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January In NYC: Annual Performing Arts Convergence of 11 Major Performing Arts Forums and Festivals Announce their 2015 Events

AUGUST 5, 2014 – More than 48,000 people will converge at performing arts festivals and industry gatherings this January in New York City, as leading U.S. and global performing arts organizations will once again collaborate to present a concurrence of conferences and events. With the growing collaboration, the breadth and scope of theater, dance, music and opera performance presented in New York in January makes it the best time of the year for artists, colleagues and audiences to get a snapshot of the contemporary performance field and glimpse into the future of the field.

WHAT: What started as an organic growth of festivals and professional events around the annual Association of Performing Arts Presenters conference (APAP|NYC) became an ad hoc collaboration in 2014. The synergy continues in 2015 with 11 leading performing arts organizations combining forces to draw attention to the confluence of these diverse events. Conferences, forums and festivals will offer the most expansive professional development and networking opportunities to the performing arts community — and bring the best of theater, dance, opera and music showcases together for the advancement of performing arts professionals and the enjoyment of enthusiasts. For details visit JanuaryInNYC.org.

WHEN: The convergence of conferences, festivals and events will begin with COIL’s annual winter festival launching on Jan. 2, 2015; peak during the APAP|NYC 2015 Jan. 9-13, when 10 of the 11 events — including globalFEST, Winter Jazzfest and The Public Theater’s Under The Radar (UTR)— will run concurrently; and wrap up with Chamber Music America’s (CMA) national conference Jan. 15-18. (full list below)

WHERE: Members of the performing arts community from around the globe will fill performance venues and meeting rooms in hotels, theaters and clubs throughout Manhattan and the boroughs, day and night.

WHO: January In NYC comprises American Realness, APAP|NYC 2015, CMA, COIL, globalFEST, International Society for the Performing Arts (ISPA), Jazz Connect, PROTOTYPE: Opera/Theatre/Now, UTR, Winter Jazzfest and the APAP World Music Pre-conference. Events include member conferences, workshops, concerts, keynote speakers at the top of their field, festivals and programs open to the public. More than 1,500 showcases and fully produced performance works featuring world-class performing artists offer a sampling of what’s new and
on trend for industry professionals to select from and decide what artists to book in their communities in the coming year.

**WHY:** The annual conference of the Association of Performing Arts Presenters, now titled APAP|NYC, began in 1957, and today brings more than 3,600 leaders in the performing arts field together for five days of professional development sessions, performance showcases and the leading performing arts marketplace in the world. Over the years, various annual events for professionals and the public have formed around the APAP conference to build on the concentration of artists and presenters already in New York, and to showcase acts with full production values, where general audiences were welcome and presenters could sample work from the traditional to the experimental. In January 2014, nine such forums began collaborating to more effectively and efficiently serve the whole performing arts community. In 2014, one of the nine participating forums, FOCUS, concluded, and three new forums joined the collaboration: CMA, American Realness and ISPA.

**In date order, forums and festivals in “January In NYC” include:**

**COIL 2015 - 10th Anniversary Festival**, Jan. 2-18, ps122.org/coil. COIL is Performance Space 122’s annual winter performance festival full of contemporary, textured, global, local, contemplative, grounded, rigorous and always very live performance. What was originally established as a contemporary dance festival of remounts from past seasons, COIL has evolved into a festival that highlights the work and artists PS122 commissions that spans genres. The 10th annual COIL features theater, dance, music and media arts in multiple venues throughout the city.

**Winter Jazzfest**, Jan. 7-10, www.winterjazzfest.com. Since launching as a one-day festival in 2005, Winter Jazzfest has expanded to multiple days and numerous venues, showcasing hundreds of artists and attracting thousands of attendees each year. In 2014 the festival celebrated its 10th year and featured more than 100 groups and 400 musicians in 10 venues while welcoming more than 7,500 attendees. Set against the historic backdrop of the Village, the festival helps to redeem the rich jazz heritage of the downtown neighborhood while providing an intimate and energized environment for audiences to experience today's incredibly diverse and thriving jazz and creative music community. In 2015 Winter Jazzfest celebrates 11 years of showcasing prominent and new jazz talent to a growing audience.

**PROTOTYPE: Opera/Theatre/Now**, Jan. 7-17, prototypefestival.org. PROTOTYPE is an annual festival of visionary opera-theatre and music-theatre works by pioneering artists from New York City and around the world, co-produced by Beth Morrison Projects and HERE. The third edition of PROTOTYPE will feature two world premieres, a contemporary family opera, a multimedia music-theater work, an international co-presentation, cabaret music-theater, two operas in development and more.

