

BAM

2017 NEXT WAVE FESTIVAL

BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

Music collective Bang on a Can celebrates its ground-breaking 30-year *Road Trip* at BAM, Oct 27—28

Jointly-composed concert piece is a testament of the enduring personal and professional partnership of Michael Gordon, David Lang, and Julia Wolfe

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Road Trip

Bang on a Can All-Stars

Music by Michael Gordon, David Lang, and Julia Wolfe

Directed by Michael Counts

Scenic design by CandyStations

Lighting design by Ben Stanton

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House (30 Lafayette Ave)

Oct 27—28 at 7:30pm

Tickets start at \$25

Sep 28, 2017/Brooklyn, NY—*Road Trip*, a single concert piece jointly composed by **Michael Gordon, David Lang, and Julia Wolfe**, comes to BAM on Oct 27 and 28 as the culminating 30th anniversary celebration of the influential music collective **Bang on a Can**. Featuring super-group the Bang on a Can All-Stars (Ashley Bathgate, cello; Robert Black, bass; Vicky Chow, piano; David Cossin, percussion; Mark Stewart, electric guitar; Ken Thomson, clarinets; and Andrew Cotton, sound engineer) and projections, the piece commemorates a journey that started in a downtown gallery and has since traversed the most prestigious concert halls of the world.

Thirty years ago, three young composers, Michael Gordon, David Lang, and Julia Wolfe, started a journey together. After hundreds of thousands of miles and hundreds of new pieces, records, productions, marathons and summer festivals, they are still the best of friends and collaborators—on the road together, sharing the journey. *Road Trip* is about journeys and

people who make them—physical, geographical, emotional, and spiritual. It celebrates the freedom and mystery of the open road—both actual and metaphorical.

“One of the amazing things about Bang on a Can is that we have been traveling together, for years, all around the world,” recalls David Lang. “When I think of going on the road with the band I think of the excitement, the spirit of adventure. I think of the great audiences. Most of all I think of the camaraderie among us, how happy we have been to take the show on the road. For me that is what our piece *Road Trip* is all about.”

Now in its 30th year, Bang on a Can is committed more than ever to an increasing and inclusive world-wide community dedicated to innovation through music; a world where ideas flow freely across musical, geographical, and spiritual boundaries. Co-founders Gordon, Lang, and Wolfe explain, “Thirty years ago we started dreaming of the world we wanted to live in. It would be a kind of utopia for music: all the boundaries between composers would come down, all the boundaries between genres would come down, all the boundaries between musicians and audience would come down. Then we started trying to build it. Building a utopia is a political act—it pushes people to change. It is also an act of resistance to the things that keep us apart.”

About the Artists

Bang on a Can is dedicated to making music new. Since its first Marathon concert in 1987, Bang on a Can has been creating an international community dedicated to innovative music, wherever it is found. With adventurous programs, it commissions new composers, performs, presents, and records new work, develops new audiences, and educates the musicians of the future. Bang on a Can is building a world in which powerful new musical ideas flow freely across all genres and borders. Bang on a Can plays “a central role in fostering a new kind of audience that doesn’t concern itself with boundaries. If music is made with originality and integrity, these listeners will come” (*The New York Times*).

Composer **Michael Gordon** merges subtle rhythmic invention with incredible power in his music, embodying, in the words of *The New Yorker’s* Alex Ross, “the fury of punk rock, the nervous brilliance of free jazz and the intransigence of classical modernism.” Over the past 25 years, Gordon has produced a strikingly diverse body of work, ranging from large-scale pieces for high-energy ensembles and major orchestral commissions to works conceived specifically for the recording studio. His past BAM appearances include *Amplified* (2016 Next Wave), *Timber* (2012 Next Wave), *Lightning at our feet* (2008 Next Wave), *Shelter* (2005 Next Wave), and *The New Yorkers* (2003 Next Wave).

David Lang is the recipient of the 2008 Pulitzer Prize in music for *the little match girl passion* and was nominated for a Golden Globe and Academy Award for his music for Paolo Sorrentino's film *Youth*. One of America’s most honored composers, Lang has recently written works include *man made* for Sō Percussion and the Los Angeles Philharmonic; *death speaks* for Shara Worden, Bryce Dessner, Nico Muhly, and Owen Pallett; *writing on water* for the London Sinfonietta, with libretto and visuals by English filmmaker Peter Greenaway; *the difficulty of crossing a field*, a fully-staged opera for Kronos Quartet; *anatomy theatre*; *love fail* with Anonymous 4 (2012 Next Wave); and *the loser* (2016 Next Wave), among others.

Julia Wolfe, winner of the 2015 Pulitzer Prize in music and 2016 MacArthur Fellow, draws inspiration from the folk, classical, and rock genres, bringing a modern sensibility to each while simultaneously tearing down the walls between them. Wolfe’s music is distinguished by an intense physicality and a relentless power that pushes performers to extremes and demands attention from the audience. Her music has been heard in venues worldwide including BAM

(*Steel Hammer*, 2015 Next Wave), the Sydney Olympic Arts Festival, Théâtre de la Ville, Lincoln Center, and Carnegie Hall, and has been recorded on Cantaloupe, Teldec, Point/Universal, Sony Classical, and Argo/Decca.

For press information, contact David Hsieh at dhsieh@BAM.org or 718.724.8027.

Credits:

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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 BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances.

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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