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ANDY GONZALEZ AND THE LATIN JAZZ LAB AT WAVE HILL Bronx Jazz Legend Performs Concert on Home Turf, December 17

Bronx, NY (November 17, 2006) — On Sunday, December 17 at 2pm in Wave Hill's Armor Hall, **Andy Gonzalez, considered the premiere bassist in Latin Jazz today, and his Latin Jazz Lab perform their mesmerizing blend of complex Latin rhythms and impeccable jazz improvisation.** A Bronx resident, raised in the Edenwald Projects by Puerto Rican parents, Gonzalez has recorded or performed with every important name in modern Latin music, including Machito, Cachao, Tito Puente, Mongo Santamaria, Charlie Palmieri, Johnny Pacheco, Willie Colón, Ruben Blades and the Lincoln Center Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra. **Concert tickets are \$18 / \$15 Wave Hill Members. Call 718.549.3200 x385.**

ABOUT ANDY GONZALEZ

Born in New York City, January 1, 1951, to Puerto Rican parents, Gonzalez grew up in the Bronx, together with his older brother, conguero-trumpeter, Jerry Gonzalez. Andy studied bass and violin, and graduated from the High School of Music and Art. He formed his first band at the age of thirteen and made his recording debut, with Monguito Santamaria (the son of conga legend Mongo Santamaria) while a teenager. Soon he was playing jazz in the bands of trumpeters Kenny Dorham and Dizzy Gillespie and Latin music with Ray Barretto and Eddie Palmieri. In 1974, he founded Conjunto Libre with the great timbalero Manny Oquendo. Over thirty years later he remains music director of the band, now known as Manny Oquendo and Libre. He was also instrumental in the formation of the Grupo Folklorico y Experimental Nuyorquino. Andy is a founding and current member of Jerry Gonzalez and the Fort Apache Band, the influential, groundbreaking Latin Jazz ensemble started by his brother in 1980. His encyclopedic knowledge of Latin music and its history has made Gonzalez a mentor to many musicians involved in the music today.

Wave Hill West 249th Street and Independence Avenue, Bronx, New York 10471

Tel: 718.549.3200 **Online at** www.wavehill.org

Accessible by car, MTA Express Bus, Metro-North rail (to Riverdale Station), #1 subway (with a transfer at 231 St. to Bx 7/10 bus or the A train (with a transfer at 208 St. to Bx 7 bus)

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