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## Oct. 16 Selebrasyon! An all day festival of Haitian culture

Haiti Cultural Exchange, Inc., 10/14/10

Haiti Cultural Exchange presents  
SELEBRASYON!

A free all-day festival of Haitian music, dance and art.  
Saturday, October 16, 2010, 12 p.m.—6 p.m.  
Affirmation Arts, 523 West 37th Street, New York, NY 10018 (Between 10th Avenue & 11th Avenue in Manhattan)

Haiti Cultural Exchange invites the community to experience and celebrate the rich cultural heritage of Haiti at Selebrasyon!, a free, all-day festival that will bring the sights and sounds of Haiti to Manhattan's west side. Haitian music, dance and art will fill all three floors of the stunning arts complex at Affirmation Arts.

An event for all ages, Selebrasyon! revolves around Saving Grace: A Celebration of Haitian Art, an exhibition that consists of more than 50 artworks including sculpture, paintings, and works on paper. Most of the artwork has never been seen outside of Haiti, and two pieces were recovered and restored from the January 12, 2010 earthquake.

### SIGHTS & SOUNDS

Haitian Jazz Bands Markus Schwartz and Lakou Brooklyn, as well as Buyu Ambrose & The Blues in Red Band, featuring soulful jazz singer Melanie Charles, and Tige Jean-Baptiste & TCHAKA

Artist Workshops for children of all ages conducted by Haitian artists Klode Garoute, Cybil Charlier, Shakespeare Guirand, and Gracie Xavier.

Krik!Krik! Storytelling by Michele Voltaire Marcelin and Jennifer Celestin of classic Haitian folktales.

Haitian Dance Performances by Goussy Celestin, Jessica St. Vil Ulysse & KaNu Dance Theater and Nadia Dieudonne & Feet of Rhythm.

Film Screening of "Maestro Issa," a 52-minute documentary tracing the evolution of Haitian music in the 1930's and 1940's through the career of a Haitian musician of Lebanese origin.

Gallery Tours by Gerald Alexis, curator of Saving Grace: A Celebration of Haitian Art, and Affirmation Arts director Maria Goldwasser. Saving Grace: A Celebration of Haitian Art is on display at Affirmation Arts from October 1—November 24, 2010.

### BACKGROUND

Affirmation Arts is an institution comprising an art gallery, studios, and office space that provides an anchor to the up-and-coming arts neighborhood on the west side of Manhattan. The gallery offers temporary exhibition space for curators, galleries, artists, and in-house shows. The Affirmation Arts Fund supports professionalism in the arts through exhibitions, outreach, and arts education programs. For more information about Affirmation Arts, please visit [www.affirmationarts.com](http://www.affirmationarts.com).

Haiti Cultural Exchange (HCX) was founded to develop, present and promote the cultural expressions of the Haitian people. HCX seeks to raise awareness of social issues and foster cultural understanding and appreciation through programs in the arts, education and public affairs. For more information about Haiti Cultural Exchange, please visit [www.haiticulturalx.org](http://www.haiticulturalx.org).

### CONTACT

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### SELEBRASYON!

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