



Media Advisory

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WITNESS Contact

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Peter Gabriel and WITNESS Celebrate the 2014 Focus For Change Benefit at ArtBeam, NYC

Performances By: Iron and Wine, Hassan Hakmoun, Marco Tempest, DJs Scribe & OP! and Underground Horns

Featured Speaker: Syrian activist Rami Jarrah

WHAT: The 2014 Focus for Change Benefit dinner and concert for WITNESS (<http://witness.org>), the international human rights organization, will be held on Thursday, October 16, 2014 at ArtBeam in NYC.

A combination of inspiring stories from human rights activists, musical performances, and a community of supporters in the arts, journalism, philanthropy, tech and more come together for one of most inspirational nonprofit events in New York City.

For more than 22 years, WITNESS has been training activists in safe filming techniques and how to create videos that can drive positive change. We're supporting a new generation of human rights defenders around the world through targeted trainings; free guides and resources designed to increase the credibility and impact of their footage; and advocacy to technology companies to improve the digital landscape in which we all communicate.

This year's Benefit theme, "Stories of Courage," celebrates brave citizen witnesses everywhere who put themselves at risk to share stories of abuse.

WHO: Peter Gabriel, musician, human rights advocate and WITNESS co-founder, will host the evening. Guest speaker Rami Jarrah is the co-founder of ANA New Media Association, an organization working to professionalize citizen journalism in Syria and in other conflict areas in the world.

Performances by:

- Iron and Wine
- Hassan Hakmoun
- Marco Tempest – a cyber-illusionist who blends magic and technology
- DJs Scribe & OP! of I Love Vinyl
- Underground Horns – a six-piece Afro funk Bhangra brass band from Brooklyn

WHEN: Thursday, October 16, 2014 at 6:30 PM. Press must check-in by 6 PM.

WHERE: ArtBeam, 540 West 21st Street (at 11th Ave) New York, NY

PRESS: Must RSVP in advance to cover event. Contact: Erica Gerard at PMK, +1 (212) 582-1111 or Erica.Gerard@pmkbnc.com. Interview requests in advance of event may also be directed to Ms. Gerard. For more information about the event, visit <http://focusforchange.org>