

**Welcome to *Abraham, Inc.***  
*A Cross-Genre Collaboration in Development*

**A Musical Dream of a New Era**

***Abraham, Inc.*** is a musical dream of a new era. An unprecedented collaboration between three cultural visionaries—**David Krakauer**, champion of klezmer music and world-class chamber clarinetist; funk legend **Fred Wesley**, celebrated for his work with James Brown; and hip-hop renegade and beat architect **Socalled**—***Abraham, Inc.*** heralds a time when boundaries are eroding, mutual respect is presumed, and musical traditions can hit with full force without concession or appropriation. This palpable future is illustrated by the close and easy working style of the collaborating artists, and the truly hybrid musical form which results. ***Abraham, Inc.*** is a head-on musical collision, one that signifies new possibilities for cross-cultural respect and engagement.

In this opening of a new musical space—a place for honest interplay and respectful collision—one can imagine the same kind of human engagement on a broader scale. At a time when relations between African Americans and American Jews have often been characterized by mistrust and unwillingness to engage in sustained dialogue, *Abraham, Inc.* imagines a world in which constructive creation among cultures is possible and people find the “easy common ground” that Krakauer, Wesley, and Socalled have found in their rehearsal process.

**The Future of *Abraham, Inc.***

After preliminary performances at Zankel Hall and festivals in France and Austria, ***Abraham, Inc.*** is under further development to add increased musical complexity to the work, integrating rapper C-Rayz Walz and augmenting the ensemble.

The project will premiere in its full form at the historic Apollo Theater in New York City in spring 2008. Famous for its role in Harlem’s cultural history, the Apollo is a significant site for this landmark performance of ***Abraham, Inc.*** The Apollo performance will also initiate a year of national and international touring of the work. A CD will also be released in association with the tour, making it accessible to an even broader audience.