a program of favorite arias and duets.

More info: <http://www.metopera.org/summer>

Dimitri Pittas (tenor) was heard at the Met this season as Rodolfo in *La Bohème* and Macduff in *Macbeth*. Other Met appearances include Tamino in *The Magic Flute*, Nemorino in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, the Herald in *Don Carlo* (debut, 2005), Tybalt in *Roméo et Juliette*, the First Prisoner in *Fidelio*, and the First Knight in *Parsifal*. He is a graduate of the company's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.

Danielle de Niese (soprano) sang Ariel in the Met's world premiere production of *The Enchanted Island* this season. She previously appeared with the company as Despina in *Così fan tutte*, Euridice in *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Cleopatra in *Giulio Cesare*, Papagena in *Die Zauberflöte*, a Flower Maiden in *Parsifal*, the Child in *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, Poussette in *Manon*, and Susanna and Barbarina (debut, 1998) in *Le Nozze di Figaro*. She is a graduate of the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.

John Del Carlo (bass-baritone) appeared at the Met this season as Bartolo in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and Dansker in *Billy Budd*. His repertoire with the company also includes Don Pasquale, the Speaker in *The Magic Flute*, the Prince in *Adriana Lecouvreur*, the Sacristan in *Tosca*, Bartolo in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Kothner in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* (debut, 1993), Mathieu in *Andrea Chénier*, Swallow in *Peter Grimes*, Alfieri in Bolcom's *A View from the Bridge*, Quince in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Baron Zeta in *The Merry Widow*, and Balducci in *Benvenuto Cellini*.

Dan Saunders has worked as conductor, pianist, and coach in the fields of opera and song. He began his operatic career as rehearsal pianist at the Met and later became an Assistant Conductor with the company. He made his Met debut as harpsichordist in Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's 1984 production of *La Clemenza di Tito* (telecast on *Live From Lincoln Center*) and subsequently played continuo for many other productions, including *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Idomeneo*, *L'Italiana in Algeri*, and *Don Giovanni*.

Wednesday, July 25 at 7:00pm in Springfield Park, Queens

Le'Andria Johnson

Trin-I-Tee 5:7

Brian Courtney Wilson

Amber Bullock

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: Gospel

Artist Website: <http://leandriajohnson.com/>

Le'Andria Johnson's voice has taken the gospel music scene by storm since her debut in 2010.

Catapulted into the spotlight by winning the third season of BET's *Sunday*, this singer/songwriter's journey has been on an upward spiral to the top. With her debut CD spending eight weeks at #1 on Billboard's "Top Gospel Albums" chart, Johnson's influence on the gospel music of today is undeniable. With her passionate vocals, she won her first GRAMMY® in 2011 for "Best Gospel/Contemporary Christian Music." Johnson's live performance stuns audiences, leaving them breathless and begging for more.

Artist Website: <http://musicworldent.com/artists/trintee57>

Downsizing from a trio to a duo after ten years in the gospel scene, **TRIN-I-TEE 5:7**'s success spans the length of their careers. GRAMMY® Award nominated and Gospel Music Association's Dove Award and Stellar Award winners, TRIN-I-TEE 5:7 is known as the Best Selling Female Gospel Trio in music history. The duo continues this success with their album *Angel & Chanelle*, debuting at #1 on both Billboard's Top Gospel Albums chart and the Top Christian/Gospel Albums chart. With their raw talent and powerful vocal chords, TRIN-I-Tee 5:7 continues to inspire and awe audiences near and far.

Artist Website: <http://musicworldent.com/artists/briancourtneywilson>

Known as one of gospel music's contemporary break-through artists of 2010 and 2011, **Brian Courtney Wilson** is an up and coming gospel singer with a voice that makes audiences melt. As a nominee for "New Artist of the Year" at the GMA Dove Awards in 2010, Wilson is making his mark on the gospel music scene.

Artist Website: <http://musicworldent.com/artists/amberbullock>

After winning BET's 2011 *Sunday Best* gospel competition, **Amber Bullock**'s career has been on the rise. Her album, *Thank You*, debuted at #1 on Billboard's Top Gospel Albums chart upon its release in 2011. Capturing the hearts of millions of viewers on *Sunday Best*, Bullock has developed a dedicated fan base due to her smooth, jazzy-style vocals. Her performance on the show had vocal coach Kim Burrell saying, "Amber Bullock has a voice that can take her from the church to the top of the charts." With the help of her television fan base, Bullock's career continues to blossom into gospel stardom.

Thursday, July 26 at 7:00pm in Springfield Park, Queens

Tamia

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: R&B

Artist Website: <http://www.tamiaworld.com/>

Six-time GRAMMY® Award-winning artist and urban R&B chanteuse **Tamia** has garnered international fame for her hit single "You Put a Move on My Heart" and her various collaborations with legends like Babyface and Quincy Jones. Her 2000 release *A Nu Day* was a slow-burning smash, based on the strength of its single, "Stranger in My House," which rose to the top of R&B and dance music charts. With a velvet voice and sinuous, sexy tunes to accommodate her honest and heartbreakingly real lyrics, Tamia has continued to enchant audiences. Her newest album, *Beautiful Surprise* is set to grace the airwaves in 2012.

Friday, July 27 at 7:00pm in Brooklyn Bridge Park, Queens

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series featuring

Dimitri Pittas, Danielle de Niese, John Del Carlo and Dan Saunders on piano

File Under: Opera

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series, first presented in 2009, returns this year with six performances in the parks of all five boroughs. This performance features Met stars Danielle de Niese (soprano), Dimitri Pittas (tenor), and John Del Carlo (bass-baritone), accompanied by pianist Dan Saunders, in a program of favorite arias and duets.

More info: <http://www.metopera.org/summer>

Dimitri Pittas (tenor) was heard at the Met this season as Rodolfo in *La Bohème* and Macduff in *Macbeth*. Other Met appearances include Tamino in *The Magic Flute*, Nemorino in *L'Elisir d'Amore*, Arturo in *Lucia di Lammermoor*, the Herald in *Don Carlo* (debut, 2005), Tybalt in *Roméo et Juliette*, the First Prisoner in *Fidelio*, and the First Knight in *Parsifal*. He is a graduate of the company's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.

Danielle de Niese (soprano) sang Ariel in the Met's world premiere production of *The Enchanted Island* this season. She previously appeared with the company as Despina in *Così fan tutte*, Euridice in *Orfeo ed Euridice*, Cleopatra in *Giulio Cesare*, Papagena in *Die Zauberflöte*, a Flower Maiden in *Parsifal*, the Child in *L'Enfant et les Sortilèges*, Poussette in *Manon*, and Susanna and Barbarina (debut, 1998) in *Le Nozze di Figaro*. She is a graduate of the Met's Lindemann Young Artist Development Program.

John Del Carlo (bass-baritone) appeared at the Met this season as Bartolo in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia* and Dansker in *Billy Budd*. His repertoire with the company also includes Don Pasquale, the Speaker in *The Magic Flute*, the Prince in *Adriana Lecouvreur*, the Sacristan in *Tosca*, Bartolo in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, Kothner in *Die Meistersinger von Nürnberg* (debut, 1993), Mathieu in *Andrea Chénier*, Swallow in *Peter Grimes*, Alfieri in Bolcom's *A View from the Bridge*, Quince in Britten's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Baron Zeta in *The Merry Widow*, and Balducci in *Benvenuto Cellini*.

Dan Saunders has worked as conductor, pianist, and coach in the fields of opera and song. He began his operatic career as rehearsal pianist at the Met and later became an Assistant Conductor with the company. He made his Met debut as harpsichordist in Jean-Pierre Ponnelle's 1984 production of *La Clemenza di Tito* (telecast on *Live From Lincoln Center*) and subsequently played continuo for many other productions, including *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Idomeneo*, *L'Italiana in Algeri*, and *Don Giovanni*.

Friday, July 27 and Saturday, July 28 at 8:00pm in Springfield Park, Queens

"The Power of the Trinity" a play by Roland Wolf

Directed by Alfred Preisser with music by Tomás Doncker

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

Live global-soul music sets the backdrop for SummerStage's world premiere of ***The Power of the Trinity***, a riveting, high-energy theatrical concert about Ethiopia's last monarch, Emperor Haile Selassie and his unbreakable determination to save the kingdom from foreign invasion.

The Power of the Trinity is a play written by the late New York playwright, **Roland Wolf** that examines the determination of one man to save a nation. King Haile Selassie (whose name translates to Power of the Holy Trinity) was the last of a 3000 year reign of monarchs in Ethiopia and is recognized as one of

the first globally conscious African leaders of the 20th century. The production focuses on his leadership during Italy's invasion of Ethiopia and Selassie's riveting appeal for help from the League of Nations. Selassie's famed speech on freedom and humanity ends with a haunting premonition of World War II, noting "It is Ethiopia today. It will be you tomorrow."

Using songs from **Tomás Doncker's** album *Power of the Trinity*, which was inspired by the same events, sets the tone for a production colored with multiple personalities, at times introspective at times sobering but constantly inspiring and enduring. Doncker's brand of global soul music flecked with R&B, jazz and funk influences breathes life into the story of a king who challenged the powers that be.

Award winning director Alfred Preisser has developed an aggressive modernist interpretation for this production which will feature live dance, elevated text, a live and vibrant original score and full staging that explores the strength of Selassie and the people of Ethiopia.

Saturday, July 28 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Gary Clark Jr.

GIVERS

File Under: Rock, Folk

Artist Website: <http://www.garyclarkjr.com>

Rarely does an artist explode onto the music scene like 26-year-old singer-guitarist **Gary Clark Jr.** when he delivered his incendiary debut performance of his song "Bright Lights" at Eric Clapton's 2010 Crossroads Guitar Festival. A rocking soul man for a new generation, he was weaned on John Lee Hooker and T-Bone Walker but fuses his deep blues influence with a love of classic hip-hop and contemporary soul. His voice weaves between a melodic lilt and a seasoned blues howl with his guitar licks dancing and dodging between and behind the beat as if the essence of Snoop Dogg and Dr. Dre loom in his head by way of the Mississippi Delta.

Artist Website: <http://giversmusic.com>

GIVERS is a band made up of five friends from Lafayette, Louisiana who united for one night of improvised music at the request of a friend. Within the band's first few shows they would cross paths with Dirty Projectors, who asked them to join the band on tour. Since then, GIVERS have been catching the attention of critics and fans alike. Named the "Best of What's Next" by *PASTE Magazine* and a "Band to Watch" by *Stereogum*, their first full length album *In Light*, is a collection filled with joy, buoyed by constantly evolving rhythms, warmed by spangling guitars, and illuminated by melodic altruism.

