

A love letter to Bermuda

Entertainer Marcus Dagan is continuing his long-standing love affair with Bermuda and its people by organising another free concert in St. George's Town Square.

The date is September 16, when eight acts featuring fellow musicians and singers from the Norwegian Cruise Lines vessel, *Norwegian Majesty*, as well as Bermuda guitarists Ray Pasnen and Duane DeMello, and saxophonist George Kezas, will entertain from 1 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.

Last year, Mr. Dagan organised a similar event at the same venue, which was a huge success and raised funds for the Hurricane Fabian damaged St. George's Preparatory School.

So impressed was St. George's mayor E. Michael Jones that he invited Mr. Dagan to do it again this year.

"Anything that will do something for Bermuda/St. George's I am thrilled to do," Mr. Dagan says.

Once again, Jonathan Trott of Spanish Town will be in charge of sound. While the concert is not a fund-raiser as such, the entertainer reveals that two 25-inch tall Plexiglas towers especially made by Bermudian Michael Hooper will be set up, representing New York's twin towers lost on September 11, 2001.

"We are going to fill the towers with 2792 pieces of Bermuda beach glass, representing each life lost, as well as two pieces of blue Bermuda beach glass, one in each tower, representing the Bermudians who lost their lives in the tragedy," Mr. Dagan says.

"So that the towers become 'public art', we will invite the public to participate by donating a minimum of \$1 per piece of glass, and the money collected will be donated to the volunteer St. George's Fire Brigade."

Invitations have been extended to present and former New York mayors Michael Bloomberg and Rudy Giuliani, respectively, to attend the event, at the end of which Mr. Dagan, on behalf of his fellow entertainers, plans to present the glass-filled towers to mayor Jones for onward presentation to the US mayors as a gift to New York City. The concert will be dedicated to the memory of the late author and former Corporation of St. George's councillor David Raine.

"David was very instrumental in making last year's concert happen, and since I couldn't be here for his funeral, the least I could do was honour his memory in this way, and I know he will be with us in spirit," Mr. Dagan says.

"The event is also intended to heighten awareness of World Heritage Month, and promote St. George's, which is a world heritage site."

The entertainer has loved Bermuda since living here in the 1970s, when he performed at the then-Rum Runners restaurant on Front Street.

This is his third summer on Norwegian Cruise Lines ships, and he also recently completed a successful engagement at Griffin's in the St. George's Club.

Of the concert, Mr. Dagan says, "It is a way of introducing people in Bermuda to the kind of entertainment we have on the ship, and my performing is a love letter from me to Bermuda."