

For Immediate Release

June 22, 2010

BANG ON A CAN ALL-STARS: FIRST EVER CONTEMPORARY MUSIC GROUP TO BE RELEASED ON *ROCK BAND NETWORK*, BREAKING INTO VIDEO GAME PLATFORM PREVIOUSLY RESERVED FOR ROCK ICONS

Founded in 1992 by the “relentlessly inventive” Bang on a Can (*New York Magazine*), the Bang on a Can All-Stars have continuously redefined concert music and its role in society. Shattering traditional notions of genres and performance practices alike, the All-Stars have repeatedly proven themselves to be “the country’s most important vehicle for contemporary music” (*San Francisco Chronicle*).

The All-Stars have yet again forged into uncharted territory with their recent release on *Rock Band Network*, the online platform of *Rock Band* video game. Created by Harmonix Music Systems and MTV, *Rock Band* has rapidly evolved into the highest-rated music video game in history, creating an unparalleled cultural phenomenon reaching millions world wide.

In its original version released in 2007, *Rock Band* featured music from traditional rock groups such as Metallica, The Who, and Foo Fighters, whose work was utilized to create an environment for music fans to experience the thrill of performing. Since this initial release, *Rock Band Network* evolved as an online counterpoint platform that offers game players exclusive track downloads. It is in this cyber world that the All-Stars recordings thrive as the first and only classically based tracks featured in the network, launching the New York-based group into an elite pop culture circle previously inhabited solely by rock-and-roll icons.

The All-Stars tracks are an assortment of Bang on a Can classics, highlighting the music of BOAC founders Michael Gordon, David Lang, and Julia Wolfe, as well as long-time collaborator and All-Stars clarinetist Evan Ziporyn. Recently released online are Gordon’s *Yo Shakespeare* (1992); Lang’s *Cheating, Lying, Stealing* (1994); and Ziporyn’s *Shadow Bang* (*Head*) (2001), and soon to be released is Wolfe’s *Believing* (1997). All tracks are available for Xbox 360 download via *Rock Band Network* at <http://www.rockband.com/music>.

All-Stars fans will also have an opportunity to experience *Rock Band* live at the 2010 Bang on a Can Marathon on June 27 at the World Financial Center’s Winter Garden in New York City, where MTV and Harmonix will have a *Rock Band* system up and running to play throughout the eclectic 12-hour extravaganza.

More information about the All-Stars and Bang on a Can is at www.bangonacan.org.

Press Contact: Jessica Schmitz

press@bangonacan.org

646-812-3523