



Photo of the 2009 Marathon by Stephanie Berger. Available in high resolution at www.christinajensenpr.com.

BANG ON A CAN MARATHON

At River To River Festival 2010
Co-presented by Arts World
Financial Center

Sunday, June 27, 2010
Noon – Midnight

12 Hours of FREE Live Music!

World Financial Center Winter Garden
220 Vesey Street, NYC

“the country's most provocative and consistently entertaining new-music event”– *The Village Voice*

Featuring the Bang on a Can All-Stars, Mira Calix (UK), the U.S. premiere of Fausto Romitelli's *Professor Bad Trip* performed by Talea Ensemble, Vernon Reid, Buke & Gass, Slagwerk Den Haag/Percussion Group of The Hague (NL), Signal, Burkina Electric (Africa), Steve Coleman, John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble, Kambar Kalendarov & Kutman Sultanbekov (Kyrgyzstan), Fred Frith, Michael Gordon, David Lang, Julia Wolfe, Gamelan Galak Tika, Florent Ghys (France), Quartet New Generation (Germany), JACK Quartet, and more

Admission: FREE.

Full River To River Festival line up: 888-391-FEST or www.RiverToRiverNYC.com
Bang on a Can Marathon information: 718.852.7755 or www.bangonacan.org

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YouTube playlist of 2010 artists: www.youtube.com/user/christinajensenpr#g/c/8CBCFA1AD450EF96

High resolution photos available: www.christinajensenpr.com (in the Bang on a Can gallery)

New York, NY (May 17, 2010) — On Sunday, June 27, from noon until midnight, **Bang on a Can** will present its annual **Bang on a Can Marathon**, at the River To River Festival, held for the fifth year at World Financial Center Winter Garden (220 Vesey Street, NYC) and co-presented by Arts World Financial Center. Founded in 1987, the Marathon is still FREE and this year brings together more than 150 astounding performers and composers from throughout the world, performing in numerous genres and experimental styles, for 12 hours of uninterrupted live, ear-bending, border-crossing music. The Bang on a Can Marathon is part of the 2010 River To River Festival, the city's largest FREE summer arts festival.

As artistically inclusive as it is audience-friendly, Bang on a Can's annual 12-hour Marathon has become one of the most diverse, most open and most exciting music events in the world. “Imagine Lollapalooza advised by the ghost of John Cage,” wrote *Vanity Fair*. “There are other places to hear new contemporary music, but it is seldom offered with such a potent blend of intensity, authority, and abandon.”

At least 10 new works will receive world or U.S. premieres during the 2010 Bang on a Can Marathon. Composers and performers hail from all over the world and include a Dutch avant-garde percussion ensemble, a German recorder quartet, musicians from Kyrgyzstan, the first electronica band from Burkina Faso in West Africa, a Balinese gamelan from Boston, and a New York new music group whose members are all under the age of 15.

The Marathon includes the much-anticipated U.S. premiere of **Fausto Romitelli's** *Professor Bad Trip* performed by the **Talea Ensemble**. Italian composer Romitelli was heavily influenced by French spectral music and studied at IRCAM, the renowned Paris institute specializing in the science of sound. This year's Marathon falls on the sixth anniversary of Romitelli's death – he died at age 41 on June 27, 2004. *Professor Bad Trip*, Romitelli's most significant piece, has become a runaway cult-classic in Europe. A trilogy written between 1998 and 2000, it is based on his experience reading the work of Belgian poet and writer Henri Michaux while under the influence of hallucinogenic drugs. In it Romitelli explores the sonorities of rock, with an electro-acoustic treatment of sound and instrumental gestures.

In addition, this year the **Bang on a Can All-Stars** will premiere a brand new collaboration with Warp records' electronic songstress **Mira Calix**. Known for mixing her intimate vocals with jittering beats and experimental electronic textures, Mira Calix has also been commissioned by the London Sinfonietta, and in 2009 won a British Composer Award for her multi-media choral installation, *My Secret Heart*. At the Marathon, she will perform her own composition with the All-Stars, in addition to a solo set. The Bang on a Can All-Stars will also perform composer/guitar-wizard **Fred Frith's** 2006 work *Snakes and Ladders*, and young Australian composer **Kate Moore's** *Ridgeway*, commissioned in 2009 through the Bang on a Can People's Commissioning Fund.

