



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: October 19th, 2020 Contact: Michelle Angela Ortiz, 215-908-2832, <u>art@michelleangela.com</u>

Outdoor Performances in the 9th Street Market Honor Deceased Loved Ones "Honoring Our Ancestors" Event

<u>"Our Market"</u> is a community-centered, multi-layered, multi-year, public art project that focuses on supporting the immigrant vendors, business owners, and neighbors that work and reside in the 9th Street Market by offering creative community strategies to tackle the issues of gentrification, racism, displacement, and erasure.

As part of the "Our Market" Project, the "Honoring Our Ancestors" performances will be co-presented with <u>Orchestra 2001</u>, Philadelphia's largest ensemble of contemporary classical music. Orchestra 2001's "Emerging Markets" presents free musical events to diverse Philadelphia audiences where they live, shop, work, and play.

Location: On 9th Street between Washington Avenue and Ellsworth Street

Dates: The repeat performances will take place at 7:00 pm on Saturday, October 24th and Sunday, October 25th

The performances will focus on musical compositions featuring life, loss, transitions, enlightenment, and memory. The main goal for this event is to open a space of collective grieving as well as using music to bring light and honor to our loved ones as a way of elevating their spirit. We are also holding space for loved ones that have passed away due to Covid-19.

Messages and images collected by the community honoring their loved ones that have passed and are connected to the Market will be shown throughout the performances. Mark Loria will conduct Orchestra 2001 in music by composers that reflect the many cultures that are represented in the Market. Italian, Mexican, African-American, and Asian composers will include the Philadelphia premiere of Chinese composer Tan Dun's "Prayer and Blessing for the Victims of COVID-19" featuring mezzo-soprano Hannah Ludwig.

This event is free and will be following social distancing protocols (wearing masks and keeping at least 6 feet distance from one another.) It will also be live streamed on Facebook Live at: <u>https://fb.me/e/cx4zXGM2n</u> and on Instagram at <u>www.instagram.com/michelleangelaortiz</u>

<u>"Our Market</u>" is a community-centered, multi-layered, multi-year, public art project created and led by local artist <u>Michelle Angela Ortiz</u> that began in April 2019. The project focuses on supporting the immigrant vendors, business owners, and neighbors that work and reside in the 9th Street Market. The project invests in the 9th Street Market by offering creative community strategies to tackle the issues of gentrification, racism, displacement, and erasure.

<u>Orchestra 2001</u> is a collective of adventurous, virtuoso performers dedicated to the music of our time. The ensemble strives to be an international leader in connecting diverse audiences with the greatest music of the 20th and 21st centuries, engaging new listeners through exhilarating concerts, innovative artistic collaborations, and enriching community partnerships in Philadelphia and beyond.