Sunday, July 29 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Héctor "El Torito" Acosta

DJ Lobo

Alex Sensation

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Bachata

Artist Website: <http://hectoracosta.net>

Say the word merengue or bachata and if you're talking about artists from the Dominican Republic, one voice stands out from all the rest. That voice belongs to **Héctor Acosta**, who was first introduced to the tropical music world as lead vocalist for the Dominican Republic's famous Los Toros Band, where he earned the nickname "El Torito," The Little Bull. Known as a superstar in the world of merengue music, Los Toros Band's records, *Se Soltaron* and *Raices* were both hits and helped propel Acosta into superstardom. In 2006, Acosta left the group to form his own orchestra. His premier release, *Sigo Siendo Yo* generated radio hits such as "Me Voy" and "Primavera Azul," which showed up on U.S. and Dominican tropical music charts.

Artist Website: <http://djlobo.com>

DJ Lobo's contagious style of mixing and hyping crowds over the airwaves with a mix of hip-hop, reggae and house makes him one of the most musically diverse DJs around. In 2005, DJ Lobo joined the famed Spanish radio station 97.9FM La Mega in New York City. DJ Lobo's passion for music and radio has taken him around the world, playing for crowds internationally as well as on TV's *Music Choice* channel. His gift of mixing and becoming crowd favorite also landed him membership in the exclusive world renowned DJ crew "The Heavy Hitters."

Artist Website: <http://djalexnsensation.com>

One of New York City's top Latin DJ's, **Alex Sensation** was born in Bogotá, Colombia. A famed DJ at numerous New York nightclubs, his musical taste appeals to a broad audience that includes various nationalities spanning the world of Tropical and Caribbean music. Celebrated for his hit radio shows on famed Spanish radio station, La Mega 97.9 FM, Alex Sensation is one of Latin music's tastemakers.

Sunday, July 29 at 4:00pm in Springfield Park, Queens

SummerStage Kids Queens Family Day featuring

Randolph Matthews

LuckyBob's Magic Juggling Comedy

Little Club Heads

Presented by Disney

File Under: Family

SummerStage Kids presented by Disney presents Queens Family Day, an exciting event to inspire and engage children of all ages and their families. Experience a variety of performances featuring reggae inspired music, African soul and rhythm, bubbly and melodic soul music, a memorable dance party and a high energy juggling performance, all in the same day at Springfield Park! Families will also have the opportunity to participate in face painting, craft workshops, free sports lessons including golf workshops, and a fun and exciting hip-hop dance class! *SummerStage Kids* will also offer vocalpercussion: a specially designed workshop for people of all ages. This intimate workshop will use recycled materials, sounds, storytelling, and music by Randolph Matthews to create a fun atmosphere and a chance to create new music for all to share. Adults can now stay late for more fun featuring an evening concert and film!

For more information on these programs visit: www.SummerStage.org

Artist Website: <http://www.randolphmatthews.net>

If you are into world music, urban folk or jazz you'll understand that **Randolph Matthews** operates in his

own parallel world where his music is an evolving journey, drawing on the greats of yesteryear in soul and African rhythms. Matthews channels the sounds of Marvin Gaye and Bobby McFerrin in his debut album *I Love*, an aurally delicious blend of emotive words, chant inspired with progressive beats. His second album, *Precious* released in 2012, reflects the many aspects of his kaleidoscopic palette, both uplifting and liberating; he takes the audience on a journey through spiritual songs and movement, using looped samples and storytelling. The result is unique and intimate, with beautiful melodies.

Artist Website: <http://www.getluckybob.com>

During his performance you will see **LuckyBob** read minds, juggle hats, stack boxes, balance objects on his face and perform amazing sleight of hand tricks. LuckyBob's performance is original, unique and full of high energy. His Comedy interactions make him one of the best variety performers around.

Artist Website: <http://www.littleclubheads.com>

Little Club Heads has revolutionized the idea of "family time" by providing a dance party experience for children aged 12 months to 10 years old and their parents. At their events, parents can socialize while children have an opportunity to mingle, dance, and stay fit. After over 40 events and entertaining over 35 thousand guests over the past two and half years, the New York City based business is rapidly expanding.

Sunday, July 29 at 7:00pm in Springfield Park, Queens

Taj Weekes and Adowa

Shine and The Moonbeams

Randolph Matthews

Full Screening of the film "**Africa United**"

Presented in Association with ImageNation Cinema Foundation

File Under: Reggae, Rock, Family, Film, Africa, Global

Artist Website: <http://tajweekes.com>

Driven to provoke social discussion through his poignant poetry and lyrics, Taj Weekes formed **Taj Weekes and Adowa** in order to unite social consciousness with an unforgettable reggae groove. To date, the group has released three full-length albums; their most recent *A Waterlogged Soul Kitchen* is a compilation of fresh reggae songs laced with acoustic strings, guitar, violin and cello, and splashes of soulful harmonica. The group's blend of acoustic roots rock and afro-folk simplicity defies genre and has garnered critical acclaim and a wide audience across the globe.

Shine and The Moonbeams features the best of soul music revamped to excite children of all ages. The group, helmed by lead singer Shawana Kemp, has been charming children with their take on subjects that run the gamut of issues that kids face. From morning routines to standing up to bullies, Shine & The Moonbeams cover a wide range of topics with funky, retro R&B vibes that will have kids stomping their feet, clapping their hands and singing to melodic and bubbly tunes.

Artist Website: <http://www.randolphmatthews.net>

If you are into world music, urban folk or jazz you'll understand that **Randolph Matthews** operates in his own parallel world where his music is an evolving journey, drawing on the greats of yesteryear in soul and African rhythms. Matthews channels the sounds of Marvin Gaye and Bobby McFerrin in his debut album *I Love*, an aurally delicious blend of emotive words, chant inspired with progressive beats. His

second album, *Precious* released in 2012, reflects the many aspects of his kaleidoscopic palette, both uplifting and liberating; he takes the audience on a journey through spiritual songs and movement, using looped samples and storytelling. The result is unique and intimate, with beautiful melodies.

Film Website: <http://www.africaunitedmovie.com>

The movie *Africa United* tells the extraordinary story of three Rwandan kids who walk 3000 miles to see the Soccer World Cup in South Africa. Using a sack load of ingenuity and sass (and a World Cup wall chart for a map), these pint-sized protagonists set off through the endless horizons of Africa in pursuit of an unlikely dream. As they walk they gather a tribe, a ragamuffin team of broken and brilliant characters that help them negotiate a way through a series of glorious, dangerous, hilarious and often bizarre situations. Through these kids, audiences will encounter an Africa few people ever get to see; experience the hard reality of an epic walk through seven countries; as well as the joy, laughter and hope - 'the ubuntu' - that comes from making an incredible journey together.

Tuesday, July 31 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

“The Power of the Trinity” a play by Roland Wolf

Directed by Alfred Preisser with music by Tomás Doncker

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

Live global-soul music sets the backdrop for SummerStage’s world premiere of *The Power of the Trinity*, a riveting, high-energy theatrical concert about Ethiopia’s last monarch, Emperor Haile Selassie and his unbreakable determination to save the kingdom from foreign invasion.

The Power of the Trinity is a play written by the late New York playwright, **Roland Wolf** that examines the determination of one man to save a nation. King Haile Selassie (whose name translates to Power of the Holy Trinity) was the last of a 3000 year reign of monarchs in Ethiopia and is recognized as one of the first globally conscious African leaders of the 20th century. The production focuses on his leadership during Italy’s invasion of Ethiopia and Selassie’s riveting appeal for help from the League of Nations. Selassie’s famed speech on freedom and humanity ends with a haunting premonition of World War II, noting “It is Ethiopia today. It will be you tomorrow.”

Using songs from **Tomás Doncker’s** album *Power of the Trinity*, which was inspired by the same events, sets the tone for a production colored with multiple personalities, at times introspective at times sobering but constantly inspiring and enduring. Doncker’s brand of global soul music flecked with R&B, jazz and funk influences breathes life into the story of a king who challenged the powers that be.

Award winning director Alfred Preisser has developed an aggressive modernist interpretation for this production which will feature live dance, elevated text, a live and vibrant original score and full staging that explores the strength of Selassie and the people of Ethiopia.

Tuesday, July 31 at 7:00pm in Crotona Park, The Bronx

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series featuring

Alexander Lewis, Deanna Breiwick, Edward Parks and Vlad Iftinca on piano

File Under: Opera

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series, first presented in 2009, returns this year with six performances in the parks of all five boroughs. This performance features favorite arias and duets from some of opera's greatest hits, performed by up-and-coming Met artists Deanna Breiwick (soprano), Alexander Lewis (tenor), and Edward Parks (baritone), accompanied by pianist Vlad Iftinca.

More info: <http://www.metopera.org/summer>

Alexander Lewis (tenor) is in his second year of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. This season he will make his Met debut as the First Guard in *Manon* and will perform Artémidore in The Metropolitan Opera and The Juilliard School's joint production of Gluck's *Armide*. Last season, he performed the role of Vašek in *The Bartered Bride*, the first joint production of the Met and The Juilliard School. Mr. Lewis completed the Merola Opera Program in San Francisco and completed his Bachelor of Arts in Music Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, and was awarded the Lesley Anderson Fellowship.

Deanna Breiwick (soprano) is a 2011 Metropolitan Opera National Council Grand Finalist and also holds awards from The Gerda Lissner Foundation, the Giulio Gari Foundation, The Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation and the Richard F. Gold Career Grant. This season at the Met Ms. Breiwick covered the role of Ariel in the premier of *The Enchanted Island*. She was most recently featured as Sophie Scholl in the American Premier of Peter Maxwell Davies' *Kommilitonen!* with the Juilliard Opera. Ms. Breiwick is currently a young artist in Juilliard's Artist Diploma for Opera Studies program holding degrees from The Juilliard School and Mannes College of Music.

Edward Parks (baritone) returned to the Metropolitan Opera this season in the role of Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Upcoming engagements at the Met include the role of Périchaud in *La Rondine* and he will be covering roles in *Otello* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. A recent graduate of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artists Development Program, Mr. Parks made his Metropolitan Opera debut in the 2009-2010 season as Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and has since appeared as Schaunard in *La Bohème* and as Larkens in *La Fanciulla del West*. He also appeared as Schaunard on the Met's 2011 tour of Japan. A native of Indiana, PA, Mr. Parks received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory, and his master's degree from Yale University.

