

**CITY PARKS
FOUNDATION** 

SUMMER STAGE

PRESENTED BY



City Parks Foundation proudly presents
SUMMERSTAGE

**For 25th Anniversary, SummerStage name to extend beyond Central Park to include
over 100 music, dance and theater programs
in 16 parks in all five boroughs**

**Season starts Tuesday, June 1st with Melody Gardot and the New York Pops in Central Park and Jay
Electronica in Brooklyn's Red Hook Park and ends on Sunday, August 29th
with saxophonist James Moody, pianist Vijay Iyer and others
in Tompkins Square Park for the Charlie Parker Jazz Festival**

**Season highlights major New York artistic movements
(Harlem Renaissance, Hip Hop, Salsa and others) and features free performances from
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, The xx, Public Enemy, Comedy Central's The Daily Show, St. Vincent,
McCoy Tyner, Living Colour and many more**

May 4, 2010, NYC: As part of the 25th anniversary season of SummerStage, City Parks Foundation today launched a major re-branding of the festival to include music, dance, film and theater performances in all five boroughs.

In June, 1986, Central Park SummerStage was launched with a free performance from Sun Ra and the Omniverse Jet Set Arkestra. In 1990, City Parks Foundation began programming free concerts in neighborhood parks under the name CityParks Concerts. In 2006, City Parks Foundation began CityParks Dance and CityParks Theater. Today, City Parks Foundation is combining all of these initiatives under the banner of SummerStage, a city-wide festival of over 100 music, dance and theater events in 16 parks in all five boroughs. It will be one of the largest, most geographical diverse and thematically broad festivals in the nation. Over 200,000 people are expected to attend the free festival.

“What better time to rebrand and expand our festival than during an anniversary celebration?” says **City Parks Foundation Executive Director, David Rivel**. “As our arts programs have grown in reach and quality, we’ve recognized the need to expand the *SummerStage* name, in hopes that New Yorkers and visitors alike will

explore the many parks, both in and outside Manhattan, that help make New York such a vibrant city and discover performances that are as culturally diverse as the neighborhoods themselves.”

To commemorate 25 years of SummerStage, City Parks Foundation is dedicating the season to several artistic movements that were developed in New York City neighborhoods and to key artists who created—or were inspired by—those artistic developments. In many instances, these artists and art forms will be celebrated in the very parks and neighborhoods where that art was created.

Honoring the brilliance of the Harlem Renaissance and the birthplace of be-bop and jazz, poet and performer **GIL SCOTT-HERON** will hypnotize audiences at Marcus Garvey and Central Parks. Jazz icons **JIMMY SCOTT**, **MCCOY TYNER** and **JAMES MOODY** will groove at the annual Charlie Parker Jazz Festival. The boundary breaking **COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET COMPANY** will interpret the timeless sounds of Billie Holiday in Central Park.

In recognition of the South Bronx as the matrix of salsa and its subsequent explosion of popularity throughout New York City, SummerStage will play host to a diverse array of Salsa sensations including **FRANKIE NEGRÓN**, **EDDIE PALMIERI** and **HECTOR TRICOCHÉ**.

A tribute to NYC as the birthplace of hip hop and its stylistic spoken word offshoots in neighborhoods such as the Lower East Side, Queensbridge and the South Bronx will include rap pioneers **PUBLIC ENEMY**, human beat box **DOUG E. FRESH** and hip hop legends **BIG DADDY KANE**, **BRAND NUBIAN** and **EPMD** among many other classic and contemporary greats.

Additional highlights of *SummerStage* include enduring rockers **LIVING COLOUR**, Senegalese singer/songwriter **BAABA MAAL**, jazz bassist **STANLEY CLARKE**, white-hot indie newcomers **ST. VINCENT** and **THE xx**, Touareg rebel-rockers **TINARIWEN**, Syria’s electronic innovator **OMAR SOULEYMAN**, gospel greats **HEZEKIAH WALKER**, **TYE TRIBBETT** and **SMOKIE NORFUL**, contemporary R&B stars **RYAN LESLIE**, **CHRISSETTE MICHELE** and **MARIO** among literally dozens of others performers.

SummerStage welcomes back the **ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER** to recreate the magic of their first SummerStage performance from 1993. **Dwight Rhoden** and **Desmond Richardson’s COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET** will premiere an exhilarating new program commissioned specially for SummerStage. Join **TAMBOULA** and the **JULIO JEAN HAITIAN AMERICAN DANCE THEATER** for a special tribute to Haiti and its dance culture.

SummerStage is proud to premier a special commission of noted playwright Radha Blank’s **AMERICAN SCHEMES**. This unique play explores the enigma of The American Dream from the standpoint of various social classes. Next, a glimpse into the fabric of one Brooklyn neighborhood in Zakiyyah Alexander’s **THE ETYMOLOGY OF BIRD**, a play that provokes a series of questions on race relations, criminal justice and family life. Acclaimed theater company Waterwell, will team up with NYC rock band, Bambi, to perform **GOODBAR**, a dark play that explores human sexuality and independence.

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.

SummerStage 2010

MELODY GARDOT and The New York Pops

Central Park, Manhattan

Tuesday, June 1

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Melody Gardot's route to music has been an unconventional and often arduous one. Growing up in Philadelphia, she began taking music lessons at age nine, and was playing piano in local lounges by the time she was 16, although she didn't think of music as anything more than a hobby at the time. After being hit by a car and severely injured when she was 19, music became a key therapeutic element in her lengthy recovery process. Though music became an integral element of Gardot's recovery, it also became an outlet for self-expression. This young chanteuse's songs offer deeply compelling evocations of love, loss and heartache, while her voice offers a level of emotional authority and technical fluency that one would normally expect from a veteran performer. Supported by sparse arrangements she draws upon elements of jazz, blues, folk and country, with expressive vocals that are both sensitive and seductive. Her breakthrough album, *My One and Only Thrill*, has sold almost one million copies worldwide.

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 as well as a birthday gala at Carnegie Hall, enjoying one of their highest subscription renewal rates. The New York Pops was founded by former NBC Music Director Skitch Henderson, in 1983 with a mission to create greater public awareness and appreciation of America's rich musical heritage. Along with performing at Carnegie Hall, The New York Pops tours throughout the world and performs free concerts in New York City parks.

JAY ELECTRONICA

Red Hook Park, Brooklyn

Tuesday, June 1

7:00 – 9:00 pm

With unconventional style and a unique combination of clever lyrics and deep musical cuts, **Jay Electronica** has been breathing new life into rap from the streets up. Jay is best known for his creative use of film soundtracks as a bed for his abstract rhymes. Jay's most recent Just Blaze produced single, 'Exhibit C', has garnered heavy rotation on major radio stations, the streets and online, quickly landing in the iTunes hip hop top ten.

ROY AYERS with DJ JON QUICK

Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn

Wednesday, June 2

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Though he has gained renown for his funky, soulful and jazzy compositions, **Roy Ayers'** signature sound is the vibraphone, incorporated into virtually all elements of his music. With hits such as 'Brother Green' and 'Everybody Loves the Sunshine', Ayers set the stage for modern R&B artists over the course of his forty plus year career with his innovative use of synthesizers and modern production techniques. Widely considered to be one of the most sampled artists of all time, Ayers' music continues to engage and inspire audiences of all ages.

Talent can be defined in a myriad of ways. It can be an innate gift or a learned proficiency, but occasionally it's a potent mixture of both. This is definitely the case with DJ Jon Quick **aka the Turntable Superhero**. With active residencies at The Cabanas (Maritime Hotel) on Tuesdays, Moca on Wednesdays, Taj Afterwork on Thursdays and The Vault on Saturdays, he is one of NYC's most notable DJs. His mixes have been featured on Sirius Satellite Radio, Kiss FM and Music Choice. He has also done underground remixes for the rapper K-OS and Bad Boy vocalist, Cheri Dennis. Named one of the 2009 NYC most influential tastemaker/DJ by Kinetix Marketing and for Hennessy Black, the newest brand from by Hennessy, DJ Jon Quick was just featured on NYC's Fox-5 TV's Good Day New York and is arguably one of the fastest rising DJ's created a blueprint for others to follow.

DOUG E.FRESH AND DJ DEE WIZ

Von King Park, Brooklyn

Thursday, June 3

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Doug E. Fresh is one of the originators of the human beat box (vocally simulating the sound of drums and other musical instruments) as an instrument in hip hop. Best known for the two-sided, multi-platinum hits "The Show" and "La Di Da Di," his groundbreaking success in the 1980's heralded the global popularity of hip hop. Fresh has embraced hip hop activism and used his voice to speak out against a variety of social ills. Along the way, he has nurtured rising talent, including the likes of Slick Rick, P. Diddy, Biz Markie and numerous newcomers during his stint as host (and unofficial mentor) of It's Showtime at the Apollo. Join "The Human Beat Box" as he teams up with mixtape master **DJ Dee Wiz** for an unforgettable journey into the history and future of hip hop.

AKIM FUNK BUDDHA'S FLYING BOOM BOX: *An Urban Dance Theatrical* and ORGANIC MAGNETICS

Von King Park, Brooklyn

Friday, June 4

7:00 pm – Open Afro Funk/ Hip Hop dance class with Akim Funk Buddha

8:00 pm – Magnetic Organics

8:50 pm – Akim Funk Buddha's Flying Boom Box/ An Urban Dance Theatrical

Akim Funk Buddha creates borderless performance art, fusing sounds and movements. An avid world traveler and self-described old-school B-boy MC, he is known for his holistic approach to hip-hop, drawing from a full spectrum of cultural traditions and artistic disciplines. *The Flying Boom Box* begins with urban dance and mime skits with youth from Urban Youth Performances and Locker Nation. *The Flying Boom Box* is a story about a young hip-hop artist who by chance discovers that by manipulating the electric-magnetic field of sound waves from his tape deck, he can navigate himself to various countries and time periods. The show will feature 10 musicians and styles of dance ranging from South African gum boot, Japanese and Balinese traditional to the urban styles of break dancing, body popping, vogue and the hottest new re-emerging dance called, 'Waaking' a style of dance from the 70's as seen on Soul Train.

Organic Magnetism is a theater arts laboratory that binds creativity and sustainability, inspiring collaboration across cultures and art forms. Director Maija Garcia fuses a contemporary style inspired by Afro-Latin rhythms, with yoga, martial arts and theater dynamics. The company integrates movement, sound, visual art and design to produce site-specific performances, installations and workshops. Organic Magnetism transforms the creative process into urban folklore for the future. The company will perform *YaYa Dreams, A Future* a kaleidoscopic experience of the modern world as viewed through the eyes of a child who dares to imagine his future. Through a series of visions and soundscapes, with live music composed and performed by Monk and Hamilton, YaYa forges a way into alternate realms by interacting with the people, places and possibilities that come to life in his dreams.

LIVING COLOUR, EBONY BONES!, PILLOW THEORY and CX KiDTRONiK

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of Black Rock Coalition

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, June 5

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Living Colour last graced SummerStage back in 2001, staging their first reunion to a packed house. Now Vernon Reid, Will Calhoun, Corey Glover and Doug Wimbish return to Central Park, celebrating not only our twenty-fifth anniversary but also the 25th year of the Black Rock Coalition, the not-for-profit artist collective that Vernon Reid helped co-found. Living Colour rose to stardom in 1988 with their breakout album *Vivid*, spawning the Grammy Award-winning smash hit and MTV staple, 'Cult of Personality.' Other charting hits from the band include 1990's 'Type' and 'Love Rears Up It's Ugly Head'. In 2009, the band released their fifth studio album, *The Chair and the Doorway* to critical success with *Rolling Stone* declaring the new album, "Living Colour's most focused record since their 1988 debut."

Ebony Bones! (aka Ebony Thomas) is a London-born, autodidact singer/songwriter/ producer/actress with a penchant for punk-meet-funk style and an extravagant eye for fashion. Ebony's music has been described as reminiscent of "the aggressively proto-feminist dance music of Grace Jones and X-Ray Spex" by the Chicago Tribune. Bones' self-released

single, 'We Know All About U' (recorded out of her apartment using bottles, woks and pans as percussive instruments) debuted as the "Hottest Record In the World Today" on BBC's Radio 1, going on to become the most played single by an unsigned artist on that popular UK station. Ebony made a splash at last year's SXSW Music Conference and was named by the conference as one of 2009's Best New Acts. Her debut album *Bone of My Bones* was released in the UK in mid-2009; expect a US release this year.

Described by the Washington Post as "soul meets screamo," **Pillow Theory** is a NYC-based quartet whose live shows are a roiling, genre-defying blend of metal, punk, free jazz and pop.

CX KiDTRONiK has a reputation for putting on over-the-top shows. He has worked with Antipop Consortium, Saul Williams, Trent Reznor and Kanye West and, more recently, took his KraKSTRAVAGANZA Band on tour with Girl Talk, Zion I and The Grouch on The City of Dope Tour. His signature live drum machine, freestyle synthesizer, video game bleeps and blips and laser blasts bring a mosh-pit inspiring, high energy performance to the stage.

TAMBOULA and JULIO JEAN HAITIAN AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

present *A Tribute to Haiti*

In Collaboration with **The Haiti Cultural Exchange**

Von King Park, Brooklyn

Saturday, June 5

7:00 pm – Open Yanvalou (Haitian Folkloric Dance) class with Peniel Guerrier of Tamboula

8:00 pm – Julio Jean Haitian American Dance Theater

8:50 pm – Tamboula

Haiti Cultural Exchange is a nonprofit organization established to develop, present and promote the culture of Haiti and its people. The organization seeks to raise awareness of social issues and foster cultural understanding and appreciation through programs in the arts, education and public affairs.

Julio Jean Haitian American Dance Theater was created in 2000, and is universally known for its deeply moving and soulful productions. Julio Jean was one of the first Haitian dance artists to bring the spirit of Haiti to a wide audience in the United States. Each production is a breathtaking composite of authentic Haitian rhythms, folklore, symbolism and singing on a canvas of modern American dance. Join this groundbreaking dance company as they premiere a selection from the original dance play, "7.0" by Julio Jean. It is an exuberant journey into the world of mysticism, history, art and culture of Haiti culminating in the tragic event in January 2010: the 7.0 quake. A requiem and inspiration to future generations of Haitians to unite and remember the creative potential and spirituality that lives in Haitian dance.

Tamboula is one of the most prestigious dance companies in Haiti and well known throughout the Caribbean and United States for its traditional dance performances and use of drums. Under the artistic direction of Peniel Guerrier, Tamboula performs Afro-Haitian folkloric dance with traditional rhythms, and showcases the unique cultural heritage of this country.

