

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: SEPTEMBER 28, 2010



**THE 2010 RHYTHM ROAD: AMERICAN MUSIC ABROAD
PROGRAM ANNOUNCES
JOHNNY RODGERS BAND TOUR DATES
JOHNNY RODGERS BAND CHOSEN FOR SOUTHEAST ASIA & PACIFIC ISLANDS
TOUR TO PROMOTE CULTURAL EXCHANGE**

[For High Resolution Photos](#)

Who/What:

Jazz at Lincoln Center and the U.S. State Department's Bureau of Educational & Cultural Affairs announced that the Johnny Rodgers Band will tour Southeast Asia & Pacific Islands with *The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad* program. The pop group from New York City was selected from a pool of 132 applicants to travel abroad and promote cross-cultural understanding. International tour activities will include public concerts, master classes, lecture-demonstrations, workshops, jam sessions, collaborations with local musicians, and media outreach.

As part of *The Rhythm Road*, Johnny Rodgers Band will also perform two concerts in the United States. In Washington, D.C., the National Geographic Society will present the first concert on December 2, 2010 at 7:15pm at the Grosvenor Auditorium, 1600 M St. NW. The second concert will be presented by Jazz at Lincoln Center on December 11, 2010 at 2:30pm at Dizzy's Club *Coca-Cola* at Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Where/When:

Johnny Rodgers Band will tour to Fiji (November 2 - 5), Papua New Guinea (November 6 - 10), Indonesia (November 11 - 15), Cambodia (November 16 - 20),

Burma (November 21 - 25), and Malaysia (November 26 - 29).

**Dates and locations subject to change*

U.S. Concert Dates:

- Washington, D.C.: December 2, 2010 at 7:15pm at the Grosvenor Auditorium, 1600 M St. NW
- New York City: December 11, 2010 at 2:30pm at Dizzy's Club *Coca-Cola* at Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center

How:

For more information visit *The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad* at jalc.org/TheRoad, now with additional elements including featured countries, bands, stories from the road, and more.

Sponsorship:

The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad program is made possible with underwriting support from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the United States Department of State.

Jazz at Lincoln Center proudly acknowledges *National Geographic Live* as the Washington, D.C. concert series partner. WPFW-FM is the media sponsor for this series.

For more information:

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Johnny Rodgers Band was formed in New York City in 2003 and its mission is to bring musical depth to new, original songs. They are masters of an array of styles ranging from pop to jazz to classic rock. Music from the Johnny Rodgers Band provides a guided tour of Americana pop, from the piano-driven energy of rock and roll, to the supreme sophistication of jazz. This ensemble cultivates connections with audiences through performances, discussions, demonstrations, and exchange. The Johnny Rodgers Band has performed and recorded with artists such as Liza Minnelli, Michael Feinstein, Randy Brecker, and Tom Harrell, among others. This ensemble has been featured on recordings that celebrate Maury Yeston and Jule Styne. The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) selected The Johnny Rodgers Band to interpret and perform the music of Billy Joel in a command performance for the "Piano Man" himself in The Allen Room at Frederick P. Rose Hall, home of Jazz at Lincoln Center.

Johnny Rodgers (piano and vocals) is an award-winning singer-songwriter-pianist, and a favorite on the East Coast and Florida scenes. Rodgers creates effervescent and romantic pop ballads, Taylor-laced melodies and sultry jazz stirred with piano-driven rock. *Billboard* magazine and ASCAP Foundation have given awards to Rodgers for his original compositions. He has toured the United States and internationally as pianist and guest artist with Liza Minnelli, with whom he made his Broadway debut in 2008 in the Tony Award-winning show *Liza's at the Palace*. Rodgers grew up in Miami, Florida, attended the University of Miami jazz program,

and graduated from Western Michigan University in jazz studies, piano, and voice. He now resides in New York City.

Brian Glassman (bass and percussion) is known as one of the best upright and electric bassists in New York. While his style includes classical, rock, Latin, R&B, and cabaret, Glassman is perhaps best-known for his work in jazz and Jewish music styles, such as klezmer. Glassman has performed, toured, and recorded with jazz greats such as Paquito D’Rivera, John and Bucky Pizzarelli, and Lionel Hampton. When he is not touring internationally or recording, Glassman is an instructor of jazz bass at Princeton University. Glassman received a Bachelor of Arts in music from Rutgers University, and a Master of Arts in music education from City University of New York.

Danny Mallon (drums, percussion, vocals), a native New Yorker, performs American roots music inspired by the classic songwriters of the 1960s and 1970s, as combined with the musical strains of New York’s cultural melting pot. Mallon has been featured on numerous recordings, on radio, television, and in film, as well as with luminaries such as Randy Brecker, Gene Bertoncini, and Phoebe Snow. Mallon’s festival appearances include Spoleto USA and Berkeley Early Music Festival. In addition to playing drums, Mallon has studied and played Middle Eastern percussion since college. Mallon holds both bachelor’s and master’s degrees of music in classical orchestral percussion from the Mannes College of Music, where he has been a faculty member since 1991.

Joe Ravo (guitar), a New York native, is a multi-faceted guitarist and composer who has performed with jazz greats such as Dave Brubeck, Stanley Turrentine, and Gerry Mulligan. He has recorded alongside David “Fathead” Newman, Liza Minnelli, Randy Brecker, and Tom Harrell, and performed in orchestras for Broadway hits such as *A Chorus Line*, *42nd Street*, *Secret Garden*, *City of Angels*, and *Dancin’*. With guitar techniques incorporating a diverse set of traditions, Ravo’s style embodies the multi-cultural flavor teeming throughout New York City. Ravo studied guitar with Alexander Bellow and he has been on the faculty of Mannes College of Music since 1978.

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Jazz at Lincoln Center is dedicated to inspiring and growing audiences for jazz. With the world-renowned Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra and a comprehensive array of guest artists, Jazz at Lincoln Center advances a unique vision for the continued development of the art of jazz by producing a year-round schedule of performance, education and broadcast events for audiences of all ages. These productions include concerts, national and international tours, residencies, a jazz hall of fame and concert series, weekly national radio programs, television broadcasts, recordings, publications, an annual high school jazz band competition and festival, a band director academy, jazz appreciation curriculum for students, music publishing, children’s concerts and classes, lectures, adult education courses, student and educator workshops and interactive websites. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Wynton Marsalis, Chairman Lisa Schiff, and Executive Director Adrian Ellis, Jazz at Lincoln Center will produce thousands of events each season in its home in New York City, Frederick P. Rose Hall, and around the world. For more information, visit jalc.org

U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs promotes mutual understanding between the United States and other countries through international educational and exchange programs. Through its Cultural Programs Division, the Bureau supports a variety of cultural exchanges that support U.S. foreign policy, foster America's artistic excellence, and demonstrate America's respect and appreciation for other cultures and traditions. The Rhythm Road: American Music Abroad program presents selected professional American performers on concert tours in countries with limited exposure to live American culture. For more information, visit exchanges.state.gov/cultural/rhythm.html.

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