The Marathon will also include New York's **Signal** led by conductor **Brad Lubman** performing *Shelter* – the visually stunning collaboration of **Bang on a Can co-founders Michael Gordon, David Lang, and Julia Wolfe's** and Ridge Theater with projections by **Bill Morrison** and **Laurie Olander**. Originally seen in its staged version as part of the 2005 BAM Next Wave Festival, *Shelter* is presented here in a concert version with projections. *Shelter* explores the concept of taking shelter from a multitude of angles – as an emotional state, through the language of building, in the aesthetic beauty of blueprints, as comfort in each other, and more.

A highlight of this year's Marathon will be a special appearance by guitarist, composer, and bandleader **Vernon Reid**, founder of the funk metal band Living Colour. Reid, who enjoys a varied solo career, has collaborated with choreographers Bill T. Jones and Donald Byrd and has played live or recorded with the Roots, Eye & I, Mick Jagger, Public Enemy, among many others. He brings his new project, *Ghost Narratives* – a collaboration with friends to be announced – to the Marathon.

In addition, at this year's Marathon, Dutch percussion masters **Slagwerk Den Haag** will give a rare performance in the U.S., premiering music by **Mayke Nas & Wouter Snoei, Seung-Ah Oh, and Marco Momi**. Slagwerk Den Haag, founded in 1977, performs repertoire that stretches from the earliest composed works for percussion ensemble to the large percussion sextets of Iannis Xenakis.

The 2010 Bang on a Can Marathon will feature a number of performers and composers who routinely blur the lines between rock, jazz, and new “classical” music, including a special appearance by African crossover innovators **Burkina Electric** with founding member composer **Lukas Ligeti**, winner of the 2010 Herb Alpert Award; a collage of bedroom pop-oriented songs by French acoustic composer and double bass player **Florent Ghys**, whose much-praised EP – *Baroque Tardif: Soli* – was recently released by Cantaloupe Music; a jazz-influenced set by composer and saxophonist **Steve Coleman** and his trio; and composer and bandleader **John Hollenbeck** in a performance with his 20-piece **John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble** of *Perseverance*, from the ensemble's 2009 album *Eternal Interlude*.

In addition, the 2010 Marathon will include the New York debut of **Kyrgyz** jaw harp virtuosos **Kambar Kalendarov** and **Kutman Sultanbekov**, and the wild and wonderful emerging Brooklyn duo **Buke and Gass**, whose sonic multi-instrumental duets have crash-landed on the indie rock tour scene.

Another focal point of the 2010 Marathon will be the world premiere of math and physics-inspired composer **Tristan Perich's** *Half-tone*. Written for three flutes and 1-bit Electronics, it will be performed by flutists **Jessica Schmitz, Eric Lamb, and Claire Chase**. Perich drew attention for his 2006 release on Cantaloupe Music, *1-Bit Music*, which combined his music with primitive, hand-programmed electronics that investigate the foundations of digital sound. For *1-Bit Music*, an electronic circuit is assembled inside a CD case with a headphone jack on the side. Perich's follow-up release on Cantaloupe Music, *1-Bit Symphony*, will be available in August.

The Marathon will also include a visceral performance of original works by German composer and pianist **Mortiz Eggert**, Boston's astonishing **Gamelan Galak Tika** performing composer and Bang on a Can All-Star clarinetist **Evan Ziporyn's** *Tire Fire*, New York tween sensations **Face the Music** in **Graham Fitkin's** *Mesh*, German recorder virtuosos **Quartet New Generation** in U.S. premieres of music by **Mary Ellen Childs** and **Michiel Mensing**; the U.S. premieres of music written and performed by Canadian guitarist and composer **Tim Brady**, New York's **JACK Quartet** in **Iannis Xenakis' Tetra** for string quartet, and much more.

