

For Immediate Release

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**PROGRAMMING ANNOUNCED FOR THE
SECOND ANNUAL *LIVE AT THE ARCHWAY* SERIES,
JUNE 2 – SEPTEMBER 29**

**Eighteen Free Concerts and Events to Be Held on Thursdays at 6pm
Under Manhattan Bridge Archway in DUMBO**

DUMBO, Brooklyn, April 26, 2016 – The **DUMBO Business Improvement District (DUMBO BID)** today announces its programming for the second annual ***Live at the Archway*** concert series. Reflecting DUMBO's creative spirit and Brooklyn's diverse culture, the 18-week free family-friendly performance series, from **June 2 until September 29**, encompasses a broad range of musical genres including salsa, R&B, jazz, and classic rock, together with some of today's emerging indie bands, performances by modern dance companies, and five evenings of social dance. Concerts and events take place on **Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m.** under the unique setting of the **Manhattan Bridge Archway** in DUMBO, and are co-curated by **Clara Schuhmacher** of the **DUMBO BID** and by **Tanya Rynd**, owner of popular DUMBO restaurant **Superfine**.

The full series line-up includes: five-member Latin music ensemble **Los Hacheros** (June 2); soul and rock band **Mary C and the Stellars** (June 9); indie soul singer-songwriter **Lynette Williams** (June 16); jazz vocalist and songwriter **Beat Kaestli** (June 23); rock group **Greg Humphreys Electric Trio** with guitarist, bassist and drummer (June 30); music by six-member salsa ensemble **Conjunto Guantánamo** together with a salsa dance class by **Hunter Houde** followed by social dancing (July 7); Sierra Leonan band **Janka Nabay and the Bubu Gang** (July 14); music by jazz, swing and blues group the **Blue Vipers of Brooklyn** together with a dance class led by **Paolo Pasta Lanna** (July 21); new-music ensemble and art-rock band **Tigue** (July 28); cabaret and jazz vocalist **Madame T and the Star Lights** in a concert curated specifically for the Archway (August 4); a class by the **Harlem Swing Dance Society** followed by social dancing with music by the **JNote Quintet featuring Stephanie Jeannot** (August 11); Colombian band **M.A.K.U. Soundsystem** (August 18); a **Milonga** with acclaimed tango instructors **Adam and Ciko** (August 25); performances by modern dance companies **WHITE WAVE Dance** and **Oniin Dance Company** (September 1); millennial jazz-lounge group **Bellatonic** (September 8); world roots band **Brown Rice Family** (September 15); indie art funk septet **Ava Luna** (September 22); and **VJ Farkas (Glowing Bulbs)** (September 29).

DUMBO residents and artists—Beat Kaestli, Greg Humphreys, Conjunto Guantánamo, Tanya Rynd, VJ Farkas (Glowing Bulbs), and WHITE WAVE Dance—are featured prominently in the series, showcasing DUMBO's long-standing commitment to the arts. Additionally, Los Hacheros,

Janka Nabay, the Blue Vipers of Brooklyn, Tigie, Bellatonic, Brown Rice Family, and Ava Luna all also hail from Brooklyn.

A highlight of this year's *Live at the Archway* series is four free dance instruction sessions open to all ability levels. The half-hour classes begin at 6:00 p.m. and are followed by an hour of social dancing. Sessions include a salsa dance class led by Latin dance instructor Hunter Houde with music by Conjunto Guantánamo on July 7; swing dance classes led by 20-year swing dance veteran Paolo Pasta Lanna with music provided by the Blue Vipers on July 21, and led by premier swing and lindy hop organization the Harlem Swing Dance Society on August 11; and a tango class taught by renowned instructors Adam and Ciko on August 25.

Coinciding with the headlining performances, puppetry entertainment will be provided by DUMBO-based award-winning theater collective **Great Small Works** (July 28 and September 22), body-based motion arts live performance **Ethnopoofcologist Appears With Rare Species** by Kate Brehm with Jacob Graham (June 16), and **Ask a Puppet**, a cross between *The Artist is Present* and "The Doctor Is In" (June 9, July 14, August 11 and September 8).

After headlining performances conclude, audiences are invited to stay and mingle under the Archway with music provided by DJs **Miko** (June 2 and 23), **Fonzy** (June 9), **Duct Tape** (June 16), **Connor Egan** (June 30), **Pablo77** (July concerts), and **Eugene Tambourine** (August 4 and 18).

The Lighthouse, owned by Tanya Rynd and Cara Lee Sparry of DUMBO mainstay Superfine, will again offer snacks, beer and wine for concert attendees at its kiosk location directly under the Archway.

Recognizing DUMBO's commitment to creativity in all forms, a different DUMBO business is spotlighted at each concert, ranging from tech start-ups to established digital agencies, giving employees a place to congregate and socialize outside of the office.

"We are thrilled to have this impressive line-up of artists who truly reflect the creative and innovative spirit of DUMBO as part of the second annual *Live at the Archway* series," said Alexandria Sica, Executive Director of the DUMBO Business Improvement District. "The Archway makes for the perfect summer setting for outdoor live performances and we are looking forward to having audiences from DUMBO, Brooklyn and beyond join us there."

