

# FIGAT7TH DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL 2013

## New Summer Festival Coming to Downtown Los Angeles June 3-August 2

*Arts Brookfield Presents FIGat7th Downtown Festival Highlighting Music, Dance, Theater, Film and Visual Art*

Los Angeles, CA (May 10, 2013) – Much like New York City, Downtown Los Angeles has become a preeminent destination to experience an array of free cultural events year-round. In no small way, Brookfield Office Properties has had an influence. The company's commitment to the arts through its Arts Brookfield has made world-class talent free and accessible to Angelenos of all cultures and ages since 2008. This summer, Arts Brookfield will introduce the inaugural **FIGat7th Downtown Festival**, a collection of free summer events that celebrates creativity through music, dance, visual art, theater and film.

For music fans the Festival presents six Friday night indie concerts headlined by **La Santa Cecilia** with The Boogaloo Assassins (June 21), **Allah-Las** and **Prince Rama** (June 28) with Gothic Tropic, **Red Baraat** with La Chamba (July 19), **Akron/Family** and **Peaking Lights** with Lonnie Holley (July 12), **Papa** and **NO** with LA Font (July 26), and **José James** with Carolyn Malachi (August 2), many of whom performed at this year's SXSW music festival. Happy Hour and After Party events feature a sponsored cash bar hosted by LA's best DJs at the FIGat7th Taste Lounge.

On Saturdays, families will experience the Australian troupe **Polyglot Theatre's** interactive performance *Tangle* (June 7-9), music concerts by the popular LA-based band **Lucky Diaz and The Family Jam Band** (June 22) and Colombian-born singer-songwriter **Nathalia Palis** (July 20); a day-long celebration of Native American arts presented by **The Red Feather Dance Company** (July 13); and a special presentation of Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* by **The Inner City Shakespeare Program** (July 27).

As part of the Los Angeles Film Festival, two free outdoor film screenings will be presented: the 20th anniversary classic and coming-of-age-in-the-'70's tale **Dazed and Confused** (June 14), and the world premiere of **Brasslands** (June 15), the much anticipated new feature documentary by Meercat Media Collective that captures the fiery sounds and incredible sights of Balkan brass music at the world's largest trumpet competition in a hidden Serbian valley. Before the screening, enjoy a dance lesson and performances by Cali brass bands **Inspector Gadje** and **Rakia Brass Band**.

Throughout the Festival, LA-based musician, film maker and visual artist **Colette Miller** asks everyone to "manifest as your higher selves, your higher consciousness, your angelic selves" by stepping into **Angel Wings**, an Arts Brookfield-commissioned art installation (June 3-August 2).

“Arts Brookfield is thrilled to continue our commitment and contribution to the cultural landscape of Downtown Los Angeles this summer with the inaugural FIGat7th Downtown Festival,” says Debra Simon, V.P. and Artistic Director of Arts Brookfield. “The eclectic lineup, from indie music and children’s theater to traditional dance and film screenings, is sure to appeal to a broad array of cultural consumers looking for a great experience in the heart of Downtown LA.”

This year’s festivities will undoubtedly be enhanced by the premier shopping and dining options now available at the rejuvenated FIGat7th, which recently completed a \$40M+ renovation. The stunning remodeled open-air layout offers style and taste via a dynamic new City Target and an upscale fast-casual dining experience, TASTE FIGat7th. TASTE features a variety of delightful culinary options including Juicy Lucy Gourmet Burger Bar, The Melt, Oleego by Parks BBQ, Indus by Saffron, Mendocino Farms, George's Greek and soon to arrive, Loteria Grill, Pazzo Gelato and Flying Pig. Additionally, the foodie delights are rounded out on our upper levels with sit down offerings by California Pizza Kitchen and Morton's Steakhouse, and sweet treats by Sprinkles Cupcakes. Attendees can shop and nosh all while experiencing the extraordinary sights and sounds of the FIGat7th Downtown Festival.

