# MASS MoCA and Bang on a Can Announce LOUD Weekend Thursday, July 31 – Saturday, August 2, 2025

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



# MASS MoCA

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

General Admission Advance 3-Day Pass \$159 (week of: \$189) Preferred 3-Day Pass \$259

(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/ <u>Watch the Trailer</u>

"An air of defiant joy charged every moment of LOUD Weekend..." - The Washington Post

"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* 

North Adams, MA and New York, NY, March 12, 2025 — MASS MoCA and Bang on a Can announce the 2025 edition of their multi-day music festival LOUD Weekend, presented on Thursday, July 31 through Saturday, August 2, 2025, 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 31 at 7:30pm with a groove-packed double bill featuring **Sō Percussion** on double duty playing **Steve Reich**'s iconic pulsating masterwork **Drumming** plus an opening set with composer-flutist-vocalist **Nathalie Joachim**, performing music from *Note to Self* and Joachim's recent release *Ki moun ou ye*.

Highlights of the weekend include **Bang on a Can All-Stars performing Ryuichi Sakamoto 1996**; *Shelter*, an oratorio-collaboration of Bang on a Can co-founders **Michael Gordon, David Lang**, and **Julia Wolfe** with libretto by **Deborah Artman**; Percussion legend **Steven Schick**; renowned noise-music duo **Wolf Eyes** with sound-artist/DJ **Maria Chavez**; visiting guest composers **Jeffrey Brooks, Ted Hearne, Tamar Muskal, Gemma Peacocke, Trevor Weston**, and much more. Tickets are available now for \$159 (3-day Pass).

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 2025 (additional artists and more details to be announced):

 Sō Percussion anchors an ecstatic opening night performance of Steve Reich's *Drumming* - one of the most important works in the minimalist canon plus an opening set featuring the virtuosic and charismatic composer-flutist-vocalist Nathalie Joachim.

- Ryuichi Sakamoto was arguably the best-known and most successful Japanese musician in the world. His film scores are renowned for their diversity and sensitivity and it is rare for a band to play this music live. Arranged by the All-Stars' multi-talented clarinetist-composer Ken Thomson, Bang on a Can All-Stars play Ryuichi Sakamoto, 1996 includes an incredible selection of many of Sakamoto's greatest hits - music from films including *The Last Emperor*, *Wuthering Heights, The Sheltering Sky, Merry Christmas Mr. Lawrence,* and more.
- Michael Gordon/David Lang/Julia Wolfe's collaboratively composed *Shelter* "evokes the power and threat of nature, the soaring frontier promise contained in the framing of a new house, the pure aesthetic beauty of blueprints, the sweet architecture of sound and the uneasy vulnerability that underlies even the safety of our sleep." With libretto by **Deborah Artman**.
- Percussion legend Steven Schick leads a performance of Facing the Automaton, Tamar-Muskal's groundbreaking percussion concerto for solo percussion, kinetic sculpture (Daniel Rozin's "Wooden Mirror"), and chamber ensemble.
- Julia Wolfe's ethereal and crunchy *Forbidden Love* all the things you aren't supposed to do to string instruments performed by **Sō Percussion**, the ultimate can-do collective.
- Experimental noise master duo **Wolf Eyes** joins forces with sound artist, turntablist, and DJ **Maria Chavez** for an other-worldly sonic experience.
- Guest composer **Jeffrey Brooks** returns to LOUD Weekend, this time with a new work for two hurdy gurdies!
- Jason Treuting, co-founder of So Percussion, is joined by a host of percussionists to perform his hypnotic suite *Amid the Noise* in Courtyard D.
- Special Guest Composers Ted Hearne, Tamar Muskal, Gemma Peacocke, Trevor Weston.
- **WORLD PREMIERES** by the 2025 summer festival composition fellows.
- Performances by Vicky Chow, David Cossin, Arlen Hlusko, Nick Photinos, Todd Reynolds, Maya Stone, Ken Thomson, plus fellows from the 2025 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 23rd 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 15-30, 2025.

#### 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."

Projects include the annual LONG PLAY (Brooklyn) and LOUD Weekend (MASS MoCA) festivals; 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 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; OneBeat, an acclaimed exchange program for American and International musicians; cross-disciplinary collaborations

and projects with DJs, visual artists, choreographers, filmmakers and more. Bang on a Can has also launched an extensive public digital archive, **CANLAND**, including recordings, videos, posters, program books, and more.

Each new Bang on a Can program has evolved to answer specific challenges faced by today's musicians, composers and audiences, in order to make innovative music widely accessible. Bang on a Can's inventive and assertive 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. For more information about Bang on a Can, please visit <u>bangonacan.org</u>.

# About MASS MoCA

MASS MoCA is currently celebrating its 25th Anniversary Season under Director Kristy Edmunds, not only as the largest, multidisciplinary, contemporary art museum in North America, but also as a creative campus with a regional, national, and global impact. MASS MoCA is one of the world's liveliest centers for making and enjoying today's most evocative art, and is an indispensable home for artists who stretch toward what has yet to be created. From its beginnings as the major textile mill Arnold Print Works in the mid-19th century, to its days as the Sprague Electric Company in the mid-20th century, to its current iteration as a globally renowned contemporary art museum and fabrication center, the 24-acre MASS MoCA campus has a rich history of serving as the economic engine of the city of North Adams and the surrounding region. With vast galleries and a stunning collection of indoor and outdoor performing arts venues, MASS MoCA is able to embrace art in all forms. For more information visit massmoca.org or follow on Instagram at @massmoca.

#### Press Images

## For more information, please contact:

**Bang on a Can:** Emily Motherwell, OtherARTS | 646-266-6918 | motherwell@otherarts.net **MASS MoCA:** Jen Falk, Director of Communications and Content | press@massmoca.org

###