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SOUNDTRACK '63

MEDIA KIT

PRESS

"Soundtrack '63 was one of the most moving performances that I have seen in recent years. The performance was poignant, powerful, and educational and is poised to have huge impact on both old and young audiences alike. The musical approach to history lessons is a rare blend of purposeful message with musical talent. Bravo!"

- Erika Elliott, Executive Artistic Director, SummerStage and Charlie Parker Jazz Festival

"We can read speeches, we can read policy, we can read activist manifestos, but when I feed the lyrics of 'Say It Loud (I'm Black and I'm Proud),' and that bass line kicks in, there's certain emotions elicited. Protest, connectivity, collectivity, something!"

- Kamilah Forbes, Executive Producer, Apollo Theater

Click on Picture Below



WATCH VIDEO

"It was excellent! Every child should see Soundtrack '63 because it's a part of our history that's not included in our educational curriculum...It's like a rite of passage."

Ilyasah Shabazz, author, speaker,
community organizer and daughter of Malcolm X

COLORLINES

NEW YORK
Amsterdam News



THE SOURCE 

MARCH ON WASHINGTON, 1963



ABOUT SOUNDTRACK '63

Soundtrack '63 (ST63) is an immersive multimedia and musical retrospective of Black history in America performed by an 18-piece orchestra and vocal ensemble. The piece couples archival media of pivotal moments of Black history with a soundtrack of spirituals, protest songs and popular music. As a live performance, it invites intergenerational audiences on a historical journey from the 17th century to present day and illuminates their role in creating substantive social change. ST63 synthesizes imagery, music in a moving call to action.

From the Black empowerment songs of James Brown to the outcries for justice in Ferguson, Soundtrack '63 highlights one of the single most important movements in history and illustrates why it remains relevant today. Soul Science Lab duo, Chen Lo, and Asante Amin recreate the year 1963 in a live documentary with a host of dynamic performance artists whose work breathes new life into the sights and sounds that shaped the music of an era—allowing a modern audience to re-think, re-new, and re-mix their conceptions of the past.

Soundtrack '63 can be presented as a series of performances or a week-long, community engagement residency model including performances.

Residency and Performance

This is a 4-7 day residency that consists of three performances and 1-2 community based workshops.

Performance Only

This engagement involves a series of 2-4 performances and one community-based workshop is optional. No additional events are included.

“The music of 1963 was the soundtrack to a transformation. It inspired generations of African descendants to reclaim their humanity. The spirituals of the past brought faith and courage; pop tunes were an escape from harsh realities; and truth-tellers sang with a soulful defiance that electrified the Civil Rights Movement. The music of '63 still resonates with piercing clarity.”

– Chen Lo, Creative Director, Soundtrack '63

Project Goals

The purpose of this production is to present critical historical events using creative and innovative methods to diverse and intergenerational audiences. Soundtrack '63 is designed to juxtapose poignant history to parallel contemporary events.

The project posits, "If we have come so far, how far have we come?" As the struggle to reconcile American history persists, it is important for the next generation of leaders and creators to understand the complexities of the social dynamics they have inherited. It is equally as important for them to engage these issues with a creative lens, as they will require unorthodox solutions. To that end, Soundtrack 63 is not only about performance. It is a comprehensive arts education model that includes standard and customized community engagement workshop offerings for middle, high school and college students. These engagements are designed to demonstrate the historical power of the arts in movements for social justice, while empowering students and community members to use art, creativity and technology as contemporary tools for social changes.



Soundtrack '63 was created to:

- Present challenging historical events and concepts in fresh, innovative and youth-friendly ways.
- Provide resources to enhance academic curricula in Social Studies and the Arts.
- Stimulate youth to re-imagine how they can create positive change in the world.
- Explore the resonance of music within historical social justice movements.
- Use music/art to create a critical response to challenges in contemporary society.

"The music of Black people in America not only encapsulates our history of protest, pain, and victory but also holds the keys to understanding American history in its truest manifestation of freedom and democracy. Soundtrack '63 is groundbreaking and important right now, because it is a production of truth and rhythm delivered to deeply affect the emotions, mind, body, and spirit. We are using this production as a technology to start conversations and promote healing in a still divided America."

– Asante Amin, Musical Director, Soundtrack '63

THE VISION

Soundtrack '63 was designed to give youth a clear historical context for the national and global climate regarding race and human relations in contemporary society. Through no fault of their own many young people have been disconnected from history that directly affects them. They must be prepared to approach these issues with a creative lens and unorthodox solutions. As an educator I've learned this is only possible when youth are effectively engaged to see themselves reflected in the historical continuum and motivated to activate their spheres of influence. This is the impetus of Soundtrack '63.