FIGat7th Downtown Festival partners are the Los Angeles Times, KCRW, Downtown Center Business Improvement District, Downtown Art Walk, and the DTLA Residents Card. FIGat7th is located at 735 S. Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, 90017, adjacent to Ernst & Young Plaza. FIGat7th is open to the public during the Festival. Early arrival and RSVP is recommended. For all Friday night concerts, Happy Hour at the Taste Lounge starts at 5:30 p.m., concert doors open at 6:30 p.m., and openers perform at 7:00 p.m. Saturday family programs are open to youth of all ages. Park at the FIGat7th garage (entrance on 7<sup>th</sup> Street) for \$5 with retailer validation.

For more information, a complete schedule of events, and to RSVP visit: [FIGat7th.com/events](http://FIGat7th.com/events)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Facebook / Twitter / Instagram: @FIGat7th @artsbrookfield

**TAGS:** Downtown Los Angeles, DTLA, cultural, art, arts and culture, concerts, free, family, fun, food, entertainment, film, weekend, festival, band, summer, music, indie music, SXSW, Los Angeles Film Festival, Figat7th, taste, La Santa Cecilia, The Boogaloo Assassins, Allah-Las, Prince Rama, Gothic Tropic, Red Baraat, La Chamba, Akron/Family, Peaking Lights, Lonnie Holley, PAPA, NO, LA Font, José James Carolyn Malachi, Polyglot Theatre, Tangle, Lucky Diaz and The Family Jam Band, Nathalia Palis, The Red Feather Dance Company, The Inner City Shakespeare Program, Dazed and Confused, Brasslands, Inspector Gadje, Rakia Brass Band, Colette Miller, Angel Wings

#### **ABOUT ARTS BROOKFIELD**

Since 1988 more than 5 million people have enjoyed over 5,000 dance, music, theater, visual art, and film events presented by Arts Brookfield, a free, year-round, privately funded performing and visual arts programs. As an initiative of Brookfield Office Properties, the owner, developer and manager of premier office properties in the United States, Canada and Australia, Arts Brookfield animates public spaces in major cities including New York, Los Angeles, Houston, Denver, Toronto, and Perth. Brookfield's portfolio is comprised of interests in 109 properties totaling 76 million square feet in the downtown cores of New York, Washington, D.C., Houston, Los Angeles, Denver, Toronto, Calgary, Ottawa, Sydney, Melbourne and Perth, making it the global leader in the ownership and management of office assets.

#### **PRESS CONTACT AND INTERVIEW REQUESTS**

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# FIGAT7TH DOWNTOWN FESTIVAL 2013

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

*An Arts Brookfield Commission*

### **ANGEL WINGS**

Colette Miller

June 3-August 2

Taste Level and Plaza

Musician, film maker and visual artist **Colette Miller** asks everyone to “manifest as your higher selves, your higher consciousness, your angelic selves” by discovering **Angel Wings**, an Arts Brookfield-commissioned art installation consisting of pairs of beautifully rendered, human-scaled wings found throughout FIGat7th.

*Family Fun!*

### **TANGLE**

Polyglot Theatre

Friday, June 7 at 5 & 7pm

Saturday, June 8 at 1, 3, & 5pm

Sunday, June 9 at 1 & 3pm

Plaza

**Tangle** is a huge, messy, fun, interactive elastic weaving event created live by children and their families. It’s part mass visual arts installation, part performance, part playground, part dance party and all chaos. Like a giant peg board, children and families create a landscape together, tangling and weaving colored elastic through giant poles. This innovative work by Australian troupe **Polyglot Theatre** is a giant experiment where children take control and create a giant abstract tangled artwork by stretching their bodies and their imaginations.

*Family Fun!*

### **KIDS CLUB: TANGLED YARN ART**

Saturday, June 8

2-4pm

Taste Level

Create colorful artworks using tangles of yarn and glue to make an artistic, abstract artwork in celebration of Polyglot Theatre’s interactive experience. *Children aged 3 and older accompanied by an adult welcome!*

*LA Film Festival Outdoor Screening*

**20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**DAZED AND CONFUSED**

Friday, June 14

Doors: 7pm

Screening: 8:30pm

Plaza

Directed by Richard Linklater. Starring Matthew McConaughey, Parker Posey, Milla Jovovich, Ben Affleck, Jason London, Rory Cochrane, Wiley Wiggins, and Adam Goldberg

Well, alright, alright, alright. It's 1976. It's the last day of school. It's **Dazed and Confused**, one of our favorite high school movies. So whether you're a jock, a rocker or wannabe, feather your hair back, put on your finest senior year outfits (or freshmen year, if you dare) and come relive the glory and the fear of being a teenager wondering where the party's at.