**The Public Theater’s Under The Radar (UTR)**, Jan. 7-18, undertheradarfestival.com. Under The Radar is a festival of new theater widely recognized as a premier launching pad for new and cutting-edge performance from the U.S. and abroad. UTR offers a crash course in theater created by some of the most dynamic artists working today, including past appearances by Elevator Repair Service, Nature Theater of Oklahoma, Gob Squad, Belarus Free Theater,
Mariano Pensotti and more. The festival also features a symposium for industry professionals (Jan. 8 and 9) and a late night club with music programming.

**Jazz Connect Conference**, Jan. 8-9, [jazz-connect.com](http://jazz-connect.com). In just its third year, the Jazz Connect Conference, organized by *JazzTimes Magazine* and the Jazz Forward Coalition, has become one of the leading gatherings for jazz professionals around the world. Under the theme of “Strength Through Community,” this year the conference will be held in a separate location from the APAP|NYC conference, at Saint Peter’s Church in New York City. In-depth programming includes 12 workshops and five plenary sessions on a variety of timely and engaging subjects. Moderators and panelists include an impressive cross-section of worldwide artists and professionals.

**APAP World Music Preconference**, Jan. 8-9, [APAPNYC.org](http://APAPNYC.org). Organized by music PR firm Rock Paper Scissors, the APAP World Music Preconference is the largest gathering of world music professionals in the U.S. The two-day World Music Pre-conference at APAP|NYC will include lively discussions on the latest issues and concerns in the world music field.

**American Realness**, Jan. 8-18, [americanrealness.com](http://americanrealness.com). Created by Thomas Benjamin Snapp Pryor in partnership with the Abrons Arts Center in January 2010, American Realness is a festival of contemporary dance and performance. An internationally recognized platform for the discovery of new works from subversive artists, tearing at the boundaries of their forms, American Realness commands attention for the proliferation of choreographic and performative practices transcending the traditions and rewriting the definitions of American dance and performance. Since 2014 the 11 festivals have expanded its scope to include the work of international artists, engaging a global dialogue around the practice and presentation of contemporary dance and performance.

**APAP|NYC 2015**, Jan. 9-13, [APAPNYC.org](http://APAPNYC.org). The Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) presents the world’s premier gathering of more than 3,600 performing arts professionals, at its 58th annual membership conference, APAP|NYC 2015, in New York City at the New York Hilton Midtown and Sheraton New York Times Square. APAP|NYC features more than 1,000 world-class artist showcases held around the city, an EXPO Hall boasting nearly 400 booths, dozens of professional development sessions and A-list keynote speakers. Many of APAP|NYC’s pre-conference forums, January 8-9, are free and open to the public.

**globalFEST**, Jan. 11, [globalFEST.org](http://globalFEST.org). GlobalFEST (gF) opened the public-facing door to APAP’s artistic critical mass in 2004 and will take place for its 12th year at Webster Hall. The ticketed January event will once again feature a dozen diverse artists. Since its early days, globalFEST has rippled out forming a non-profit; creating a touring fund to help festival alumni go deeper into American communities; releasing *globalFEST Selector*, a compilation recording of exclusive content from past performers; curating critically-acclaimed stages at Bonnaroo and SXSW festivals; and, recently expanded to an additional summer edition in partnership with Lincoln Center Out of Doors and a gF branded tour with CAMI Music that will take place in 2016.

**International Society for the Performing Arts (ISPA) 67th New York Congress**, Jan. 13-15, [ispa.org](http://ispa.org). ISPA is a global network of more than 400 leaders in the performing arts with representation from more than 185 cities and all regions of the globe. The New York Congress,
"Dynamic Leadership: Creating the Future," will be a dialogue that embraces diverse global voices and the freshest formats over the course of three days in New York City. As generations shift and true global worldviews are realized, both the concept and practice of leadership in the arts evolves in new and surprising directions. What does it mean to lead today? As artists, organizations and a field, are the performing arts trending ahead or lagging behind? What are the best practices and the next great ideas?

**Chamber Music America (CMA), Jan. 15-18, [chamber-music.org](http://chamber-music.org).** CMA is the national network for the chamber music profession, which includes ensembles, presenters, composers, educators, music businesses and others involved in early, classical, contemporary, jazz and world chamber music. CMA’s national conference includes inspiring keynotes, small group sessions and workshops, ensemble showcases, concerts and networking events. This year’s pre-conference day entitled *How to Succeed in a Changing Musical World,* will be presented by the Eastman School of Music’s Paul R. Judy Center for Applied Research, and will tackle the issue of reaching new audiences while remaining true to your artistic mission. This theme will be carried through the conference itself, which will culminate in an Awards Banquet honoring The Emerson String Quartet on Sunday, January 18.

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