Essentially, Soundtrack '63 is a live, multimedia musical experience that immerses viewers in a cultural and artistic retrospective of the Black experience in America. I originally conceptualized and built it with my production company, Soul Science Lab and 651 ARTS. It features negro spirituals, protest songs, hip hop and popular black music of the 20th century. The music is performed by an 18-piece orchestra, and a visual installation consisting of archival footage, images and animation serves as the visual backdrop of the soundtrack. Soundtrack '63 surveys flashpoints of the Civil Rights Movement, but brings understanding to events that precede it. More importantly, it contemplates the realities of the aftermath of that era. Put simply, it reflects the spirit of the Ashante' principle Sankofa: 'Seek the past to understand the present and built for the future.'



"Black music has always been the soundtrack to our collective condition and a clarion call for our liberation. It has inspired generations to reclaim their humanity. Soundtrack '63 is an artistic interpretation of our compelling story of tragedy, triumph and transcendence."

–Chen Lo, Creative Director, Soundtrack '63

Creative Director

CHEN LO

Chen Lo is a multi-talented artist, producer and entrepreneur. He has shared the stage with the likes of The Roots, Common, Erykah Badu, KRS-ONE and A Tribe Called Quest and worked with the legendary Last Poets.

Chen has toured extensively with Jazz at Lincoln Center on the Rhythm Road performing and implementing music & culture workshops and master classes in Morocco, Tunisia, Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Bahrain, Honduras and Ireland. He has also worked in Ghana, South Africa, Swaziland, Senegal, Vietnam, and Brazil.

Chen Lo's music has been featured on major television networks and shows including: BET, MTV and CBS. Through his music and multi-media production company, Soul Science Lab (SSL), he released a series of album projects, including Footprints and Plan for Paradise. SSL has also performed or produced work with premier arts institutions like Lincoln Center, Carnegie Hall, The Apollo Theater, Harlem Stage, Brooklyn Academy of Music, MassMoCA and the Classical Theater of Harlem.

In 2013, Soul Science Lab partnered with Brooklyn-based arts organization 651 Arts to produce Soundtrack '63, a live music and multi-media retrospective of the Civil Rights Movement. The production has been soled out in at the Irondale Theater, The New School, Brooklyn Museum, The Contemporary Arts Center in New Orleans, the Gerald W. Lynch Theater and the Apollo Theater.

In addition, he is an experienced arts educator that has developed and successfully implemented a variety of arts education curricula nationally and globally. He is the co-founder and Chief Creative Officer of CodeScty, a startup that uses hip hop to teach computer science concepts.

Chen Lo's holds a Bachelors of Arts from Penn State in Media Studies and an interdisciplinary Masters from New York University in Art and Social Change. He continues to make great music, spread love and make history

ASANTE' AMIN

Musical Director

Creative rigor. Metric fluidity. Limitless vision. Asante' Amin delivers a unique sound that moves beyond boundaries, yet leave it to him and he will simply tell you "I am in love with creating". The proud New Orleans native is a saxophonist, flutist and piano player. In the past 5+ years he's made incredible strides as a bandleader, lyricist, composer/producer and educator.

Asante' is a 2-time recipient of the Metlife "Meet the Composer" grant and award. He was also the recipient of the

Young Lion Jazz award given by the Central Brooklyn Jazz Consortium. He's been featured on MTVu with the band The Lo Frequency, and was instrumental in creating horn arrangements for their album. Asante' served as the musical director for an off Broadway Hip Hop Musical entitled "Sweet Billy and the Zooloos" which premiered at Central Park's 2013 Summer Stage Festival.

Amin embarked on an amazing opportunity through his music and multi-media production company, Soul Science Lab, on the groundbreaking production "Soundtrack '63", a multi-media millennial response and edutainment retrospective to the year (1963) explored through images, video, jazz, hip-hop, soul and poetry. Serving as musical director and composer of the music involved in the production, Soundtrack 63 came to life. Since it's first run, Soundtrack '63 has been presented at the Brooklyn Museum, The New School and the

Together with Soul Science Lab co-founder, Chen Lo, Amin has performed at SXSW, Sankofa.org's Many Rivers to Cross Festival, Brooklyn Academy of Music's 2017 Martin Luther King, Jr. tribute and has been featured in The Source, theRoot.com, NBCBLK!, ColorLines.com, NPR's Inside the Arts, BroadwayWorld.com, Offbeat Magazine, Soultracks.com and a host of other cultural arts and news publications for Soul Science Lab's music productions. Amin has also produced a number of large scale music and multi-media projects including Chen Lo's 2013 album Footprints, his 2014 album The Visitor: Alter Destiny, Soul Science Lab's 2016 debut release Plan for Paradise.

