

SEPTEMBER 16-18, 24-25, 30 OCTOBER 1 TIVOLI, NY

KAATSBAAN

CULTURAL PARK FALL FESTIVAL 2022



FRANCIS MALLMANN MUSIC BY PHILIP GLASS LUCINDA CHILDS CHANON JUDSON
JUSTIN PECK LEONARDO SANDOVAL BOBBI JENE SMITH W/ OR SCHRAIBER
TIMO ANDRES ANTON BATAGOV CONOR HANICK NOÉ KAINS MAKI NAMEKAWA
TRISHA BROWN DANCE COMPANY DORRANCE DANCE RY X
MARK MORRIS DANCE GROUP WEST SIDE STORY W/ ADRIANA PIERCE & FRIENDS

KAATSBAAN

CULTURAL PARK FALL FESTIVAL 2022

September 30, 2022

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THE FALL FESTIVAL.
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Kaatsbaan Cultural Park
Presents

RY X

with opening guest
Indigo Sparke

Friday, September 30, 7:00pm



RY X gravitates towards connection. Connection to nature, to his emotions, to his body and spirit, to the human experience. On his third, transcendental solo album, *Blood Moon*, the Australian musician delves into what inspires the pull into these spaces—the ways in which we move through the world—in songs that serve as the apotheosis of his artistic expression.

Born into the small community of Woodford Island in Australia, he was raised on a permaculture farm by his parents. “There wasn’t even a town, really—my school had about 11 kids, and we didn’t have uniforms, or wear shoes,” he recalls. “I grew up like that, really close to the coast, in this simple life, spending a lot of time in nature.” It was RY X’s father from whom he inherited his love of the ocean and music. “There were instruments everywhere around the house. There was no internet... We had vinyl, and tapes. I used to dig through my dad’s vinyl collective and pick stuff based on the cover art.” At 17, he set off to explore Central America, surfing the waves and writing music.

Following a full-time move to Los Angeles at 21, RY X released the single “Howling,” with Frank Wiedemann, a tension-filled track on which he sang in his opalescent tenor. In 2013, Ry X released his sublime EP, ‘Berlin,’ with the title song charting in the top 40 in the UK and covered by a young Sam Smith in the BBC Live Lounge. Newly signed to Infectious Music, Ry X followed with 2016’s *Dawn*, which introduced exquisitely arranged orchestral elements to his already intricate compositions. By the time he released his second solo album *Unfurl* in 2019, RY X was seeking ways to reconcile his love of minimalism with those orchestral flourishes.

His latest release, *Blood Moon* is perhaps RY X’s most organic-sounding record to date, one which reflects on intimate relationships and translates them into wider conversations on spirit, the divine feminine, and the exploration of self. RY X recorded, produced, and engineered the majority of *Blood Moon* at his studio in Topanga, a community set deep in the Santa Monica mountains, where he lives in a similar way to his Australian upbringing. The album’s title *Blood Moon* encapsulates the dichotomy of insular and outward-gazing ideas in his art. There’s something ominous about it: “It’s not a beautiful title... Those words carry weight. It’s what love and joy and grief and pain look like... In indigenous culture, it marks a time of inward observation, a time not to discard the dark, but to learn about it,” he says. In not shying away from the dark, RY X has unveiled his most profound and personal work to date.

Throughout his career, RY X has sought to engage in all forms of artistic expression, evidenced by sold-out performances across the world, performing in hallowed spaces such as London’s Royal Albert Hall alongside orchestras and string sections, and Berlin’s historic Konzerthaus with the German Chamber Orchestra. In 2018, RY X performed at the Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo with The Acid, his collaborative project with British DJ Adam Freeland and California producer Steve Nalepa. He says, of his relentless seeking of new ways to express himself. “I could repeat myself, but the role of a true artist is to dig deep, to strip yourself of your own ideas.”



Australian singer-songwriter **Indigo Sparke** sings with lyrics that “both cut hard and comfort,” says NPR’s Bob Boilen about her performance on Tiny Desk Concerts. Her 2018 single “The day I drove the car around the block” caught his eye and led him to see her perform at SXSW, which the *Austin Chronicle* previewed with “Sparke’s gorgeous, subdued folk...demonstrates a sophisticated sparseness of fingerpicking and voice, coiling into a haunted spaciousness bristling with heartbreak.”

Indigo was born in the belly of Sydney, Newtown, named after the Duke Ellington song *Mood Indigo* by two artist-musician parents, and brought up on Joni Mitchell and Neil Young. Following her Steiner education, she attended a performing arts school then spent three years at acting school, all of which led her to following a music career. In Australia, she met the band Big Thief and grew close with the band’s front woman, Adrianne Lenker. Lenker co-produced Indigo’s debut album, released on Sacred Bones Records, *Echo*. The record received much critical acclaim. Jayson Greene in *Pitchfork* wrote, “As with [Big Thief’s Adrianne] Lenker, there is a weird magnetism just beneath the surface. Sparke sings with quicksilver emotional ferocity, flickering out of her head voice into a lower register that hints at wilder, more elemental feelings. The atmosphere is rapt, the silences charged. The longer you spend sinking into her music, the more you realize its essence is not airy, but inky and dense, and *Echo* is a dark little star of intimacy and intensity.” the blog Gorilla vs. Bear described Indigo’s music as, “achingly beautiful and heart-wrenching... Feels impossibly intimate and vast at once, like a cherished secret that, once shared, becomes universal truth.”

Following the album’s release, still amidst the worldwide lockdown, Indigo worked on her second studio album in the summer of 2021 in the US with The National’s Aaron Dessner (Sharon van Etten, Taylor Swift, King Princess, Big Red Machine).

Hysteria is a magnetic work that carries a rare and reflective power. With harmonies that sound like the voices in your head, she examines love, loss, grief, and a newly realized rage. Only a year after her minimalist debut *Echo*, Indigo offers a sweeping and complex body of work, a diary built for big stages.

The album *Hysteria* is set for release October 7th, 2022 via Sacred Bones Records.

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The mission of Kaatsbaan Cultural Park is to provide an extraordinary environment for cultural innovation and excellence. As both an incubator for creativity and presenter for world-class artists in dance, theater, music, film, poetry, and culinary and visual arts, Kaatsbaan provides artists with state-of-the-art dance studios, accommodations, an indoor theater, and two outdoor stages. Sitting on 153 Hudson River-adjacent acres, Kaatsbaan is free of urban facilities' space and time constraints, allowing for exciting levels of artistic exploration, creative action, and achievement—just two hours north of New York City. Kaatsbaan Cultural Park is committed to the advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion in the arts as we aim to present, promote, and embrace programming that accurately reflects our society. We encourage a broadly diverse group of individuals to participate in our programs and join our Board and Staff, and insist on being inclusive of all peoples regardless of their race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, socio-economic background, or physical or mental ability.

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