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Live: Full Moon at Governor's Island

When summer hits in New York City, the buildings start to sweat and just the word “beach” can make you drool. It's only fitting then, that just 24 hours after the solstice, we found ourselves with our toes in the sand and a view of the water. We arrived at Governor's Island mid-afternoon, welcomed by a beautiful [view of Manhattan](#), elegant decorations, and a bar full of Absolut Vodka. DJs on two different stages filled the space, and partygoers crowded the sand and picnic tables in fashionable festival attire, many clutching large slices of watermelon to help beat the afternoon heat.

The Main Stage boomed with the sounds of [Wild Belle](#), [The Dolls](#), [Tanlines](#), and [Cyril Hahn](#), who laid down a particularly catchy [remix of “Say My Name”](#). The Neon Gold Stage, surrounded by grassy green hills, had a decidedly more intimate feel, and the entire [Neon Gold Records](#) family was spotted dancing nearby to [The Deep DJs](#) early in the day. “Neon Gold knows what they like, they know what they want,” remarked fans Ian and Michaela, lounging nearby. They were intrigued by the festival's aesthetic, and more so by Neon Gold's role in the curation of the festival. [Float Fall](#), [Antoine Karl](#), and [Little Daylight](#) played into the sunset as a grid of light bulbs produced a rainbow gradient backdrop, mimicking the sky behind it. “Playing a party like this in your hometown is awesome,” said Ben “B-Roc” Ruttner of [The Knocks](#) before they took the stage for a DJ set. “All our friends are here, so it's two birds with one stone.”

As the full moon rose, we ran into Neon Gold Records co-founder Derek Davies glowing from a long day in the sun. When asked who he was most excited to see, Davies gushed, “Well obviously [HAERTS](#) is very near and dear to our hearts.” This was probably the band we were also most excited to see and they absolutely delivered with a delightfully tight set at the end of the evening. “And then there's [Miami Horror](#)! I can't wait to see them on the Main Stage; they're new to the Neon Gold family.” He continued to beam, “It's an amazing day, we couldn't have asked for better weather... The full moon makes me feel a little strange, but I'm down with it. We're all here to get weird, so why not?”

The moon on Saturday wasn't just full. It was a [supermoon](#). This rare phenomenon, which occurs when the moon is nearest the earth in its elliptical orbit, played a big part in luring people to this elegant beachside music festival, as did the balmy weather and boozy beach party aesthetic. We chatted with concertgoers Joe and Brian who said, “We would be here even if it wasn't a full moon, but it's cool that this was built around a cosmic event.”

Both stages glowed and boomed with sound throughout the night as elated guests traversed the sandy waterfront with friends in tow and drinks in hand. Miami Horror rounded out the evening and gave the audience license to embrace the full moon and get freaky with their four-piece dance-pop extravaganza of a performance. Thanks to some excellent music, perfect weather, and the radiant sky, we really enjoyed being castaways on Governor's Island for a hot summer second.

Check out more photos from Full Moon on [Facebook](#).

By [Chelsea Naftelberg](#) & [Schuyler Rooth](#); Photos by [Lesley Keller](#)



Miami Horror at Full Moon



Miami Horror at Full Moon



Full Moon



Haerts at Full Moon



Haerts at Full Moon



Haerts at Full Moon



The Knocks at Full Moon



Tanlines at Full Moon



Wild Belle at Full Moon



Wild Belle at Full Moon

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