

# John Cage Meets Sun Ra

## Compact Disc to be Issued

On June 8th, 1986, John Cage and Sun Ra, the world-renowned avant-garde musical giants, performed together in concert at Coney Island as a benefit for Meltdown Records. The event received international acclaim, and a limited edition long-playing record album, *John Cage Meets Sun Ra*, was released in February, 1987. Billboard Magazine, during the first week of its release, predicted the record to chart. However, there were no more available copies, as all were immediately purchased (two editions of 1000 copies each were in circulation, the 'yellow label' first edition and the 'blue label' second edition).

Plans are underway for Meltdown to again make available this historic document of the American avant-garde as a digitally-remastered compact disc. The plans also call for issuing previously unreleased performance material which was not included on the album.

Additionally, Meltdown is now making available 25 of the original 'yellow label' first edition copies of the album. These factory-sealed copies are being made available from the Meltdown archives as part of a special fund raising campaign for the Meltdown Records program. Single copies will be given to contributors donating \$100 or more to the Meltdown Records Fund. Interested individuals should telephone Meltdown at (718) 857-MELT. Contributions, which are tax-deductible, will assist Meltdown in producing future CD releases.



JOHN CAGE and SUN RA get together for the first time, June 6th, 1986 on the roof of John Cage's Manhattan apartment building. (Photo by Maryann Barcelona)

## TEENSCENES

TEENSCENES, a new Meltdown publication written by Artistic Director Bronwyn Rucker, details how to build a peer educating training program on relationship violence for young people. The book includes scenes written from improvs by teens in past Meltdown Teen Drama Workshops. It is a practical application of the philosophy that sees art as action, and is created as a guide to other youth community based organizations in creating educational preventive programs using theatre. The publication was assisted by the NYC Stop the Violence Fund. Copies are available directly from Meltdown. For information on this new book, call Meltdown at (718) 857-MELT.

### SUPPORT MELTDOWN THROUGH A CONTRIBUTION

Meltdown, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, tax-exempt organization. Contributions are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law. Help Meltdown continue its work. Call (718) 857-MELT for information.

## ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' STATEMENT

Through theatre, voices, previously ignored, can be heard. Anger can be channelled, problems presented, shared and sometimes solved. All of the arts (painting, writing, acting, music) can be used to tell our stories and change the way we think about ourselves and others.

Meltdown is a social service arts organization as we believe artists have a social service obligation to share the joy and the power of this special communication. We also believe every one is an artist, although few recognize it. Those that do have a special obligation to communicate it to those that don't.

In "Voices of the Armory", women shelter residents organize and advocate for themselves and others as they address the national crisis of homelessness. Our teenagers are learning the rudiments of community leadership in creating youth-run businesses at the summer festivals and youth advocacy forums. In performing scenes for other young people on relationship violence, the teenagers are fighting racist and sexist violence. As community organizers, Meltdown works with other community-based organizations in producing festivals that unite the business world with nonprofit social service and arts agencies.

We are proud of our work and thankful to the many who have worked with us through the years. From the senior citizens in Coney Island to international artists like Cage and Ra, we have been blessed with humanity. We have consistently practiced our "survival is the deal-creativity is the trick" art. We look forward to the future.

Best Wishes and Many Thanks,

Bronwyn Rucker

### MELTDOWN, INC.

346 Flatbush Avenue Brooklyn, New York 11238  
(718) 857-MELT

#### Founding Directors

Bronwyn Rucker, Artistic Director Rick Russo, Executive Director

#### Board of Directors

John Cage, Honorary Chair  
Kimerly Bond  
Linda Techell-Briscoe  
Jill Kelly  
Roy Lowrance  
Edward F. O'Brien  
Bronwyn Rucker  
Rick Russo

Tom Sawyer, Technical Director

Meltdown gratefully acknowledges support from the following:  
Allen Bank Associates, Apple Bank For Savings, Atlantic Antic, BACA/Brooklyn Arts Council, Brooklyn Brewery, Brooklyn Hospital Center, Brooklyn Union Gas Co., Chase Manhattan Bank, Consolidated Edison, East New York Savings Bank, Good Shepherd Services, Materials for the Arts (NYC Department of Cultural Affairs), Meet The Composer Inc., Meier Bernstein Foundation, New York Newsday, New York Times Company Foundation, Nippon Telephone & Telegraph, North Flatbush Avenue Business Improvement District, Park Slope Chamber of Commerce, People Against Sexual Abuse, Pittsburgh Center for the Arts, Poets and Writers Inc., Sawyer-Kille Family, Serif Press, Stop the Violence Fund-NYC Office of the Mayor, Village Halloween Parade, Washington Avenue Merchants Association, YWCA of Brooklyn, and contributions from many individuals.