*LA Film Festival Outdoor Screening*

**World Premiere**

**BRASSLANDS**

Saturday, June 15

Dance Lessons & Live Music by Rakia Brass Band: 6pm

Live Performances by Inspector Gadje & Rakia Brass Band: 7pm

Screening: 8:30pm

Plaza

Directed by Meerkat Media Collective

The feature documentary **Brasslands** captures the fiery sounds and incredible sights of Balkan brass music at the world's largest trumpet competition in a hidden Serbian valley. The experience of being enveloped in the frenetic energy of competing bands, ordinarily possible only in the Balkans, will be shared by audience members and dancers alike with traditional Balkan dance lessons accompanied by live music by **Inspector Gadje** and **Rakia Brass Band** before the screening.

*Music*

**LA SANTA CECILIA**

**The Boogaloo Assassins**

Friday, June 21

Openers: 7pm

Headliner: 8:15pm

Plaza

**DJ Sets & Cash Bar at Taste Lounge**

Happy Hour: 5:30pm

After Party: 9:30pm

LA-based **La Santa Cecilia**, referred to as a "Los Angeles melting pot" by the New York Times, exemplifies the modern-day hybrid of Latin culture, rock and world music. Fronted by the smoky voiced La Marisoul, the group

draws inspiration from all over the world, utilizing Pan-American rhythms like Cumbia, Bossa Nova, Rumba, Bolero, Tango, Jazz, Rock and Klezmer music.

West Coast Latin Boogaloo meets East Coast '60's Latin Soul! **The Boogaloo Assassins** are dedicated to re-creating and re-interpreting the boogaloo craze that swept East Harlem, the Latin Caribbean and South America from 1965 to 1969, the Los Angeles nine-piece band incorporates R&B, doo-wop, Afro-Caribbean jazz and salsa fusion.

*Family Fun!*

**LUCKY DIAZ AND THE FAMILY JAM BAND**

**with special guest Mike Klooster**

Saturday, June 22

1pm

Plaza

**Lucky Diaz and The Family Jam Band** is a hip-shaking, head-bopping explosion of fun for the whole family! Named by *USA Today* as the Best New Artist on the Kids Music scene, the band plays tunes that make children and grown-up alike get up and boogie, with lyrics that speak directly to kids. **Mike Klooster** of multi-platinum rock band Smash Mouth will join the band on keyboards for a very special Figat7th Downtown Festival engagement. Come hear why *People Magazine* awarded the family jam band's latest album, *A Potluck*, the #1 Cool Kid's Album of 2012!

*Family Fun!*

**KIDS CLUB: WASHBOARD**

Saturday, June 22

2-4pm

Taste Level

Construct and decorate this funky, fun, old time instrument and play a tune like Lucky Diaz and the Family Jam Band. *Children aged 3 and older accompanied by an adult welcome!*

*Music*

**ALLAH-LAS**

**PRINCE RAMA**

**Gothic Tropic**

Friday, June 28

Openers: 7pm

Headliner: 8:15pm

Plaza

**DJ Sets & Cash Bar at Taste Lounge**

Happy Hour: 5:30pm

After Party: 9:30pm

**Allah-Las** met while working at the biggest of all the L.A. Record stores, but they became a band in an even more rare and special space—a California basement, dug out somewhere between the mountains and the beach. They began gigging shortly after their conception in and around Los Angeles in the later part of 2008. It wasn't until three years later that they would find the proper environment to record their first single "Long Journey" which now bookends their self-titled release. These were the kind of songs that bounced between London and Los

Angeles, the kind of thing that could have come from Mick Jagger or Arthur Lee or both at once, with crystalline guitar and slow-mo drums that recalled the way the waves take big bites of the beach at night. This was mystery music from the strange and ancient-modern California fringe, more Night Tide than Easy Rider. Allah-Las were a reflection of a reflection, an echo of an echo, a band that was psychedelic not because of reverb or shredding through pedals but for the simple way their songs seem to extend to infinity.