JOSE CONDE and

A DJ Tribute to FANIA RECORDS with DJ BOBBITO GARCIA, DJ LAYLO and DJ SAKE-1

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, June 6

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Singer, songwriter, producer **Jose Conde** has been much celebrated for his work with the Cuba-centric band Ola Fresca. His two albums with Ola Fresca, *(R)Evolucion* and *AY! Que Rico* delved deep and deviated from traditional Cuban music forms, liberally juxtaposing and fusing rhythms and playing with language to achieve a fresh sound. The Brooklyn-based, Miami-raised son of Cuban immigrants, Conde has been featured in numerous Putumayo and Rough Guide compilations. Tonight marks the official unveiling of music from his upcoming solo 2010 release with atmospheric grooves supplied by his funky new, pan Latin powerhouse of a band, the nu Latin Groove.

NYC native and world-renowned **DJ Bobbito Garcia** is the Creative Chief at Project 2050 (an ideas and solutions shop). The former *Bounce* Magazine Editor In Chief is also the critically acclaimed author of *Where'd You Get Those? NYC's Sneaker Culture: 1960-1987* (Testify Books). In recent years, "Kool Bob Love" has done live on-air halftime reports for the NY Knicks NBA franchise on MSG Network, voiced NBA 2K video games, and hosted ESPN's *It's the Shoes* series.

In '07, he designed seven signature Nike Air Force 1 25th Anniversary shoes. Currently, this Renaissance man is the annual Boost Mobile Elite 24 HS All-American Game play-by-play commentator, has a CD compilation out titled Connection (R2 Records), and is touring the world spinning records at various sponsored events for Red Bull, Brand Jordan, and Timberland among others as well as holding down his monthly First Mondays @ Camaradas (Spanish Harlem, NYC) residency.

DJ Laylo's unrelenting commitment to good music and rocking the crowd has earned her a reputation as one of NYC's foremost turntablists. Born in Puerto Rico to Dominican parents, her musical selection reflects her NY upbringing: Hip Hop, Soul, Salsa, House, Merengue, Reggae, and Afrobeat. She is the co-founder and resident DJ at Liberation Lounge, NYC. Laylo and her partner Eli Efi have performed throughout the United States, Brasil, Mexico, Colombia and Chile, sharing the stage with such artists as Styles P, Dead Prez, Talib Kweli, Jean Grae, Jeru da Damaja, Immortal Technique, Ras Kass, Lord Finesse, CL Smooth, Welfare Poets, Hurricane G, David Banner and many others.

Born and raised in the culture of hip-hop, **DJ SAKE-1** has been looking for the perfect beat since 1989. A founding member of California's ((Local 1200)) Sound System, DJ SAKE-1 has utilized a combination of advanced science and Bay Area hustle to genetically alter the hip-hop idiom into a 360 degree circle of soul. You can find DJ SAKE-1 kickin' up dust and making 5,000-person venues feel like neighborhood house parties from San Francisco to New York City to Atlanta to London and beyond.

FRANKIE NEGRÓN

Red Hook Park, Brooklyn

Tuesday, June 8

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Known for his romantic ballads and emotionally charged vocal performances, bilingual salsa sensation **Frankie Negrón** is paving the way for a new breed of modern Salseros incorporating elements of rock, R&B, pop, hip-hop and gospel into their music. Puerto Rican-American Negrón's updated take on traditional salsa has found considerable commercial success; he's placed nine Billboard Top 40 Hot Latin Tracks and his recently released English album, *Independence Day*, is climbing the charts.

NICE AND SMOOTH and THE AWESOME 2

Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn

Wednesday, June 9

7:00 – 9:00 pm

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 interpolation of Tracy Chapman's 'Fast Car' and its socially conscious message. Don't miss this double dip of rap royalty slinging verses with the legendary DJ duo **The Awesome 2** on the turntables.

HEZEKIAH WALKER

Von King Park, Brooklyn

Thursday, June 10

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Pastor **Hezekiah Walker** is the pastor of Brooklyn's Love Fellowship Tabernacle and founder of the Hezekiah Walker & The Love Fellowship Crusade Choir. His group has released fifteen critically lauded albums and was nominated in 2001 for the NAACP Image Award for Best Gospel Artist. Walker's 2001 albums *Love Is Live!* received a Grammy Award, further cementing Hezekiah Walker position as power player in the Gospel music world.

THE ETYMOLOGY OF BIRD by Zakiyyah Alexander, Directed by Jade King-Carroll

Von King Park, Brooklyn

Friday, June 11 - Saturday, June 12

8:00 pm

The Etymology of Bird delves into the fabric of Bedford-Stuyvesant, a Brooklyn, NY neighborhood, and provokes a series of important questions on race relations, criminal justice, family life, love, fear, stereotypes, and hard choices. It weaves together the narratives of an aspiring rapper, an aspiring college student, a single mother grappling with an economy that increasingly demands technological expertise, a white cop in a community of color, and more.

The 8th Annual Cine Fest Petrobras Brasil

Screening OSCAR NIEMEYER – LIFE IS A BREATH OF AIR

Featuring live performances from OS PARALAMAS DO SUCESSO and MARIA GADU

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, June 12

7:00 – 10:00 pm

The closing night film of The 8th Annual Cine Fest Petrobras Brasil, presented outdoors in Central Park at SummerStage following live performances by Os Paralamas Do Sucesso and Maria Gadu, is the documentary OSCAR NIEMEYER – LIFE IS A BREATH OF AIR. Is it possible to tell a story of a nation through its architecture? It's been said that the most important aspect of a building is the legacy that it represents for the society that built it. Therefore the work of Oscar Niemeyer, and his generation, is undoubtedly the best Brazil has ever produced, architecture with a soul of its own inspired in the country's geography and that influenced architects worldwide. OSCAR NIEMEYER – LIFE IS A BREATH OF AIR is a movie that without trying to imitate the uniqueness of its subject relies on the precision of his lines and on the poetry of his forms, in order to reconstruct the history of the greatest icon of Brazil's Modern Architecture.

Os Paralamas do Sucesso is a Brazilian rock band, formed in Rio de Janeiro in the late 1970s. Its members since 1982 are Herbert Vianna (guitar and lead vocals), Bi Ribeiro (bass), and João Barone (drums). In its beginning, the band combined reggae and ska with rock, but later added horn arrangements and Latin rhythms. The Paralamas are considered one of the "Big Four" bands of Brazilian rock.

Brazilian guitarist, singer and songwriter **Maria Gadu** is an artist to watch. She began her career recording as a child and later gained attention with her interpretation of 'Ne me quitte pas' by Jacques Brel. She has been featured on several soundtracks and her self-titled debut release has already created an international buzz.

BAABA MAAL and PLAYING FOR CHANGE

Monday, June 14

Central Park, Manhattan

7:00 – 10:00 pm

World-renowned singer/songwriter and SummerStage alumnus **Baaba Maal** is widely acknowledged as one of Africa's most prolific and beloved musicians. Maal's distinctive palette, which fuses traditional African rhythm and song structure with elements of Western pop and R&B, first gained American attention with the seminal 1989 album *Djam Leelii*. Maal has since released over fifteen full-length recordings and engaged in a host of humanitarian concerns, including his work as a UN Youth Emissary. Maal's most recent LP, 2009's *Television*, offers a unique amalgam of electronic dance and global influences. *Paste* magazine observes, "*Television* embodies the sound of the African future while simultaneously nodding over its shoulder at the pain, joy, suffering and beauty of the continent's past."

Utilizing innovative mobile audio/video techniques **Playing for Change** is the brainchild of Grammy-winning producer/engineer, Mark Johnson. He records musicians in myriad outdoor environments; beneath urban streetlights, in public parks, in doorways, on cobblestone streets, amid hilly pueblos and combines the tracks into unique new collaborations between artists that may have never met in person. Already the project has traveled from post-Katrina New Orleans to post-apartheid South Africa, from the remote beauty of the Himalayas to the religiously diverse Jerusalem, all while illustrating the power of music to transcend cultural and geographic boundaries. Select musicians from the project will come from different parts of the globe to perform together at SummerStage.

DAN DEACON

Red Hook Park, Brooklyn

Tuesday, June 15

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Baltimore artist **Dan Deacon**'s art is centered on community and bringing people together. Fusing together the growing intensity of his live performances with his background in electro-acoustic composition, Deacon's most recent album, *Bromst*, embodies the same energy and excitement as his earlier work but expands both in scope and palette. The instrumentation on *Bromst* is a mixture of acoustic instruments, mechanical instruments, samples and electronics, featuring player piano, marimba, glockenspiel, vibraphone, live drums, winds and brass. Deacon's intricately complex music is woven together into what has become his signature sound: rich, dense, noisy dance pop.

BIG DADDY KANE with DJ JON QUICK

Von King Park, Brooklyn

Wednesday, June 16

7:00 – 9:00 pm

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', 'Raw', 'Warm It Up Kane' 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. He has collaborated extensively with Public Enemy, Marley Marl, Kool G Rap and Polo, Snoop Dogg, Biz Markie and Grandmaster Flash. From the '80's to today, Kane still gets the job done.

Talent can be defined in a myriad of ways. It can be an innate gift or a learned proficiency, but occasionally it's a potent mixture of both. This is definitely the case with **DJ Jon Quick** aka the Turntable Superhero. With active residencies at The Cabanas (Maritime Hotel) on Tuesdays, Moca on Wednesdays, Taj Afterwork on Thursdays and The Vault on Saturdays, he is one of NYC's best known DJs. His mixes have been featured on Sirius Satellite Radio, Kiss FM and Music Choice. He has also done underground remixes for the rapper K-OS and Bad Boy vocalist Cheri Dennis. Named one of the 2009 NYC most influential tastemaker/dj by Kinetix Marketing and for Hennessy Black, the newest brand from by Hennessy, DJ Jon Quick was just featured on NYC's Fox-5 TV's Good Day New York and is arguably one of the fastest rising DJ's created a blueprint for others to follow.

THE FELIX HERNANDEZ RHYTHM REVIEW

Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn

Thursday, June 17

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Felix Hernandez is in the business of remembering the good ol' days. Hernandez's wildly popular Kiss FM 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.

THE ETYMOLOGY OF BIRD by Zakiyyah Alexander, Directed by Jade King-Carroll

Betsy Head Park, Brooklyn

Friday, June 18 - Saturday, June 19

8:00 pm

The Etymology of Bird delves into the fabric of Bedford-Stuyvesant, a Brooklyn, NY neighborhood, and provokes a series of important questions on race relations, criminal justice, family life, love, fear, stereotypes, and hard choices. It weaves together the narratives of an aspiring rapper, an aspiring college student, a single mother grappling with an economy that increasingly demands technological expertise, a white cop in a community of color, and more.

NYC Pride Rally featuring

**ME'SHELL NDEGÉOCELLO, MARTHA WASH,
THE NEW YORK GAY MEN'S CHORUS, VICKIE SHAW,
BILLIE MYERS, BRUCE VILANCH and more**

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, June 19

4:00 – 8:00 pm

One month after the Stonewall Riots of June 27-29, 1969, about 500 people gathered for a "Gay Power" demonstration. That event, the very first New York City Pride Rally, took place in Washington Square Park and was followed by a candlelight vigil in Sheridan Square. Now in its 42nd year, the Heritage of Pride Rally continues that tradition providing the City's LGBT Community with a fabulous launch into Pride Week. This year's rally, the first at SummerStage, will include performances by Me'Shell Ndegéocello, Martha Wash, The Gay Men's Chorus, Vickie Shaw, and Billie Myers, hosted by writer and comic, Bruce Vilanch.

Canonized, marginalized or just scrutinized, **Me'shell** Ndegéocello has given up trying to explain herself. After 20 years in an industry that has called her everything from avant garde to a dying breed, what unquestionably remains is the fearsome bassist, prolific songwriter and the creativity and curiosity of an authentic musical force. With that, she has earned critical acclaim, the unflinching respect of fellow players, songwriters and composers, and the dedication of her diverse, unclassifiable fans.

Like many artists, **Martha Wash** has felt the ups and downs of the rollercoaster-like music industry. From being the uncredited powerhouse vocalist behind C+C Music Factory's classic "Gonna Make You Sweat (Everybody Dance Now)", to her Grammy nomination for the cult classic 'It's Raining Men', to seeing her debut solo single "Carry On" reach the #1 spot - in her own name - Martha has unquestionably made her mark in R&B, in dance, in disco and in music history.

The New York City Gay Men's Chorus comprises of 250 voices. The Chorus has appeared in Avery Fisher Hall, Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall. Affirming their world-class status is a roster of classical and contemporary artists who have graced the stages with the Chorus: Marilyn Horne, Roberta Peters, Liza Minnelli, Stephen Sondheim, Barbara Cook, Carol Channing, Jerry Herman, Eartha Kitt, Joel Grey – to name just a few. The New York City Gay Men's Chorus (NYCGMC) is a member of Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA), the world's only association committed to serving the LGBT choral movement.

Vickie Shaw returns to New York with her slow paced (she's southern), incredibly endearing (she's southern), sharp, don't mess with her (she's southern!), comedy.

With the success of her hit single 'Kiss The Rain' from the debut record *Growing Pains*, **Billie Myers** has proven her longevity as an artist. Myer's live performances have been described as "electrifying" by *Rolling Stone*. She has toured extensively with the likes of Bob Dylan and Savage Garden and starred at Lilith Fair. Myers has worked with industry greats Desmond Child, Junior Vasquez and Peter Q. Harris. The London Times raves "Myers excels at weaving poetic narratives around starkly honest portraits of her life experiences reassuringly long on singer-songwriter talent." Her new album, *Tea & Sympathy*, is out now on iTunes.

One of the most sought-after joke smiths in the entertainment industry, **Bruce Vilanch** has become a recognizable face in his own right, thanks to the feature-length documentary *Get Bruce!* and his one-time stint as a regular on *Hollywood Squares*, for which he also served as head writer. He is perhaps best known as a regular gag-writer for the Academy Awards, which he has done since 1989.

Fête De La Musique / Make Music NY Celebration featuring

SALIF KEITA, TABOU COMBO and LO'JO

Presented in association with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy

With additional support from the French Bureau Export

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, June 20

3:00—7:00 pm

Now in its fourth year, **Make Music New York**, is a festival of free concerts throughout the five boroughs of New York City. Inspired by the French **Fête de la Musique**, which takes place every year during the Summer Solstice in more than 327 cities around the world, this unique event is a global celebration of music.

Salif Keita's career as a musician will always be colored by a history of ostracism due to his albinism, and the fact that he is a member of the Royal Family of Mali and the caste restrictions that should have barred him from becoming a performer. Instead, "The Golden Voice of Africa," has become one of the most celebrated African vocalists of all time. With a career that spans four decades his undeniable musical influence has had an impact worldwide - from western pop and rock to Pink Floyd, among others.