A gifted multi-instrumentalist, composer and producer who has travelled the world performing with such notables as The Gza, Blitz The Ambassador and Wynton Marsalis, Dead Prez, Third World, Raheem Devaughn and Mos Def among others. Life has been nothing short of a journey for Asante, whose versatility proves to be a memorable element and undeniable asset.



PERFORMANCE MODEL TYPES

Soundtrack '63 can be presented as a series of performances or a week-long, community engagement residency model, including performances and supporting programming.

Full Ensemble Model

This engagement consists of 2-3 performances that include the full Soul Science Lab traveling company of 23 people in company and one (1) community-based (public) workshop. Additional programming events are negotiable. The orchestral ensemble will not include local musicians, guest artists can be considered.

Demo Ensemble Model

This engagement consists of 2-3 performances that include the small Soul Science Lab traveling company of a small Soul Science Lab traveling company of 14-15 people. Additional programming events are negotiable. The orchestral ensemble will not include local musicians, guest artists can be considered.

Community Engagement Model

This is a 4-7 day residency that consists of 3-4 performances that include a small Soul Science Lab traveling company of 14-15 people in the SSL company ensemble (may be negotiated to include 7-8 local musicians/performance artists).

Supporting programming includes 1-2 2-hour workshops and other signature or custom Soundtrack '63 events.

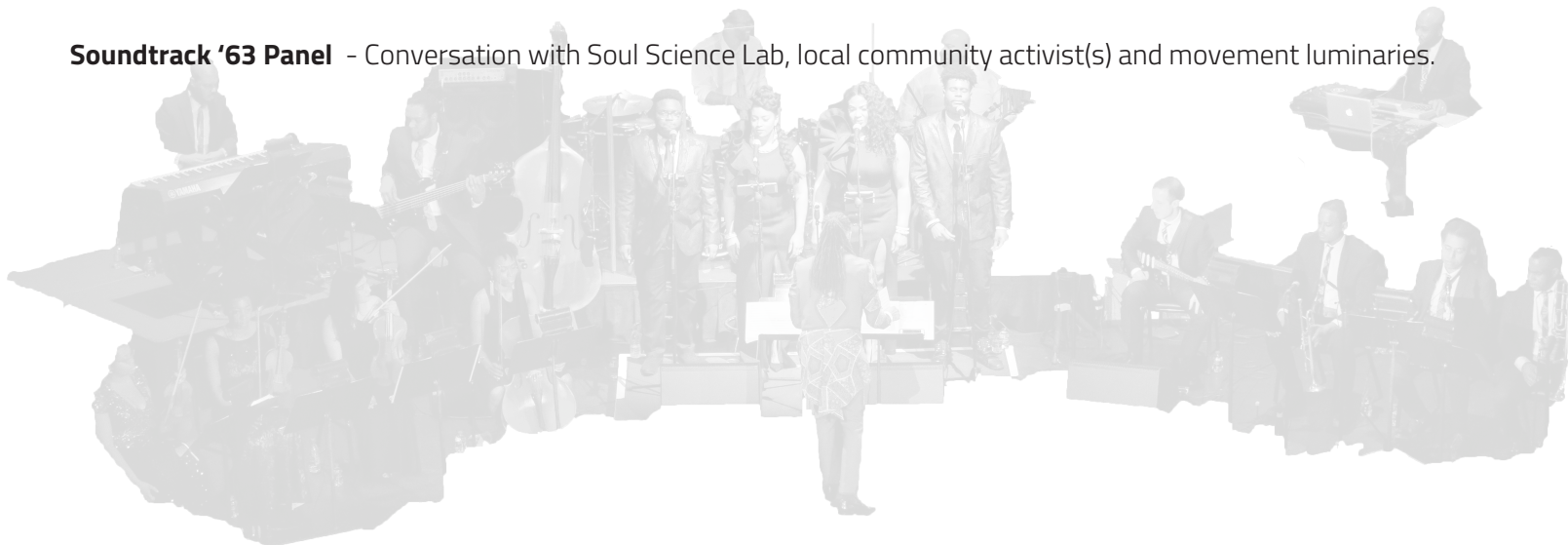
*Presenter(s) covers local musician fees.