The unpredictable live shows of Brooklyn-based **Prince Rama** (sisters Taraka and Nimai Larson) incorporate elements of psychedelic ceremony, performance art and dance-floor initiation rite.

Los Angeles' **Gothic Tropic** introduces some hard edges to the playful world of psych-pop. They find inspiration from high energy afro-Cuban beats, and exuberant guitars. The brainchild of Cecilia Della Peruti, Gothic Tropic keeps the vibe playful, but measured and dark with a unique lead guitar and vocal style that recalls catchy elements of pre-punk 70s acts such as Television, and Can.

*Music*

**AKRON/FAMILY**  
**PEAKING LIGHTS**

**Lonnie Holley**

Friday, July 12

Openers: 7pm

Headliner: 8:15pm

Plaza

**DJ Sets & Cash Bar at Taste Lounge**

Happy Hour: 5:30pm

After Party: 9:30pm

From Shamanic hypno-mantras to Noise-damaged Soul anthems to North African street frenzy, from Droning Microtonal Balladry to modular synthesizer destruction to Lynchian Doo-Wop and back again. The sound is propulsive and driven by its physicality, and a disciplined acknowledgement of Lineage.

**Akron/Family** is here, with drums and guitars like divining rods calling on Sonny Sharrock and Link Wray, on Elvin Jones and John Bonham, on Jimmy Garrison and Aston Barrett.

Finding themselves in a cross country move from the Bay Area to a house built into a barn in rural Wisconsin, **Peaking Lights** sound origin was created with humility and love with a personal touch directed by home built synths, effects units, and rhythm machines. Peaking Lights have maintained a sound distinction all of their own fusing influences as wide ranging as afro beat, disco, psychedelic rock, synth pop, krautrock, reggae and noise into songs that are as smooth, lush and elegant as they are propulsive, rhythmic and noisy.

American sculptor **Lonnie Holley** did not start making and performing music in a studio nor does his creative process mirror that of the typical musician. His music and lyrics are improvised on the spot and morph and evolve with every event, concert, and recording.

*Family Fun!*

**THE RED FEATHER DANCE COMPANY**

**A Celebration of Native American Dance, Music and Artistry**

Saturday, July 13

Pre-show: 12:45pm

Performances & Activities: 1pm-4pm

Plaza

A not-to-be-missed afternoon of dance, music and art performed by this extraordinary Native American troupe. Experience interactive performances showcasing the dance styles featured at traditional powwows like the fast paced Native American Hoop Dance where skilled dancers use hoops to create various forms of nature and animals. Enjoy the Native voice accompanied by the flute, hand drum, powwow drum, shell rattles, and gourd rattles. Kupa and Pala tribal members from the surrounding California Pala Indian reservation tell the stories behind “Bird Dancing”, lead children in making traditional bracelets, and create special designs for unique face painting.

*Family Fun!*

**KIDS CLUB: ANGEL WING ART**

Saturday, July 13

2-4pm

Taste Level

Learn about Arts Brookfield’s commissioned, interactive paintings of Angel Wings by artist Colette Miller. Create your own angel wing jewelry such as a brooch, hairclip, key fob or necklace. *Children aged 3 and older accompanied by an adult welcome!*

*Music*

**RED BARAAT**

**La Chamba**

Friday, July 19

Opener: 7pm

Headliner: 8:15pm

Plaza

**DJ Sets & Cash Bar at Taste Lounge**

Happy Hour: 5:30pm

After Party: 9:30pm

Formed in 2008, **Red Baraat** is a pioneering eight-piece band from Brooklyn, New York. Conceived by Sunny Jain, the group has drawn worldwide praise for its singular sound—a merging of hard driving North Indian bhangra rhythms with elements of jazz, go-go, brass funk, and hip-hop.

**La Chamba** began with a love and respect for Peruvian Chicha music. Its deep Amazonian Cumbia groove along with the psychedelic feel instantly inspired them to create their own unique blend of the sound. They were moved not only by its personal and social message, but by the parallels that exist in the pulse of barrios across Latino America to create their unique blend of Latin fusion.