Tabou Combo, Haiti's preeminent high-energy dance band, sings in English, Spanish, French and their native Creole. Tabou's fresh interpretation of *konpa* borrows equally from Haiti's traditional drum-heavy carnival music, the meringue of the Dominican Republic, and American R&B and soul.

Lo'Jo is a sextet that builds on France's popular art form of street performance to reflect their diverse communal culture, and truly push the traditional music into a modern context by incorporating a variety of international grooves.

EDDIE PALMIERI y LA PERFECTA II

Soundview Park, Bronx

Tuesday, June 22

7:00 – 9:00 pm

A catchy Latin rhythm accompanied by a lively jazz piano is the signature sound that has earned **Eddie Palmieri** nine Grammy Awards. After fifty years and over forty albums, Palmieri has blazed a unique musical path, engaging audiences around the world. Along with his salsa/Latin jazz band, **La Perfecta II**, Palmieri's original mix of players utilizes two trombones and a flute rather than the traditional trumpets commonly used in Caribbean salsa music.

George Wein's CareFusion Jazz Festival with

- MCCOY TYNER QUARTET

featuring RAVI COLTRANE, ESPERANZA SPALDING and FRANCISCO MELA

- STANLEY CLARKE BAND featuring HIROMI

Central Park, Manhattan

Wednesday, June 23

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Impresario **George Wein** returns to New York with the *CareFusion Jazz Festival*, featuring performances by legendary bassist Stanley Clarke and iconic pianist McCoy Tyner.

Exploding onto the jazz scene in 1971, **Stanley Clarke** has since collaborated with Horace Silver, Art Blakey, Dexter Gordon, Joe Henderson, Pharoah Saunders, Gil Evans, Stan Getz and Chick Corea. Clarke is the first bassist in history to launch a headline tour, selling out shows worldwide. Clarke's artistry spans classical, jazz, R&B and pop idioms; he has earned an array of gold records for a variety of releases.

Hiromi Uehara first mesmerized the jazz community with her 2003 Telarc debut, *Another Mind*. The buzz started by her first album spread all the way back to her native Japan, where *Another Mind* shipped gold and received the Recording Industry Association of Japan's Jazz Album of the Year Award. The keyboardist/ composer's second release, *Brain*, won the Horizon Award at the 2004 Surround Music Awards, Swing Journal's New Star Award, Jazz Life's Gold Album, HMV Japan's Best Japanese Jazz Album, and the Japan Music Pen Club's Japanese Artist Award.

McCoy Tyner's blues-based piano style, replete with sophisticated chords and an explosively percussive left hand has transcended conventional styles to become one of the most identifiable sounds in improvised music. Tyner's work with John Coltrane in the 1960's produced some of most canonical albums in the history of jazz. Many of Tyner's musical compositions have long since become standards; his harmonic contributions and dramatic rhythmic devices form the vocabulary of a plurality of jazz pianists.

The twenty-five year old **Esperanza Spalding** is one of the freshest and hottest new voices in American jazz. Her two solo albums have won her universal critical acclaim, with no less than The New York Times praising Spalding as having "a light, fizzy, optimistic drive that's in her melodic bass playing and her elastic, small-voiced singing". Spalding recently had the honor of being hand-picked by President Barack Obama to play in Oslo Hall at President Obama's Nobel Peace Prize ceremony.

Born the second son of luminaries John and Alice Coltrane in 1965 in Long Island, critically acclaimed bandleader **Ravi Coltrane** has fronted a variety of jazz lineups, recorded critically-hailed albums as leader, produced recordings by artists, overseen important reissues and founded his own independent label. Ravi performs on the tenor and soprano sax both with his own group and in guest appearances with McCoy Tyner, Pharoah Sanders, Carlos Santana, Wayne Shorter,

Stanley Clarke, Branford Marsalis and many others.

Afro-Cuban jazz composer and bandleader **Francisco Mela** has been hailed as “one of the most important Cuban drummers in jazz” by Jazz Times. Since his debut release *Melao*, Mela has fast become one of the most talked about and in-demand drummers in New York and beyond. His second release, *Cirio*, was recorded live at The Blue Note, NYC.

BRAND NUBIAN

Crotona Park, Bronx

Wednesday, June 23

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Brand Nubian was formed in the New York suburb of New Rochelle in the late ‘80’s with an original lineup of rap luminaries: Grand Puba, Sadat X and Lord Jamar. Nubian’s debut album, *One for All*, is one of the most popular and acclaimed alternative hip hop albums of the 1990s. Brand Nubian is best known for their socially conscious and politically charged content. With such immensely popular singles as ‘Slow Down’ and ‘Punks Jump up to Get Beat Down’, the band has established themselves as one of the most influential groups in hip hop history.

CONJUNTO CLÁSICO

St. Mary’s Park, Bronx

Part of the NYC Revolutions series

Thursday, June 24

7:00 – 9:00 pm

In any book chronicling the history of Latin music, you will surely find more than a few words about **Conjunto Clásico**. The band is regarded as the premier group in Conjunto music, which incorporates trumpets and Tres (similar to a twelve-string guitar) in addition to the traditional piano, bass and rhythm sections. Conjunto Clásico expands on that sound by maintaining the traditions of Puerto Rican influences and adding aggressive New York style vocals lead by Tito Nieves and tailor-made compositions written by Ramón Rodríguez. The unique sound sets this band apart from all the rest. The ensemble’s unique sound has bridged the generational gap in Salsa music, uniting both traditional and young enthusiasts.

RENNIE HARRIS RHAW and LE SOUL AFRIQUE with special guest AKIM FUNK BUDDHA

St. Mary’s Park, Bronx

Friday, June 25

7:00 pm - Open Hip Hop Old School Party and B-Boy Breaker dance class with RHAW

8:00 pm - Le Soul Afrique

8:50 pm - Rennie Harris RHAW

Rennie Harris RHAW was conceived in 2007 as a youth organization driven by community outreach and education. Harris’ inspiration for this youth driven company was inspired by the overwhelming interest from teens and young adults to join his internationally renowned company, Rennie Harris Puremovement. RHAW is a company that teaches and performs street dance techniques such as Campbell Locking, Popping & Boogaloo, House and Hip Hop dance.

Le Soul Afrique is a New York-based Global hip-hop collective consisting of MCs, vocalists and dancers from all around the world, including Senegal, Haiti, Cuba, Brazil, and the West Indies. The group met in NYC’s underground scene and discovered a mutual passion for dance that infuses dynamic energy into their live performances. Characterized by upbeat vibes, intelligent lyrics, and earthy beats, Le Soul Afrique is next up to create a dance-floor Hip-Hop Revival. This performance will feature a special guest appearance by Akim Funk Buddha, whose company is also being presented at SummerStage Dance this season in Brooklyn.

TINARIWEN, OMAR SOULEYMAN and TOUBAB KREWE

Saturday, June 26

Central Park, Manhattan

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Plagued by warfare and drought, the political and environmental plight of the Tuareg people of the Southern Sahara has been given new voice by the electrifying music of **Tinariwen**. Formed in 1979, Tinariwen rose to prominence in the 1980s as the pied pipers of a new political and social conscience in the southern Sahara, becoming icons to a generation of

young Tuareg living in exile in Algeria and Libya. In the early 2000s Tinariwen attracted a following outside Africa, first in the world music community and then in the wider rock scene, thanks to frequent tours and appearances at festivals in Europe and the US. Tinariwen sing about the suffering and exile of their people, the semi-nomadic Kel Tamashek, and about the beauty of their desert home.

Since 1994, **Omar Souleyman** and his musicians have reigned as a staple of Syria's dance-folk-pop scene. To date, they have issued more than five-hundred studio and live-recorded cassette albums, easily spotted in the shops of any Syrian city. A groundbreaking musician, Souleyman melds classical Arabic mawal-style vocalization with Syrian *dabke* (the regional folkloric dance and party music), Iraqi choubi, along with contemporary Arabic, Kurdish and Turkish styles. The music often consists of phase-shifted Arabic keyboard solos and frantic rhythms. Oud, reeds, baglama saz, accompanying vocals and percussion fill out the sound from track to track. This performance offers a rare glimpse into Syrian street-level folk-pop and Dabke, a phenomena seldom heard in the West, not previously deemed serious enough for export by the Syrians and rarely, if ever, included on the import agenda of worldwide academic musical committees.

Touba Krew has set a new standard for fusions of rock 'n' roll and West African music. The North Carolina musicians developed their unique sound over the course of numerous extended trips to Mali, Guinea and the Ivory Coast, where they immersed themselves in the local culture and studied and performed with native musical luminaries. Their seminal new studio album, *TK2*, is a genre and mind-bending example of what the instrumental group's "futuristic, psychedelic, neo-griot frenzy" (*Village Voice*) is all about. Featuring an uber-unique and seamless mix of ancient and modern instrumentation and sounds, TK2 defines Touba Krew as "one of the most innovative bands in music today" (*Honest Tune*).

ABAKUÁ AFRO-LATIN DANCE COMPANY and AREYTOS PERFORMANCE WORKS

St. Mary's Park, Bronx

Saturday, June 26

7:00 pm - Open Intro to Afro-Latin Funk dance class with Emmanuel Blackett of Abakua

8:00 pm – Areytos Performance Works

8:50 pm – ABAKUÁ Afro-Latin Dance Company

Celebrating its 10th Anniversary this year, the **ABAKUÁ Afro-Latin Dance Company** was founded by Frankie Martinez, to preserve and advance the heritage of Afro-Latin music and dance. Martinez is widely heralded as one of the key innovators in his genre, known for his unique style of dance encompassing elements of mambo, funk, and Afro-Caribbean dance entitled "**Afro-Latin Funk**". Since its formation, ABAKUÁ has gone on to perform in hundreds of destinations in over 50 countries and reshaping the performing arts landscape as one of the most brilliant and exciting acts performing today.

Areytos Performance Works (Artistic Director, Sita Frederick) is a dance theater company working at the crossroads of performance art, African-Caribbean dance, contemporary modern dance collaboration and stage environments. Areytos is a variation on the Taino/Arawak word areitos, a multi-day long community ritual gathering including dance, music and art. Presenters of their work include: Hostos Center for Arts & Culture, Papatian@Jacob's Pillow Inside/Out, Aaron Davis Hall, Rutgers University, Lincoln Center Out-of-Doors, Bronx Museum, The Point, and BAAD.

Join internationally acclaimed dancer and instructor **Manny Blackett**, of ABAKUÁ Afro-Latin Dance Company for an exciting pre-show, all ages dance class. Blackett has toured the world, performing in Europe, Central America and domestically. He has also experimented in choreography, choreographing and dancing in the MUSE Project at Julliard School of Music as well as creating choreography for his own performance class.

Master Class description:

Intro to Afro-Latin Funk dance class

An all ages appropriate introduction to Afro-Latin Funk dance which incorporates elements of mambo, funk and Afro Caribbean dance.

GIL SCOTT-HERON and special guests

Presented in association with Jill Newman productions

Part of the NYC Revolutions series

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, June 27

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Widely acknowledged as the matrix from which hip-hop and neo-soul emerged, the poetry, music and performance of **Gil Scott-Heron** was a guiding force throughout the late 60s and 70s. Scott-Heron's transgressive, politicized, spoken-word-meets-jazz recordings, including "The Revolution Will Not Be Televised", "Whitey on the Moon", "The Bottle" and "Small Talk at 125th and Lennox", have been covered, sampled, referenced, deified and parodied by generations of artists, including Labelle, Public Enemy and Talib Kweli. 2010 saw the release of *I'm New Here*, Scott-Heron's first release in thirteen years. SPIN called *I'm New Here*, "not so much a comeback as a testament to spiritual resilience." That resilience will be on full display with a set featuring material from the new album and classic songs from Scott-Heron's 1970's catalog.

Bronx Family Day

Featuring JOSE ORTIZ & BOMBAYO with special guest DAN ZANES

JOSE CONDE'S BABY LOVES SALSA

St. Mary's Park, Bronx

Sunday, June 27

12:00 – 3:00 pm

The 1st annual Bronx Family Day will inspire creativity in children and adults alike through its interactive programs and musical delights. Featuring a lively, exciting mix of Latin and American inspired music and dance artists, the entire family will be entertained!

BombaYo emerges from the streets and schoolyards of the Bronx, where salsa and hip hop were born. Under the musical direction of co-founder **Jose Ortiz** aka Dr. Drum, a self taught Afro Caribbean percussionist, who has engaged and encouraged children and families to explore their own musical talents, he oversees BombaYo, a group of teens that bring youthful energy to a centuries old Afro Puerto Rican music and dance tradition, Bomba. Bomba was developed in Puerto Rico over 300 years ago by enslaved Africans from parts of West Africa and the Kongo region and also includes influences from the Spanish colonizers and native Taino people. Bomba is more of an experience than a show. It's where singing, dancing and drumming come together in a community celebration of life. Boricuas on the island and stateside are reviving this tradition and in turn uncovering part of their cultural heritage.

A former member of a 1980's rock band, Grammy award winner **Dan Zanes** is now a favorite children's artist. With a mix of new songs and old favorites, his music incorporates languages, cultural traditions and musical genres from areas across the globe. Since 2000, Zanes has released 6 children's albums with *Catch that Train!* winning a Grammy in 2007 and *¡Nueva York!* winning an Independent Music Award in 2009.

Singer, songwriter, producer **Jose Conde** has been much celebrated for his work with the Cuba-centric band Ola Fresca. His two albums with Ola Fresca, *(R)Evolucion* and *AY! Que Rico* delved deep and deviated from traditional Cuban music forms, liberally juxtaposing and fusing rhythms and playing with language to achieve a fresh sound. The Brooklyn-based, Miami-raised son of Cuban immigrants, Conde has been featured in numerous Putumayo and Rough Guide compilations. Tonight marks the official unveiling of music from his upcoming solo 2010 release with atmospheric grooves supplied by his funky new, pan Latin powerhouse of a band, the nu Latin Groove.

Led by singer Jose Conde, **Baby Loves Salsa** features the band Ola Fresca, with members who are some of the best in contemporary salsa music. Through bilingual music, Baby Loves Salsa teaches language skills while telling the story of a group of kittens and puppies (gattitos y perritos) from the streets of New York City who go on to become the best salsa band in the land. This imaginary band of cats and dogs will have the whole family up and dancing to the upbeat blend roots, Latin, funk, jazz and dance tunes.

