



## BAM R&B Festival at MetroTech kicks off a summer of free live concerts, June 8—Aug 10

**June 8:** Ramsey Lewis  
**June 15:** Raul Midón  
**June 22:** The Suffers  
**June 29:** John Hammond  
**July 6:** Sinkane  
**July 13:** Tank and the Bangas  
**July 20:** Preservation Hall Jazz Band  
**July 27:** Septeto Santiaguero  
**August 3:** Cory Henry & The Funk Apostles  
**Aug 10:** Liv Warfield, Judith Hill, and Shelby J: Love 4 One Another

**Forest City Ratner Companies is the Presenting Sponsor of BAM R&B Festival at MetroTech**

### **BAM R&B Festival at MetroTech**

Thursdays, Noon—2pm, Jun 8—Aug 10  
Free admission, MetroTech Commons at MetroTech Center  
Produced by Danny Kapilian

“New York City’s best daytime festival...”—*The Village Voice*

**Brooklyn, NY/May 2, 2017**—BAM announces the 2017 BAM R&B Festival at MetroTech. Now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> year, the festival continues to feature jazz, soul, and R&B legends alongside groundbreaking emerging artists with 10 free outdoor concerts from June 8 through August 10. This year’s lineup features Ramsey Lewis, Raul Midón, The Suffers, John Hammond, Sinkane, Tank and The Bangas, Preservation Hall Jazz Band, Septeto Santiaguero, Cory Henry & The Funk Apostles, and a special one-time performance by Prince protégés Liv Warfield, Judith Hill, and Shelby J.

“The 2017 BAM R&B Festival at MetroTech is the most relevant festival season we have ever presented,” says event producer Danny Kapilian, “because it features mostly new and contemporary artists this year, along with several great legends. After 22 years, I am looking forward to this coming season more than any other. It’s an annual joy to present all of these brilliant artists—outdoors and free of charge—in Downtown Brooklyn.”

The free lunchtime performances will be held Thursdays at noon at MetroTech Commons, located at the corner of Flatbush and Myrtle Avenues, rain or shine. For more information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100 or visit [BAM.org](http://BAM.org).

For press information on the MetroTech R&B Festival, please contact Christian Barclay at [cbarclay@BAM.org](mailto:cbarclay@BAM.org) or 718.724.8044.

## **About the artists:**

### **Ramsey Lewis**

Thu, Jun 8, Noon—2pm

Jazz icon Ramsey Lewis is a leader in contemporary jazz, recognized as a Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts and with 80 albums—seven of them gold—to show for it. Since becoming a fixture in the 1950s Chicago jazz scene, the three-time Grammy-winning pianist has collaborated with countless artists, frequently working with past bandmate Maurice White and featuring Earth, Wind & Fire on his 1974 career-defining album *Sun Goddess*. Most recently, Lewis returned to his electric roots with 2015's *Taking Another Look—Deluxe Edition*, in which he rekindles original tracks from *Sun Goddess* along with a mix of new tunes.

### **Raul Midón**

Thu, Jun 15 Noon—2pm

Raul Midón's syncopated flamenco- and jazz-infused acoustic guitar is a wonder matched only by his silky tenor. Blind since infancy, the emotionally insightful songwriter got his start as a backup singer for Shakira, which eventually led to collaborations with the likes of Bill Withers and Stevie Wonder, along with appearances on recordings by Queen Latifah and Snoop Dogg. Perhaps best known for his improvisational mouth-horn technique, in which he performs a bebop "trumpet" solo entirely with his lips, Midón released his latest album, *Bad Ass and Blind*, earlier this year.

### **The Suffers**

Thu, Jun 22 Noon—2pm

Houston's commanding 10-piece ensemble is here to shake up the notion that they're just another soul revival band. The Suffers' signature "Gulf Coast Soul" sound is as much influenced by classic rock 'n' roll, country, Latin, and Southern hip-hop as by the eras of Stax/Volt records and Muscle Shoals studio. Boasting a powerful horn section, reggae vibes, and massive vocals from Kam Franklin, they have garnered 20 Houston Press Music Awards and made appearances on *The Daily Show with Trevor Noah* and *Jimmy Kimmel Live!* in support of their 2016 self-titled debut album.

### **John Hammond**

Thu, Jun 29 Noon—2pm

Blues Hall of Fame inductee John Hammond remains the only person to have had both Jimi Hendrix and Eric Clapton in his band at the same time. The Grammy Award-winning acoustic guitar legend has recorded over 33 albums since cutting his teeth during the mid-60s blues renaissance, amassing critical acclaim for his solo act of wailing the blues with a harmonica around his neck.