2016 Live at the Archway Concert Series Programming

JUNE 2 LOS HACHEROS

Modern-day torchbearers of the Golden Age of Latin music, Brooklyn-based ensemble Los Hacheros revives folkloric styles like *son montuno*, *guaracha* and *salsa*, often combining them with *Bomba*. The five-member group evokes the spirit of a conjunto of 12 musicians, with members singing and playing instruments ranging from the trombone to the guiro, flute, campana, and baby bass.

JUNE 9 MARY C AND THE STELLARS

Mary C's performances with her band The Stellars continue to electrify and energize crowds with their unique mix of soul and rock, highlighted with a blend of pop, blues and funk. They have opened for Grammy-nominated artists Thievery Corporation, Emily King, 311, and Matisyahu and were invited to perform at South by Southwest in 2013 for Rachael Ray's

Feedback concert. The daughter of jazz recording artist Mercedes Hall and the sister of “Brat Pack” member Anthony Michael Hall, Mary C has been writing and performing original material since the age of five. The Stellars represent her vision of showcasing the essence of her native New York City.

JUNE 16
LYNETTE WILLIAMS

Harlem-based singer-songwriter Lynette Williams creates music that is at once tragic and joyful, quiet and mighty, reserved and abandoned. She previously sang background vocals for Lauryn Hill and is also on her track “Consumerism”. Lynette was recently featured in *Essence* magazine, as well as in performance at the Apollo Theater. Her band plays in various locations around New York City at venues such as Rockwood Music Hall, Bowery Electric, Lincoln Center, the High Line, Blue Note, and Pianos. Her EP, “Songs for Sarah”, was released in 2014.

JUNE 23
BEAT KAESTLI

Internationally acclaimed vocalist, songwriter, arranger and producer Beat Kaestli has appeared in renowned clubs such as The Blue Note, Birdland, Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), The Jazz Standard and The Stone and at festivals worldwide, performing in both solo engagements and alongside acclaimed artists. Beat’s music encompasses his own spin on classic songs, influenced by his jazz roots.

JUNE 30
GREG HUMPHREYS ELECTRIC TRIO

Brooklyn-based guitarist by way of North Carolina, and former leader of the bands Dillon Fence and Hobex, Greg Humphreys collaborates with bassist Matt Brandau and drummer Keith Robinson to form his Electric Trio. The group’s latest album *Lucky Guy* will be released on June 14 and includes songs that highlight the trio’s musical relationship and collaboration.

JULY 7
CONJUNTO GUANTÁNAMO

Ambassadors of Cuban folklore, Conjunto Guantánamo, founded in 2003, unites the precision and cadence of traditional Afro-Cuban music with the raw energy and edge of New York City’s unique nightlife. Led by founder Ulises Beato, along with Pepito Gomez, Sebastian Natal, Carlos Mena, Oscar Onoz and Mauricio Herrera, Conjunto Guantánamo brings the origins and essence of what music lovers today know as *salsa*, performing at festivals, dance parties, and venues throughout New York City.

JULY 14
JANKA NABAY AND THE BUBU GANG

Sierra Leonean singer Janka Nabay considers his work a letter to Sierra Leoneans, as a call for them to remember the roots of their culture. He is a firm believer in the power of music to enact social change, singing in Sierra Leone’s common language, Krio, as well as his native tribal language of Temne, and in English and Arabic. Together with his six-piece band the Bubu Gang, he modernizes traditional bubu music into hypnotic dance music, electrifying crowds at shows in dance clubs, rooftops, and block parties.

JULY 21
BLUE VIPERS OF BROOKLYN

An early jazz, swing, and blues band, the Blue Vipers of Brooklyn—composed of acoustic guitar/vocals, upright bass, homemade washboard percussion, trumpet and saxophone—blends a repertoire of witty songs from the 1920s and 30s, New Orleans and Dixieland, classic Blues, R&B and Western Swing together with original tunes and four-part vocal harmony.

JULY 28
TIGUE

One half new music ensemble, one half art-rock band, Brooklyn-based trio TIGUE unites homegrown ethos with conservatory precision. With musical influences spanning eclectic contemporary, pop and avant grade, TIGUE approaches its role of a performing ensemble with a unique fluidity through collaboration in multi-disciplinary work, commissioning and performing works by living composers, and generating their own material.

AUGUST 4
MADAME T AND THE STAR LIGHTS

Cabaret and jazz singer Madame T, otherwise known as Tanya Rynd, collaborates with the Star Lights—Julie Delano and Miz Stephanie (vocals), Kevin Vertrees (keyboard), Mark Farnsworth (drums), Gary Wang (bass), Curtis Brewer (guitar), and Jim Wildman (trombone). Together they present a set of whistle blowing train songs, sizzling summer swing and high camp performances, combining projections, dance and performance art.

AUGUST 11
HARLEM SWING DANCE SOCIETY

The Harlem Swing Dance Society is the premiere organization that shares the history of Lindy Hop and Swing Dance. Through weekly Tuesday night swing dance lessons, community collaborations, cultural events, informational talk-backs and more, the Harlem Swing Dance Society strives to bring back this historical dance art form and cultural staple back to its roots.