Vlad Iftinca is the Staff Music Coach for the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and has been part of the Metropolitan Opera music staff since the 2008-2009 season. Recent recital appearances include The Metropolitan Opera's 2009 Summer Recital Series, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Los Angeles Opera, San Francisco Conservatory, the Seoul Performing Arts Center, the Hong Kong Arts Festival, Spoleto Festival USA, and the Ravinia Festival's "Rising Stars" recital series.

Tuesday, July 31 at 7:00pm in Tappen Park, Staten Island

Keith Murray

The Beatnuts

File Under: Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://keithmurrayentertainment.com>

Keith Murray is an iconic rapper, entertainer, actor, and member of the legendary rap trio Def Squad, with Redman and Erick Sermon. A New York native, his debut album, *The Most Beautifullest Thing in This World*, reached #34 on the Billboard 200 chart and #5 on U.S. R&B Albums, with sales exceeding

500,000 copies, granting it an elusive gold certification. With a reputation as one of the most creative lyricists in the business, Murray temporarily stepped off the stage and in front of a camera to wow the film industry in the independent production *Stage Fright*, to be released in 2012.

Originating from Queens, JuJu and Psycho Les form the world famous hip-hop group and production duo, **The Beatnuts**. After over two decades of knocking out hits like their single “Watch Out Now,” the Latin superstars continue to rock the music world in collaborations with artists such as Method Man and Fat Man Scoop. Their lyricism features a light and humorous touch that contrasts with their high levels of musical innovation and cultural insight. Displaying some of the most accomplished productions in hip-hop, The Beatnuts’ intricately designed music invigorates all audiences through their signature Latin influence, bionic beats, and gritty word play.

Wednesday, August 1 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Camille A. Brown and Dancers with Imani Uzuri

Malcolm Low Formal Structure

Special Guest: Dancin’ Downtown at The Joyce contest winner

File Under: Dance, R&B, Rock

Camille A. Brown & Dancers unite with vocalist and composer, Imani Uzuri for a thrilling night of original choreography and premiere pieces set to selections from Uzuri’s new album, *The Gypsy Diaries*, which will be performed live.

Artist Website: <http://www.camilleabrown.org>

Princess Grace Award winning choreographer, **Camille A. Brown** has choreographed works for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Philadanco and Ballet Memphis- among others. She recently debuted as a choreographer on Broadway for the revival of *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Her company, Camille A. Brown & Dancers is famed for its high theatricality, gutsy moves and virtuosic musicality leading the *New York Times* to claim, “Ms. Brown seamlessly melds modern, hip-hop and West African dance.” The company excels at the exploration of real life situations ranging from literal relationships to more complex themes with an eye on the past and present.

Artist Website: <http://www.imaniuzuri.com>

Innovative vocalist and composer **Imani Uzuri** is an eclectic artist who creates and performs across various genres including concerts, recordings, experimental theater, performance art and sound installations. Uzuri’s work has been called “stunning” by *New York Magazine* and incorporates her interests in world culture, experimentation and sacred music. She has earned critical acclaim for her debut album, *Her Holy Water: A Black Girl’s Rock Opera* as well as for her collaborations with diverse artists such as Herbie Hancock, John Legend, Wangechi Mutu and Vijay Iyer. Her new album *The Gypsy Diaries* is a vibrant lyrical and spiritual soundscape.

Artist Website: <http://www.wix.com/malcolmlow/formalstructure>

Malcolm Low is a 2012 New Directions Choreography Lab Fellow chosen by Robert Battle, Artistic Director of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and is also the director of Malcolm Low Formal Structure. He has performed with a number of premiere companies such as Les Ballets Jazz de Montreal, Ballet British Columbia, Ronald K. Brown/Evidence, Complexions, and most notably the Bill T. Jones/ Arnie Zane Dance Co. Join Formal Structure as they premiere *Stable Freedom*, a high energy celebration

of life featuring solos, duets, trios and a quartet set to a suite of mixed and arranged music by music.

Artist Website: <http://www.dradance.org>

Dancin' Downtown at The Joyce is a collaboration between Dancers Responding to AIDS (DRA) and The Joyce Theatre. Dance studios are adjudicated by top names in the dance world with the award winner performing at SummerStage.

Wednesday, August 1 at 7:00pm in Tappen Park, Staten Island

Rob Base

File Under: Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://www.robbase.net>

Best known for his platinum hip-hop classic "It Takes Two," **Rob Base** along with childhood friend, DJ E-Z Rock rode their smash hit into R&B radio stations as well as dance clubs around the world and provided a touchstone for the style known as "hip-house," a mix of hip-hop rhymes infused with the musical stylings of dance music. Massive club and radio airplay helped the album go multi-platinum and earned Rob Base "Single of the Year" honors both in Spin Magazine and The Village Voice. His second single, "Get on the Dance Floor" continued Rob's dance appeal, with his lyrical skills retaining his street credentials as a rapper. The smash single, "Joy and Pain" is a classic hip-hop song that still plays all over the world.

Thursday, August 2 at 7:00pm in Clove Lakes Park, Staten Island

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series featuring

Alexander Lewis, Deanna Breiwick, Edward Parks and Vlad Iftinca on piano

File Under: Opera

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series, first presented in 2009, returns this year with six performances in the parks of all five boroughs. This performance features favorite arias and duets from some of opera's greatest hits, performed by up-and-coming Met artists Deanna Breiwick (soprano), Alexander Lewis (tenor), and Edward Parks (baritone), accompanied by pianist Vlad Iftinca.

More info: <http://www.metopera.org/summer>

Alexander Lewis (tenor) is in his second year of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. This season he will make his Met debut as the First Guard in *Manon* and will perform Artémidore in The Metropolitan Opera and The Juilliard School's joint production of Gluck's *Armide*. Last season, he performed the role of Vašek in *The Bartered Bride*, the first joint production of the Met and The Juilliard School. Mr. Lewis completed the Merola Opera Program in San Francisco and completed his Bachelor of Arts in Music Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, and was awarded the Lesley Anderson Fellowship.

Deanna Breiwick (soprano) is a 2011 Metropolitan Opera National Council Grand Finalist and also holds awards from The Gerda Lissner Foundation, the Giulio Gari Foundation, The Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation and the Richard F. Gold Career Grant. This season at the Met Ms. Breiwick covered the role of Ariel in the premier of *The Enchanted Island*. She was most recently featured as Sophie Scholl in the American Premier of Peter Maxwell Davies' *Kommilitonen!* with the Juilliard Opera. Ms. Breiwick is

currently a young artist in Juilliard's Artist Diploma for Opera Studies program holding degrees from The Juilliard School and Mannes College of Music.

Edward Parks (baritone) returned to the Metropolitan Opera this season in the role of Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Upcoming engagements at the Met include the role of Périchaud in *La Rondine* and he will be covering roles in *Otello* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. A recent graduate of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artists Development Program, Mr. Parks made his Metropolitan Opera debut in the 2009-2010 season as Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and has since appeared as Schaunard in *La Bohème* and as Larkens in *La Fanciulla del West*. He also appeared as Schaunard on the Met's 2011 tour of Japan. A native of Indiana, PA, Mr. Parks received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory, and his master's degree from Yale University.

Vlad Iftinca is the Staff Music Coach for the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and has been part of the Metropolitan Opera music staff since the 2008-2009 season. Recent recital appearances include The Metropolitan Opera's 2009 Summer Recital Series, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Los Angeles Opera, San Francisco Conservatory, the Seoul Performing Arts Center, the Hong Kong Arts Festival, Spoleto Festival USA, and the Ravinia Festival's "Rising Stars" recital series.

Thursday, August 2 at 7:00pm in Tappen Park, Staten Island

GQ

Felix Hernandez's Rhythm Revue

File Under: R&B, Rock

GQ is a group that hailed originally from the Bronx and effectively mixed east coast disco and Chicago soul covers in the late 70's and early 80's with great success. Their single, "Disco Nights (Rock-Freak)," a single from their debut album *Disco Nights*, was a huge success, reaching the top of the R&B singles chart and winning the group an American Music Award. Their soulful remakes of the Billy Stewart classics "I Do Love You" and "Sitting in the Park" further secured the group as R&B stars.

Artist Website: <http://www.classicsoul.com>

Felix Hernandez is in the business of remembering the good ol' days. Hernandez's wildly popular radio show, Rhythm Revue, takes on a life of its own weekly at New York's Roseland, where three thousand disciples regularly come to hear Fernandez spin the sounds of the past and boogie down. Felix Hernandez will rock the crowd once again at SummerStage again with his mix of soul, Motown, funk, salsa and disco dance classics. Bring your dancing shoes.

Fri. August 3, Sat. August 4 and Sun. August 5 at 8:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

"The Power of the Trinity" a play by Roland Wolf

Directed by Alfred Preisser with music by Tomás Doncker

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

Live global-soul music sets the backdrop for SummerStage's world premiere of ***The Power of the Trinity***, a riveting, high-energy theatrical concert about Ethiopia's last monarch, Emperor Haile Selassie and his unbreakable determination to save the kingdom from foreign invasion.

The Power of the Trinity is a play written by the late New York playwright, **Roland Wolf** that examines the determination of one man to save a nation. King Haile Selassie (whose name translates to Power of the Holy Trinity) was the last of a 3000 year reign of monarchs in Ethiopia and is recognized as one of the first globally conscious African leaders of the 20th century. The production focuses on his leadership during Italy's invasion of Ethiopia and Selassie's riveting appeal for help from the League of Nations. Selassie's famed speech on freedom and humanity ends with a haunting premonition of World War II, noting "It is Ethiopia today. It will be you tomorrow."

Using songs from **Tomás Doncker's** album *Power of the Trinity*, which was inspired by the same events, sets the tone for a production colored with multiple personalities, at times introspective at times sobering but constantly inspiring and enduring. Doncker's brand of global soul music flecked with R&B, jazz and funk influences breathes life into the story of a king who challenged the powers that be.

Award winning director Alfred Preisser has developed an aggressive modernist interpretation for this production which will feature live dance, elevated text, a live and vibrant original score and full staging that explores the strength of Selassie and the people of Ethiopia.

