

MEDIA ALERT * MEDIA ALERT *** MEDIA ALERT**

NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION TO PRESENT

Alumnus Jason Moran in Groundbreaking Jazz, Skateboard and New Media *Outside the Box* Performance & Salon Talk with Street Skateboard Legend, Mark Gonzales February 6, 2016

WHAT

The [National YoungArts Foundation](#) (YoungArts) is proud to announce that YoungArts alumnus Jason Moran (1993 Winner in Jazz) is bringing an inspired blend of jazz, skateboarding and new media to the YoungArts Campus. Merging the skateboard memories of his youth in the '80s and his vocation as an acclaimed jazz pianist, composer and educator, Moran pays homage to these trailblazing genres with an interdisciplinary work that sits at the nexus of American subculture. The artist describes how videos of new skate tricks were often set to jazz, underlining important commonalities such as improvisation and adaptability. "*Video Days* features iconic street skater Mark Gonzales to the music of John Coltrane; two innovators speaking the same language through different mediums," explains Moran.

First premiered at the San Francisco Jazz Center in 2013 and most recently presented as *Finding a Line: Skateboarding, Music, and Media* at the Kennedy Center in September 2015, Moran will share a site-specific iteration of this body of work on Saturday, February 6 with an ***Outside the Box*** performance in Miami, replete with a carved-out half-bowl, half-pipe ramp installed on the YoungArts Plaza. Featuring Miami's best street skaters organized by professional skateboarder Joel Meinholz and acclaimed skateboard photographer Ian O'Connor, audiences will experience a 360-degree immersion filled with the art of improvisation in both music and sport. Now in its second year, the family-friendly *Outside the Box* series engages the public, inspires artists and serves as a catalyst for neighborhood transformation. **STARR Catering Group** will be offering a range of beverage options, and light to hearty bites will be available for purchase.

The poetic dialogue between jazz and skate will also be taking place with the ***Salon Series***, sponsored by the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, taking place on the same night at Ted's, prior to the *Outside the Box* performance. Coming full circle in an intimate conversation, Moran will meet his childhood hero from *Video Days* for the first time. Gonzales (also known as "Gonz" or "The Gonz") was an inspirational force behind Moran's piece. Often called the Salvador Dali of skateboarding, Gonz has been credited with reinventing the wheel for street skaters and bringing street skating to the forefront with a 1984 cover for *Thrasher* magazine.

Support for *Outside the Box* is provided by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture; Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners, and The Children's Trust; and Wells Fargo. Carnival Foundation is the YoungArts National Premier Sponsor.

WHERE

National YoungArts Foundation at 2100 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami, FL 33137

WHEN

Saturday, February 6, 2016

Salon Series, an intimate conversation with Jason Moran and Mark Gonzales

5:00 PM – Pre-Salon cocktails

5:30 PM – Salon talk

Tickets are \$35 (general admission), \$28 (members), \$20 (students) jasonmoran.eventbrite.com; includes *Outside the Box* performance

Outside the Box, jazz, skateboarding & new media

7:00 PM – Doors open

7:30 PM – Performance begins

Free and open to the public with RSVP otb2016.eventbrite.com

ABOUT THE NATIONAL YOUNGARTS FOUNDATION

The National YoungArts Foundation (YoungArts) was established in 1981 by Lin and Ted Arison to identify and nurture the most accomplished young artists in the visual, literary, design and performing arts and assist them at critical junctures in their educational and professional development. YoungArts aspires to create a community of alumni that provides a lifetime of encouragement, opportunity and support. This year, there were approximately 12,000 applications to YoungArts from 15-18 year old (or grades 10-12) artists, and from these, approximately 800 winners are selected.

YoungArts Winners work with renowned mentors, such as Mikhail Baryshnikov, Plácido Domingo, Frank Gehry, Jeff Koons, Wynton Marsalis, Robert Redford, Rebecca Walker and Bruce Weber; receive cash awards of up to \$10,000; gain access to significant scholarships; become eligible for nomination as a U.S. Presidential Scholar in the Arts; and perform and exhibit their work at some of the nation's leading cultural institutions, including the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts (Washington, D.C.), The Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York), The Museum of Modern Art (New York) and New World Center (Miami). YoungArts Winners also become part of the strong YoungArts alumni network artists, which offers them additional opportunities throughout their careers.

YoungArts alumni who have gone on to become leading professionals in their fields include actresses Anna Gunn, Viola Davis, and Kerry Washington; Broadway stars Raúl Esparza, Andrew Rannells and Billy Porter; recording artists Josh Groban, Nicki Minaj, Chris Young and Judith Hill; Metropolitan Opera star Eric Owens; musicians Terence Blanchard, Gerald Clayton and Jennifer Koh; choreographer Desmond Richardson; visual artists Daniel Arsham and Hernan Bas; internationally acclaimed multimedia artist Doug Aitken; television writer, producer, and director Jenji Kohan; *New York Times* bestselling author Sam Lipsyte; and Academy Award winning filmmaker Doug Blush.

For more information, visit youngarts.org, facebook.com/YoungArtsFoundation or twitter.com/YoungArts. To watch a brief video about YoungArts, [click here](#).

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