AUGUST 18
M.A.K.U. SOUNDSYSTEM

M.A.K.U Soundsystem embodies an active quest for identity through sound and bodies in motion, and puts on a party for all who attend their concerts. M.A.K.U's distinctive sound juxtaposes traditional Colombian percussion, drum-set, synthesizers, electric bass, guitar and sizzling horns, creating an explosive performance filled with unshakable grooves together with lyrics that speak about everyday realities that encompass love, hardships, culture, and the immigrant experience, with a positive, spiritual and sometimes humorous spin.

AUGUST 25
MILONGA WITH ADAM AND CIKO

Adam and Ciko are unique to the North American tango scene, and have had the opportunity to study with teachers from all over the world with very different ideologies, which has fostered their own approach to dance and dance instruction. Their style is defined by its sensuality, musicality and creative playfulness. As teachers, they transmit their mastery of the complex concepts of tango while retaining their innate humor and humility.

SEPTEMBER 1
WHITE WAVE DANCE / ONIIN DANCE COMPANY

Formed in 1988, WHITE WAVE Young Soon Kim Dance Company strives to inspire audiences through multi-dimensional dance productions reflecting themes and philosophies both modern and timeless. Ms. Kim and WHITE WAVE have appeared globally, including at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, the Joyce Theater, the Kennedy Center, Dance Theater Workshop, Jacob's Pillow, and the American Dance Festival.

Teatro delle Celebrazioni's contemporary dance company, Oniin Dance Company, based in Bologna, Italy, was founded by dancer and choreographer Daniela Rapisard in 2012. The company's debut production "Corruption" was met with critical acclaim, both in Italy and beyond. Choreographers Daniela Rapisarda and Alessandro Vacca continue to imagine a lively style which utilizes new motions full of dynamism, technique, and harmony, breaking academic clichés, and enhanced by seven skilled dancers.

SEPTEMBER 8
BELLATONIC

Millennial jazz-lounge group Bellatonic, featuring vocalist Cara Dineen, combines revamped jazz together with crowd-pleasing pop hits, hipster classics, and the greatest R&B classics of the past century from artists such as Destiny's Child, Britney Spears, Robyn, Aaliyah, Tom Waits, Björk, Oasis, Radiohead, and the Yeah Yeah Yeahs.

SEPTEMBER 15
BROWN RICE FAMILY

Guided by a strong belief in life's natural flow, Brown Rice Family gives listeners a distinctively organic World Roots Music experience, encompassing reggae, hip-hop, dancehall, afro beat, jazz stylings, rock, Brazilian, Latin, and funk music. Comprised of eight members hailing from Japan, Jamaica, Haiti, Nigeria, South Africa, and the US, the members' diverse national backgrounds set the stage for a musical journey that straddles ancient and contemporary global sounds.

SEPTEMBER 22
AVA LUNA

Brooklyn-based indie art funk septet Ava Luna features Carlos Hernandez (vocals, guitar), Julian Fader (drums), Nathan Tompkins (synthesizer), Ethan Bassford (bass), and female vocalist trio Felicia Douglass, Becca Kauffman, and Anna Sian, performing with its trademark intensity, mirthful humor, and angularity. Ava Luna's discography includes its debut album *3rd Avenue Island*, as well as *Services*, *Ice Level*, *Electric Balloon* and their latest release featuring a structured set of art funk and R&B-infused songs, *Infinite House*.

SEPTEMBER 29
VJ FARKAS (GLOWING BULBS)

VJ Farkas is a member of Glowing Bulbs visual artists group, which evolved from the underground techno scene of Budapest in the early 2000s. The group employs diverse techniques and media to bring to life an entire environment, treating light as a tool to fill spaces and surfaces with content, and projecting images. Glowing Bulbs has created numerous video mapping shows, panoramic projections, live VJ performances, music videos, and short films as well as installations at festivals, galleries and museums in the US and across Europe. VJ Farkas

has played a key role in in many of these projects and has had numerous appearances as a VJ as part of the evolving electronic music scene in New York City.

About *Live at the Archway*

Live at the Archway is an annual summer series of free performances and events under the unique setting of the Manhattan Bridge in DUMBO, one of the only covered outdoor spaces in New York City. The series, co-curated by Clara Schuhmacher of the DUMBO Improvement District and Tanya Rynd of Superfine restaurant, reflects the neighborhood's diversity and commitment to the arts, and showcases a broad variety of musical genres and dance programming.

About the DUMBO Improvement District

The DUMBO Improvement District, founded in 2006, is a non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing and promoting DUMBO, Brooklyn—a bustling enclave on the waterfront where quintessential old New York charm meets creative Brooklyn at its very best. The DUMBO Improvement District showcases DUMBO as a world-class destination, advocating on behalf of DUMBO's businesses, property owners and residents, and amplifying its creative and innovative vibe through The Archway programming, public art, free WiFi, public space maintenance and the #DUMBOVIP card, among other initiatives. For more information, visit <http://dumbo.is>.