Music by: Tim Brady, Mira Calix, Mary Ellen Childs, Steve Coleman, Moritz Eggert, Graham Fitkin, Fred Frith, Florent Ghys, Michael Gordon, Dorothee Hahne, John Hollenbeck, David Lang, Lukas Ligeti, Michiel Mensingh, Kate Moore, Paul Moravec, Mayke Nass, Seung-Ah Oh, Tristan Perich, Vernon Reid, Fausto Romitelli, Wouter Snoei, Julia Wolfe, Iannis Xenakis, & Evan Ziporyn, AND MORE

Performances by: Bang on a Can All-Stars, Tim Brady (Canada), Buke and Gass, Moritz Eggert (Germany), Burkina Electric (Africa), Face the Music, Florent Ghys (France), Gamelan Galak Tika, JACK Quartet, John Hollenbeck Large Ensemble, Kambar Kalendarov & Kutman Sultanbekov (Kyrgyzstan), Mira Calix (UK), Slagwerk Den Haag (Holland), Steve Coleman Trio, Talea Ensemble, Quartet New Generation (Germany), Vernon Reid, flutists Jessica Schmitz, Eric Lamb & Claire Chase, Signal, AND MORE

****For artists' biographies, links, & press clips, please see the Bang on a Can Marathon PDF kit at www.christinajensenpr.com. A schedule (still subject to change) of performances will be distributed on June 1.****

About Bang on a Can: Formed in 1987 by composers Michael Gordon, David Lang and Julia Wolfe, Bang on a Can is dedicated to commissioning, performing, creating, presenting and recording contemporary music. With an ear for the new, the unknown and the unconventional, Bang on a Can strives to expose exciting and innovative music as broadly and accessibly as possible to new audiences worldwide. And through its Summer Festival, Bang on a Can hopes to bring this energy and passion for innovation to a younger generation of composers and players.

The San Francisco Chronicle has called Bang on a Can "the country's most important vehicle for contemporary music." Over the years, Bang on a Can has grown from a one-day festival to a multi-faceted organization. Projects include festival concerts and the annual Bang on a Can Marathon; The People's Commissioning Fund, a membership program to commission emerging composers; the Bang on a Can All-Stars, who tour to major festivals and concert venues around the world every year; recording projects; the Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival & Institute – a professional development program for young composers and performers; and cross-disciplinary collaborations and projects with DJs, visual artists, choreographers, filmmakers and more. Bang on a Can's innovative and aggressive approach to programming and presentation has created a large and vibrant international audience made up of people of all ages who are rediscovering the value of contemporary music. For more information, visit www.bangonacan.org.

About the River To River Festival: The River To River Festival is presented by a collaboration of Lower Manhattan's major cultural event producers including the Alliance for Downtown New York, Arts World Financial Center, Battery Park City Authority, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, and The Seaport. Co-presenters for the 2010 season are the Joyce Theater and IMG Artists. All partners are firmly committed to using the arts as a tool for economic revitalization and the development of new audiences for the arts.

Free admission to River To River® events is underwritten by a wide range of funders led by the Festival's Founding Sponsor, American Express.

Major support is provided by the Festival's Producing Partners, including NBC Local Media New York and WNYC New York Public Radio. Vital support comes from our Supporting Funders, including Century 21 Department Stores, EmblemHealth, JetBlue Airways, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Target, and The Village Voice. Participating Funders are CB Richard Ellis, The Moody's Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, New York Marriott Downtown, New York State Council on the Arts, New York Stock Exchange Foundation, Pace University, and TKTS Seaport. For more information, visit www.rivertorivernyc.com.

About Arts World Financial Center: Arts World Financial Center serves as the leading showcase in Lower Manhattan for visual and performing arts - from the intimate to the spectacular - by artists either emerging or established. With its waterfront Winter Garden as a focal point, the artistic process is made accessible in a free, open and interactive manner to workers, residents and the broader public of cultural consumers. Since 1988, year-round and free to the public, Arts World Financial Center has presented interdisciplinary arts programming with an emphasis on commissioned works, site-specific installations and premieres. For more information, visit www.worldfinancialcenter.com.

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