Saturday, August 4 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Amadou and Mariam

Theophilus London

Presented in Association with The Museum for African Art

File Under: Africa, Rock, Hip Hop, Global

Artist Website: <http://www.amadou-mariam.com>

The world of **Amadou & Mariam** is a musical sphere that stretches from the dusty streets of Mali to playing at Coachella and Lollapalooza. Their unique mix of unforgettable pop melodies and contagious rhythms, driven by Amadou's bluesy electric guitar and the compelling interplay of their two voices may have its roots deeply planted in Africa, yet this music effortlessly transcends classification. As popular across Africa as it is in Europe and America, critically acclaimed albums such as *Dimanche à Bamako*, *Welcome to Mali* and their newest, *Folila*, have taken Amadou & Mariam on an epic journey that has made the couple one of the best-selling acts to come out of Africa. Their friend Theophilus London, who appears on *Folila* (along with Santigold, TV on the Radio and others), joins them on the bill.

Artist Website: <http://timezareweird.tumblr.com>

Urban electro pop phenomenon **Theophilus London** released his debut LP *Timez Are Weird These Days* in 2011, following a series of wildly popular independent mixtapes and the *Lovers Holiday* EP. *Timez Are Weird These Days* explores the dreamlike headspace of a globetrotting young artist blurring the lines between 80's rap, new wave beats, freestyle noise and the snarling guitars of psychobilly surf rock. London's sound moves effortlessly through a range of emotions, from party starting dance floor defiance to moments of quiet intimacy and introspection.

Sunday, August 5 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

The 5th Annual Gospel Explosion featuring

Hezekiah Walker and Friends

Vashawn Mitchell

Le'Andria Johnson

James Fortune and F.I.Y.A.

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WLIB

File Under: Gospel

Artist Website: <http://www.lovefellowship.com/>

For over 25 years, **Bishop Hezekiah Walker and the Love Fellowship Crusade Choir** have spread the Gospel of Jesus to a variety of audiences, changing the lives of many around the world. They have performed and recorded with several major secular artists, including Celine Dion, Ray Charles, Brian McKnight, Justin Timberlake, Enrique Iglesias, Brandy and Baby Face to name a few. Walker and the Love Fellowship Crusade Choir have received numerous Grammy nominations for their fifteen critically acclaimed albums, including their wins for *Live in Atlanta at Morehouse College* and for *Love is Live*. With their nomination for the NAACP Image Award for Best Gospel Artist, Walker and the Love Fellowship Crusade Choir have further cemented themselves as a power player in the Gospel music world.

Artist Website: <http://vashawnmitchell.emigospel.com/>

Chicago native **VaShawn Mitchell** has made noteworthy contributions to the Gospel music scene that have defined and impacted churches and gospel communities nationwide. A noted songwriter and worship leader, his songs have been recorded by Gospel's most celebrated artists, including Smokie Norful, Vanessa Bell Armstrong, and Bishop Paul Morton. On his Grammy nominated album *Triumphant*, he incorporates pop and rock sounds with a traditional gospel vibe that has thrilled audiences. Mitchell was inspired after connecting with people who have faced immense hardships, and many of his songs on *Triumphant* "express empathy as his voice implores, and embodies, optimism," according to The Chicago Tribune.

Artist Website: <http://leandriajohnson.com/>

Le'Andria Johnson's voice has taken the gospel music scene by storm since her debut in 2010. Catapulted into the spotlight by winning the third season of BET's *Sunday*, this singer/songwriter's journey has been on an upward spiral to the top. With her debut CD spending eight weeks at #1 on Billboard's "Top Gospel Albums" chart, Johnson's influence on the gospel music of today is undeniable. With her passionate vocals, she won her first GRAMMY® in 2011 for "Best Gospel/Contemporary Christian Music." Johnson's live performance stuns audiences, leaving them breathless and begging for more.

Artist Website: <http://www.jamesfortunemusic.com>

Stellar Award winner **James Fortune & F.I.Y.A.** set the world ablaze with their breakthrough debut album, *You Survived* and the lead single of the same name hit #2 on the R&B Gospel singles chart. Fortune amassed worldwide recognition in 2009 with the award winning emotionally charged song, "I Trust You" off of the sophomore release, *The Transformation*. A dynamic songwriter, producer and arranger, Fortune delivers a timeless message, that has earned him two ASCAP Songwriter of the Year Awards and several Soul Train and Stellar nominations. His 2012 release, *Identity* debuted at #1 on Billboard's Top Gospel and Christian charts and is a powerful collection of soul-stirring songs of encouragement, hope and healing that speaks into the hearts of the religious and agnostic alike.

PAID SHOW – Visit www.ticketmaster.com for tickets

Monday, August 6 in Central Park, Manhattan – Time TBD

Old Crow Medicine Show - PAID SHOW – Visit www.ticketmaster.com for tickets

File Under: Rock, Roots

Paid shows at SummerStage Central Park help support over 100 free shows in NYC parks

Monday, August 6 at 7:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

Sidi Touré

The Pedrito Martinez Group

Wouter Kellerman

Presented in Association with The Museum for African Art

File Under: Africa, Global, Latin, Rock

Artist Website: <http://www.thrilljockey.com/thrill/Sidi-Tour>

Sidi Touré draws inspiration from traditional Malian music and religion, but is informed by western blues, rock, and culture. The winner of two Malian national awards for best singer, Touré was leader of a regional orchestra and is a nationally renowned figure in his home country. In 2011, he released *Sahel Folk*, his critically acclaimed debut album and toured North America for the first time playing at prestigious venues including Lincoln Center and the ChicagoWorld Music Festival. His 2012 follow-up, *Koïma* is a musically rich and luxurious album mixing tradition and modernity, African magic and city-dwelling dilemmas.

Artist Website: <http://pedritomartinezmusic.com>

The Pedrito Martinez Group has its roots planted firmly in the Afro-Cuban rumba tradition, bata rhythms and vocal chants of Yoruba and Santeria. Helmed by famed Cuban percussionist Pedrito Martinez -- who has lent his unique hand drumming skills to over a hundred records spanning the worlds of Latin and pop music -- the group has toured internationally, gaining a steady fan base for its mix of Caribbean inspired funk. *The New York Times* sums up their sound up aptly, calling it, “complex, blenderized Africa-to-the-New-World funk.”

Artist Website: <http://www.wouterkellerman.net>

Wouter Kellerman’s live shows demonstrate why he is regarded as one of South Africa's most musically adventurous world-music proponents, incorporating a fusion of influences and styles into his music - from South African sounds and rhythms to Irish influences, from traditional Senegalese songs to tango-inspired numbers. His concert is an extraordinary opportunity for local audiences to experience an exciting array of musical styles emanating from Kellerman’s flute. Supported by an ensemble of wonderful artists, they unite to create a fresh and exhilarating performance with beautiful vocals, flute artistry and exciting African dance.

Tuesday, August 7 at 7:00pm in Jackie Robinson Park, Manhattan

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series featuring

Alexander Lewis, Deanna Breiwick, Edward Parks and Vlad Iftinca on piano

File Under: Opera

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series, first presented in 2009, returns this year with six performances in the parks of all five boroughs. This performance features favorite arias and duets from some of opera's greatest hits, performed by up-and-coming Met artists Deanna Breiwick (soprano), Alexander Lewis (tenor), and Edward Parks (baritone), accompanied by pianist Vlad Iftinca.

More info: <http://www.metopera.org/summer>

Alexander Lewis (tenor) is in his second year of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. This season he will make his Met debut as the First Guard in *Manon* and will perform Artémidore in The Metropolitan Opera and The Juilliard School's joint production of Gluck's *Armide*. Last season, he performed the role of Vašek in *The Bartered Bride*, the first joint production of the Met and The Juilliard School. Mr. Lewis completed the Merola Opera Program in San Francisco and completed his Bachelor of Arts in Music Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, and was awarded the Lesley Anderson Fellowship.

Deanna Breiwick (soprano) is a 2011 Metropolitan Opera National Council Grand Finalist and also holds awards from The Gerda Lissner Foundation, the Giulio Gari Foundation, The Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation and the Richard F. Gold Career Grant. This season at the Met Ms. Breiwick covered the role of Ariel in The premier of *The Enchanted Island*. She was most recently featured as Sophie Scholl in the American Premier of Peter Maxwell Davies' *Kommilitonen!* with the Juilliard Opera. Ms. Breiwick is currently a young artist in Juilliard's Artist Diploma for Opera Studies program holding degrees from The Juilliard School and Mannes College of Music.

Edward Parks (baritone) returned to the Metropolitan Opera this season in the role of Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Upcoming engagements at the Met include the role of Périchaud in *La Rondine* and he will be covering roles in *Otello* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. A recent graduate of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artists Development Program, Mr. Parks made his Metropolitan Opera debut in the 2009-2010 season as Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and has since appeared as Schaunard in *La Bohème* and as Larkens in *La Fanciulla del West*. He also appeared as Schaunard on the Met's 2011 tour of Japan. A native of Indiana, PA, Mr. Parks received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory, and his master's degree from Yale University.

Vlad Iftinca is the Staff Music Coach for the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and has been part of the Metropolitan Opera music staff since the 2008-2009 season. Recent recital appearances include The Metropolitan Opera's 2009 Summer Recital Series, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Los Angeles Opera, San Francisco Conservatory, the Seoul Performing Arts Center, the Hong Kong Arts Festival, Spoleto Festival USA, and the Ravinia Festival's "Rising Stars" recital series.

Tuesday, August 7 at 7:00pm in Jackie Robinson Park, Manhattan

The Robert Glasper Experiment with special guests

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: Jazz, Hip Hop

Artist Website: <http://robertglasper.com>

With one foot planted firmly in jazz and the other in hip-hop and R&B, **Robert Glasper** continues to stun audiences with his inventive take on jazz. Glasper's extensive career in the music business ranges from

producing albums to serving as a music director. *The Los Angeles Times* says “he’s equally comfortable in the worlds of hip-hop and jazz,” praising his ability to build a bridge between his two musical touchstones. Describing the Robert Glasper Experiment’s latest project, *Black Radio*, Glasper says it is “more of an urban, hip-hop, soul kind of vibe, but the spine of it all is still jazz.” The result is a musical fusion that fans of each genre love and appreciate.