Definitely Poetry

DANIEL BERNARD ROUMAIN with special guests EMELINE MICHEL and EROL JOSUÉ

Featuring the Acclaimed Poets of CAVE CANEM with Gina Dorcely, Gregory Pardlo and Mervyn Taylor

Central Park, Manhattan

Tuesday, June 29

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Join Definitely Poetry for its third season with innovative, cutting-edge poets and musicians. This season delivers hope and healing to the people of Haiti through a carefully cultivated program of top musicians and spoken word artists with ties to this Caribbean gem. Come together for an evening that will celebrate the beauty, vibrancy and resilience of this beloved island.

Having carved a reputation for himself as an innovative composer, performer, violinist, and bandleader, Haitian-American artist **Daniel Bernard Roumain** (DBR) melds his classical music roots with his own cultural references and vibrant musical imagination. Proving that he's "about as omnivorous as a contemporary artist gets" (*New York Times*). His newest album, *Woodbox Beats and Balladry*, was recently released on Thirsty Ear Records. Join DBR with special guests **Emeline Michel**—beloved in her native country of Haiti for her skillful infusion of social, political and inspirational content into traditional rhythms and **Erol Josué**—renowned for his ties to voodoo as well as for his infectious pop music.

Cave Canem is a home for the many voices of contemporary African American poetry and is deeply committed to cultivating the artistic and professional growth of African American poets. Cave Canem's public programs showcase the work of over 150 poets, while its publications reach a national audience.

Gina Dorcely is a Haitian-born poet, translator and non-fiction writer. With numerous notable writings to her credit, she is quickly gaining fame in the literary world.

Gregory Pardlo is a highly celebrated poet with a large body of work that defies simple categorization. A mastermind who takes inspiration from everything around him, he has spanned numerous topics and genres and was the first person of color to ever win the American Poetry Review's Honickman Prize in 2007 for his book, *Totem*. His works have appeared in *Calaloo*, *Gulf Coast*, *Lyric*, *Painted Bride Quarterly*, *Ploughshares*, *Seneca Review*, *Volt*, *Black Issues Book Review* and on National Public Radio.

Mervyn Taylor is a Trinidad-born poet who has read his poems to diverse audiences nationally, and his work has appeared in such journals as *Poetry International*, *St. Ann's Review*, *Sulfur*, *Rattapallax*, *BigCityLit*, and in the recent anthology, *Chance of A Ghost*. He is the author of three well-known volumes of poetry, *An Island of His Own*, *The Goat*, and the recently published, *Gone Away*. Taylor can also be heard reading his poetry on the CD, *Road Clear*, accompanied by renowned bassist, David Williams.

PAPA SAN

Soundview Park, Bronx

Tuesday, June 29

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Papa San has been a mainstay in the reggae and Jamaican dancehall scene for over the last two decades. His irresistible wordplay and Caribbean rhythms have entranced millions of fans around the world. In 1997, following what he has described as a supernatural visitation, Papa San committed his life to his religion, merging gospel's message with rock, reggae and dancehall beats. Three of Papa San's ecumenical reggae albums have charted on the Billboard Gospel Top Ten.

NUYORICAN POETS CAFE

Central Park, Manhattan

Wednesday, June 30

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Part of the NYC Revolutions series

The Nuyorican Poets Cafe comes uptown to SummerStage with performances by legendary poets **Miguel Algarin**, **Sandra Maria Estevez**, **Lois Griffith** and **Edwin Torres**, plus the contemporary faces of the Cafe - **Carlos Andres Gomez**, **Mariposa**, **Helena D. Lewis**, **Tahani Salah**, **Jive Poetic**, **Vanessa Hidary** and **La Bruja**. **Mahogany L. Browne** hosts the event, which also features music by **Annette Aguilar** and **Carlos Cuestas** as well as appearances by **Rome Neal** (founder of the Cafe's Banana Puddin Jazz Jam) and **Daniel Gallant** (Executive Director of the Cafe). Grammy nominee **Wilson "Chembo" Corniel, Jr.** will close out the evening with his special brand of Latin jazz.

The Nuyorican Poets Cafe is a multicultural and multi-arts institution that nurtures new work by established artists from every discipline and gives voice to rising poets, actors, filmmakers and musicians who have not yet found a consistent

haven for their work. Founded in 1973 by poets and playwrights Miguel Algarin, Miguel Pinero and Pedro Pietri, the Nuyorican Poets Cafe has championed the use of poetry and spoken word as means of social empowerment for minority and underprivileged artists. The Cafe's Theater Program has won more than 30 Audelco Awards for excellence, and its Fifth Night screenplay series resulted in the production of 45 independent films. The Cafe was recently named one of ten semi-finalists for the 2010 New York Times Nonprofit Excellence Awards; it is the only arts organization among the semi-finalists. The Cafe was also recognized as the top alternative NYC cultural destination by *USA Today*. Thanks to the generous support of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Cafe will stage a festival in fall 2010 that commemorates 37 years of Nuyorican poetry and theater.

Poet/playwright **Miguel Algarin** has been at the center of Puerto Rican literary activity in New York City for 36 years, via his work at the Nuyorican Poets Cafe. He is the author of eight poetry collections and is professor emeritus of Shakespeare at Rutgers University. Algarin is the recipient of the Bessie Award for Outstanding Creative Achievement, and an OBIE for excellence in theatre. He is coeditor of *Aloud: The Nuyorican Poets Cafe Anthology*, published by Holt. He has received six American Book Awards and the Larry Leon Hamlin Producer's Award at the 2001 National Black Festival.

Mahogany L. Browne is a Cave Canem Fellow, the Editor of the women's anthology *His Rib: Stories, Poems & Essays by HER* and author of several books including her latest book of poems: *Swag*. She has released five LPs including the live album *Sheroshima*. As co-founder of the Off Broadway poetry production, Jam On It, and co-producer of NYC's 1st Performance Poetry Festival: SoundBites Poetry Festival, Mahogany bridges the gap between lyrical poets and literary emcee. She facilitates performance poetry and writing workshops throughout the country, focusing on women empowerment and youth mentoring. Mahogany is currently host and curator of the Friday Night Poetry Slam at the Cafe.

DJ KOOL HERC
Crotona Park, Bronx
Wednesday, June 30

7:00 – 9:00 pm

DJ Kool Herc is considered by many to be the "first hip-hop D.J.". In the early stages of hip hop music, DJ Kool Herc brought his sound system to block parties in the Bronx and began playing the brief rhythmic sections of records which would become known as "breaks. Using the two-turntable set-up of the disco DJs, Kool Herc's style led to the use of two copies of the same record to elongate the break. This breakbeat DJing, using hard funk, rock, and records with Latin percussion, formed the basis of hip hop music. DJ Kool Herc's music along with his announcements to his dancers, called b-boys and b-girls, helped pave the way to what everyone now knows as rapping.

LA ORQUESTA DE LA GENTE under the musical direction of **GILBERTO "PULPO" COLON JR.**
and **8 Y MÁS** present

A Tribute to HÉCTOR LAVOE

St. Mary's Park, Bronx

Thursday, July 1

7:00 – 9:00 pm

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 group of stellar veteran musicians 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. Tonight, the band celebrates the musical legacy of the late, beloved Fania Records salsero, **Héctor Lavoe**.

La Orquesta de la Gente (formerly known as Hector Lavoe's Orquesta) reunites all of the original musicians who performed with famed salsero, Hector Lavoe prior to his death. In 2006, these talented musicians decided to get back together in NYC with the sole purpose of bringing back that magical sound that only Hector's band had. Led by famed pianist Gilberto Colon Jr., who was the band leader for numerous years, this band will surely have everyone moving their feet.

AMERICAN SCHEMES by **Radha Blank**, Directed by **Charlotte L. Brathwaite**

St. Mary's Park, Bronx

Friday, July 2 – Saturday, July 3

8:00 pm

American Schemes is a special commission by the City Parks Foundation that delves into and explores the enigma of The American Dream. Comprised of three acts that focus on people from various social hierarchies including immigrant vendors trying to make dollars, corporate yuppies trying to make a family and female emcees trying to make it big, everyone is trying to 'make it' in the land of golden opportunity. But at what cost?

ISTANBULIVE II: *The Sounds & Colors of Turkey* featuring:

KENAN DOGULU, mor ve otesi, ILHAN ERSAHIN'S ISTANBUL SESSIONS

with special guests BURHAN OCAL and TULUG TIRPAN, SUKRIYE TUTKUN and DJ SALIH SAKA

Presented in association with Serdar Ilhan & Mehmet Dede

With support from the Turkish Ministry of Culture & Tourism

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, July 3

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Coinciding with the year Istanbul is celebrated as European Capital of Culture, the **Istanbulive** program will feature a myriad of sounds within the east-meets-west mold including Turkish rock, jazz, dance, pop and folk music.

Kenan Dogulu has become one of the most successful entertainers to come out of Turkey since releasing his debut album in 1993. His playful lyrics and an urban pop sound of R&B, hip-hop and dance has won him a legion of fans over 8 studio and 4 remix albums. He represented Turkey in the 2007 Eurovision Song Contest with "Shake It Up Sekerim," which placed fourth in the competition. Some of his most popular songs include "Yakarim Bilirsin," "Ask Oyunu," "Tutamiyorum Zamani," "Ex Askim," "Cakkidi" "Rutbeni Bileceksin," as well as his remake of the anthem, "10. Yil Marsi." Nowadays, Dogulu splits his time between Istanbul and Los Angeles.

mor ve otesi is a critical acclaimed, alternative-rock band formed in Istanbul. Since their debut in 1995, they released 6 studio albums including "Büyük Düsler" and "Dünya Yalan Söylüyor," which become a 2x gold-selling album in Turkey thanks to massively popular songs like "Cambaz," "Bir Derdim Var" and "Uyan." mor ve otesi took part in various nationwide anti-nuclear campaigns and worldwide anti-war efforts, supporting the cause with various concerts and appearances. Their song "Savasa Hic Gerek Yok" ("There is No Need for War") was performed in Ankara in front of a rabid crowd of 100.000 people. The band's Eurovision Song Contest entry for Turkey, the trailblazing "Deli," finished at 7th position in 2008 and popularized the band in Europe, especially in the Baltic and Balkan nations.

Istanbul Sessions is a quartet led by **Ilhan Ersahin**, an adventurist saxophonist, keyboardist, composer and founder of Lower East Side hotspot Nublu. The band captures Ersahin's NYC/Nublu sound and the vibrant spirit of Istanbul with Turkish scales, club friendly beats, jazz improvisations and a plethora of moods. The band features Alp Ersonmez (bassplayer for Turkish popstar Tarkan), Turgut Bekoglu (drummer for Turkish diva Sezen Aksu) and percussionist Izzet Kizil, who has played with Bebel Gilberto and Natasha Atlas, among others. Ersahin has composed for Norah Jones, Bebel Gilberto, U-Roy and his bands include Wax Poetic, Love Trio, I led 3 lives and Nublu Orchestra.

The coming together of **Burhan Ocal & Tulug Tirpan** is the meeting of two great minds and talents. Tulug Tirpan is a classically trained pianist who was educated in Ankara and Vienna. Although his foundation is classical music, his music can be heard accompanying Brazilian percussion, the Sufi nay (reed flute), modern jazz and Turkish traditional songs. Burhan Ocal is a virtuosic percussionist on the darbuka, kettledrum, kudüm and bendir, as well as a highly skilled player on a number of stringed instruments. The duo bridge musical cultures in unexpected ways with a free spirit found only in great musicians.

Sukriye Tutkun is a conservatory-trained soprano singer, who has found her calling in traditional Turkish folk music instead of performing arias. She is known to have brought a breadth of fresh air to the folk genre by adding various ethnic sounds and elements including the qanun, clarinet and even tabla. In her music she covers authentic music from various regions including the Balkans, Central Asia, the Black Sea and the Southeast of Turkey.

Salih Saka is arguably one of the most influential DJs to have emerged out of the Istanbul nightlife scene. Starting off his career in 1981, he quickly rose to fame by becoming the resident DJ of heavyweight Istanbul clubs such as Samdan Etiler,

Büyük Klüp Samdan and Ulus 29. His fine taste in music led him to engagements at private and VIP events in New York, Milan, Paris, Rome, London, Tuscany and St. Tropez. His compilation series include "Club 29" and "Ulus 29 by Salih Saka" (eclectic), "Istanbul Lounge Vol. 1 & 2" (oriental chill out), "Salih Saka In The House" (latin & tribal), "Gourmet de la Musique" (jazzy downtempo) and his first artist album is "Turkish Session" in 2007.

THE FELIX HERNANDEZ RHYTHM REVIEW

Soundview Park, Bronx

Tuesday, July 6

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Felix Hernandez is in the business of remembering the good ol' days. Hernandez's wildly popular Kiss FM 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.

NORTEC COLLECTIVE PRESENTS: BOSTICH & FUSSIBLE, EL GUINCHO and ANITA TIJOUX

Presented with the 11th Annual LAMC (Latin Alternative Music Conference)

Central Park, Manhattan

Wednesday, July 7

7:00 – 10:00 pm

Nortec Collective is a Tijuana / Baja, California-based outfit of producers and DJs who fuse pulsating electronics with traditional Mexican music. The so-named *nortec* movement began in the late 90s when producer Pepe Mogt began to mix electronic music with traditional sounds from the regions called Norteño and Banda. (The word "nortec" is a mash-up of the words Norteño and techno.) Their music is as energetic as the hoards of college kids who cross the border to visit the Tijuana night clubs that their music comes alive in.

After some nomadic experience around Europe, **El Guincho** arrived in Barcelona at the age of twenty, where he started a hip hop project called Los Feriantes, played drums in a freestyle jam band and formed the band Coconot. With Coconot he released *Novo Tropicalismo Errado* in February 2006, the result of two years of non-stop listening to Tropicália and Kraut-Rock records. After a year of touring with the band, he came up with the idea of El Guincho and recorded *Alegranza*, a mix of afro-beat percussion, calypso harmonies, psych tropicália, world music samplers, doo wop, trance repetition, underwater pop, steel drums and island feeling plus club oriented song structures, uptempo beats and exotica production. El Guincho's live set is a unique experience. People call it "amazonic rave": voice, a floor tom, some percussion and El Guincho's Pandora's Box of samplers.

Born Anamaría Tijoux in Lille, France in 1977, daughter to a French mother and a Chilean father while in political exile during Pinochet's dictatorship, **Anita Tijoux** became famous in Latin America as the female MC of hip hop group Makiza during the late nineties. In 2006 she crossed over to the Latin mainstream pop due to her collaboration with Mexican songstress Julieta Venegas in the radio hit "Eres para mí". She is currently promoting her first solo album, *Kaos*.

