

MASS MoCA

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MASS MoCA and Bang on a Can Announce LOUD Weekend Thursday, July 27 - Saturday, July 29, 2023

A fully loaded, three-day, eclectic super-mix of creative, experimental, and unusual music



**Bang on a Can LOUD Weekend at MASS MoCA
1040 MASS MoCA Way | North Adams, Massachusetts**

**General Admission Advance 3-Day Pass \$129 (week of: \$159)
Preferred 3-Day Pass \$225**

**(Single Day-Passes Will Be Available When Schedule Is Finalized)
Tickets Available at massmoca.org/loud
or 413-662-2111**

**Information on Accommodations: www.massmoca.org/visit/stay
More information: www.bangonacan.org/loud-weekend/
Watch the Trailer: bit.ly/LOUDWeekend**

**“I’ve rarely witnessed such a seamless melding of art and music.” - *New York Magazine*
“nothing could have prepared me for the whirlwind...” - *The Boston Globe***

**MASSACHUSETTS MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART
1040 MASS MoCA WAY
NORTH ADAMS MASSACHUSETTS 01247
PH 413 664 4481 FAX 413 663 8548
www.massmoca.org**

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New York, NY & North Adams, MA — Bang on a Can and MASS MoCA announce the 2023 edition of their multi-day music festival called **LOUD Weekend**, presented on **Thursday, July 27 through Saturday, July 29, 2023**, at MASS MoCA in North Adams, located in the Berkshire mountains of western Massachusetts (1040 MASS MoCA Way). LOUD Weekend features three days of ear-bending music and mind-blowing art exhibitions taking place throughout the museum's vast galleries and its stunning collection of indoor and outdoor performing arts venues.

LOUD Weekend kicks off Thursday, July 27 at 8pm with *Love in Exile* - featuring **Arooj Aftab, Vijay Iyer, and Shahzad Ismaily** plus Catalan folk duo **Tarta Relena**. Highlights of the weekend include multiple concerts by the singular legendary **Kronos Quartet, Bang on a Can All-Stars, Ensemble Klang (from Holland), Theo Bleckmann, Jeff Zeigler**; visiting composers **Paola Prestini, Andy Akiho, Nicole Lizée, Pete Harden, David Sanford, Joan Tower** and much more. **Tickets are available now for \$129 (3-day Pass).**

LOUD Weekend launched in 2019 as an expansion of Bang on a Can's long-running Bang on a Can Marathon, multiplying that inclusive and ambitious programming from one day, to multiple days. Fueled by more than three decades of Marathon concerts, Long Play Festival in Brooklyn, countless world tours and staged productions, Bang on a Can's **LOUD Weekend at MASS MoCA** is a fully loaded, three-day, eclectic super-mix of creative, experimental, and unusual music.

LOUD Weekend 2023 (additional artists and more details to be announced):

- **KRONOS Five Decades** - the singular legendary Kronos Quartet perform TWO concerts celebrating their 50th anniversary season.
- *Love in Exile* - a brand new collaborative album and tour featuring experimental super trio **Arooj Aftab, Vijay Iyer, and Shahzad Ismaily** kicks off LOUD Weekend on Thursday night, 7/27.
- **David Lang** explores our eternal fascination with death, love, family and suicide in the concert premiere of his newest chamber opera, *note to a friend*, based on three haunting texts by iconic Japanese novelist Ryunosuke Akutagawa. Featuring **Theo Bleckmann**, vocals.
- The electric **Bang on a Can All-Stars** (NY) team up and face-off with the Netherland's **Ensemble Klang** (NL) for the US premiere of **Pete Harden's** heavy hocketing hoedown *Forgiveness and Forgetting*.
- Time and distance collapse in the music of the Catalan folk duo **Tarta Relena**. With little more than their two voices, Helena Ros and Marta Torrella connect the far corners of the Mediterranean, drawing on traditions stretching back more than a thousand years (Pitchfork).
- Composer **Paola Prestini** and cellist **Jeffrey Zeigler** pair up for *Houses of Zodiac: Poems for Cello*, an installation-concert drawing inspiration from the writings of Anaïs Nin, Pablo Neruda, Brenda Shaughnessy, and Natasha Trethewey to explore the intersection of mind, body, and nature, with films by Murat Eyuboglu.
- All-time powerhouse composer **Joan Tower** returns to LOUD Weekend with her brand new piece *Into the Night*.