Wednesday, August 8 at 6:30pm in Central Park, Manhattan

M83 - PAID SHOW – SOLD OUT

File Under: Rock, Electronic

Paid shows at SummerStage Central Park help support over 100 free shows in NYC parks

Wednesday, August 8 at 7:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

Smokie Norful

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WLIB

File Under: Gospel

Artist Website: <http://www.smokienorful.com>

With his soulful tenor vocals and spot on ability to fuse gospel, 70’s soul, and contemporary hip-hop and R&B, Reverend **Smokie Norful** is one of the brightest lights on the current gospel scene. Growing up as the son of a minister, Norful was inspired by music ranging from sacred gospel to R&B soul and created music that he coined “urban inspirational.” Best known for his albums, *I Need You Now* and the GRAMMY® Award winning, *Nothing Without You*, Norful is a recognized leader in gospel music.

Thursday, August 9 at 7:00pm in Socrates Sculpture Garden, Queens

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series featuring

Alexander Lewis, Deanna Breiwick, Edward Parks and Vlad Iftinca on piano

File Under: Opera

The Metropolitan Opera Summer Recital Series, first presented in 2009, returns this year with six performances in the parks of all five boroughs. This performance features favorite arias and duets from some of opera’s greatest hits, performed by up-and-coming Met artists Deanna Breiwick (soprano), Alexander Lewis (tenor), and Edward Parks (baritone), accompanied by pianist Vlad Iftinca.

More info: <http://www.metopera.org/summer>

Alexander Lewis (tenor) is in his second year of the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program. This season he will make his Met debut as the First Guard in *Manon* and will perform Artémidore in The Metropolitan Opera and The Juilliard School’s joint production of Gluck’s *Armide*. Last season, he performed the role of Vašek in *The Bartered Bride*, the first joint production of the Met and The Juilliard School. Mr. Lewis completed the Merola Opera Program in San Francisco and completed his Bachelor of Arts in Music Theatre at the Western Australian Academy of Performing Arts, and was awarded the Lesley Anderson Fellowship.

Deanna Breiwick (soprano) is a 2011 Metropolitan Opera National Council Grand Finalist and also holds

awards from The Gerda Lissner Foundation, the Giulio Gari Foundation, The Licia Albanese-Puccini Foundation and the Richard F. Gold Career Grant. This season at the Met Ms. Breiwick covered the role of Ariel in the premier of *The Enchanted Island*. She was most recently featured as Sophie Scholl in the American Premier of Peter Maxwell Davies' *Kommilitonen!* with the Juilliard Opera. Ms. Breiwick is currently a young artist in Juilliard's Artist Diploma for Opera Studies program holding degrees from The Juilliard School and Mannes College of Music.

Edward Parks (baritone) returned to the Metropolitan Opera this season in the role of Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. Upcoming engagements at the Met include the role of Périchaud in *La Rondine* and he will be covering roles in *Otello* and *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*. A recent graduate of the Metropolitan Opera's Lindemann Young Artists Development Program, Mr. Parks made his Metropolitan Opera debut in the 2009-2010 season as Fiorello in *Il Barbiere di Siviglia*, and has since appeared as Schaunard in *La Bohème* and as Larkens in *La Fanciulla del West*. He also appeared as Schaunard on the Met's 2011 tour of Japan. A native of Indiana, PA, Mr. Parks received his bachelor's degree from Oberlin Conservatory, and his master's degree from Yale University.

Vlad Iftinca is the Staff Music Coach for the Lindemann Young Artist Development Program and has been part of the Metropolitan Opera music staff since the 2008-2009 season. Recent recital appearances include The Metropolitan Opera's 2009 Summer Recital Series, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall in New York City, Los Angeles Opera, San Francisco Conservatory, the Seoul Performing Arts Center, the Hong Kong Arts Festival, Spoleto Festival USA, and the Ravinia Festival's "Rising Stars" recital series.

Thursday, August 9 at 7:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

Jon B

Jagged Edge

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: R&B

Artist Website: <http://www.jonbworld.com>

Jon B is an accomplished musician, noted songwriter and producer who combined 1970s soul with hip-hop influences in his debut album, *Bonafide*. A soulful album that highlighted his dulcet tenor, it earned him both critical and commercial success, especially with the GRAMMY® nominated song "Someone to Love" featuring Babyface. Jon B's success continued with his platinum album *Cool Relax*, fueled by the success of "They Don't Know," which topped the R&B charts. In the album *Stronger Everyday*, Jon experimented with sounds and textures to accompany his vocals that gave his music a deeper, mature vibe. *Hopeless Romantic*, showcased his songwriting skills, featuring the single "Ooh So Sexy" with Paul Wall. In 2011, Jon B released *Comfortable Swagg*, which celebrates Jon's journey as a family man.

Artist Website: <http://www.jaggededge.net>

Jagged Edge has sold over 8 million records, won countless awards and gained impressive nominations while solidifying their place in R&B history with hit singles such as, "He Can't Love U," "Let's Get Married," "Promise," and "Where the Party At." With catchy lyrics and hypnotic beats, numerous albums, including *A Jagged Era*, *J.E. Heartbreak*, and *Jagged Little Thrill*, have help spots at the top of the Billboard charts. The group's 2011 release, *The Remedy* continues the groups signature R&B sound.

Friday, August 10 - Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Camille A. Brown and Dancers

Morales Dance

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Camille A. Brown

File Under: Dance

Artist Website: <http://www.camilleabrown.org>

Award winning choreographer, **Camille A. Brown** is the recipient of numerous awards including the Princess Grace Award. She has choreographed works for many companies such as Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Philadanco and Ballet Memphis. Her company, Camille A. Brown & Dancers is famed for its high theatricality, gutsy moves and virtuosic musicality leading the *The New York Times* to claim, “Ms. Brown seamlessly melds modern, hip-hop and West African dance.” The company excels at the exploration of real life situations ranging from literal relationships to more complex themes with an eye on the past and present.

Artist Website: <http://www.circularpower.com>

MoralesDance is a throwback to the days of classical modern dance based on the aesthetics of choreographer and artistic director, Tony Morales. A mixture of classical modern techniques lends the company a fluid yet strong air as seen in the choreography of several of the company’s repertory pieces. For their performance, MoralesDance will present four diverse works, from the light *Piano Pieces*, to the emotional exploration of a shattered family in *Amor Brutal*, to a celebration of the human spirit in *Scenes* and *Ablution*, which the *New York Times* has called, “a stormy and powerful solo.”

Master Class: This class combines elements of all dance styles and focuses on discovering ways to “color” one’s movements with a dancer’s grace and strength and will feature live drumming.

Saturday, August 11 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Carolina Chocolate Drops

Buckwheat Zydeco

Abigail Washburn

Presented in Association with The Museum for African Art

File Under: Bluegrass, Zydeco, Roots, Rock

Artist Website: <http://www.carolinachocolatedrops.com>

In 2005, three young musicians decided to travel every Thursday night to sit in the home of legendary fiddler Joe Thompson for a musical jam session. When the three students decided to form the **Carolina Chocolate Drops**, they did it mostly as tribute to Thompson, performing his music in dance halls. Specializing in traditional southern music but with a modern twist, the band was an upstart in a stable of deep tradition. With high profile shows including the Grand Ole Opry and the release of albums like *Genuine Negro Jig* and *Luminescent Orchestrrii*, the group has confirmed its place in the music pantheon with *Rolling Stone Magazine* describing the band’s style as “dirt-floor-dance electricity.”

Artist Website: <http://www.buckwheatzydeco.com>

American musical legend Stanley “Buckwheat” Dural Jr.—along with his band, **Buckwheat Zydeco**—is the preeminent ambassador of Louisiana zydeco music. Over the course of 30 years, Buckwheat Zydeco

has gigged with everyone from Eric Clapton to U2. *The New York Times* says, “Stanley “Buckwheat” Dural leads one of the best bands in America. A down-home and high powered celebration, meaty and muscular with a fine tuned sense of dynamics...[and] propulsive rhythms.” 2009 marked Buckwheat Zydeco’s 30th anniversary, and Buckwheat celebrated with the release of his GRAMMY® Award-winning CD, *Lay Your Burden Down*.

Artist Website: <http://www.abigailwashburn.com>

If old-time music is about taking earlier, simpler music-making as one’s model, **Abigail Washburn** has proven herself to be a bracing revelation to that tradition. She—a singing, songwriting, clawhammer banjo player—is every bit as interested in the present and the future as she is in the past. With her newest release, *City of Refuge*, Washburn crosses over into something completely different than her fusion of American folk with far-flung sounds. The album, a sublime marriage of old-time and indie-pop is an expansive palette of supple, modern textures; some coaxed from acoustic sources and some electronic, but all remarkably harmonious.

Sat. August 11 – Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan
Kùlú Mèlé African Dance and Drum Ensemble

MBDance

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Kùlú Mèlé African Dance and Drum Ensemble

File Under: Dance, Africa

Artist Website: <http://www.kulumele.org>

Kùlú Mèlé African Dance and Drum Ensemble preserves, presents and builds upon the dance and music of Africa and the African Diaspora. Founded in 1969 by Baba Robert Crowder and inspired by the voices of Africa, the company is known for infusing African dance with urban American flair. The company has graced the stages of major venues from New York to Guinea, distinguishing itself with beautiful costumes, a thrilling percussion battery and dynamic choreography. Kùlú Mèlé boasts a rich repertoire of authentic, folkloric dance from Guinea, Nigeria, Senegal, and Cuba featuring high-energy performances that will get audiences up on their feet and dancing in the aisles.

Artist Website: <http://mbdance.org>

Maria Bauman founded **MBDance** in 2007, creating duets & small group dances from a profound sense of physical & emotional power, a desire for equity and a fascination with intimacy & relationship. Utilizing linear and circular narrative, MBDance’s work is also influenced by Bauman’s extensive study of capoeira. MBDance’s motto is “Sweat your truth!” and the choreography incorporates elements of powerful, spatial fluidity and floorwork informed by an authentic sense of self so that the work wrestles with real-life experiences such as racialized police brutality or love between women. Recently, *The New York Times* described MBDance’s work, *Concerning Proximity* as “texturally rich in its gestural language, and beautifully performed.” MBDance will show excerpts from their new work *Stand*, an investigation of emotional resilience in the face of ambivalence, loss, and grief in addition to the repertoire piece, *50 Ways to Say*.

Master Class: Led by a senior company member, Kùlú Mèlé will offer a high-energy experience in Guinean dance and choreographic technique.

