

Make Music
New York!



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MAKE MUSIC NEW YORK 2008 TURNS GOVERNORS ISLAND INTO “PUNK ISLAND”

REAGAN YOUTH HEADLINES, WITH 12 STAGES OF NEW YORK PUNK/HARDCORE BANDS ON JUNE 21

Bands to play on ferry from Battery Maritime Building

New York, NY – CBGB may be gone, but the spirit of NYC punk is alive and kicking hard. Abundant proof will be found on Governors Island from 11 am to 5 pm on Saturday, June 21 as **Make Music New York**, described by city officials as “one of the largest musical events in the city’s history,” transforms the ordinarily quiet outpost into a punk/hardcore paradise. Some 75 bands will appear on twelve stages scattered around the island, and six bands will perform on a free ferry that will transport revelers from the Battery Maritime Building at the tip of Lower Manhattan – home to David Byrne’s “Playing the Building” musical installation – to Governors Island, renamed Punk Island for the occasion. The iconic 1980s hardcore/punk band **Reagan Youth** headlines the mainstage lineup (4:30 pm), preceded by The Choke, Copyright Chaos, The Ghoulz, and Kilslug. Other notable acts on Punk Island include The Blame, The Lucky F*cks, and Thriller; band bios follow.

Punk Island is just one part of Make Music New York, which takes place simultaneously with similar festivities in more than 300 cities around the world. MMNY performers represent virtually every musical genre, ranging from bluegrass and Hip-hop to Tamil choral singing. Concerts will be held on streets, sidewalks, stoops, plazas, cemeteries, parks and gardens. This year’s performers range from schoolchildren to marquee names such as jazz trumpet legend **Roy Hargrove**, the principal brass of the **New York Philharmonic**, and singers from **New York City Opera**. Bollywood karaoke, Chinese opera, and Polish songs reflect the city’s diversity in neighborhood events that, like all MMNY concerts, are open to all.

MMNY 2008 will include more than a dozen block parties – all-day music events on closed-off streets. Among them will be a closed-off block of N. 6th St. in Williamsburg (Wythe & Kent Aves.), where **Galapagos** and the **Music Hall of Williamsburg** will present 40 eclectic bands on four stages, noon – 8 pm, headlined by DJ XXXchange of Hip-hop/electro sensations **Spank Rock**. Other bands include **Pela, Ponytail, Power Douglas, Chairlift, The Forms, Fiasco, Wakey! Wakey!**, and many more.

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PUNK ISLAND BAND BIOS

Reagan Youth is a hardcore/punk band formed in 1980 by singer Dave Rubinstein and guitarist Paul Bakija in Queens, who performed regularly at CBGB with bands such as the Dead Kennedys, Bad Brains, and The Misfits. After a troubled history, including the tragic death of Rubinstein in 1993, the band reformed in 2006 with Pat McGowen replacing Rubinstein as the vocalist. Today, they remain icons of NYC hardcore/punk, having influenced bands such as the Beastie Boys and Rancid.

Formed out of the influence of the spikes-and-studs street punk movement of the late 90s and early 2000, Philadelphia-based **The Ghouls** are a mixture of hardcore punk and horror rock. The band started in the summer of 2001, and has gathered quite a large following ever since. Band members include Robert Price on vocals, Zack Volta on bass, Johnny Apathy on Guitar, and Eric Hayes on drums. They are now signed to California-based SOS Records. In 2006, they released a 12-song album, titled *Stand Alone*. They are influenced by bands such as The Ramones, The Misfits, and The Clash.

Copyright Chaos are a streetpunk band from New Haven, CT, and are influenced by bands such as Oxymoron, Condemned 84, and The Partisans. They have earned good press in the punk world, having been interviewed for punkrockdemo.com and in punk 'zine *Loud Fast Rules*. Today they are signed to UK label STEP-1 Music, and perform alongside well-known punk bands such as The Lower Class Brats, The Kill Boys, and Broken. Their debut album is *Appetite For Intoxication*.

The Choke is a popular female-fronted NYC punk band influenced by the legendary sounds of The Buzzcocks, The Kinks, and The Ramones. *Punk Magazine* raves that The Choke “is the sound of classic NYC punk, tough as nails with melody and attitude to spare.” They have earned the esteem of the punk world, touring with the Buzzcocks in 2006 and being featured in the Winter '07 issue of *Punk Magazine*.

The Lucky F*cks are a Staten Island punk band influenced by groups such as The Misfits, Rancid, Choking Victim, and Black Flag. They have a large local following, playing alongside bands such as Grizzly Smith, Status Quo No Show (SQNS), and The Blame, all of whom will join them on Punk Island.

Thriller is a NYC punk band that has become a staple of the L.E.S. punk scene, often playing all-ages shows at local venues such as the ABC No Rio. Formed by members of Hot Crew 57, a well-known NYC punk crew, Thriller will play on Punk Island alongside fellow L.E.S. punk bands Planned Collapse, Rabia, and Animale.

Kilslug was originally formed in the mid-1980s Boston underground punk scene. In 2007 they reformed in celebration of their 20-year reunion. Members include Larry Lifeless on vocals, Rico Petroleum on guitar, Big Daddy on bass and drums, and others. They are currently signed to Taang Records, and will be releasing a CD version of their album *Answer The Call*, originally released in 1986. On Punk Island they will be on the main stage, performing alongside Reagan Youth.

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The Blame is a high energy streetpunk band from Staten Island, influenced by The Dead Boys, The Adicts, and GBH. Members include vocalist Phil Cadaver, Danny Zero on bass, Joe Joe on drums, and Johnny C on guitar. Formed in the mid-1990s, they have released several albums (most recently the CD *Game Over*) and are coming off a successful European tour. On Punk Island they will be playing alongside The Lucky F*cks, Status Quo No Show (SQNS), and Grizzly Smith.

A complete listing of **Make Music New York** events can be found at the website of MMNY's exclusive online media partner, **Time Out New York**. At 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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