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- Composer **Oscar Bettison's** mega-work *O Death*, mixes saxophones, trombone, banjo and piano with jaw's harps, harmonicas, recorders, melodica, flower pots and prepared wrenches, performed by **Ensemble Klang**, all the way from Holland!
- The return of composer **Jeffrey Brooks** to LOUD Weekend - with the world premiere of his latest work in the **Stein-o-caster series** for an ingeniously amplified piano played with paint brushes.
- Special guest composers **Andy Akiho, Nicole Lizée, David Sanford**, and more.
- **WORLD PREMIERES by the 2023 summer festival composition fellows.**
- Music by Bang on a Can co-founders **Michael Gordon** and **Julia Wolfe**.
- Performances by **Gregg August, Robert Black, Vicky Chow, David Cossin, Arlen Hlusko, Nick Photinos, Todd Reynolds, Mark Stewart, Maya Stone, Ken Thomson**, plus fellows from the **2023 Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival at MASS MoCA**.
- **PLUS A LOT MORE!!**

LOUD Weekend at MASS MoCA is the culminating event of the 21st annual Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival at MASS MoCA, a tremendously influential professional development program led by today's pioneers of experimental music for young composers and performers selected from an international applicant pool. The festival runs July 11-26, 2023.

About Bang on a Can: 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*)

Bang on a Can has grown from a one-day New York-based Marathon concert (on Mother's Day in 1987 in a SoHo art gallery) to a multi-faceted performing arts organization with a broad range of year-round international activities. "When we started Bang on a Can, we never imagined that our 12-hour marathon festival of mostly unknown music would morph into a giant international organization dedicated to the support of experimental music, wherever we would find it," write Bang on a Can Co-Founders Michael Gordon, David Lang and Julia Wolfe. "But it has, and we are so gratified to be still hard at work, all these years later. The reason is really clear to us – we started this organization because we believed that making new music is a utopian act – that people needed to hear this music and they needed to hear it presented in the most persuasive way, with the best players, with the best programs, for the best listeners, in the best context. Our commitment to changing the environment for this music has kept us busy and growing, and we are not done yet."

Bang on a Can is now a home for two festivals, **LOUD Weekend at MASS MoCA** and **LONG PLAY in Brooklyn, NY**. Current projects include **The People's Commissioning Fund**, a membership program to commission emerging composers; the **Bang on a Can All-Stars**, who tour to major festivals and concert venues around the world every year; recording projects; the **Bang on a Can Summer Music Festival at MASS MoCA**, a professional development program for young

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composers and performers led by today's pioneers of experimental music; **Asphalt Orchestra**, Bang on a Can's extreme street band that offers mobile performances re-contextualizing unusual music; **Live Online**, a pandemic-originating streaming concert series to support composers and performers and engage audiences worldwide; **Found Sound Nation**, a technology-based musical outreach program now partnering with the State Department of the United States of America to create **OneBeat**, a revolutionary, post-political residency program that uses music to bridge the gulf between young American musicians and young musicians from developing countries; cross-disciplinary collaborations and projects with DJs, visual artists, choreographers, filmmakers and more. Each new program has evolved to answer specific challenges faced by today's musicians, composers and audiences, in order to make innovative music widely accessible and wildly received. Bang on a Can's inventive and aggressive approach to programming and presentation has created a large and vibrant international audience made up of people of all ages who are rediscovering the value of contemporary music. Bang on a Can has also recently launched its new digital archive, **CANLAND**, an extensive archive of its recordings, videos, posters, program books, and more. Thirty-three years of collected music and associated ephemera have been digitized and archived online and is publicly accessible in its entirety at www.canland.org. For more information about Bang on a Can, please visit www.bangonacan.org.

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MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest centers for making and enjoying today's most evocative art. With vast galleries and a stunning collection of indoor and outdoor performing arts venues, MASS MoCA is able to embrace all forms of art: music, sculpture, dance, film, painting, photography, theater, and new, boundary-crossing works of art that defy easy classification. Much of the work we show in our light-filled spaces, on our technically sophisticated stages, and within our lovely network of late 19th-century courtyards is made here during extended fabrication and rehearsal residencies that bring hundreds of the world's most brilliant and innovative artists to North Adams all year round. For more information about MASS MoCA, visit www.massmoca.org.

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