**May include 1-2 site visits to confirm production logistics and rehearse local musicians.

Programming/Workshop Types

Rhythm and Resistance

Soundtrack '63 Panel - Conversation with Soul Science Lab, local community activist(s) and movement luminaries.



PAST PERFORMANCES

Ticket Sales

Lincoln Center Education (New York, NY)

Feb 2019

Presented at the Clark Studio Theater, 5 Show Engagement
500+ attendance

Lincoln Center Education (New York, NY)

May 2018

Presented at the Clark Studio Theater, 5 Show Engagement
500+ attendance

Apollo Theater and Carnegie Hall, (New York, NY)

February 2018

Presented by Apollo Theater and Carnegie Hall
1-Night Only Engagement | Tickets sold: 1,223 (Out of a possible 1,486)

Lincoln Center Education (New York, NY)

October/November 2017

Presented at Gerald W. Lynch Theater
9 Show Engagement | Tickets sold: Over 5,000+ students (595 seat theater)

Tri-C Metro Theater (Cleveland, OH)

September 2017

Presented at Cuyahoga Community College Metro Campus Auditorium
2-Show Engagement | Tickets sold: 1,425 (800 seat auditorium)

Lincoln Center Education - Summer Forum (New York, NY)

July 2017

Presented at Clark Studio Theater
2-Show Engagement | Tickets sold: Tickets sold: 240 (120 seat theater)

Junebug Productions and the Contemporary Arts Center of New Orleans

January 2016

Presented at the Contemporary Arts Center of New Orleans
3-Show Engagement | Tickets sold: 1,050 (350 seat theater)

Brooklyn Museum and Target

February 2015

1-Night Only Engagement | Tickets sold: 1,200+
(Exhibited at First Saturday)

651 Arts (Brooklyn, NY)

October 2014

Presented at The New School's John L. Tichman Auditorium
2-Show Engagement | Tickets sold: 920 out of (484 seats theater)

651 Arts (Brooklyn, NY)

January 2013

Presented at the Irondale Center
2-Show Engagement | Tickets sold: 920 out of (484 seats theater)



GUEST ARTISTS

Past Guest Artists

Rhiannon Giddens

3x Grammy-winning country, blues and old-time music singer and MacArthur Fellow

Leon Bridges

Grammy-nominated vintage soul singer

Rapsody

2x Grammy-nominated hip-hop emcee and poet

Abiodun Oyewole

The Last Poets

John Robinson

Hip-Hop MC

Blitz the Ambassador

Hip-Hop MC (Ghana)