Sunday, August 12 at 4:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

The Fourth Annual R&B Fest featuring **Eric Benét** and more artists TBA shortly

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and WBLS

File Under: R&B

Artist Website: <http://www.ericbenet.net>

Multiple Grammy nominee **Eric Benét**, has based his career and his music on the purity of emotion. Making his solo debut with his album *True To Myself*, Benét's music produces a soulful sound, filled with lyrical and emotional honesty. His hit single "Spend My life with You" featuring Tamia reached #1 on the R&B charts, solidifying his role as an R&B sensation. In his most recent album *Lost in Time*, Benét takes a journey with his music, channeling influences from the 1970's to create a sound that is pure and true. Using his own experiences as inspiration, Benét's music tells a story that is both passionate and heartfelt.

Sunday, August 12 at 4:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

SummerStage Kids Uptown Family Day featuring

Jazz at Lincoln Center's Jazz for Young People on Tour

Little Club Heads

Double Dutch Dreamz

Presented by Disney

File Under: Family, Jazz

SummerStage Kids presented by Disney presents Uptown Family Day, a day full of jazz, dancing and an exciting, entertaining double-dutch show to engage children of all ages and their families. Kids can participate in face paintings and arts and crafts while they enjoy melodic jazz performances geared towards a younger audience. With interactive dance and jump rope workshops, families can have fun and be active all at the same time! Adults can now stay late for more fun featuring an evening concert and film!

For more information on these programs visit: www.SummerStage.org

Artist Website: <http://jalc.org>

Jazz at Lincoln Center's Jazz for Young People® on Tour (J4YPOT) is an appreciation-based, education program that brings professional jazz ensembles and quality performances to various New York City locations and area schools. Musicians travel within the five boroughs to present hour-long performances for students of all ages. There are also school-day performances for small student groups at Dizzy's Club Coca-Cola. These interactive, narrated concerts use warmth and humor to introduce key musical concepts and other jazz fundamentals.

Artist Website: <http://www.littleclubheads.com>

Little Club Heads has revolutionized the idea of "family time" by providing a dance party experience for children aged 12 months to 10 years old and their parents. At their events, parents can socialize while children have an opportunity to mingle, dance, and stay fit. After over 40 events and entertaining over 35 thousand guests over the past two and half years, the New York City based business is rapidly expanding.

Sunday, August 12 at 7:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

Yerba Buena

DJ Bobbito Garcia a.k.a. Kool Bob Love

Full Screening of the Film **“Doin’ It in the Park: Pick Up Basketball, NYC”**

Presented in Association with ImageNation Cinema Foundation

File Under: Latin, Hip Hop, Rock, Film

Yerba Buena reclaims the Puerto Rican music often branded as "folkloric," refusing to accept its packaging as frozen-in-time museum pieces, only vaguely connected to contemporary culture. Instead, they make gorgeous music that incorporates past and present. YERBABUENA taps right into the core of who Boricuas are as a people. Yerba Buena is a group of individuals who came together to play the music that they love under the musical direction of singer-composer-musician Tato Torres. It is composed of musicians, singers and dancers from the New York City area, who share an intense passion for the musical traditions of Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.

A NY Native and bonafide hip-hop legend, **DJ Bobbito Garcia** a.k.a. Kool Bob Love, partnered with DJ Stretch Armstrong in 1990 to start an on-air program at WKCR 89.9FM. *Source Magazine* went on to call it the “Best Hip Hop Radio Show of All Time.” The duo introduced the world to unsigned acts like Nas, Jay Z, Wu-Tang and many others that would go on to change the face of the rap industry. As a club DJ, crowds in countries throughout five continents have celebrated his unique blend of rare jazz, world and soul music.

Film Website: <http://www.doinitinthepark.com>

Doin’ it in the Park: Pick-Up Basketball, NYC is an independent documentary by directors Bobbito Garcia and Kevin Couliau that explores the definition, history, culture, social impact and global influence of New York’s outdoor summer b-ball scene, the worldwide “Mecca” of the sport. The film lovingly uncovers the movement through the voices of playground legends James “Fly” Williams, “Pee Wee” Kirkland, Corey “Homicide” Williams, NBA athletes (Brandon Jennings, Kenny Smith, Kenny Anderson), national sportswriters (Alex Wolff, Scoop Jackson) and most importantly, the common ballplayer who dreams all day about getting off work so that he or she can call the “next” game at their local schoolyard.

Tuesday, August 14 at 7:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Goapele

Yolanda Zama

Full Screening of the Film **“Come Back Africa”**

Presented in Association with ImageNation Cinema Foundation

File Under: R&B, Rock, Africa, Film, Global

This year, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the African National Congress, the leading democratic anti-apartheid party in South Africa, SummerStage and ImageNation celebrates South African culture with a performance by South African soul singers and activists, Goapele and Yolanda Zuma followed by a screening of the film, *Come Back Africa* a groundbreaking drama that explores the

ravages of life under apartheid.

Artist Website: <http://goapele.com>

Goapele possesses one of the most alluring and powerful voices within the soul genre, injecting poignant words with both passion and substance. The Oakland, California based songstress of South African parentage, broke onto the music scene in 2001 with the ethereal release, *Even Closer*, a success based on the smash hit single, "Closer." The album's mix of soulful grooves and thought-provoking lyrics introduced the world to a multi-faceted artist, known as much for her social and political activism as for her lush romantic ballads. Through a brilliant mix of skillful compositions and heart wrenching harmonies that showcase her ability to mix classic soul, R&B and new-age funk, her signature throaty moans and lyrical poetry evoke all things old yet somehow manages to be refreshingly new.

Artist Website: <http://yolandazama.bandcamp.com>

Yolanda Zama is a South-African born singer/songwriter. A young political exile during apartheid, she honed her voice amid the urban sounds of Harlem in the 80's. Weaving her native Xhosa with English, Zama fuses the lush and organic textures of Southern African music with the vibrant and dynamic melodies of folk and soul to create a sound that is at once unique and transcendent.

Film Website: <http://comebackafrica.com/>

A poignant and insightful drama, ***Come Back, Africa*** was secretly filmed in 1959 during apartheid in South Africa. Shot primarily in Sophiatown, and named after the African National Congress moniker "Come Back, Africa" this historical wonder presents an honest glimpse into the reality of life under the now-abolished South African apartheid government. It was through this film, that Harry Belafonte discovered the incomparable Ms. Miriam Makeba aka Mama Africa. This groundbreaking classic is distributed by Milestone Films.

Tuesday, August 14 at 7:00pm in Highbridge Park, Manhattan

Toby Love

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Bachata

Artist Website: <http://www.tobyloveofficial.com>

Toby Love is well known as one of the pioneers of modern bachata music and a member of the legendary urban bachata group, Aventura. Six years after the formation of Aventura, Toby Love embarked upon a solo career and hasn't looked back since. With solo hits such as "Tengo un Amor," "Amores Como el Tuyo" and "Llorar Lloviendo," Love's take on urban bachata incorporates harmonizing techniques with inspirations from R&B's Boyz II Men and traditional styles from artists like Anthony Santos but he has synthesized his own unique spin on bachata and merengue pop. His newest album, *La Voz de La Juventud* contains the hit single, "Casi Casi" featuring Timmy Star, his son and the newest inspiration to his musical repertoire.

Wednesday, August 15 at 8:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Koresh Dance Company

Ballet X

Special Guest: Dancin' Downtown at The Joyce contest winner

File Under: Dance

Artist Website: <http://www.koreshdance.org>

In 1991, Artistic Director Roni Koresh founded **Koresh Dance Company** in Philadelphia. Twenty years later, the company has become one of the city's most respected dance companies. Roni has developed a vast repertoire of work and has been celebrated locally, nationally and internationally. His Israeli heritage continues to differentiate the company and the raw passion that is infused into his movement leaves audiences dazzled year after year. The company has also left an indelible mark on Philadelphia through the Koresh School of Dance that offers professional dance training and several outreach programs. Through performance, instruction and community outreach, Koresh continues to be a leading force in dance.

Artist Website: <http://www.balletx.org>

Philadelphia-based **BalletX** is recognized locally and nationally as a cutting-edge, contemporary ballet company. BalletX reflects the vision of its award-winning cofounders and artistic directors, Matthew Neenan and Christine Cox, whose shared passion for dance is rooted in classical ballet. Reviewers agree that BalletX brings a contemporary sensibility to the art form, infusing its work with a new vision of athleticism, emotion, and intimacy. The company is dedicated to commissioning daring works that reflect the diverse visions of the artists who create it.

Artist Website: <http://www.dradsance.org>

Dancin' Downtown at The Joyce is a collaboration between Dancers Responding to AIDS (DRA) and The Joyce Theatre. Dance studios are adjudicated by top names in the dance world with the award winner performing at SummerStage.

Wednesday, August 15 at 7:00pm in Highbridge Park, Manhattan

Henry Santos

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Bachata

Hailing from the Dominican Republic, **Henry Santos** has helped the bachata group, Aventura achieve phenomenal international success as a singer and composer. His compositions have secured Aventura as one of the most recognizable names in bachata music worldwide, catering to young Latinos in the US as well as audiences across Europe and Latin America. His hybrid "bachata with R&B, hip-hop and big-city attitude" sound has created a "juggernaut," according to *The New York Times*. With a successful track record with Aventura, Santos solo debut is highly anticipated by numerous fans.

Thursday, August 16 at 7:00pm in Highbridge Park, Manhattan

24 Horas

K Rose

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Bachata

Artist Website: <http://grupo24horas.com>

24 Horas is a bachata trio hailing from Washington Heights in New York City, a predominantly Dominican neighborhood in Manhattan. The trio is comprised of Mickey Then, Joell Jaquez and Jiory Garcia who made their full-length album debut with 2010's *Los Inolvidables*. The album spawned a pair of singles, the chart-topping tropical smash "24 Horas" and the Top 30 hit, "Mami Dame un Beso." A nominee for the prestigious Billboard Latin Music award for Tropical artist of the year in 2011, the band continues to popularize the urban bachata sound.

Friday, August 17 – Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan
WHITE WAVE Young Soon Kim Dance Company

DoubleTake Dance

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Desmond Richardson of Complexions Contemporary Ballet
 File Under: Dance

Artist Website: <http://www.whitewavedancenyc.com>

Hailed as splendid eleven member company, **WHITE WAVE Young Soon Kim Dance Company** just returned from a triumphant tour throughout Korea & China. Dance Magazine has said of the company, "stunning performers, passionate dancing... Kim's choreography is highly charged." Artistic Director Young Soon Kim creates works of vision and movement in reverence and awe of the novelties that reflect the inner landscape of human emotion. The company will perform *Here NOW So Long*, an ambitious work of courage and beauty in a dynamic collaboration with composer Marc Cappelli featuring live music that will explore the body's limitless capacity for expression.