*Family Fun!*

**NATHALIA PALIS**

Saturday, July 20

1pm

Plaza

Bring your best moves to this Colombian family dance party! Originally from Barranquilla, Colombia, **Nathalia Palis**, along with her talented ensemble of musicians, introduces a lively bilingual approach to children's music that incorporates rock, cumbia, and reggaeton beats. Her passion for music that resonates with children of all ages is clear in her vibrant tunes and catchy lyrics. Kids and families can't help but sing along in both English and Spanish to her infectious songs, from *Animal Bop* to *Mi Carrito*, *Muevete* and more.

*Music*

**PAPA**

**NO**

**LA Font**

Friday, July 26

Openers: 7pm

Headliner: 8:15pm

Plaza

**DJ Sets & Cash Bar at Taste Lounge**

Happy Hour: 5:30pm

After Party: 9:30pm

There's a poetic purity that runs through the songs of **PAPA**, suggesting devious truths and well told lies, rolling along with a natural swagger that thoughtlessly evokes hard-hitting shakes and slow-swinging shimmies. Darren Weiss' earnest vibrato often takes on a Springsteen-like growl in its best moments, crooning reminiscences on "I Am The Lion King" when he sings, "I got to make a you a woman/You got to make me a man." In each song's groove there's a dangerous sexiness to PAPA-the furious grip of the dance floor, the cold pavement outside, and the way you kiss when you're not sure you'll ever see the person again or whether you'd even want to.

LA's Echo Park neighborhood has a lot of bands living in its hills, but none of them sound anything like **NO**. The band pits frontman Bradley Hanan Carter's baritone against mesmerizing drumming and richly textured guitar, bass and keyboard to create complex and atmospheric melodies that mine the same musical vein as Arcade Fire. (Time Magazine)

**LA Font** (pronounced like "elephant") is an indie rock band from the Echo Park neighborhood of Los Angeles. The quartet is often compared to Pavement for Danny Bobbe's sincere but barbed lyrics and the band's scrappy garage rock arrangements. Bobbe's charismatic, sneering live performance persona has also earned the band recognition, with the L.A. Times writing that he is "a frontman worth the cost of admission alone."

*Family Fun!*

**TWELFTH NIGHT**

The Inner City Shakespeare Program

Saturday, July 27

1pm & 3pm

Plaza

Over the past three years, **The Inner City Shakespeare Program** has engaged students in the appreciation of the wit and wisdom of “The Bard”, enriching their lives and opening their horizons with productions of *Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*. This year gifted students from Los Angeles High School and Washington Preparatory High School will present **Twelfth Night**, one of Shakespeare's most delightful comedies. Experience this talented troupe as Orsino speaks these classic lines, “If music be the food of love . . . Play on!”

*Family Fun!*

**KIDS CLUB: SHAKESPEARE’S TWELFTH NIGHT COSTUME ART**

Saturday, July 27

2-4pm

Taste Level

Use velvet, faux fur and brocade fabric to create costume sketches of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night characters as acted out by The Inner City Shakespeare Program. *Children aged 3 and older accompanied by an adult welcome!*

*Music*

**JOSÉ JAMES**

**Carolyn Malachi**

Friday, August 2

Opener: 7pm

Headliner: 8:15pm

Plaza

**DJ Sets & Cash Bar at Taste Lounge**

Happy Hour: 5:30pm

After Party: 9:30pm

**José James** is a forerunner in the fusion of modern jazz and hip-hop. His 2008 debut *The Dreamer* and its 2010 follow-up, *BlackMagic* transformed the New York-based singer into an underground sensation in both the Jazz and DJ scene. His recently released third album and Blue Note Records debut *No Beginning No End* is a seamless musical experience that moves between different styles with remarkable fluidity, bound together by the singer’s transcendent voice.

Grammy-nominated **Carolyn Malachi’s** unique approach to music combines Jazz, Hip Hop and Spoken Word, and lots of imagination. Dubbed “sweet songstress” by BET, the independent, Grammy-nominated artist and great-granddaughter of pianist John Malachi counts Yasiin Bey (formerly Mos Def), Radiohead, and Sarah Vaughan among her greatest influences.