HECTOR TRICOICHE and CHRIS ALFINEZ

St. Mary's Park, Bronx

Wednesday, July 7

7:00 – 9:00 pm

One of the Original Salsa Kings, **Hector Tricoiche** is an internationally acclaimed Latin pop and salsa musician who is noted for his impressively high and melodic voice and richly textured versatile musical compilations. Critics have praised him for combining a harmonious voice with the creative snappiness of an improvisation artist. His live performances roar to life with a swinging brass and bass orchestra.

As one of Latin music's rising stars, **Chris Alfinez** is set to conquer the music world with his silky-smooth voice combined with a traditional salsa sound. The result is a singing style that is filled with emotion and passion. By combining traditional Caribbean rhythms with a distinct modern flavor, his debut single entitled "La Distancia" puts him in line to become the next big thing in Latin music.

TKA, CORINA and NOEL present a Tribute to the 30th Anniversary of FEVER RECORDS

Crotona Park, Bronx

Thursday, July 8

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Fever Records was established in 1990 by hip-hop and Latin freestyle music pioneer and producer, Sal Abbatiello. A Bronx native famous for his artist management company, publishing company, concert promotions, and night clubs, Abbatiello established Fever Records as a label dedicated to finding the newest acts in the hip-hop and Latin freestyle world. Fever Records established success with numerous Billboard charted hits and became the first independently owned record company to chart five singles from the same album on the Billboard Hot 100 Chart. Join Latin Freestyle legends TKA, Corina and Noel as they join together to celebrate the 30th anniversary of this industry pioneer.

Having gotten their start in the Latin club scenes of New York City, **TKA** combines love ballad harmonies over hip hop beats. They have become one of Freestyle music's most popular acts. Their albums, *Scars of Love* and *Louder Than Love* generated the popular club singles "One Way Love", "Maria", "Crash (Have Some Fun)" and "Louder Than Love."

Corina, a dance and electronic music chanteuse, is one of Freestyle music's most beloved female heavy-hitters. With her self-titled album and the singles, "Whispers" and the top ten hit "Temptation," Corina has solidified her role as the queen of Freestyle music with her high-energy dance hits.

Noel is a celebrated Latin musician noted for popularizing Latin Freestyle with his Top-10 hit dance club hit, "Silent Morning" and "Like a Child," which highlighted Noel's deep, sultry voice and dance club style.

AMERICAN SCHEMES by Radha Blank, Directed by Charlotte L. Brathwaite

Crotona Park, Bronx

Friday, July 9

8:00 pm

American Schemes is a special commission by the City Parks Foundation that delves into and explores the enigma of The American Dream. Comprised of three acts that focus on people from various social hierarchies including immigrant vendors trying to make dollars, corporate yuppies trying to make a family and female emcees trying to make it big, everyone is trying to 'make it' in the land of golden opportunity. But at what cost?

PROFETAS, MALDITA VECINDAD and THE PINKER TONES

Presented with the 11th Annual LAMC (Latin Alternative Music Conference)

Saturday, July 10

Central Park, Manhattan

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Since 1997, Profetas (composed of the African singer Antombo Langangui and the Colombian MC Pablo Fortaleza) has become one of the essential groups pioneering new 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. Colombian newspaper El Tiempo called the band "the revelation of Colombian hip hop" after Profeta's live presentation at Hip Hop al Parque. Profetas are currently preparing an international release of their new album *Baila*.

Maldita Vecindad, considered one of the most influential rock acts in all of Latin America, are best known for their energetic live shows and ska-influenced sets. Originally formed in Mexico City in 1985, the band has toured extensively alongside such names as Bob Dylan, Leonard Cohen, INXS and Jane's Addiction. In 2009, the band released *Circular Colectivo*, their first studio recording as a band in over a decade.

Hailing from Barcelona, **The Pinker Tones** have earned international acclaim with their infectious electronic/indie pop tunes. Led by Mister Furia and Professor Manso, The Pinker Tones create rollicking party music that prompted The New York Times to remark, "(w)hatever crops up in the music — retro-funk breakdowns, bachelor-pad bossa novas, catchy choruses in Romance languages — the beat endures and thrives."

SUMMER SHAKE UP! With The Public Theater

AMERICAN SCHEMES by Radha Blank, Directed by Charlotte L. Brathwaite

Crotona Park, Bronx

Saturday, July 10

10:00 am – Check in for Summer Shake Up!

10:30 am – 1:00pm Summer Shake Up! program

8:00 pm – American Schemes

Summer Shake Up! : A Special Event for Students

Join us for Summer Shake Up: a fun and special theater event for students 6th grade and up! Experience the workings of a major American theater company and participate in an exciting dramatic encounter with Shakespeare led by professional artists from the renowned **Public Theater**. Geared for students entering 6th grade and up, but families and all ages are welcome! Participants will investigate Shakespeare's text through games and improvisations and even have the opportunity to perform on stage at the newly renovated Crotona Park Amphitheater.

American Schemes is a special commission by the City Parks Foundation that delves into and explores the enigma of The American Dream. Comprised of three acts that focus on people from various social hierarchies including immigrant vendors trying to make dollars, corporate yuppies trying to make a family and female emcees trying to make it big, everyone is trying to 'make it' in the land of golden opportunity. But at what cost?

JIMMY CLIFF, TREVOR HALL and VICTOR DÉMÉ

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, July 11

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Jimmy Cliff is possibly the best-known living Jamaican reggae musician and songwriter. He is generally credited for helping popularize reggae internationally with his soundtrack to the movie *The Harder They Come*, which starred Cliff. Jimmy Cliff is responsible for 'Sitting In Limbo', 'You Can Get It If You Really Want' and 'Many Rivers to Cross' along with well-known reggae covers of 'Wild World' and 'I Can See Clearly Now'. Cliff is a member of The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and holds The Order of Merit, the highest honor that can be granted by the Jamaican government for achievements in the arts.

Trevor Hall has been writing and performing since he was fourteen and back in South Carolina. Trevor's unconventional mix of acoustic rock and reggae serves as a vibrant landscape for his thought provoking, inspiring lyrics, which he delivers with a surprisingly soulful voice. Of his self-titled 2009 album, Rolling Stone says, "Trevor Hall fills his third album with spiritually inclined roots jams."

Victor Démé was born in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, a landlocked region in West Africa. For more than thirty years Démé has performed throughout the bars and clubs in Ouagadougou and nearby Abidjan, but it wasn't until he met the unlikely combo of a French journalist and local hip-hop club promoter that he was able to record his first album of all original material. In 2009, his self-titled debut of rootsy blues was finally released internationally.

FORCE M.D.'S

Tappen Park, Staten Island

Tuesday, July 13

7:00 – 9:00 pm

New York born and bred, **The Force M.D.'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 M.D.'s versatile mix of credible urban savvy with smooth showbiz pleases both b-boys and traditional soul fans.

RYAN LESLIE

Presented in association with WBLS and Globe Star Media

Springfield Park, Queens

Wednesday, July 14

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Harvard educated, singer, rapper and super producer, **Ryan Leslie** rose quickly to stardom, with a mix of his producing credits for industry heavy hitters such as Britney Spears, Mary J. Blige and a host of others. As famous for his savvy social media presence as his production talent, Ryan Leslie is quickly gaining worldwide attention for his unique R&B styling and sensual voice.

EPMD and FUNKMASTER FLEX

Presented in association with Globe Star Media

Part of the NYC Revolutions series

Queensbridge Park, Queens

Thursday, July 15

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Once described as "the rap equivalent of a rock & roll garage band," **EPMD** ("Erick and Parrish Making Dollars") are famed as one of the breakthrough bands of 1980's hip hop. Erick Sermon and Parrish Smith grew up together on Long Island, home to rappers Eric B. and Rakim, De La Soul, and Public Enemy's Flavor Flav. In 1987, while on a college break, Smith recorded with Sermon the duos raps, which they had first performed together the previous year. EPMD immediately released the songs as a 12-inch single which sold 500,000 copies. Within six weeks of its release, their first full length LP, *Strictly Business*, had topped the R&B album chart and gone gold. Later hits included 'You Gots to Chill', 'Crossover' and 'Strictly Business'.

DJ Funkmaster Flex sets trends. His name is known around the world and for more than a decade Funkmaster Flex has reigned as America's number one music radio personality, reaching more than two million listeners a week from his show on Hot 97. When he's on the air, an estimated 10% of everybody tuned into a radio in the metropolitan New York area is listening to him. Flex was recently named America's best DJ for 2009 by The Urban Music Awards. In addition to his on-air work, Flex is also does prominent voiceover work for videogames and has hosted television programs for ESPN, MTV and Spike TV.

SEEWE AFRICAN DANCE COMPANY and BALAFROHOP

Queensbridge Park, Queens

Friday, July 16

7:00 pm – Open Guinea West African dance class with Seewe African Dance Company

8:00 pm – BalAfroHop

8:50 pm – Seewe African Dance Company

Seewe African Dance Company is dedicated to performing and teaching traditional African dance forms. Artistic Director/Choreographer Mouminatou Camara founded the company in 2005. Mouminatou is praised as the pre-eminent female instructor of Guinea dance in the United States. For a decade, she was the principal dancer for the world-renowned dance company, Les Ballet Africains. Seewe aims to bridge the gaps in African music, song, dance and folklore existing in African American culture. Using traditional instruments such as the Bote, the Krin, the Balaphone and the Djembe orchestra, Seewe's high-energy performance, its use of the traditional rhythms, instruments and dance forms educates and enlightens its audiences. Join Seewe as they perform a Guinea West African story featuring dancing, songs and drama.

The BalAfroHop Project 2010, conceived and choreographed by Tracy Jack combines traditional Ballet, African and hip-hop dance to tell a story in a new, seamless, fast and physical form. Complete with live drummers, a DJ, and music that spans era & genre, The BalAfroHop Project 2010 focuses on the universal theme of love to tell a tale inspired by dance styles from all over the globe.

RAPHAEL SAADIQ and Aloe Blacc

A Celebration of Giant Step's 20th Anniversary

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, July 17

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Chameleon. Trailblazer. Superstar. From his early days as a member of multi-platinum R&B innovators Tony! Toni!

Tone! His work as a Grammy Award winning producer for the likes of Mary J. Blige, D'Angelo, Earth, Wind & Fire, John Legend, Joss Stone and Macy Gray, **Raphael Saadiq** has always been a chameleon and a trailblazer. A modern-day blend of '60s soul and R&B's old-school roots, his two solo albums have garnered a combined eight Grammy nominations, further heightening Saadiq's respect amongst his peers and solidifying his status as one of modern music's most dynamic talents.

THE DANCE OF LIGHT choreographed by Vernard J. Gilmore and Abdur-Rahim Jackson

Queensbridge Park, Queens

Saturday, July 17

7:00 pm – Open HipFunkinHop dance class with Calvin Wiley

8:00 pm – The Dance of Light: Choreography by Vernard J. Gilmore and Abdur-Rahim Jackson

The Dance of Light project was created to rejuvenate the Artist and the Dance. We believe dance is not just steps but a way of being. We want to inspire passion through form and technique allowing the Dancer and the Choreographer to grow continuously. By creating with the artists we are able to push pass all boundaries allowing everyone to be an important entity. The Approach, in return allows the world to see its Light. We truly believe that the beauty of simplicity is the complexity it attracts.

Vernard J. Gilmore

Vernard J. Gilmore seeks to make his choreographed pieces into journeys into the exploration of dance. Dance of Light will see him premiering two newly choreographed pieces, *Woman's Work* - A work built on the backs of all the glorious fabled lives of women that have inspired Gilmore and *Down Wit It* – an exploration about the tyranny of one's selfish desires. Torn between two, the moment is never controlled but reckoned. Dance of Light will also include *Can U See*, a work commissioned by Brandon Fradd for the Fire Island Dance Festival 2008, *Exist*, and *Communaute d' home*.

Vernard J. Gilmore began dancing at Curie Performing and Creative Arts High School in Chicago and later studied at the Joseph Holmes Chicago Dance Theater with Marquita Levy, Harriet Ross and Emily Stein. He attended Barat College as a dance scholarship recipient, received first place in the all-city NAACP ACT-SO Competition in Dance in 1993 and studied as a fellowship student at The Ailey School. Mr. Gilmore is also a teacher and choreographer and a former member of Ailey II. He joined Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater in 1997 and is a choreographer with The Ailey Dancer's Resource Fund as well as a dance teacher and speaker.

Abdur-Rahim Jackson

Abdur-Rahim Jackson's beautiful and enlightening pieces for Dance of Light are a collage of courageous and eclectic works celebrating the search for purpose, beauty, and power by stretching boundaries. It is a cerebral and passionate journey inviting audience members to not only engage in self-exploration, but to simply enjoy the beauty of dance and individuality.

For the first eight years of Abdur's life, Arabic was his only language and the fluidity of its sounds and lettering define how he sees and creates movement. His vast array of training, ranging from musical theater and African dance in Philadelphia to receiving a Bachelor's Degree of Fine Arts from The Juilliard School and performing around the world with The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for the past decade, has transformed and refined his choreographic voice. He has set works on The Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater and Complexions Contemporary Ballet.

Join internationally acclaimed dancer and instructor Calvin Wiley, founder and president of "From The Top International", an international fitness and dance consulting company and Founder and Artist Director of Calvin Wiley Dance Theater (CWDT), a concert and commercial performance group based out of NYC. Calvin has pioneered and branded his teaching style CALVINOGRAPHY®, which maintains the philosophy that beauty, art and brilliance can be elements in fitness.

Master Class description: CALVINOGRAPHY®: Hip Funking Hop

A cardiodance workout fused with hip/hop, funk, street jazz and theatre. A collaboration of movement bringing something different to the dance floor and to your dance/movement palette.

Global Family Day presented in association with Parents® House of Kids

Featuring RALPH'S WORLD, BETHANY AND RUFUS and CIRQUE-TACULAR ENTERTAINMENT

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, July 18

3:00 – 6:00 pm

This annual family affair will spark imagination, nurture creativity and celebrate the kid in us all through puppetry, music, mime, acrobats and magical mayhem. Featuring catchy kid-friendly rockers, captivating American roots musicians, interactive story-tellers, face –painters, puppet shows, jugglers, and an instrument making workshop, this afternoon is sure to be enjoyable for both kids and adults!

the original genre-breaker Ralph Covert, an irrepressibly enthusiastic performer who rocks just as hard for kids as he does for grown-ups. A genuine smile on his face and too-cool shoes on his feet, his traveling circus of catchiness known as **Ralph's World** is equally loved by hip-seeking parents as it is by children, fortunate to be living in an era where their music both rocks and respects their intelligence and curiosity. The New York Times says "It is possible that Mr. Covert will turn out to be [the] genre's Elvis Presley or, at the very least, its Elvis Costello." He'll be with his rock'n'roll band playing songs from his new album on BarNone Records, "All Around Ralph's World," plus classics from his eight Disney releases, all suitable for dancing and singing along- regardless of one's height or age.

