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**GRAMMY-WINNING COMPOSER ERIC WHITACRE PRESENTS DEEP  
FIELD AT BETHEL WOODS**  
*Part of the 2019 Vibrations Series*



*Image Credit: Kattoo Hillewaere*

**April 15, 2019 (BETHEL, NY)** - Fifty years after the moon landing, Grammy-winning composer and conductor **Eric Whitacre** will present a powerful new piece of music set to never-before-seen images from the Hubble Space Telescope's greatest discovery, the iconic Deep Field image, on **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>** as part of the *Vibrations* series in the **Event Gallery** at [Bethel Woods Center for the Arts](http://bethelwoodscenter.org), the nonprofit cultural center located at the historic site of the 1969 Woodstock festival.

Eric Whitacre's music has been performed throughout the world by millions of amateur and professional musicians alike, while his ground-breaking Virtual Choir for *Deep Field* unites 8,000 singers from over 120 different countries. A graduate of the prestigious Juilliard School of Music, Eric currently holds the position of Artist in Residence with the Los Angeles Master Chorale having completed a five-year term as Composer in Residence at the University of Cambridge, UK. He has conducted choral and orchestral concerts around the globe and has worked with British pop icons Laura Mvula, Imogen Heap and Annie Lennox. A charismatic speaker, Eric has given keynote addresses for many Fortune 500 companies and global institutions including Apple, Google, the World Economic Forum in Davos, the United Nations Speaker's Programme and two main stage TED talks.

During the *Vibrations* event, titled **Deep Field**, Whitacre will be joined by astrophysicists **Michelle Thaller** (NASA) and **Frank Summers** of Space Telescope Institute in order to delve into space exploration as not only a scientific venture, but an artistic and cultural one as well. “[*Deep Field*] was inspired by the Hubble Telescope, and very specifically the *story* of the Hubble Telescope: the struggles of getting it working, getting it into space and finally the discovery of this Deep Field image and the impossible magnitude of our universe,” Whitacre stated in a video explaining the project on his [YouTube channel](#). Following the film screening and discussion, Whitacre and panelists will host a meet and greet and CD signing.

“We are thrilled to welcome Eric to our historic site as we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Moon Landing and delve into the lasting impact that space exploration has had during Lunar Weekend as inspired by our exhibit, *We Are Stardust*. The first moon landing occurred just weeks before the 1969 Woodstock festival. Similarly to the festival, it's the event captured the public's attention and sense of curiosity and became a source of unity amidst social tumult,” said Darlene Fedun, Bethel Woods Chief Executive Officer.

Tickets for *Deep Field* are on-sale now and available via [BethelWoodsCenter.org](http://BethelWoodsCenter.org)

The **New York premiere of Deep Field** at Bethel Woods is a part of **Lunar Weekend**, which promises immersive family-friendly activities during the three-day event. The festivities kick off on Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup> with a **Stargazing Sleepover**. Families are invited to partake in activities including a talent show, star gazing, and night tours of the historic festival field. Plus, attendees will then be of the first through the doors the following morning for the start of **Lunar Festival**. On Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, space enthusiasts will tour the universe in an inflatable planetarium, learn about what it means to be an astronaut and explore creative spaces where art and science meet. These events are inspired by the special exhibit in The Museum's Crossroads Gallery, **We are Stardust**, which interprets the objects and history surrounding the moon landing through the lens of American culture, examining the effect of the Cold War/space race, American space program, “moon mania,” and the eventual national success of putting the first man on the moon on the lives of everyday Americans at the end of the tumultuous 1960s.

*Vibrations* is a series of eight events celebrating the iconic festival's Golden Anniversary from many angles. From May to October 2019, *Vibrations* will explore music, iconic photography, film, mindfulness,

environmental stewardship, deep space and more, connecting these conversations to the legacy of the sixties and movements of today. As this decade comes to a close, *Vibrations* attendees will join changemakers, artists, and influencers to reflect on the world we want during a time that demands resilience and understanding.

Special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary events and activities are supported in part by donors to Bethel Woods Center for the Arts, by a grant from TD Charitable Foundation and by funds awarded to Bethel Woods by Empire State Development and New York State's Division of Tourism/I LOVE NY under Governor Andrew Cuomo's Regional Economic Development Council Initiative.

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts is a 501c3 nonprofit cultural organization that inspires, educates, and empowers individuals through the arts and humanities.

For additional details as they become available, and ticketing information please visit [www.BethelWoodsCenter.org](http://www.BethelWoodsCenter.org)

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#### DISCLAIMER

The Bethel Woods Center for the Arts' celebrations marking the 50th Anniversary of the greatest festival of all time, planned for the Summer of 2019, are not produced, sponsored by, or affiliated with Woodstock Ventures LC, the organizer of the 1969 Festival and its other reunion festivals, and are not WOODSTOCK® events.

#### About Bethel Woods Center for the Arts

Bethel Woods Center for the Arts inspires, educates, and empowers individuals through the arts and humanities by presenting a diverse selection of culturally-rich performances, popular artists, and community and educational programming. Located 90 miles from New York City at the site of the 1969 Woodstock festival in Bethel, NY, the lush 800-acre campus includes a Pavilion Stage amphitheater with seating for 15,000, an intimate 440-seat indoor Event Gallery, the award-winning Museum at Bethel Woods, and a Conservatory for arts education programming.

Through the in-depth study and exhibition of the social, political, and cultural events of the 1960s, as well as the preservation of the historic site of the Woodstock Music and Art Fair, Bethel Woods educates individuals about the issues and lessons of the decade while inspiring a new generation to contribute positively to the world around them. The not-for-profit organization relies on the generous support of individuals, corporations, and foundations to develop and sustain programs that improve the quality of life in the region and beyond.

For more information please visit [www.BethelWoodsCenter.org](http://www.BethelWoodsCenter.org).