



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Shannon McSweeney-LeMay | 845.295.2420
smcsweeney@bethelwoodscenter.org

THIS AUTUMN AT BETHEL WOODS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

(September 4, 2009) BETHEL, N.Y. – Summer may be winding down, but action at Bethel Woods Center for the Arts continues with new special exhibits, events, lectures, the Harvest Festival and Event Gallery performances planned throughout the autumn.

Darlene Fedun, Bethel Woods' C.O.O. said, "While we are celebrating the completion of our fourth successful summer concert series, Bethel Woods' season is far from over. The Harvest Festival kicked off its eleventh season last weekend, with 4,500 attendees enjoying the Wine Festival, and The Museum is preparing a new special exhibit which will debut later this month, and we have several special events coming up including some exceptional performances in our Event Gallery through year's end. We expect to look back on 2009 as our most successful year to date."

SPECIAL EXHIBIT:

The Museum at Bethel Woods will debut its new special exhibit, **Robert Altman's Sixties: Portrait of a Generation** on Friday, September 25th. Coming of age in the mid-Sixties, photographer Robert Altman witnessed the rise of the counterculture – hippies, be-ins, rock concerts and peace demonstrations -- and documented the events and personalities of the era. These 119 large-format photographs show one man's view of a colorful, dynamic, and exciting time from 1966 to 1975.

Mick Jagger, Ken Kesey, Timothy Leary, Jim Morrison, Abbie Hoffman, Janis Joplin, Grace Slick, Pete Townshend, Dennis Hopper, and Peter Fonda are among the iconic 1960s figures immortalized in pictures and commentary by the legendary photographer from *Rolling Stone's* early heyday. An affectionate tribute juxtaposes tie-dyed hippies and peace marches, musicians, movie stars, organizers, and political leaders that made it happen. Aside from some of the most recognizable photos from the era, many of these images are rare or little known, providing freshness and immediacy to a revealing overview of a tumultuous decade.

Robert Altman is an internationally acclaimed photographer who studied under Ansel Adams and is best known as a photojournalist for *Rolling Stone*. "Robert Altman's photography was instrumental in portraying the look and feeling and vitality of the sixties," Jann Wenner, founder and publisher, *Rolling Stone*.

**NOTE: Photos available upon request. A press preview is planned for Thursday, September 24 from 3-5PM. RSVP is required and a media alert will follow. This is NOT open to the public.*

COUNTY-WIDE PICNIC DAY:

On Saturday, September 26th from Noon until 5:00pm, Bethel Woods will host the **County-Wide Picnic Day: A Sullivan County Bicentennial Event**. Join your neighbors for this family oriented picnic-style

event celebrating the Sullivan County Bicentennial. Bring a picnic basket, blanket and enjoy the beautiful park-like grounds at the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts. Admission is free, but a \$2 donation is suggested to benefit the not-for-profit Bethel Woods Center for the Arts' community and cultural programs. The County-Wide Picnic Day, which will officially close the 2009 Bicentennial Celebration, will feature historical re-enactors, historical and cultural displays from across Sullivan County, children's activities and multiple stages with live local music, including:

Front Gates:

The Callicoon Center Band (Noon-1:00pm)
The MountainTones community marching band (1:30-2:00pm)

Market Sheds:

Jared and Aaron, Acoustic - Rock / Blues (12:45-1:15pm)
Janet Burgan, Folk/Alternative Country (2:00 – 2:30pm)
Larry Kitzmiller, Acoustic (3:15-3:45pm)

Pavilion Stage:

Pondering Phoxes, Classic Rock (12:45-1:15pm)
Slam Allen Band, R&B - Soul & Blues (1:45-2:30pm)
Darren and Albi, Rock - cover band (3:00-3:45pm)
Hilfiger – Andriani, Rock (4:30-5:30pm)

SCCC Stage:

Far Beyond Gone, Jazz (12:15-12:45pm)
For The Love of Music, Rock / Jazz (1:15-1:45pm)
Suave, R&B / Pop (2:30-3:00pm)
Rivers Edge, Country (3:45-4:30pm)

Terrace Stage:

West Point Band's Jazz Knights (2:00-3:30pm)

SPEAKER SERIES:

On Saturday, September 26, as part of the 2009 Speaker Series, The Museum at Bethel Woods will present **Michael Lang: 40 Years of Music (An Interview with Dennis Elsas)** in the Event Gallery from 3:30-5:00pm. Doors open at 2:45pm.

Sunday, October 11th, from 2:00-3:30pm, The Museum presents **Traveling at the Speed of a Reborn Man: Jimi Hendrix, 1969-1970**, the concluding event for the 2009 Speaker Series. Reuben Jackson, Associate Curator of the Archives at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History will discuss important changes in Hendrix's musical style in the years 1969-1970. This lively presentation will include sound bites from Hendrix's work. Specializing in the history of American music and a specialist on Duke Ellington and Jimi Hendrix, Jackson is a regular guest on NPR, a contributor to newspapers, and is also a published poet. Doors open at 1:15pm.

The Speaker Series provides guests a broader understanding of the decade of the 1960s through first-hand stories by notable personalities and experts. These are the last two events in a series focused on the Woodstock festival and its lasting significance 40 years later. Admission for the Speaker Series is free, but general admission seating is limited to 350 so tickets are required. Limit 4 tickets per person. Use one of these links <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/openevents/michaellang/> or <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/openevents/rebornman/> to print tickets at no charge using TicketFast print-at-home service, or pick yours up at the Bethel Woods Box Office. Ticketholders must be seated five minutes prior to start time or forfeit admission. Admission to Museum exhibits is NOT included with Speaker Series tickets.