When **Bethany Yarrow and Rufus Cappadocia** join forces on stage they spark a fire-in-the-belly, soul-stirring experience of American roots music that lingers long after the concert ends. Sliding between groove, world, and blues they push the boundaries of American Roots music far into unexpected territories. As the daughter of Peter Yarrow (of the famous folk band, Peter, Paul and Mary), Bethany absorbed much of this music through osmosis in her early childhood, but it's her tour-de-force stage presence, mesmerizing voice and deep knowledge of the material that allows her to turn these songs inside out and make them her own. Rufus Cappadocia is a multi instrumentalist, composer, and instrument designer. He is known both for his solo cello recordings as well as his collaborations with artists from around the world including Urban Tap, The Paradox Trio, and the Vodou Drums of Haiti. Drawing from the modalities of Middle Eastern, West African, European and American folk forms, Cappadocia's effortless and natural embrace of music is awe-inspiring.

Cirque-tacular Entertainment is a premiere creator of new American circus and variety productions. They have performed throughout the world, before both live audiences and through appearances on major television networks. Their art has reached millions of viewers. Under the leadership of Tad Emptage, and supported by the work core members Melissa Marie Wilhelm and Aaron Bonventre, the group is now complemented by twenty resident performer-creators. Watch as the skilled acrobats of Cirque-Tacular perform one dazzling, death-defying feat of athletic prowess after another. Spectacular aerial numbers, gorgeously choreographed ground acrobatics, energetic music and bright, and beautiful costumes bring the most thrilling and irresistible aspects of the circus arts into one electrifying show.

LISA LISA

Tappan Park, Staten Island

Tuesday, July 20

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Lisa Velez, better known as **Lisa Lisa** came to prominence in the 1980's with her freestyle band Cult Jam. Classic R&B infused electro hits like 'I Wonder If I Take You Home' and 'Can You Feel the Beat' propelled their debut album, *Lisa Lisa & Cult Jam with Full Force* to platinum status. Their second platinum album, *Spanish Fly*, soon followed, cementing Lisa Lisa in place as queen of the dance clubs and paving the way for future Latina powerhouses Jennifer Lopez and Shakira. In 2009, Lisa Lisa released her highly anticipated seventh album *Life N Love*.

Comedy Central Park

THE DAILY SHOW AND FRIENDS - Hosted by LEWIS BLACK

Featuring JOHN OLIVER, ROB RIGGLE, WYATT CENAC,

ADAM LOWITT and RORY ALBANESE

Central Park, Manhattan

Wednesday, July 21

8:00 – 10:00 pm

SummerStage is pleased to welcome back Comedy Central for our fourth annual free comedy program. This show will feature stand-up performances by correspondents and friends of *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* including **Rory Albanese, Wyatt Cenac, Adam Lowitt, John Oliver** and **Rob Riggle**.

Lewis Black has performed his caustic, cranky, bile-spewing, dead-on social and political comedy throughout Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and The United States. As “America’s Foremost Commentator on Everything,” he is a weekly political commentator on Comedy Central’s *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* and has starred in comedy specials for the network.

Rory Albanese is a four time Emmy award winning Executive Producer/ Writer of *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart*. Rory is also an accomplished stand-up comedian, recently appearing in his own Comedy Central half hour special. He has toured with such comics as John Oliver, Lewis Black and Jon Stewart. Rory can be seen headlining at clubs and colleges throughout the country.

Comedian/actor/writer **Wyatt Cenac** currently resides in New York where he is a correspondent and writer on *The Daily Show*. Before that, he spent three seasons as a writer and contributed voice-over work for FOX's *King of the Hill* and also co-starred with Kanye West in a pilot for HBO. In 2008, he starred in the film, *Medicine for Melancholy* which was nominated for three Independent Spirit Awards.

John Oliver has been a writer and correspondent on Comedy Central’s *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* since 2006. John is currently appearing in a recurring role in the NBC series, *Community*, and his own series for Comedy Central, *John Oliver’s New York Stand-Up Show*. John has had multiple Writers Guild and Emmy Nominations for his writing on *The Daily Show* and in 2009 he won the Emmy Award for Best Comedy Writing in a Comedy or Variety Series.

Rob Riggle has been performing sketch and improvisational comedy in New York and Los Angeles for the last 12 years as part of the Upright Citizens Brigade Theater. Rob’s film and television work include *The Hangover*, *Saturday Night Live*, *Arrested Development*, *The Office*, and *Talladega Nights*.

Plus, Comedy Central’s **AddressTheMess** will return again this year to distribute free reusable tote bags to the first 3,000 attendees and invite fans to properly dispose of their recyclables. Wanna help? Visit addressthemess.com or comedycentral.com for more details on becoming a *Mess-enger!* ... enjoy reserved seating & one drink on the house. **AddressTheMess** is committed to helping our fans be more eco-conscious; getting a prime spot is just gravy.

PHAROAHE MONCH

Queensbridge Park, Queens

Wednesday, July 21

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Pharoahe Monch is a Queens-based hip hop artist best known for his complex delivery and multisyllabic rhyme scheme. This helped win him a reputation as one of underground hip-hop's pre-eminent lyricists, crafting intricate and intelligent rhymes and having the ability to match them to the beats rolling off the turntables. His 1999 single "Simon Says" became a massive hit among rap and club audiences, securing Monch’s collaboration with some of hip-hop’s biggest players.

SMOKIE NORFUL

Springfield Park, Queens

Presented in association with WLIB and Globe Star Media

Thursday, July 22

7:00 – 9:00 pm

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 an African 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.

THE ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER

Central Park, Manhattan

Friday, July 23 and Saturday, July 24

8:00 – 10:00 pm

Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, one of the world's favorite dance companies comes to SummerStage to show off the brilliant artistry and passionate energy that bring audiences around the globe to their feet night after night. What makes this phenomenal company so special is the incomparable sense of joy, freedom and spirit that the dancers and audiences share. Discover for yourself what millions of fans already know – you don't just *see* an Ailey performance, you *feel* it.

This engagement marks the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater's return to Central Park, where their first SummerStage performance in 1993 yielded over 30,000 attendees and rave reviews. Alvin Ailey believed that "dance came from the people and should always be delivered back to the people." Join Ailey's acclaimed dancers in a moving celebration of the human spirit in their highly anticipated SummerStage homecoming performances this season.

THE MAIN INGREDIENT with CUBA GOODING SR.

Rochdale Park, Brooklyn

Friday, July 23

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Best known for their hit 1972 R&B song 'Everybody Plays The Fool', the Harlem bred band **The Main Ingredient** is over forty-five years strong and still as soulful as ever. Specializing in sweet, romantic ballads, the band has placed over twenty songs on the Billboard R&B charts. The current lineup of The Main Ingredient features George Staley Sr, Larry Moore and Cuba Gooding Sr.

blood pudding by Sharon Bridgforth, Directed by Baraka de Soleil

Springfield Park, Queens

Friday, July 23 – Saturday, July 24

8:00 pm

blood pudding is a multi-disciplinary theatre piece that celebrates the history of Black people in New Orleans. Through blood memories of a gurl born in Congo Square/blood pudding explores a landscape of magic. In this polyrhythmic telling/the blues is sacred. Narrators are holy. Indigenous people are honored. The drum shapes reality. This is Jazz. Ritual. Theatre.

BASSEKOU KOUYATE + NGONI BA, BURKINA ELECTRIC,

FOOL'S GOLD and DJ FRANK of VOODOO FUNK

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, July 25

3:00 – 7:00 pm

As a master of the West African lute known as the *ngoni*, **Bassekou Kouyate** first gained popularity in his home country of Mali working extensively with such esteemed artists as the late Ali Farka Touré, Taj Mahal, and Toumani Diabate. Since 2005, Kouyate has led **Ngoni Ba**, the first-ever band built around four *ngonis*, all played by members of his family. The show is a high energy blend of traditional artistry, blues, and rock roll.

Burkina Electric is the first electronica band to hail from Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso. This diverse group, combines Burkinabé grooves, sounds of traditional instruments, and other African traditions with popular dance music to create a unique and refreshing musical world.

The buzzed-about L.A.-based collective **Fool's Gold** weaves Western art-pop aesthetics with African rhythms and melodies. The group's sound explores their love of various African forms of music, as well as 80's dance-influenced pop music, with vocals in Hebrew and English. The end result is an infectious, effervescent blend as sunny as the California basin from which they hail.

DJ Frank of VooDoo Funk has lived and travelled in West Africa since 2005, while playing music and building up a unique collection of rare West African Funk records and unknown grooves now ready to share with the rest of the world.

BLUE MAGIC

Tappen Park, Staten Island

Tuesday, July 27

7:00 – 9:00 pm

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.

OLU DARA

Queensbridge Park, Queens

Wednesday, July 28

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Olu Dara Jones is an avant-garde jazz artist known for his eclectic mix of blues, reggae, Caribbean rhythms and funk that connects the dots between his small Mississippi rural hometown and modern urban life. His fusion of free-form jazz with deep blues creates a sound Rolling Stone has describes as a, "kind of unpretentious cross-cultural hybrid that feels like real life... music powered by beating hearts and energized by radical collisions." Dara's vignette, "Jungle" from his album, *In the World From Natchez to New York* features his son, rapper Nas, and is a prime example of his ability to link African music with other genres, including hip-hop narratives.

JON B

Springfield Park, Queens

Presented in association with WBLS and Globe Star Media

Thursday, July 29

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Multi-platinum R&B musician **Jon B** came to fame in 1995 with his debut release *Bonafide*. The album highlighted his dulcet tenor, earning him both critical and commercial success including a Grammy-nomination for the song "Someone to Love" featuring Babyface. With numerous hits such as "Pretty Girl," "They Don't Know" and "Are You Still Down," Jon B became a fixture on the R&B scene. After marriage and a newborn baby, the soulful crooner returned with his fifth studio album, *Helpless Romantic*.

TOTAL PRAISE

Rochdale Park, Brooklyn

Friday, July 30

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Total Praise is a multigenerational choir comprised of an assortment of studied professional and aspiring musicians with a keen ear and interpretation of sacred song. Total Praise released its inaugural CD, *Total Praise Live*, in 2003. *VIBE* magazine rated the album exceptional, saying "Total Praise Live is almost as good as sitting in the pew on Sunday morning." The album was also acclaimed by *Billboard*, *EBONY*, *UPSCALE*, *Sister 2 Sister* and *Black Elegance* magazines. Total Praise was the chorus for music icon Aretha Franklin at the 2009 NBC Christmas Tree Lighting at Rockefeller Center. The choir has performed on the then nationally syndicated *Jane Pauley Show*, as well as other special broadcasts for network affiliates across the country.

CREATIVE OUTLET DANCE THEATRE and KYLE ABRAHAM AND ABRAHAM.IN.MOTION

Jackie Robinson Park, Manhattan

Friday, July 30

7:00 pm – Open Contemporary Modern dance class with Jamel Gaines (Dir. Of Creative Outlet)

8:00 pm – Kyle Abraham/ Abraham.in.Motion

8:50 pm – Creative Outlet Dance Theatre

Jamel Gaines Creative Outlet is a professional dance company that marries rigorous classical and modern technique with African-American soul and spirit. Under the direction of Jamel Gaines, the company has been hailed by reviewers in

the United States, Europe and the Caribbean for its “richness of dance tone” and “contagious vitality.” It is also a dance school for children 3 to 18, with an impressive track record for spotting and nurturing raw talent to produce young performers who gain access to leading performing arts institutions, television, Broadway and concert stages.

Abraham.in.Motion, led by Kyle Abraham, showcases his diverse training in classical music, visual art, and a multitude of dance forms from ballet to hip-hop to give range and depth to his sleek, evocative work. Dance Magazine named him one of the “25 to Watch” in 2009 and has described his work as “elastic and electric, luxuriantly rippling, poetically arranged with moments of perfect stillness that arrive amid splashes of expression. His choreography wriggles energy through the body, stretches it, suspends it, then unleashes it.”

JOVANOTTI, LOS AMIGOS INVISIBLES and NATALIA LAFOURCADE

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, July 31

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Italian superstar **Jovanotti** is perhaps the best known pop/ hip-hop artist in Italy’s history, regularly performing to sold-out stadium crowds throughout his native land. Jovanotti has consistently explored and integrated other musical genres such as folk, rock and even classical into his vast repertoire. He has proven to be as comfortable appearing on record with Pavarotti as with Bono. In July 2009, Jovanotti took a break from the stadium lights to do a run of small, decidedly stripped-down acoustic performances at intimate NYC and this marks his return to the big stage audiences expect.

Los Amigos Invisibles, originally from Venezuela, can always get a party started with their dance-inducing fusion of funk, disco and acid jazz. The band made a name for themselves in 1995 with their debut album *A Typical Autoctonal Venezuelan Dance Band*, which they performed live in a series of underground dance parties in abandoned clubs throughout Caracas. In 2009, the band released their seventh studio album, *Commercial*, a critical success that garnered the band a Latin Grammy for Best Latin Alternative Album.

Natalia Lafourcade is a superstar in her native Mexico. Her music explores the joining lines of bossa-nova and rock through a pop style that is coquettish, flirty and sweet in the style of Tori Amos or Björk.

EARL MOSELEY’S INSTITUTE OF DANCE AND MOTION THEATER LAB

Jackie Robinson Park, Manhattan

Saturday, July 31

7:00 pm – Open HipFunkinHop dance class with Calvin Wiley

8:00 pm – Motion Theater Lab

8:50 pm – Earl Moseley’s Institute of Dance

Earl Moseley’s Institute of Dance

Earl Moseley began his dance training at the North Carolina School of the Arts. His professional performing experience grew to include the Alvin Ailey Repertory Ensemble (Ailey II), Gus Soloman's Dance and Ron Brown's Evidence Dance Inc. He is the founder and artistic director of Diversity of Dance, Inc. a not-for-profit organization concentrating on dance education. The major focus of the organization is Earl Mosley's Institute of the Arts (EMIA) which offers a summer intensive program (including ballet, modern, African, hip hop, jazz, and tap), residencies and workshops. Join EMIA students as they perform works choreographed by Ronald K. Brown, Troy Powell, Kevin Wynn, Darrell Moultrie and Fredrick Earl Mosley.

