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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MAKE MUSIC NEW YORK RETURNS!  
OVER 700 FREE CONCERTS IN OUTDOOR, PUBLIC SPACES  
ON JUNE 21, THE FIRST DAY OF SUMMER**

**ARTISTS INCLUDE ROY HARGROVE,  
NY PHILHARMONIC BRASS, AND AN ISLAND FULL OF PUNK BANDS**

“Come outside and make music...together in the world’s greatest City.”  
says Mayor Bloomberg

New York, NY – **Make Music New York**, described by city officials as “one of the largest musical events in the city’s history,” is back for a second year of free concerts in public spaces throughout the five boroughs of New York City, all on the first day of summer. Says Mayor Michael Bloomberg, “We were delighted to support Make Music New York’s debut [in 2007], and we are doing everything possible to make sure that the event is even bigger and better in 2008... I encourage New Yorkers and visitors from all around the world to come outside and make music – and still more history – together in the world’s greatest City.”

Last year, nearly 2,000 musicians took part in the one-day celebration, which took place simultaneously with similar festivities in more than 300 cities around the world. MMNY performers represented virtually every musical genre, ranging from bluegrass and Hip-hop to Tuvan throat-singing. Concerts were held on streets, sidewalks, stoops, plazas, cemeteries, parks and gardens.

This year’s edition promises to be even bigger, with nearly 800 events. Performers will range from schoolchildren to marquee names such as **Roy Hargrove**, the principal brass of the **New York Philharmonic**, and singers from **New York City Opera**. Tamil choral singing, Chinese opera, and Polish songs reflect the city’s diversity in neighborhood events that, like all MMNY concerts, are open to all.

Make Music New York 2008 will include more than a dozen block parties – all-day music events on closed-off streets. Since the summer solstice falls on a Saturday this year, a major surge in audience attendance is expected: some 250,000 listeners are expected to join in the fun.

Highlights include:

■ A classical, jazz, and opera block party on 64<sup>th</sup> St. (Broadway and Central Park West) near Lincoln Center, with six hours of music by performers from the **American Opera Projects** (noon), **American Composers Orchestra** (1 pm), pop/classical

fusion ensemble **The Infinite Orchestra** (2 pm), **Jazz at Lincoln Center** (3 pm), the **New York Philharmonic** principal brass (4 pm), and **New York City Opera** (5 pm).

■ For one day, Governors Island will be “**Punk Island**,” with thirteen stages of music and no volume restrictions! Listeners will be able to reach the island via a special ferry with on-board punk bands, leaving from the Battery Maritime Building (adjacent to the Staten Island Ferry terminal). Bands include The Choke, Thriller, NCM, and many more. Noon – 6 pm.

■ In tribute to the late Latin percussionist Miguel “Anga” Diaz, legendary jazz trumpeter **Roy Hargrove** will perform as part of a day-long block party presented by the Jazz Gallery, leading a new version of his Grammy-winning Afro-Cuban group Crisol. Other acts include Flor Urrutia y Timba Jazz, Yosvany Terry, and Gema y Pavel. The street fair takes place at the western end of Dominick St. (Varick and Hudson), 1 – 7 pm.

Other events of interest:

● **Carnegie Hall** presents Heritage O.P. at the Zankel Hall entrance (7<sup>th</sup> Ave. and 56<sup>th</sup> St.) Heritage O.P. is an acoustic percussion and vocal ensemble that fuses the rich cultural traditions and rhythms of Africa — from South America to the Caribbean — with African American tradition and modern musical trends. Two sets, noon and 1 pm.

● **Composers Collaborative**, the composer/performer collective whose performance of Terry Riley’s *In C* was a highlight of last year’s MMNY, will present a program of politically-oriented music on a closed-off block of Cornelia St. (Bleecker and W. 4th St.). Music by Louis Andriessen, Frederic Rzewski, and more, performed by **Newspeak** and others. 6:30 – 9:30 pm.

● The **Village Light Opera Company** will present a fully staged production of *The Music Man* on Leonard St. (Broadway and Church St.), with piano accompaniment, 2 – 3:30 pm.

● **Galapagos** and the **Music Hall of Williamsburg** are taking over North 6<sup>th</sup> St. (Wythe Ave. and Kent Ave.) with 40 eclectic acts on four stages, headlined by DJ XXXchange of Hip-hop/electro sensations **Spank Rock**. Other bands include **Ponytail**, **Power Douglas**, **Chairlift**, **The Forms**, **Fiasco**, **Wakey!Wakey!**, and many more. Noon – 8 pm.

These are only a few of the hundreds of concerts taking place on June 21. In all five boroughs, from Orchard Beach in the Bronx down to the south shore of Staten Island, musicians of all kinds will be taking to the streets to perform for passerby, turning New York into a giant party – a chance for people to come out from under their headphones to listen, sing, and dance with their neighbors!

A complete listing of events can be found at the website of MMNY's exclusive online media partner, **Time Out New York**. At [www.timeoutnewyork.com/makemusic](http://www.timeoutnewyork.com/makemusic), interested music lovers can browse festival events by starting time, genre, type of venue, and neighborhood to tailor a fascinating itinerary for the day. **Metro New York**, the festival's exclusive print partner, will produce a complete program to be distributed at concert locations, and in the two weeks leading up to the event. Or, you can simply head down the street and follow your ears!

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