Sunni Patterson

Poet

Jessica Care Moore

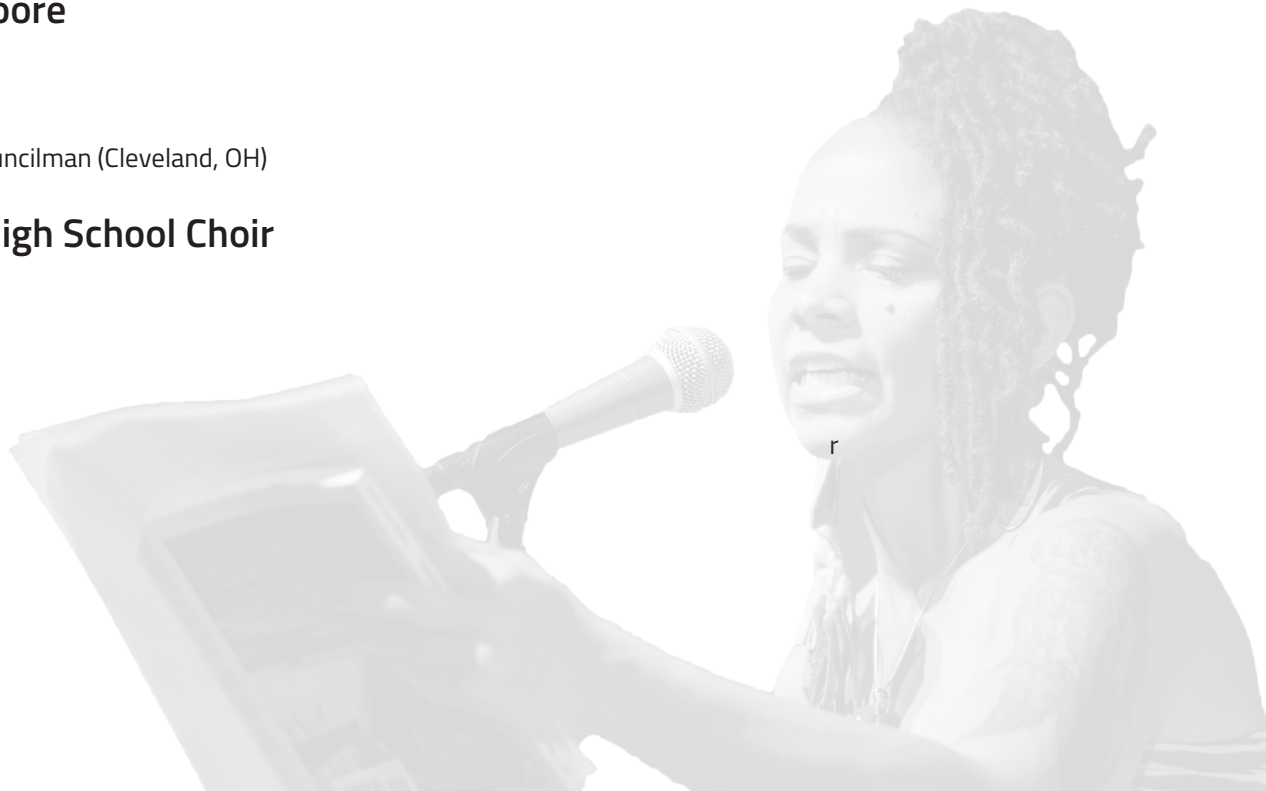
Poet

Basheer Jones

Author and Ward 7 Councilman (Cleveland, OH)

Macdonough High School Choir

35 member choir



SOUL SCIENCE

The Company

Innovative. Afro. Futuristic. Griots.

Soul Science Lab (SSL), is a Brooklyn, NY based music and multimedia duo that translates stories into soul stirring sounds and dynamic visuals. Soul Science Lab was formed by artist, educator and creative director, Chen Lo, and multi--instrumentalist, composer and producer, Asante' Amin. SSL produces high quality, music, provides innovative arts education and creates culturally responsive experiences. In addition to international touring, Soul Science Lab's current projects include Chen Lo's album Footprints, Amin's album The Visitor: Alter Destiny, the live concert and multimedia documentary Soundtrack'63 and their newly released interactive album, Plan for Paradise.



Co--founder Chen Lo is a seasoned artist, educator and creative director. This visionary mind has toured the globe, performing and leading master classes with a number of cultural arts institutions including Jazz at Lincoln Center on the Rhythm Road, the August Wilson Center, 651 ARTS and others. Chen Lo has also shared the stage with the likes of Common, Erykah Badu, KRS--ONE, A Tribe Called Quest, Rapsody, Sunni Patterson and has worked with the legendary Last Poets. To date, he has recorded notable collaborations with K'Naan, Jean Grae and international artists Stogie T and Cheikh Lô. Co--founder Asante' Amin is a gifted multi--instrumentalist, composer and producer. Amin has shared the stage with several globally--renown artists, including (featuring guest artists Rhiannon Giddens, Jessica Care Moore Blitz the Ambassador, Ismael Kouyaté, GZA and others. A MetLife Meet the Composer award winner, Amin is a musical director ahead of his time.

Most recently, the duo has delivered music education workshops with Lincoln Center Education, Arizona State University, Dare to Dream Ghana, Create South Africa and been featured in TheRoot.com's Black History Month series and VICE.com's publication The Creators Project for their 360 video, "I Can't Breathe." With several performances under their belt in the last year, including shows with the Apollo Theater, Lincoln Center Education, Afropunk After Dark, Harlem Stage, Chale Wote Festival – Ghana, Sankofa.org's Many Rivers to Cross Festival, BAM and SXSWedu, Soul Science Lab is currently performing Soundtrack '63 and music from their debut album Plan for Paradise with arts and education institutions, at concerts and festivals nationwide. Offbeat Magazine calls Plan for Paradise "likely the most eclectic hip--hop record out this year." To learn more about Soul Science Lab, [visit www.soulsciencelab.com](http://www.soulsciencelab.com).

CONTACT

If you have any booking questions about Soundtrack '63 or the information included in this presentation,
please contact:

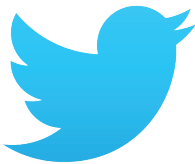
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Twitter



Instagram



Facebook

SOUNDTRACK '63