EVENT GALLERY:

On Friday, October 2nd Bethel Woods presents **John Sebastian & David Grisman** in the Event Gallery. Reserved seats are \$65.

Over four decades the contributions of **John Sebastian** have become a permanent part of our American musical fabric. His group The Lovin' Spoonful played a major role in the mid-'60s rock revolution, but what singer and songwriter Sebastian had in mind was actually a counter-revolution. "We were grateful to the Beatles for reminding us our rock & roll roots," John explains, "but we wanted to cut out the English middlemen, so to speak, and get down to making this new music as an 'American' band. You know the songs by heart: "Do You Believe In Magic?," "You Didn't Have To Be So Nice," "Daydream" and "Younger Girl." These songs did more than simply answer the British Invasion, they carried the musical tradition into the future.

For more than 40 years, mandolinist/composer **David Grisman** has been busy creating "dawg" music, a blend of many stylistic influences (including swing, bluegrass, latin, jazz and gypsy) so unique he gave it its own name. In doing so, David has inspired a whole new genre of acoustic string instrumental music with style and virtuosity while creating a unique niche for himself in the world of contemporary music.

Tom Rush will perform on Friday, November 13th in the Event Gallery. Reserved seats are \$40. His impact on the American music scene has been profound, helping to shape the folk revival in the '60s and the renaissance of the '80s and '90s, leaving his stamp on generations of artists. James Taylor, Emmylou Harris, Tom Petty and Garth Brooks have cited Tom as major influences. His early recordings introduced the world to the work of Joni Mitchell, Jackson Browne and James Taylor. Subsequently, his Club 47 concerts brought attention to emerging artists such as Nanci Griffith and Shawn Colvin. Today, after 45 years, he's still doing what audiences love him for: writing and playing ...passionately, tenderly...knitting together the musical traditions and talents of our times.

On February 24, 2009, Appleseed Recordings released Tom Rush's first full-length studio album in over thirty years, What I Know. This album is the newest chapter in his legendary career and features original material and Rush's interpretations of songs such as "Drift Away."

Matt McNeil, Marketing Director explained, "The Event Gallery is our most untapped resource. It's a beautiful music hall that brings artists and the audience together. Look for more amazing and special things to happen in that room soon."

Event Gallery performances begin at 8:00pm, with doors open at 7:00pm. Tickets are available through the Bethel Woods Box Office or Ticketmaster at <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/events/tickets.aspx>. There is no service charge if tickets are printed online. Add \$5 to all ticket prices purchased day of show. For more information please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org.

HARVEST FESTIVAL:

The 11th Annual **Harvest Festival** at Bethel Woods continues each Sunday through October 11th from 11:00am – 4:00pm. Admission is free and parking is \$2 per car. Bethel Woods continues its annual celebration of the bounty of the county with uniquely themed events on seven consecutive Sundays. In addition to weekly special events and live performances, on-site activities include a farmers market, craft village, festival foods, pony and wagon rides, corn and hay mazes, a children's area featuring arts and craft activities, and more! For more information please visit, <http://www.bethelwoodscenter.org/community/harvest.aspx>

Sunday, September 6

Alpaca Festival

Sunday, September 13	Taste of Sullivan County
Sunday, September 20	Earth Day in Autumn
Sunday, September 27	Mountain Music Festival
Sunday, October 4	Chili Day in October
Sunday, October 11	Rustic for the Home

MUSEUM HOURS:

The Museum will be open on Labor Day, September 7th from 10:00am – 7:00pm. Fall hours begin on Tuesday, September 8th and The Museum will be open Thursday – Sunday from 10:00am – 5:00pm through Sunday, January 3, 2010. The Museum will also be open on Columbus Day, Monday, October 12th as well as Monday – Wednesday, December 28th – 30th and closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day. The Museum is happy to accommodate school groups, group tours, and special private events year-round. For more information please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org

About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts and The Museum at Bethel Woods:

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, a \$100 million outdoor performing arts center and complex is set within 2,000 bucolic acres in Sullivan County. This world-class cultural destination is dedicated to improving the quality of life in Sullivan County and the surrounding region by promoting economic development and interest in the region through arts, education and culture. It features a Pavilion Stage with 4,500 seats under cover and another 10,500 on a natural sloping lawn; the Terrace Stage, a 1,000 seat Roman-style amphitheater; The Museum at Bethel Woods, and within the museum building, a 300-seat Events Gallery, all of which present a diverse selection of popular artists, orchestral performances, community events, music and arts education opportunities.

The Museum is dedicated to the study and exhibition of the social, political and cultural events of the 1960s, including the Woodstock festival, and the legacies of those times. Special exhibits are rotated throughout the season to provide additional insight into the decade. The Museum Shop features a great selection of Sixties and Woodstock-inspired gift items; The Shop is open during museum hours, and online shopping is available all year at ShopBethelWoods.com. Generous support for The Museum at Bethel Woods is provided by The Chapin Estate.

For more information on Bethel Woods Center for the Arts and The Museum at Bethel Woods, please visit www.BethelWoodsCenter.org. Follow the Center and The Museum on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

###