Hot off the heels of its successful world premiere, *Thoroughly Modern Michael*, comes **Motion Theatre Lab**, a chamber dance company comprised of seven critically acclaimed performers under the direction of choreographer/dancer Michael Leon Thomas. Jennifer Dunning of the NY Times wrote, "Michael Thomas scorched the stage with his quiet intensity during his years with the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater." Creating works of deep passion and beauty, MTL will premiere a new work, *Aquarius Rising*, to the sounds of classic underground dance music.

Join internationally acclaimed dancer and instructor Calvin Wiley, founder and president of "From The Top International", an international fitness and dance consulting company and Founder and Artist Director of Calvin Wiley Dance Theater (CWDT), a concert and commercial performance group based out of NYC. Calvin has pioneered and

branded his teaching style CALVINOGRAPHY®, which maintains the philosophy that beauty, art and brilliance can be elements in fitness.

Master Class description: CALVINOGRAPHY®: Hip Funking Hop

A cardiodance workout fused with hip/hop, funk, street jazz and theatre. A collaboration of movement bringing something different to the dance floor and to your dance/movement palette.

ST. VINCENT, tUnE-yArDs and BASIA BULAT

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, August 1

3:00 – 7:00 pm

St. Vincent is the nom-du-microphone of multi-instrumentalist/chanteuse Annie Clark. This Dallas-raised, doe-eyed songbird, began her musical career performing with Sufjan Stevens and The Polyphonic Spree. In 2007, St. Vincent released her debut solo effort *Marry Me*, catapulting the young singer to the top of critics lists and earning a PLUG Independent Music Award for Female Artist of the Year. Her second album, 2009's *Actor*, prompted Pitchfork to exult "St. Vincent is an artist capable of crafting believable, complicated characters with compassion, insight, and exacting skill."

tUnE-yArDs is the singular musical project of New England native Merrill Garbus. Possessing an expansive sound that marries a coarse folk ingenuity with the bold pop sensibility of an R&B siren, her debut release *BiRd-BrAiNs* was assembled with a staunch DIY aesthetic. She is aptly described by Stereogum as "a self-contained Sublime Frequencies compilation, jumping between blues, African tunes, shiny reggae-esque sprawls and lo-fi folk."

From the age of three, singer-songwriter **Basia Bulat** has been perched on piano playing, in time she picked up guitar, autoharp, banjo, ukulele, sax, upright bass and flute. Her songs are breathless and thirsty; influenced by the spirits of Jeff Magnum, Odetta, Emily Dickinson, as well as soul-music. Bulat's songs reflect the stillness of experience on the road, hand-in-hand with a freshly blossoming career.

ELVIS MARTINEZ

Highbridge Park, Manhattan

Tuesday, August 3

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Bachata music is a unique form of Caribbean music closely related to the Dominican Republic and incorporates traditional Latin-Caribbean beats with romantic themed lyrics. No other artist better represents this style than **Elvis Martínez**, who has won numerous prestigious Latin music awards and sang the hit single, "Lento y Suave." Martínez's use of the guitar, bass and his pop music spin on this style has elevated him to the forefront of this beloved Latin music genre."

GEORGE LAMOND, JUDY TORRES and DJ LUCHO

East River Park, Manhattan

Tuesday, August 4

7:00 – 9:00 pm

George Lamond became an instant star for his first freestyle album, "*Bad of the Heart*," which yielded the hit single with the same name and as well as "Without You" and "Look Into My Eyes." This paved the way for other popular albums in both the freestyle genre as well as modern approaches to traditional Latin music, including "*Where Does That Leave Love*" and "*Oye Mi Canto*."

Judy Torres' debut album *Love Story*, is considered by many to be a freestyle collection essential. With numerous major club hits like "Please Stay Tonight", "Come Into My Arms", "Love Story", "I Love You, Will You Love Me" and "No Reason To Cry," her name became synonymous with freestyle music. Currently, Torres hosts a Sunday-night Freestyle show on New York's popular radio station, WKTU 103.5, where she plays the best singles of the genre.

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.

GIL SCOTT-HERON

Presented in association with Jill Newman productions

Part of the NYC Revolutions series

Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

Thursday, August 5

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Gil Scott-Heron's poetry and music is widely acknowledged as the matrix from which hip-hop and neo-soul emerged. His transgressive, politicized, spoken-word-meets-jazz recordings, including, "*The Revolution Will Not Be Televised*", "*Whitey on the Moon*," "*The Bottle*" and "*Small Talk at 125th and Lennox*," have been covered, sampled, referenced, deified and parodied by generations of artists. 2010 saw the release of *I'm New Here*, Scott-Heron's first release in thirteen years. SPIN called the album, "not so much a comeback as a testament to spiritual resilience."

blood pudding by Sharon Bridgforth, Directed by Baraka de Soleil

Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

Friday, August 6 – Saturday, August 7

8:00 pm

blood pudding is a multi-disciplinary theatre piece that celebrates the history of Black people in New Orleans. Through blood memories of a gurl born in Congo Square/blood pudding explores a landscape of magic. In this polyrhythmic telling/the blues is sacred. Narrators are holy. Indigenous people are honored. The drum shapes reality. This is Jazz. Ritual. Theatre.

THE CLARK SISTERS and KIERRA 'KIKI' SHEARD

Presented in association with WLIB and Globe Star Media

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, August 7

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Four of the most celebrated voices in gospel history, **The Clark Sisters** - Jacky, Twinkie, Dorinda and Karen - have spent three decades singing, preaching, evangelizing and teaching the Word at home and abroad. With three Grammys under their belt and twelve full-length records to date, they are credited as cornerstone performers in the mainstream, contemporary gospel style.

Kierra 'Kiki' Sheard is the latest generation of a legendary Gospel music family. The daughter of Karen Clark-Sheard of The Clark Sisters, she continues the family legacy of spiritual encouragement with a sound and perspective that is all her own. Inspired by her personal experiences, her latest release, *Bold Right Life*, features cutting-edge music that could be at home in churches and clubs alike, bringing her open declaration of the love for Gospel to the forefront.

THE XX, CHAIRLIFT AND JACK PEÑATE

Presented in association with Meanred Productions

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, August 8

7:00 – 10:00 pm

The xx are making a quick ascension to pop fame with their dreamy, post-punk songs. The British band's 2009 debut, simply titled *xx*, caught the attention of music critics and fans alike, which lead to sold out tour dates around the globe, as well as wide-spread acclaim. NPR says, "Both casually cool and absolutely magnetic, this young London (band) makes music that's simple and raw, but utterly captivating."

Chairlift formed in 2006 to make music for haunted houses (!), but has since abandoned that mission to make cleverly seductive psych-pop instead. Best known for their song "Bruises", Chairlift is part of a collaborative circle of Brooklyn experimental pop magicians including MGMT, Yeasayer, Telepathe, and Class Actress.

UK singer/songwriter **Jack Peñate** pieces together a collage of up-tempo sounds from a myriad of influences. Rolling Stone describes Peñate's sophomore release, 2009's *Everything is New*, as "a more mature album... that jumps from classic soul to Afropop to Tropicalia with a rock undercurrent. As advertised, everything is new this time around for the twenty-four year old soul-singing Brit rocker."

**COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET and
DANCIN' DOWNTOWN contest winners (To Be Announced May 17th)**

Central Park, Manhattan

Tuesday, August 10

8:00 – 10:00 pm

Complexions Contemporary Ballet is a company dedicated to removing boundaries and transcending the limits of performance. Artistic directors Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson's lifelong appreciation for the artistic and aesthetic appeal of the multicultural forms the cornerstone of Complexions Contemporary Ballet's approach.

Complexions' mix of methods, style and cultures has produced an entirely new and exciting movement: an open, continually evolving form of dance reflecting the movement of our world.

Dancin' Downtown at the Joyce Theater, produced by Dancers Responding to AIDS is the only competition providing dance students the opportunity to be seen by such a diverse and distinguished group of dance luminaries on one of the most prestigious dance stages in New York City - The Joyce Theater. This unique competition benefits Dancers Responding to AIDS (DRA), a program of Broadway Cares/ Equity Fights AIDS. Watch the top two winning groups of this contest perform a short piece on the famed SummerStage and get a glimpse into the freshest faces of dance today.

BACHATA HEIGHTZ

Highbridge Park, Manhattan

Tuesday, August 10

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Born and raised in Washington Heights, the five members of **Bachata Heightz** first got together to stay off the streets and experiment with their musical passions. In the years since, they have become one of most influential groups in the Latin music scene, and are considered to be one of the first pioneers of urban bachata, a style of tropical music first originating in the Dominican Republic and mixed with rock, R&B, hip-hop, mambo, and a little playfulness from this group.

DOUG E. FRESH with DJ DEE WIZ

Jackie Robinson Park, Manhattan

Wednesday, August 11

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Doug E. Fresh is one of the originators of the human beat box (vocally simulating the sound of drums and other musical instruments) as an instrument in hip hop. Best known for the two-sided, multi-platinum hits "The Show" and "La Di Da Di," his groundbreaking success in the 1980's heralded the global popularity of hip hop. Fresh has embraced hip hop activism and used his voice to speak out against a variety of social ills. Along the way, he has nurtured rising talent, including the likes of Slick Rick, P. Diddy, Biz Markie and numerous newcomers during his stint as host (and unofficial mentor) of It's Showtime at the Apollo. Join "The Human Beat Box" as he teams up with mixtape master **DJ Dee Wiz** for an unforgettable journey into the history and future of hip hop.

WHITE RABBITS

East River Park, Manhattan

Thursday, August 12

7:00 – 9:00 pm

White Rabbits are a six member band featuring two drummers and a piano player that bang out what they refer to as "honky tonk calypso" music. Their cheerful blend of calypso, reggae and ska rhythms, plus secondhand music hall influences and big pop hooks serve to create an upbeat, highly danceable sound. Their first album, *Fort Nightly* was released to rave reviews. With the release of 2009's *It's Frightening*, the band raises the bar and creates a sound that SPIN describes as, "no frills rhythms peppered with jarring sonics."

PAUL TAYLOR II and NAGANUMA DANCE

East River Park, Manhattan

Friday, August 13

7:00 pm – Open Contemporary Fusion dance class with Darcy Naganuma of Naganuma Dance

8:00 pm – Naganuma Dance

8:50 pm – Paul Taylor II

Paul Taylor established Taylor II in 1993 to ensure that his works could be seen by audiences all over the world, unhindered by economic or technical limitations. To do this, he looked back to the 1954 origins of the Paul Taylor Dance Company for the structure of his new company: six professionals with a particular gift for his style who perform his work throughout the world. The repertoire spans the broad spectrum of his work. Several of the dances performed by Taylor II have been re-worked from the original Dance Company's version to enable the smaller ensemble of dancers to perform them. Critics and audiences cheer as Taylor 2 introduces the athleticism, humor and range of emotions found in Mr. Taylor's work.

Under the artistic direction of the Hawaii-born/half-Japanese Darcy Naganuma, **Naganuma Dance** is a contemporary dance company that draws upon many different disciplines to create captivating and socially dynamic dance works. Founded in 2006, Naganuma has assembled a company of multi-ethnic and physically tempestuous performers, presenting works that touch upon themes of cultural dissonance, the absolute and the relative, gender and class, through inventive choreography as performed by a cross-cultural cast of dancers.

***Bachata Fest* featuring**

ANDY ANDY, LUIS MIGUEL DE LA AMARGUE, ELVIS MARTINEZ and ALEXANDRA

Presented in association with Globe Star Media

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, August 14

3:00 – 7:00pm

Dominican singer **Andy Andy** has emerged as one of a handful of musicians on the cutting edge of the bachata craze. Andy began his music career as a merengero before making the switch to the increasingly popular bachata style. With 5 solo chart-topping bachata albums to his credit, Andy Andy has consistently maintained himself on Billboard's Top Tropical album charts .

Luis Miguel de la Amargue, known as the "King of Bachata" has taken his music worldwide and is one of the most respected artists in the genre. The multi-award winner and recipient of 2009's "Bachatero of the Year" and "Bachata Song of the Year" is a genre favorite not to be missed.

Elvis Martínez aka El Camarón, is a one of the most popular bachata performers around. He got his start in the 1990's, and has been on the fast track ever since. Martínez has the distinction of being not only a singer but also a songwriter and guitarist as well.

Alexandra is best known as half of the hugely successful, Monchy y Alexandra, who began singing together in 1999. They have been often credited with being instrumental in popularizing bachata music outside of the Dominican Republic. Alexandra is now embarking on a highly anticipated solo career, and is certain not to disappoint.

COMPLEXIONS CONTEMPORARY BALLET and WIDEMAN/DAVIS DANCE

East River Park, Manhattan

Saturday, August 14

7:00 pm – Open World Jazz dance class with Cecilia Marta

8:00 pm – Wideman/ Davis Dance

8:50 pm – Complexions Contemporary Ballet

Complexions Contemporary Ballet is a contemporary ballet company founded by Dwight Rhoden and Desmond Richardson. The company uses a wide range of dance forms including classical, modern, and contemporary and has won the New York Times "Critics Choice" Award. Complexions was also America's first fully multicultural ballet company.

Its groundbreaking mix of methods, styles, cultures has created an entirely new and exciting vision of human movement over the past decade-and-a-half.

Wideman/Davis Dance is a company that brings different artists together to create dialogue about the human condition, by using dance as its central voice but not sole voice. Wideman/Davis Dance is interested in bridging cultural gaps through dance by bringing all communities and ethnicities together to view dance in its contemporary aesthetic. The company is committed to creating work that is accessible to audiences of all ages, by blurring the lines between dance, theatre, and reality.

PUBLIC ENEMY, BLITZ THE AMBASSADOR and THE 7th OCTAVE

Part of the NYC Revolutions series

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, August 15

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Public Enemy rewrote the rules of hip-hop, becoming the most influential and controversial rap groups of all time. Public Enemy pioneered a variation of rap that was revolutionary. With his powerful, authoritative baritone, co-founder Chuck D rhymed about all kinds of social problems, particularly those plaguing the Black community, often condoning revolutionary tactics and social activism. In the process, he directed hip-hop toward an explicitly self-aware, Pro-Black consciousness. Musically, Public Enemy were just as revolutionary, creating dense soundscapes that relied on avant-garde cut-and-paste techniques, unrecognizable samples, piercing sirens, relentless beats, and deep funk. It was chaotic and invigorating music, made all the more intoxicating by Chuck D's forceful vocals and the absurdist raps of his comic foil Flavor Flav. Today, PE celebrates the twentieth anniversary of their classic, influential album *Fear of A Black Planet*.

Ghanaian hip-hop artist **Blitz the Ambassador** uses rousing horns and clever beats that make him impossible to take lightly. Alongside his band, The Embassy Ensemble, Blitz tests the limits of hip-hop with live instruments and heavily complex, cross-cultural musical exploration.

