

NEW FRONTIERS IN MUSIC:

Curating a Great Music Festival

Panel Discussion with Bill Bragin, Ashley Capps, Rob Fields, Randy Raine-Reusch, and Keith Terry

Friday, February 10, 2012

1:30 to 3:30 PM followed by a reception
Pew Center for Arts & Heritage
1608 Walnut Street, 18th floor
Philadelphia, PA 19103

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2012

To register for the panel, please call PMP at 267.350.4960
or email Lucy Warrington at lwarrington@pcah.us
*Space is limited and registration is required.
This event is offered free of charge.*

1:15-1:30 PM
Sign-In

1:30-3:30 PM
Panel Discussion
with Bill Bragin,
Ashley Capps,
Rob Fields,
Randy Raine-Reusch,
and Keith Terry

3:30 PM
Reception



What makes for a great music festival? How do innovative festival presenters generate ideas and see them to fruition? How does music work in festivals organized around particular themes, ideas, histories, and identities?

Moderator Bill Bragin (Public Programming, Lincoln Center) and panelists Ashley Capps (Bonnaroo, Vegoose, Forecastle, and Moog Fest), Rob Fields (Festival of the New Black Imagination), Randy Raine-Reusch (Founder of Rain Forest World Music Festival), and Keith Terry (International Body Music Festival) will discuss the inspiration for their ideas, their work, and will take questions from the audience.

PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES:

Bill Bragin (moderator), Director of Public Programming at Lincoln Center since January 2008, oversees Midsummer Night Swing and Lincoln Center Out of Doors festivals, and programs free events at the David Rubenstein Atrium. Previously, Bragin was Director of Joe's Pub at The Public Theater where he presented more than 3,000 concerts. At the Public, he also initiated the Tony Award-winning rock musical *Passing Strange* by Stew, which transferred to Broadway and then premiered as a film by Spike Lee. He was music curator at Symphony Space, programmed five seasons of Central Park SummerStage, managed the start-up of Allen Toussaint's NYNO record label, and was associate producer at George Wein's Festival Productions. He began his career in 1985, programming the Alternative Concert Series at Haverford and Bryn Mawr Colleges, and serving as an intern at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia. In 1999, he founded Acidophilus: Live & Active Cultures, an arts consulting service working with such clients as the TED Conferences and Lincoln Center Festival. Bragin is active in such organizations as the Association of Performing Arts Presenters, WOMEX, and the Black Rock Coalition. As Acidophilus, Bragin also deejays internationally as part of the GlobeSonic Sound System.

A passion for music and performance led **Ashley Capps** to begin promoting concerts independently in the late 1970s, while still a student at the University of Tennessee. Now recognized as one of the foremost independent promoters in the United States, Mr. Capps and his company, AC Entertainment, founded in 1991, create, produce, book, and present hundreds of concerts and events every year. Since 1995, Capps and his team have managed and programmed The Historic Tennessee Theatre, the official State Theater of Tennessee, and were instrumental in the \$25 million renovation of the facility in 2004. A second historic venue, the Bijou Theatre, was renovated and re-opened in 2006 under his leadership. In 2002, Capps founded the acclaimed Bonnaroo Music and Arts Festival in Manchester, TN, cited by Rolling Stone as one of the "50 Moments That Changed the History of Rock & Roll." In addition to his role in booking and overseeing festival operations, Capps spearheaded Bonnaroo's innovative Internet-based marketing strategies that have characterized the festival since its inception. In 2008, Capps launched the groundbreaking Big Ears Festival with the goal of exploring synergies and collaborations crossing musical genres as well as interfacing with the visual arts. In 2010, AC launched Moogfest in Asheville, NC, a festival dedicated to celebrating the life and musical contributions of synthesizer inventor Bob Moog. In 2011, Capps joined forces with JK McKnight, founder of Forecastle Festival in Louisville, KY. AC Entertainment will co-present the 10TH anniversary of Forecastle Festival in July of 2012. As an artist manager, Capps works with a select group of talented musicians, including Abigail Washburn, Julia Nunes, Trixie Whitley, and Clare and the Reasons.

Rob Fields is the Founder and Chief Curator of the Festival of the New Black Imagination (nbifestival.org), a platform for forward-looking, global black culture that launched in 2011. An outgrowth of the work that he's been doing on his black alt music and culture blog Boldaslove.us, the festival presented 14 sessions, 23 speakers and four musical performances, and will be returning for its second year in October, 2012. He has been a frequent guest on NPR, and writes for the Huffington Post, TheRoot.com, TheGrio.com and EbonyJet.com, among other publications. He hosted artist interviews for BET/CentricTV, and was a panelist at SXSW 2009 and SXSW 2010, where he interviewed seminal black punk band Death. He's also spoken at the CMJ 2009 Music Marathon) and Indiana University's Black Rock Conference. Rob is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University.

Randy Raine-Reusch (www.asza.com) explores sound and cultures around the world, from concert stages to jungles, with master musicians to rice farmers. He has studied music in 14 countries; performed on five continents; worked with children and the disabled; and been the subject of numerous articles and documentary films. He has helped design interactive theaters and museums; written articles and books on music; met princes, presidents, and empresses; and mentored emerging musicians. Randy has founded and run festivals; worked for the circus; amassed a large collection of non-western instruments; worked to preserve rare traditional musical cultures; and been a consultant for numerous museums and governments. A composer/performer whose soundworks and graphic scores attempt to redefine perception, he has lectured on the relationship of sound, psychology, and spirituality; been published as a poet; and been a committee member of numerous international organizations. At heart he is simply a Zen- and Taoist-inspired musical philosopher who is constantly listening.

Keith Terry is a percussionist/rhythm-dancer/educator/producer whose artistic vision has straddled the line between music and dance for more than four decades. As a soloist he has appeared in such settings as Lincoln Center, Bumbershoot, NPR and PRI broadcasts, the Vienna International Dance Festival, and the Paradiso van Slag World Drum Festival in Amsterdam. His groups—Slammin All-Body Band, Crosspulse Percussion Ensemble, Professor Terry's Circus Band Extraordinaire, and Body Tjak (with I Wayan Dibia)—have performed in a variety of venues in the US and abroad. In addition, Keith has performed with artists including Charles "Honi" Coles, Turtle Island String Quartet, Bill Irwin, Jovino Santos Neto, Barbatuques, Gamelan Sekar Jaya, Kenny Endo, Freddie Hubbard, Tex Williams, Robin Williams, and Bobby McFerrin. From 1998 to 2005, Keith was on the faculty at UCLA's Department of World Arts and Cultures. He is the recipient of a 2008 Guggenheim Fellowship and the Founding Director of Crosspulse, a 32-year old Oakland-based arts organization dedicated to rhythm-based intercultural music and dance. Keith is also the Founding/Artistic Director of the International Body Music Festival, now in its fifth year.