

The H. Wiley Hitchcock Institute for Studies in American Music

and The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities at Brooklyn College

In collaboration with the Conservatory of Music, the Department of Africana Studies,
and the American Studies Program at Brooklyn College present:

Spring 2016

Music in Polycultural America

Jump Up! The Brooklyn Soca Connection

Ray Allen

For a brief period in the 1980s Brooklyn emerged as the hub of the soca (Soul Calypso) music universe. Soca, a hybrid style of Trinidadian calypso and African-American soul/disco, flourished in Brooklyn following the rapid growth of the borough's English-speaking Caribbean community and the establishment of a Labor Day Carnival in the early 1970s. This presentation will examine Brooklyn soca as a diasporic transnational expression resulting from the cyclical flow of musical practices across national borders between the Caribbean and Brooklyn.

Ray Allen is Professor of Music and American Studies at Brooklyn College. He has authored numerous books and articles on American folk and popular music including his coedited collection *Island Sounds in the Global City: Caribbean Popular Music in New York*. He is currently working on a book project titled: *Jump Up! Caribbean Carnival Music in New York*.



CD cover of *The Best of the Mighty Sparrow*

Monday, March 21st at 11:00 a.m.
Tanger Auditorium, Brooklyn College Library

For more information, visit www.bisam.org,
call us at 718-951-5655, or email us at bisam@brooklyn.cuny.edu