Artist Website: <http://www.doubletakedanceco.com>

DoubleTake Dance is a New York City based contemporary dance company that strives to connect with a wide range of audiences through fusions of movement that are accessible and understandable to both the dancer and non-dancer. By creating choreography that is original and passionate; each piece is as unique as the artists who interpret it. Ashley Carter and Vanessa Martínez de Baños, co-founders of the company, will present a number of diverse and dramatic pieces, remixing contemporary styles with modern, lyrical, ethnic, vocal and neoclassical elements.

Saturday, August 18 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan

Australia Day featuring

Megan Washington

Emma Donavan

DJ Ashley Feraude with Jonty Hall

Supported by The Australian Consulate in New York City and The Australia Council for The Arts

File Under: Australia, Rock, R&B, Global

SummerStage celebrates Australia with a program showcasing the hottest acts in contemporary music from Down Under.

Artist Website: <http://www.washingtonmusic.com.au>

Australia's pop-chanteuse **Megan Washington** will lead you on a striking cinematic voyage of self-discovery. Her debut album, *I Believe You Liar* is a collection of pop songs that feature introspective

lyrics and complicated key changing with catchy hooks. By the second listen you will likely be able to sing back most of the words. A child of Papua, New Guinea, “the wildness of animal and human nature is an influence that's still making its presence felt into her music” says *Radar Music* of Washington’s raw energy. Her newest release, *Insomnia* has the power to stop you in your tracks with its elegant take on indie-rock.

Artist Website: <http://www.emmadonovan.com>

Emma Donovan has established herself as one of Australia’s finest indigenous singer/songwriters. With the inclusion of her traditional language Gumbayngirr in her songs, Donovan is committed to educating the global community to understand more about Aboriginal culture and spirituality. Seamlessly blending genres from roots, reggae, gospel and smooth soul; she continues to have a major impact both on the Australian main stream stage and in the international arena. Donovan’s album, *Ngarraanga* (Remember) includes traditional language intercepted with spoken word. Two of Donovan’s singles, were nominated for the Australian Independent MusicOz Awards.

Australia based DJ and musician, **Ashley Feraude** shares his passion for house, disco and soul through residencies and regular spots in premier lounges and nightclubs throughout the country. Feraude’s gift for picking the right tracks, building a set for any occasion and connecting with audiences propelled him to work with a number of famed Australian artists as well as become well known as a musical tastemaker. Feraude will be accompanied by trumpet player extraordinaire, **Jonty Hall**.

Saturday, August 18 – Master Class at 7:00pm, Performance at 8:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan
Eleone Dance Theatre

Niles Ford Urban Dance Collective

All Levels Open Dance Master Class by Calvin Wiley

File Under: Dance

Artist Website: <http://www.eleonedance.org>

Eleone Dance Theatre, a Philadelphia-based dance company, embodies exceptional artistry and a profound sense of spirituality that evokes an aura of healing in the audiences whose souls they touch. An exhilarating and soul-stirring company that presents a spectrum of works that are multicultural, intergenerational, socially and visually appealing to all audiences, Eleone has been called “[Philadelphia’s] hottest dance company” by *The Philadelphia Weekly*. Celebrating their 15th anniversary, the company will premiere *The Dunham Progressions*, a new work that highlights the famed dance technique.

Artist Website: <http://nilesfordudc.info>

Niles Ford/Urban Dance Collective is a dance company working in more than one dimension. Dealing with the social issues of the day through visual art, spoken word, and music, the company communicates the psychological effects of poverty, war, sexism, religion, and homosexuality through physical movement. With a choreography aesthetic that blends many techniques including ballet, modern, jazz, hip-hop, club dancing and pedestrian movement, Dance Magazine says of the company, “They look good, move with power, and make the audience scream.”

Master Class: Join acclaimed fitness and dance choreographer, Calvin Wiley for a high energy, stylistically diverse dance class.

Sunday, August 19 at 3:00pm in Central Park, Manhattan
Jamaica's 50th Anniversary of Independence Celebration featuring
Inner Circle
Israel Vibration
The Mighty Diamonds
DJ Carter Van Pelt

File Under: Reggae, Global

Celebrate Jamaica's 50th anniversary of independence with this day of Jamaican reggae music.

Artist Website: <http://innercircle-reggae.com>

To anyone who's familiar with **Inner Circle**, the GRAMMY® winning band's 20-year-plus history in reggae has had a long string of successes. Inner Circle's special brand of pop-oriented Jamaican beats and energy-filled live performances have allowed the band to transcend the traditional reggae niche and enjoy widespread crossover appeal. From the launch of their first album in 1978 entitled, *Everything Is Great*, to the launch of the album, *Bad Boys* which became an international hit featuring the title track as well as the dance party favorite "Sweat," Inner Circle's brand of unforgettable hooks and island beats has kept the band a mainstay in the reggae world.

Artist Website: <http://www.rasrecords.com/israelvibration>

The story of reggae group **Israel Vibration's** success starts out with their humble beginnings as children battling polio in a Jamaican rehabilitation center. Cecil Spence (Skelly) and Lascelle Bulgin (Wiss) bonded through music while in the clinic and quickly became friends. As the duo got older, they found the faith of Rastafari and created songs which expressed their spiritual beliefs. Since then, the duo's music has been spellbinding audiences for over two decades with their mix of traditional roots reggae and deeply spiritual messages such as the critically acclaimed album, *On The Rock* and its follow-up *Free To Move*, which reached number one on the CMJ New World charts.

Artist Website: <http://www.themightydiamonds.net>

The Mighty Diamonds are the most consistent and long-running reggae trio in Jamaican musical history. For over forty years the group has been entertaining and educating the world with their conscious lyrics, soulful harmonies and polished performances that led them to become known as the reggae group with the Motown sound. Their debut album *Right Time*, has become a reggae classic while the single, "Pass the Kutchie" from the album *Changes*, became an international hit and has since been covered by reggae group, Musical Youth whose version "Pass the Dutchie" also garnered fame globally. With over forty albums released, the group remains a favorite of the dance hall crowd, roots and progressive audiences.

Artist Website: <http://wkrjamaica.blogspot.com/>

Head DJ of *Eastern Standard Time* on WKCR 89.9 FM in New York City, **DJ Carter Van Pelt** is a true student of Jamaican music of every era, from ska to dancehall. He'll celebrate Jamaica's 50th Anniversary with far-ranging selections covering every era. His WKCR program has earned a worldwide reputation for bringing artists to the studio for historic interviews, augmented with deep cuts, all played from vinyl. Van Pelt is the founder/producer of the popular Coney Island Reggae Soundsystem Series, held each summer on the iconic Coney Island Boardwalk. He also hosts a program on the Internet station Radio

Lily.

Sunday, August 19 at 7:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan

The Upright Citizens Brigade presents **The All-Stars of Improv**

File Under: Comedy

Artist Website: www.ucbtheater.com

The Upright Citizens Brigade is home to some of the biggest stars in comedy today. From *Saturday Night Live* to *The Office* and *Parks and Recreation*, the guys and gals of UCB are all over the place; including the writing rooms and offices of *the Colbert Report*, *the Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and even on the big screen. UCB alums have starred in the best, freshest, most irreverent comedies of the past decade. Watch this cast of all-stars from the big and small screen take over SummerStage to do what they do best, two acts of fully improvised comedy that will have audiences rolling. This show has never been seen before; will never be seen again and will never be forgotten.

Tuesday, August 21 at 7:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan

José “El Canario” Alberto

8 y Más

DJ Polito Vega

Presented in Association with Globe Star Media and La Mega

File Under: Latin, Salsa

Artist Website: <http://www.elcanario.com>

José Alberto, is a Dominican salsa singer with a career that spans the past thirty years. His voice was widely adored by salsa fans, and his exceptional whistling abilities led fans to give him the nickname “El Canario” (The Canary). As a pioneer of a new style of salsa called salsa romántica, which arose at a time when classic, big-band salsa, was losing popularity on the Latin record charts, El Canario focused mainly on the romantic, softer aspects of the music, creating a mixture of earlier salsa brava and the ballad style. El Canario received international attention as the bandleader of Tipica 73 as well as for hit songs such as “Sueño Contigo” and albums including his debut, *Noches Calientes* and *Dance With Me*.

Artist Website: www.8ymas.com

8 y Más is one of the hottest new bands on the contemporary Latin music scene today. Comprised of a team of internationally recognized musicians considered by many to be some of the best in NYC and beyond, 8 y Más boasts a stellar lineup including Bobby Allende, Angel Fernandez, Ricky Gonzalez and Marc Quiñones. In November, 2006, the band released its first production, *Juega Billar* to much acclaim by salsa music lovers. For this special night, the band celebrates the musical legacy of the late, beloved salsero, Tito Puente called by many, “El Rey de los Timbales” (The King of the Timbales).

On air for over fifty years, **DJ Polito Vega** is “as much a part of the soundtrack of urban life here as the blare of a taxi’s horn or the roar of the crowd at Yankee Stadium.” (*NY Times*) One of the first DJ’s to identify with salsa music, Vega is an iconic radio personality. The Puerto Rican DJ currently hosts “Salsa Con Polito” on WSKQ 97.9 FM where he shares his expertise and passion for salsa music.

Wednesday, August 22 at 7:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan

Lyricist Lounge 20 Year Anniversary featuring

Pete Rock vs. DJ Premier

File Under: Hip Hop

Website: <http://lyricistlounge.com>

SummerStage celebrates the 20th anniversary of the acclaimed hip-hop brand, **Lyricist Lounge**. A respected part of hip-hop music and culture, Lyricist Lounge has hosted hundreds of live showcases featuring the best up and coming talent while acting as a career platform for many of today's superstars. Lyricist Lounge hosts a night featuring two legendary DJs battling it out for turntable supremacy.

Pete Rock, also known as Soul Brother #1 and The Chocolate Boy Wunda, is a producer, DJ and rapper and is one half of the critically acclaimed group, Pete Rock & CL Smooth. He has arguably pioneered the fusing of jazz, funk and soul into hip-hop as well as laid down the blueprint for beautiful soulful productions in hip-hop. *About.com* ranked him #3 on their "Top 50 Hip-Hop Producers" list. Pete Rock's production has appeared on many of hip-hop's most important records: Heavy D's *Peaceful Journey*, Nas' *Illmatic*, and Kanye West/Jay-Z's *Watch The Throne* to name a few.