### **Sinkane**

Thu, July 6 Noon—2pm

Sinkane makes feel-good music for trying times, spreading Afrobeat cadences, funky guitar licks, and soulful falsetto with a generosity of spirit. London-born Ahmed Gallab heads the four-

piece band after making his musical debut as a drummer for Of Montreal. The group comes to MetroTech fresh off this year's *Life & Livin' It*, offering slinky grooves in the name of celebrating what makes life good without ignoring what makes it hard.

### **Tank and the Bangas**

Thu, Jul 13 Noon—2pm

The winners of the 2017 NPR Tiny Desk Contest, Tank and the Bangas conjure a magical mix of rhythmic soul and spoken word, a unique sound that the New Orleans natives compare to gumbo. Mesmerizing lead vocalist Tarronia “Tank” Ball’s enrapturing performances draw on her background as a poet, spinning Disney-esque plays on lyrics backed by funky synth keys, saxophone, and flute.

### **Preservation Hall Jazz Band**

Thu, Jul 20 Noon—2pm

The seminal New Orleans house band of Preservation Hall was formed at the French Quarter haunt by the venue founders’ son, Allan Jaffe, who still leads the band today. Its original members performed with the likes of Buddy Bolden, Jelly Roll Morton, Louis Armstrong, and Bunk Johnson. The ensemble continues its deep reverence for tradition while touring worldwide and building fresh material, including the 2013 release of *That’s It!*, the band's first album of all-original music in its entire 50-year career.

### **Septeto Santiaguero**

Thu, Jul 27 Noon—2pm

The intoxicating Cuban ensemble Septeto Santiaguero gained attention for infusing an adventurous streak into the traditional *son* music of its native Santiago de Cuba. Before winning the 2015 Latin Grammy Award for Best Traditional Tropical Album and sparking collaborations with salsa stars like José Alberto “El Canario” and Rubén Blades, the seven captivating performers honed their sound at the famous Casa de la Trova nightclub, cultivating an infectious call-and-response style that continues to heat up dancefloors wherever they go.

### **Cory Henry & The Funk Apostles**

Thu, Aug 3 Noon—2pm

Brooklyn native and Hammond B-3 organ apostle Cory Henry entered the scene at the tender age of six, making his debut on the Apollo Theater stage. He has since won two Grammys with experimental jazz ensemble Snarky Puppy and grown a rabid social media fan base for his dynamic and improvisational solo work. This master of good vibes is now on tour with his newest passion project, the six-member crew Cory Henry & The Funk Apostles.

### **Liv Warfield, Judith Hill, and Shelby J: Love 4 One Another**

Thu, Aug 10 Noon—2pm

Three brilliant female Prince protégés carry on the icon’s legacy for this special live show under the same banner as his Love 4 One Another charity. The trio combines the vocal talents of thrilling stage presence Liv Warfield, previously a member of Prince’s New Power Generation backing band; Grammy winner Judith Hill; and powerful songwriter Shelby J. After touring with

the likes of Michael Jackson, D'Angelo, and Santana, the women come to MetroTech backed by Warfield's own band.

### Credits

Forest City Ratner Companies is the Presenting Sponsor of The R&B Festival at Metro Tech.

BAM 2017 Winter/Spring Season supporters: Rose M. Badgley Residuary Charitable Trust; brigittencyc; Betsy and Ed Cohen/Areté Foundation; Con Edison; The Gladys Krieble Delmas Foundation; Epstein Teicher Philanthropies; Ford Foundation; Forest City Ratner Companies; The Francena T. Harrison Foundation Trust; The Kovner Foundation; The Lupin Foundation; MetLife Foundation; The Ambrose Monell Foundation; Henry and Lucy Moses Fund, Inc.; Donald R. Mullen Jr.; Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation, Inc.; Onassis Cultural Center NY; The Reed Foundation; Renova; The Jerome Robbins Foundation, Inc.; The Fan Fox & Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc.; The Morris and Alma Schapiro Fund; The Scherman Foundation; The SHS Foundation; The Shubert Foundation, Inc.; The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust; The TinMan Fund; Toll Brothers City Living; Viacom; and The Winston Foundation, Inc.

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### General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn's only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, offers a dinner menu prior to most BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances, featuring varied light fare and bar service.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater); D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue  
Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center  
Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM  
Car: Limited commercial parking lots are located near BAM. Visit BAM.org for information.

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.

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