In an age of disposable, cookie cutter acts, **The 7th Octave** offers up a different musical and lyrical perspective, combining metal riffs and blistering instrumentation with fiery, socially aware lyrics to provoke the minds of the new millennium generation.

ALEXANDRA and DANIEL MONCION

Highbridge Park, Manhattan

Tuesday, August 17

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Alexandra is best known as half of the hugely successful, Monchy y Alexandra, who began singing together in 1999. They have been often credited with being instrumental in popularizing bachata music outside of the Dominican Republic. Alexandra is now embarking on a highly anticipated solo career, and is certain not to disappoint.

Daniel Monción is a singer hailing from the Dominican Republic whose guitar heavy bachata inspired tunes have earned him critical acclaim in the Latin music world. With Monción's albums "*Ya Me Cansé*" and "*Decidi*", which spawned the hit single "Culpable", have established this up and coming Latin sensation as one to watch.

TYE TRIBETT

Jackie Robinson Park, Manhattan

Presented in association with WLIB and Globe Star Media

Wednesday, August 18

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Tye Tribett learned how to play keyboards before he could even recite the alphabet, and has been making bold declarations with his harmonic and powerful gospel music for years. His choir, Greater Anointing, broke into the popular mainstream after a series of tracks on the soundtrack of the Academy Award winning film, *The Prince of Egypt*. Tribett's album, *Victory Live!* entered the Billboard Top Gospel Albums chart at #1, and generated the #1 Gospel Radio single, "Victory" further ingraining him as a gospel superstar.

OUR LATIN THING with DJ LUCHO Presents A Tribute to The FANIA ALL STARS

East River Park, Manhattan

Thursday, August 19

7:00 – 9:00 pm

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.

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.

GOODBAR by Waterwell

East River Park, Manhattan

Friday, August 20 – Sunday, August 22

8:00 pm

Reviving the lost art of the Live Concept Album, NYC rock band, Bambi, teams up with downtown theatre company, Waterwell, to tackle one of the most controversial pop culture artifacts from the '70s, Looking For Mr. **Goodbar**. Taking inspiration from both the film starring Diane Keaton and the novel by Judith Rossner, Bambi and Waterwell explore the timeless themes of sexuality, independence and persona as seen refracted through a disco ball. Join Bambi and Waterwell as they take on this dark classic, celebrating New York in all its grim glamour.

CHRISSETTE MICHELE, TAMIA and MARIO

Presented in Association with WBLS and Globe Star Media

Central Park, Manhattan

Saturday, August 21

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Christette Michele, a New York native described as a "soulful songbird" by Entertainment Weekly, released her debut album *I Am* in 2007 to considerable acclaim. Nominated for a BET Award for Best New Artist Release, as well as two Grammys, *I Am* was both a critical success and a fans' delight. Her 2009 follow up, *Epiphany*, went to #1 on the Billboard charts and has produced a slew of jazzy R&B hits, including the title track, "Epiphany," "Blame It On Me," "What You Do" and her most recent single "All I Ever Think About".

Six-time Grammy Award-winning artist and urban R&B chanteuse **Tamia** has garnered international fame for her hit single "Stranger In My House" and her various collaborations with legends like Babyface and Quincy Jones. A velvet voice and sinuous, sexy tunes accommodate her honest and heartbreakingly real lyrics.

Mario Barrett, the Baltimore native better known simply as **Mario**, has been a staple on the pop and R&B charts from the age of fifteen with his savvy breakout rendition of Biz Markie's 'Just a Friend'. His self-titled debut album featured songs by Alicia Keys and helped launch the career of Ne-Yo, who wrote Mario's double-platinum international #1 hit 'Let Me Love You'. Mario's most recent album, D.N.A. features the charting singles 'Break Up' featuring Sean Garrett and Gucci Mane and 'Thinkin' About You'.

THE SPECIALS, BLACK JOE LEWIS AND THE HONEYBEARS and \$MALL cHANGE

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, August 22

3:00 – 7:00 pm

What better way to salute summer than with a blowout 30th anniversary show with famed rude boys, **The Specials**? These UK second-wave revivalists, responsible for such hits as "A Message To You, Rudy," "Ghost Town," and "Too Much

Too Young” will bring their infectious blend of ska-meets-rock steady to Central Park in high, 2 Tone fashion.

Austin, Texas-based **Black Joe Lewis and The Honeybears** play juke-joint soul with gritty attitude and a greasy groove. With his hipbone swinging, his heart pounding and his mind in the gutter, Lewis’ funky, supercharged gutbucket R&B is sure to spark the crowd to life. Bring your dancing shoes and prepare to get a nasty sweat on!

Over the past 15 years **\$mall change** (aka James Dier) has done just about every type of DJ gig. From the finest lofts in Manhattan to pirate radio on the burning man playa, from afternoon museum throw-downs to after-hours Brooklyn warehouses, he is fully prepared to rock the house every time, with years of dance floor experience and skills to pay the bills. \$mall change has tens of thousands of records at the ready, spanning the hit singles to the extremely obscure, in every conceivable genre and time period.

FIVE DAYS IN MARCH by Toshiki Okada, Performed by Witness Relocation

East River Park, Manhattan

Monday, August 23 – Tuesday, August 24

8:00 pm

Five Days in March by Toshiki Okada is set in the days before the U.S. began its war against Iraq in March 2003. Minobe meets Yukki at a rock show. Their awkward conversation leads to five days of wild sex in a love hotel. Azuma sells Miffy a ticket to a bad movie. Miffy thinks Azuma doesn't return her feelings, so she decides to move to Mars. Yasui and Ishihara go on the anti-war protest. The police escort's uniforms elicit more comment than the war itself. Oblivious to the imminent invasion of Iraq, these hipsters obsess over the details of their lives, perfectly capturing the irony and impotency of Generation Y in Japan today. The story unfolds through actors who slip in and out of character while also narrating and playing out scenes. The play, a winner of the prestigious Kishida Kunio Drama Award, is at once funny, sad, anticlimactic and devastating.

BEOWULF – A THOUSAND YEARS OF BAGGAGE, performed by Banana Bag & Bodice

East River Park, Manhattan

Wednesday, August 25 – Friday, August 27

8:00 pm

Digging into the roots of the original epic poem, this re-imagined version of **Beowulf – A Thousand Years of Baggage** hearkens back to the raw and rowdy style of storytelling in the old Scandinavian mead halls – with a passion for fierce poetry and a pint of thick beer. Monsters and professors collide in blood-soaked Scandinavia as this hefty poem is rescued from 1,000 years of analysis and transformed into a defiantly raucous dissertation on art and violence. With an 8-piece band including dueling trombones, bass clarinet, accordion and saw, Beowulf combines Weillian cabaret, 40's jazz harmony, indie rock, punk, electronica and Romantic lieder into a cacophonous swirl.

The Charlie Parker Jazz Festival featuring:

McCOY TYNER, JIMMY SCOTT,

JASON MORAN AND THE BANDWAGON and REVIVE DA LIVE: CHARLIE PARKER REVISTED

Part of the NYC Revolutions series

Marcus Garvey Park, Manhattan

Saturday, August 28

3:00 – 7:00pm

Jazz pianist **McCoy Tyner**'s distinctive and powerful blues-based style is defined by his “explosively percussive left hand.” His approach to melodies and chord-voicing has made him one of the most influential jazz pianists of the 20th century and his techniques have been mimicked by countless musicians. Tyner is a unique improvisational player who has released a staggering number of albums at nearly 80 and has earned four Grammys over the course of his impressive career.

McCoy Tyner is presented in association with Jill Newman Productions

Declared by *Rolling Stone* as “the most provocative thinker in current jazz,” composer and pianist Jason Moran keeps the swing tradition alive in modern jazz. Teaming with bassist Tarus Mateen, and drummer Nasheet Waits to become **Jason**

Moran and the Bandwagon, this is one of the most creative piano jazz trios around. Beginning with the debut album, *Soundtrack to Human Motion* to *Artist in Residence*, this force to be reckoned with has challenged the status quo by combining elements that include improvisation, avant-garde jazz, classical music, hip-hop and spoken word. A decade into the trio's career, they are releasing *Ten* this summer, a new album hailed by *AntiMusic* as "the most assured and focused album of Moran's acclaimed career."

The distinct soulful and romantic voice of **Jimmy Scott** continues to charm audiences even at the age of 84. A regular on the jazz scene in the 1950's and 60's, Jimmy's career came roaring back in the early 90's and has continued to flourish ever since. His natural style, phrasing and knack for bending notes have earned him a long list of admirers including the who's who of fellow jazz greats.

Jimmy Scott is presented in association with Jill Newman Productions

Revive Da Live's premiere *CHARLIE PARKER REVISTED* is an innovative tribute to the musical and cultural legacy of Charles Parker and will be led by an all-star band featuring Raydar Ellis, Ben Williams, Justin Brown, Jaleel Shaw, Marcus Strickland, Marc Cary, Corey King and Ingmar Thomas. Tonight's show will explore the genius of Parker by combining music from his past with modern day interpretations. Since 2006, the anthem of "Revive Da Live" has rung loudly in uniting prolific, groundbreaking, gifted and versatile hip hop artists and contemporary jazz musicians in a combined effort to educate and inspire broader audiences about the depths and origins of today's popular music.

The Charlie Parker Jazz Festival featuring

JAMES MOODY, CATHERINE RUSSELL, VIJAY IYER and THE JD ALLEN TRIO

Tompkins Square Park, Manhattan

Sunday, August 29

3:00 – 7:00pm

Modern jazz saxophonist **James Moody** is considered to be a "world-class soloist" and improvisational genius who incorporates a variety of wood instruments into his work. The Grammy-nominated artist's most famous song is "Moody's Mood for Love," an improvisational piece that he first recorded over 50 years ago. In addition to his instrumental repertoire, Moody often lends his energetic, hearty vocals to his performances.

The sultry, bluesy vocals of native New Yorker **Catherine Russell** is making jazz fans everywhere sit up and take notice. Her unique sound is a throw-back to the female blues and jazz stars of the 1950's and '60's. With a sound that is at once powerful and touchingly vulnerable, her rich alto voice transports the listener to another time and prompts listeners to tap their feet and nod along to the music.

Primarily self-taught, jazz pianist and composer **Vijay Iyer** is considered daringly original for creating jazz that is simultaneously improvisational, choreographed and grounded in groove and pulse. His cutting-edge music is powerful, compelling and has earned him numerous accolades in the jazz world. With critically acclaimed releases such as *Panoptic Modes*, *Blood Sutra* and *Historicity*, The New Yorker has given Iyer the title of, "one of today's most important pianists...extravagantly gifted,"

Hailed by the New York Times as "a tenor saxophonist with an enigmatic, elegant and hard-driving style," **JD Allen** is a bright rising light on today's international jazz scene. His unique and compelling voice on the instrument – the result of a patient and painstaking confrontation with the fundamentals of the art - has recently earned Allen a blaze of critical attention signaling his ascension to the upper ranks of the contemporary jazz world.

The Center for Traditional Music and Dance, World Music Institute and NY Gypsy Festival present

The Black Sea Roma Festival: A Celebration of Gypsy Music from Turkey, Bulgaria, Ukraine and Romania

featuring MAHALA RAI BANDA, SELIM SESLER AND THE NY GYPSY ALL-STARs,

TÉCSÖI BANDA and THE YURI YUNAKOV ENSEMBLE

Central Park, Manhattan

Sunday, September 26

3:00 – 7:00 pm

Making its US debut, this wild, twelve-member Roma (Gypsy) band comprises the crème de la crème of musicians from the famed Clejani and Zece Prajini Romanian villages, home of Taraf de Haidouks and Fanfare Ciocarlia respectively.

Combining power and finesse, groove and virtuosity, **Mahala Rai Banda's** music is where Balkan brass meets sizzling strings for up-tempo, catchy melodies propelled along by funky brass riffs, accordion and cimbalom.

The great Turkish Rom (Gypsy) clarinetist **Selim Sesler**, "The Coltrane of the Clarinet" (*Guardian*) famed for his masterful improvisations, funk-driven wedding songs and dance melodies, will be joined by the **NY Gypsy All-Stars and Ismael Lumanovski**, who *Time Out New York* called "an adventurous, modern-minded frontman ... leading his band through a varied terrain of Balkan, Turkish and Romany selections, spiked with jazz and Western styles."

Técsői Banda, a raucous family fiddle band making its US debut, provides a rollicking ride through the Carpathians. The ensemble, which starred in the recent film *The Last Kolomeyka*, serves up a multi-ethnic mix of spinning dance tunes, magical improvisations and haunting shepherds' laments.

Ranging from the intensely personal sound of a Gypsy sax solo to the dizzying polyrhythmic beat of Bulgarian wedding music, the **Yuri Yunakov Ensemble** is one of the leading bands on the world music scene. "They played as if Bulgaria's national drink were rocket fuel." – *New York Times*

SummerStage Benefit Concerts

Proceeds from the following benefit concerts support the free programs of SummerStage.

The SummerStage 25th Anniversary Gala

Tuesday, June 8

6:00 pm – 10:00 pm

City Parks Foundation in association with Michael Dorf & City Winery presents a 25th Anniversary Gala Celebration in Central Park. This year's benefit will feature the songbook of Simon & Garfunkel with unique duets performed by **Shawn Colvin, Aimee Mann, Dar Williams, Loudon Wainwright III, Lucy Wainwright Roche, Joan Osborne, Stephen Kellogg, Dean & Britta, Cory Chisel, The Holmes Brothers, John Forte, Valerie June, John Roderick, Ricky Skaggs, Willie Nile, Paula Cole, Alejandro Esovedo, Ollabelle** (house band) and many more.

For more information, contact Jill Rothstein at (212) 360-8170 or JRothstein@CityParksFoundation.org.

JOHN BUTLER TRIO and STATE RADIO

Tuesday, June 15

5:30 pm – Doors Open

6:30 – 9:30 pm Concert

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

THE FLAMING LIPS

Monday, July 26

SOLD OUT

7:00 pm Concert

THE BLACK KEYS and THE MORNING BENDERS

Tuesday, July 27 *SOLD OUT*

Wednesday, July 28

5:30 pm – Doors Open

6:30 – 9:30 pm Concert

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

HOT CHIP, HERCULES AND LOVE AFFAIR and HOLY GHOST!

Wednesday, August 4

5:30 pm – Doors Open

6:30 – 9:30 pm Concert

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

GOV'T MULE

Wednesday, August 11

5:00pm – Doors Open

6:00pm – Concert

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

PAVEMENT

Tuesday, September 21

SOLD OUT

7:00 pm Concert

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