Christopher Edward Martin, better known by his stage name **DJ Premier** (also known as Preem, Premo, or Primo for short) is a producer and DJ and is the instrumental half of hip-hop duo Gang Starr, together with emcee Guru. DJ Premier recognized as one of hip-hop's most important track masters his style is aggressive and raw. *About.com* ranked him #1 on their "Top 50 Hip-Hop Producers" list and *Rolling Stone* identified DJ Premier as arguably "hip-hop's greatest producer of all time." DJ Premier's production has appeared on many of hip-hop's most important records: Nas' *Illmatic*, the Notorious B.I.G.'s *Ready to Die*, Jay-Z's *Reasonable Doubt* and numerous others.

Thursday, August 23 at 7:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan

Two Boots 25th Anniversary – Artists TBA

Friday, August 24 at 7:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

The 20th Anniversary Charlie Parker Jazz Festival featuring

***Bird with Strings* with Miguel Atwood-Ferguson and special guests**

Produced by Revive Music

File Under: Jazz

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the beloved late summer jazz favorite, **The Charlie Parker Jazz Festival**. In honor of this anniversary, SummerStage will present an additional evening of performances. This exceptional night will feature the world premiere of specially commissioned pieces by Revive Music Group in collaboration with Miguel Atwood-Ferguson, celebrating the vibrant work of Charlie Parker's 1950's record, *Charlie Parker with Strings*.

Artist Website: <http://revivalist.okayplayer.com>

Launched in 2006, Revive Music (aka Revive da Live) is a boutique, live music agency that specializes in producing genre-bending, creative-concept live music shows that tour worldwide with the purpose of

educating and inspiring audiences about artistic and authentic forms of music.

Bird with Strings is a concept curated by the musicians at Revive Music Group and composer/arranger, **Miguel Atwood-Ferguson** in celebration of the classic Charlie Parker album, *Charlie Parker with Strings*. Re-imagined in a modern context by combining the art of sampling, remixing and inventive compositions and arrangements for a full string section with ensemble, *Bird with Strings* is a series of pieces dedicated to a modern approach to the music, life and legacy of Charlie Parker.

Saturday, August 25 at 3:00pm in Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

The 20th Anniversary Charlie Parker Jazz Festival featuring

Roy Haynes

Rene Maries' Experiment in Truth

Derrick Hodge

Jamire Williams and ERIMAJ

File Under: Jazz

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the beloved late summer jazz favorite, **The Charlie Parker Jazz Festival**. Come celebrate with a day's worth of jazz legends and rising stars.

Roy Haynes is the pulse of legendary jazz. For over fifty years, Haynes has influenced and innovated, shaping some of the greatest recordings in jazz while his joyous drumming with the legends of the genre altered the very fabric and direction of jazz improvisation. Haynes' unrelenting "hard swing" sound has graced a who's-who list of jazz icons like Louis Armstrong, John Coltrane, Miles Davis, and Dizzy Gillespie. His newest project the Fountain of Youth Band, assembles Jaleel Shaw, Martin Bejerano and David Wong with Haynes at the forefront, proving that he is influencing the next generation of jazz artists just as he has those of the past.

Artist Website: <http://www.renemarie.com>

Rene Marie, the award winning singer whose style incorporates elements of jazz, soul, blues and gospel has quickly become a heroine to many. Since the release of her recording debut *Renaissance*, this Colorado based heroine has evolved into one of the greatest and most sensuous vocalists of our time. Rene Marie shows her skill as she sings in three languages on her latest album, *Voice of My Beautiful Country*, winning a spot on NPR's *Best Jazz Albums of 2011* list. With a passionate, powerful voice, Rene Marie has drawn a legion of fans and music critics who find themselves not only entertained, but encouraged and deeply impacted by her performances.

Bassist **Derrick Hodge** represents something inventive and refreshing, fronting the wave of a unique generation of renaissance musicians working across all genres without borders. Hodge has spent his youthful career transcending musical trends. He composes and performs throughout various genres of hip-hop, gospel, R&B, funk, singer/songwriter and jazz, performing and/or recording with Grammy nominated and awarded artists such as Maxwell, Common, Kanye West, Sade and more. Hodge also boasts success as a writer in various musical genres ranging from jazz and orchestral chamber music to pop and R&B. His debut recording, *Live Today* is a melting pot of sound and emotions and a showcase of his widely respected versatility and melodic sensitivity. *Produced by Jill Newman Productions*

Jamire Williams is a thriving, world renowned musician, producer and composer on the New York City music scene. With an extensive background and education routed in jazz and the performing arts,

Williams heads his band, **ERIMAJ**, a progressive, jazz influenced but genre defying group of musicians. *The New York Times* has referred to Williams' drumming as "fluid narrative improvising, as well as beats like fragmented hip-hop," exemplifying his true talent. Recently voted in *Downbeat Magazine's* "Critic's Poll Rising Star - Drum" category, Williams and ERIMAJ are definitely ones to keep your eye on.

Sat. August 25, Sun. August 26 and Mon. August 27 at 8:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan

"Jason and the Argonauts: Tales from the Argonautica" a play by Apollonius Rhodius

New Translation by Aaron Poochigian

Performed by The Faux-Real Theatre Company

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

Artist Website: <http://fauxreal.org>

The Faux-Real Theatre Company embodies an aesthetic in which the extraordinary and the quotidian meld into dynamic stage life. Faux-Real delivers classical and contemporary texts, in boundary-busting productions that are engaging, accessible and just plain fun. Watch the company as they premiere their latest work, **Tales from The Argonautica** for the first time. Written by Apollonius Rhodius in the year 3 BC, *The Argonautica* tells the story of the flawed hero, Jason and his search for the "Golden Fleece." Not quite the hero that Odysseus may have been, but with charismatic charm to spare, Jason assembles a team that includes the mighty Hercules, the musician Orpheus, and the sorceress Medea, who falls madly in love with the swarthy sailor. Spoiler alert: It doesn't go well for Jason and Medea. Faux-Real Theatre's interpretation of this classic text plays like an ancient avant-garde rock concert featuring ribald acting, bouzoukis (Greek guitars), drummers, platform shoes, and a chariot-full of masks and flashy costumes far from the white togas audiences have come to expect from "the classics" of the past.

Saturday, August 26 at 3:00pm in Tompkins Square Park, Manhattan

The 20th Anniversary Charlie Parker Jazz Festival featuring

Gregory Porter

Andy Milne and Dapp Theory

Sullivan Fortner

File Under: Jazz

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the beloved late summer jazz favorite, **The Charlie Parker Jazz Festival**. Come celebrate with a day's worth of jazz legends and rising stars.

Artist Website: <http://www.gregoryporter.com>

With a voice that can caress or confront, embrace or exhort, Grammy nominee **Gregory Porter** exhibits an incredible degree of vocal mastery. His distinct style ranges from jazz, funk, R&B, blues and gospel, all soulful while still maintaining the elegance he learned from his earlier influences. Playing on major stages around the globe as well as on famous television shows, *The New York Times* has said, "Gregory Porter has most of what you would want in a male jazz singer, and maybe a thing or two you didn't know you wanted."

Artist Website: www.dapptheory.com

Dapp Theory is at the meeting point of lyrical jazz piano, funkified polyrhythmic exploration and spoken word poeticism. Leader, pianist and composer **Andy Milne** is one of the most important and respected voices in jazz today. His band, Dapp Theory has been on the scene since 1998 helping re-draw and extend the boundaries of jazz. *Jazz Times Magazine* describes their latest CD, *Layers of Chance* as “remarkable chemistry . . . so impeccable, it’s practically a musical Unified Field Theory”.

Sullivan Fortner plays jazz piano with bravado and percussive force. While earning his Bachelor of Music degree, this young jazz pianist was a member of the Oberlin Jazz Septet (OJS), the Conservatory’s elite student jazz ensemble. A graduate of the Manhattan School of Music, Sullivan has also recorded with such luminaries as Albert “Tottie” Heath, Benny Powell, Silde Hampton and currently performs with the Roy Hargrove Quintet. This up and coming musician is an act worth watching out for, leading *The New York Times* to claim, “[Fortner is] unknown around New York, though maybe not for long.”

Tues. August 28, Wed. August 29 and Thurs. August 30 at 8:00pm in East River Park, Manhattan
“I’m Going to Make a Small Incision Behind Your Ear to Check and See if You’re Actually Human REDUX”

a play performed by Witness Relocation

SummerStage Theater Presented by Time Warner

File Under: Theater

Artist Website: <http://www.witnessrelocation.org>

Witness Relocation combines dance and theater with the energy of a rock show, exploding contemporary culture into intensely physical, outrageous, poetic, and sometimes brutal performances in order to question the assumptions of the modern day experience. ***I’m Going To Make A Small Incision Behind Your Ear To Check And See If You’re Actually Human REDUX*** is comprised of 30 segments, presented in a different order every night determined by an audience lottery. The mayhem and panic-filled plot includes high-energy dance numbers, possible alien invasion, a blindfolded wrestling match, scenes from the TV show “V”, a lizard costume, true on the spot confessions, and numerous attempts to force actual emotions out of the performers in real time, right in front of the audience. The various segments are not only performed in a random order every night, but who from the ensemble performs each scene is decided on the spot by the performers themselves.

###

The 2012 SummerStage festival is presented by AT&T.

Time Warner; Blue Point; Ommegang; Six Point; JWT; Disney; Bloomberg; ConEdison; JPMorgan Chase; City Winery; Forest City Ratner are also official SummerStage Sponsors.

Additional support is generously provided by The Arthur Ross Foundation; The Harkness Foundation for Dance; The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; New York Community Trust Program for

Performing Arts Groups; Pennsylvania Performing Arts on Tour; The Shubert Foundation; New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council; New York State Council on the Arts; National Endowment for the Arts through the Access to Artistic Excellence program; NYC Council Member Rosie Mendez; NYC Council Member Joel Rivera.

Media sponsors include:

Time Out New York, Metro, Relix, El Especial & El Especialito, Zoom Media & Marketing, WNYC, WFUV, WBGO, NBC New York, NY Moves, Big Screen Project, Flavorpill, Fusicology, and Globe Star Media and Entertainment.

In all of its programming and activities, City Parks Foundation partners with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation to improve neighborhood parks and the communities they serve.